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Southwest Portland's Independent Neighborhood Newspaper

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Armory to be decided
May 8 at open house
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Portland, Oregon

Complimentary

May 2008

New farmers' market scheduled for June opening in Multnomah Village

By Mark Ellis
The Southwest Portland Post

With the apparent blessing of all concerned—including the Multnomah Village Business Association--the plan to create a farmers' market in Multnomah Village has come to fruition.

"I've heard nothing but good things," said Multnomah Arts Center Executive Director Michael Walsh, who also sits on the Multnomah Village Farmer's Market board.

Another pivotal player is Eamon Molloy, current market manager for the Hillsdale Farmers' Market. His duties with regard to the Village market will be the same as at Hillsdale, ranging from layout analyst in the planning stages to roving onsite facilitator and manager once things kick off.

"I admire the strength of the MVBA here," said Molloy. "They set this goal a while ago and have been patient enough to see it through."

The original concept for a Village farmer's market included insuring that the new market would not compete directly with any concurrent Southwest market. Thursdays were chosen, as Walsh explained, "Because no other market occurs that day on the southwest side of the Willamette."

Thursday is also fortuitous from the standpoint of the providers, farmers who are reaching the end of the harvest week and want to get into weekday markets with the freshest possible product.

"The Hillsdale and Village markets will complement each other," explained Walsh, who was integral in the planning phase and now is helping to coordinate the market's June 5th debut.

Portland's urban open-air markets attract farmers from up and down the Willamette Valley, and east-west from the Gorge to the coast. One wrinkle has to do with this year's unpredictable spring weather. At press time strawberry growers were worried about possible freezes.

Similarly, while a lot of fruit trees have experienced a nice flowering, the jury is still out on quality and output. "It hasn't really been warm enough," said Molloy. Regarding the seafood typically offered at the markets, there are understandable questions about the availability of salmon.

Other considerations which fall under Molloy's purview include artful alignments with regard to the market's visual and overall aesthetic sense, and thoughtful assignments with regard to booth placement. "You get to where you have a sense of which booths work well together and which configuration may

be less effective," says Molloy.

Another fluid factor is freight charges; farmers anxious to supply fresh product to a marketplace full of afternoon and evening impulse buyers will have to factor their costs in light of changing economic realities.

Notwithstanding these concerns, the commitment to bring the freshest of berries, apples, pears, peaches, and locally grown, healthful vegetables to

an already diverse and thriving business hub is proceeding apace.

The Village market will be held Thursdays from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. under the basketball awning at the Multnomah Center [Southwest 34th and Capitol Highway] from June through September, and is estimated to be about one-half to two-thirds the size of the Hillsdale market with approximately thirty booths.

The logistics are configured in such a way as to create a safe haven for kids in the middle of the courts, with display tables set around the perimeter and off



Neighbors starving for fresh Oregon strawberries made up the longest line at the Hillsdale Farmers Market, April 27. (Post photo by Don Snedecor)

the sensitive composite surface of the courts.

Payment for produce and other merchandise will be by cash or check, with no plans yet for credit/debit card options. "Hillsdale waited four years before going to a card option," said Molloy. WIC (Women, Infant, & Children) Coupons & Senior Coupons will be accepted, with Food Stamps/Oregon Trail Card to be considered in the future.

"We've got a ribbon-cutting commitment from City Commissioner Dan Saltzman on the market's opening day," (Continued on Page 3)

Children benefit from reading aloud to dogs at the Hillsdale Library

By Polina Olsen
The Southwest Portland Post

Angie, a large German Shepard stretched in a sunny corner of the Hillsdale Library children's section. Sam Way, 11, reached out to scratch her ears. "It's about a cross between Godzilla and a dragon," he said as he opened the book *Jellaby* and started to read.

Meanwhile, Way's seven-month-old sister, Louisa, patted Angie's nose with a hand holding the muffin she'd been

eating. "Let's get that out of the way," her mother Janet Way said nervously. The dog didn't move or even blink.

Angie and owner Kathy Fogerty are used to dog-lovers of all ages. They've visited children and listened to them read at the Hillsdale Library for about five years. Working through the DoveLewis Animal Assisted Therapy and Education Program (DLAATE), they coordinate with other volunteers to make *Read to the Dogs* available every Saturday morning.

"I got Angie from the Portland Humane Society," Fogerty said about the eight-

year-old dog. "She was a stray, -- very gentle, but very skinny." DoveLewis certification took four to five months, she explains. Humans learn how to deal with situations like people with disabilities or illnesses. They learn to read their dog's body language and know when they're asking too much. "The dogs have a rigorous obedience program, and you have to take a final assessment."

Angie snoozed quietly as Sam Way continued reading. His mom and sister sat on the floor and played with bright toys Janet Way brought from their John's Landing home. Browsers walking by stopped to pet the dog and chat.

Sometimes, if the schedule changes, Fogerty and Angie walk around the library and explain the program. Today a man asked if his four-year-old could read, and the 11 a.m. cancellation pro-

vided a spot. Amalia can't read yet, but he can, -- and, the little girl likes dogs.

Erica Moore, a youth librarian, enjoys the *Read to the Dogs* program. A resident of Garden Home, she's worked at the Hillsdale Library for about three years. Most of the children are in grade school but Moore also sees preschoolers.

"It provides kids a safe, nonjudgmental place to practice their reading skills, and it's nice to interact with an animal," Moore said. The program runs throughout the year, and Moore said she found particular benefit in keeping up reading skills during summer vacation.

Fogerty agreed. "I would say the aim of the program is to reach kids who want to practice their reading skills are a little shy about reading in class. Dogs will never correct you."

Hillsdale Library's *Read to the Dogs* program also outreaches to schools, (Continued on Page 3)



Sam Way reads to Angie the German Shepard while Janet Way, baby sister Louisa, and dog owner Kathy Fogerty look on. (Post photo by Polina Olsen)

Don't forget to renew your subscription. Form on Page 2.

The Southwest Portland Post
7825 SW 36th Ave Suite #203
Portland, OR 97219

COMMUNITY LIFE

By Don Snedecor
The Southwest Portland Post

All aboard the Oregon Electric!

This year Multnomah Village community is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Oregon Electric Railway's Multnomah Station in 1908. Transportation provided by the interurban railway enabled many people to settle in the southwest area of Portland. Businesses soon followed, clustering around the station.

A program entitled "Rolling Down the Oregon Electric Railway" will be presented by Bob Melbo of the Oregon Department of Transportation on Tuesday, May 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Capitol Room of the Multnomah Center, 7688 SW Capitol Hwy. Entrance to the building will be from the back parking lot where parking is available.

The event is sponsored by the Multnomah Historical Association. Visit the MHA website at www.multnomahhistorical.com

nomahhistorical.com for more information about this and other Centennial events or call 503-244-9238.

Connecting Green, Wild In The City

Paddle Around Ross Island, Saturday, May 10 from 8 to 11 a.m. Join naturalist **Mike Houck** on a three hour paddle around Ross, Hardtack, East and Toe Islands. The paddle will acquaint participants with the natural history of this four island archipelago and the issues concerning public ownership and long term management of the islands. The trip is appropriate for beginning paddlers. Pre-registration is required at: www.audubonportland.org (click on field trips, then wild in the city) or call 971-222-6116.

Hayhurst School Rummage Sale

Spring is here and rummage sales are in the air!

This year's sale is Friday, May 9 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, May 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Vermont Hills United Methodist Church, 6053 SW 55th Drive. Donations are accepted on Thursday, May 8 at the church. All sales benefit Hayhurst School Enrichment Programs.

Alpenrose Softball Cup

All are invited to a new community, the First Annual Alpenrose Softball cup scheduled for Tuesday, May 13 at 7:15 p.m. at Alpenrose Dairy's main field. The event features the rival Lincoln and Wilson high school girls' varsity softball teams playing one of their regular season games. The event will celebrate the season by bringing together local softball players that play for Mt. Sylvania, Southwest and Sunset Park leagues.

Grauer Project Plant Sale

A plant sale benefiting the Grauer Back-to-School project will be held Saturday, May 10 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and Sunday, May 11 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St Luke Lutheran Church, 6835 SW 46th Ave. Vegetable and flower starts, grasses, small trees, and cut flowers will be featured along with trellises and garden art. The Grauer Project is a cooperative effort to help low-income Southwest Portland students start the school year with backpacks filled with school supplies, as well as new shoes and clothing.

Southwest Neighborhoods Spring Cleanup and Litter Patrol

The annual SWNI Cleanup is Saturday, May 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Portland Christian Center, 5700 SW Dosch Road. Cost is \$10 per carload (additional costs for TV and computer monitors).

Items accepted include yard debris and wood items, bulky items like furniture, scrap metal, computers/electron-

ics. Reusable items for charity such as used, clean clothing in good condition, furniture, antiques, books, small electric appliances, etc. Litter patrols will be cleaning surface streets like Multnomah Boulevard.

Curbside pickup is available for seniors and disabled citizens. Volunteers with trucks are needed for this service. For more information, contact the Southwest Neighborhoods office at 503-823-4592. Or visit their website at www.swni.org.

Letters to the Editor



The Southwest Portland Post
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Community benefits from local school coverage

Just wanted to pass on a big thanks to Polina Olsen and the Southwest Portland Post for the great article in this month's issue on our school ["Place-based learning key to new Southwest Charter School," April 2008].

We so appreciate you're taking time and valuable space to let folks know about what we are doing here. Starting a new school is a gargantuan task, but thoughtful and complimentary coverage in the media is uplifting for our whole community.

Thanks again!

Anne Gurnee, Education Director,
Southwest Charter School

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Multnomah Farmer's Market

(Continued from Page 1)

said Walsh, who also mentioned the good work of fellow Village market advocates Ty Steinbach, Beth Sorenson, and Chris Dearth.



"The more we explored the idea, the more it became clear that this would be a great service to local citizens, a great outlet for local farmers, and a great way for Portland Parks & Recreation [which owns the Multnomah Center] to support the community," said Walsh.

When asked what might differentiate the Village market from the Hillsdale market, Molloy replied, "People shop differently on a Thursday than they do on a Sunday. It will take some time for this new market to develop its own identity."

For more information and to volunteer to help with the market e-mail contact@hillsdalefarmersmarket.com.

Reading to the Dogs

(Continued from Page 1)

Head Start programs, and low income housing projects. Twice each month librarian Lisa Martin heads out to Hillsdale Terrace with Angela Lowman and her dog, Marilyn. "I feel like the Pied Piper," Lowman said, about the children who run out to greet them as they walk to the complex's homework room.

Lowman, who lives in Beaverton, owns a pet sitting and dog walking service. "The

kids benefit immensely from the read aloud skills," said Martin, who has worked at the Hillsdale Library for 25 years. Although many of the preschoolers cannot read, they enjoy looking at pictures in the variety of books Martin brings. Sometimes older kids read to younger ones as well as to Marilyn the dog.

"It's an interesting place," Martin said about the complex. "The families are diverse, and a high percentage are immigrants. One family is from Bosnia and many are Spanish speaking." Martin said she found several children at the

complex initially feared animals but felt comfortable around Marilyn. "It fosters a love of animals."

It's the excitement of seeing Marilyn, and maybe the novelty of reading to a dog, Lowman says about reasons for the program's success. She also finds children enjoy choosing books instead of having them assigned. If children ask Lowman how to pronounce a word, she tells them. "There's no judgment," she said. "I just let them read. If they mispronounce a word, I don't correct them."

When Sam Way finishes reading, Fogerty asks if he wants a picture. All sessions end with a Polaroid photo of the reader and dog, and a certificate stating the number of pages read that day. Fogerty signs Sam Way up for his next session before they say goodbye.

Sonja Haugen, who lives in Hillsdale, laughed as she watched Sam Way and Angie at the library. Her own mother read to the dogs when she was well into her 90s, she said.

"Mom had this idea that when you grew old you forgot how to talk and how to think," explained Haugen. "So,

she would read out loud constantly – Wall Street Journal, Fortune, anything she could get her hands on. My dog would sit there the whole time and look up with these adoring eyes."

Haugen also owned an African Gray parrot named Gracie. "Mom read to Gracie as well. Gracie would sit and look at her -- and then repeat things back."

For more information on *Read to the Dogs*, contact the Hillsdale Library 503.988.5388, the Capitol Hill Library 503.988.5385, or DoveLewis Emergency Animal Hospital 971.255.5910.

Building Bridges

(Continued from Page 4)

Museum of Science and Industry spoke to the importance of the bridge in their own development plans. Williams said OHSU wants "very much" to have their proposed new 19-acre South Waterfront campus "within five minutes walk of light rail."

LaCross said that OMSI hoped to double in size in the next 10 years, but that they would still occupy less than half of a 50-acre campus that could be developed for other uses. A station at Sherman would be 260 feet from the museum's front door, he said, and would help them realize a goal of having half their visitors come by transit. Architect Greg Baldwin said the rail route would provide a "unique opportunity" to link the two institutions with each other and Portland State University.

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Building Bridges: County forms technical advisory committee to study Sellwood Bridge options

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

Multnomah County is no closer to paying for a new \$400 million Sellwood Bridge, but it will soon have a brand new committee to study it. County Commission Chairman Ted Wheeler announced at a hearing in March that he was forming a new committee to study the bridge.

The move infuriated Dorothy Gage, a representative of the Ashcreek Neighborhood Association and Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. on a previous Project Advisory Committee, who inter-

preted Wheeler's comments as a desire to re-study her committee's work.

There was already friction between the citizen group and a Steering Committee, made up of representatives of participating jurisdictions and their senior staff; the PAC had accused the Steering Committee of rejecting their recommendations without explanation.

County staffer Michael Pullen later told *The Post* that the committee Wheeler envisioned would be composed of engineers and other technical experts "from places like Bend or Redmond, who don't have a stake in the outcome," to assess the safety of the existing bridge.

At one point Commissioner Maria Rojo de Steffey, concerned about the safety rating [2 out of a possible 100] of the existing span, had called for it to be shut to all traffic. Meanwhile, Pullen said, experts are assessing five proposals to rehabilitate the existing bridge or build a new one. They should have a recommendation available for public comment "sometime after Labor Day," he said.

The five options include two to rehabilitate the existing bridge, with

one choice to widen the two-lane span enough to add adequate bike and pedestrian facilities, and another to place these on a second bridge.

A third option calls for a new bridge at the location of the existing one, with two travel lanes in one direction and one in the other, plus a lower level for bikes and pedestrians. The fourth option has a new bridge two blocks to the north, with two lanes for private vehicles and two lanes for mass transit.

The fifth option would build a bridge immediately to the south of the existing one with two traffic lanes plus bike lanes and pedestrian walks. The fifth option would require housing removal, and all but the third option calling for a northern alignment would involve having no operating bridge at this location for three years. At press time there were no plans to raise the funds for the bridge.

Willamette River MAX crossing will likely be Sherman-Porter alignment

Planners studying locations for a new light rail transit bridge over the

Willamette River are zeroing in on a proposed Sherman-Porter alignment.

Local jurisdictions had officially decided in 2003 on the location for the "Caruthers Street" bridge, which would carry a new light rail line from downtown Portland to Milwaukie as well as provide a crossing for a new streetcar route.

However, city and development interests called for reconsideration of this part of the route, seeking a station closer to the South Waterfront area, the Oregon Health and Sciences University's proposed new campus, and its aerial tram.

Planners have been studying four possible new alignments. It appears now that a route that would touch the east side at Southeast Sherman Street, and the west at Southwest Porter Street, is gaining favor with key stakeholder. It is the longest span currently under consideration at 9710 feet (the original Caruthers Street crossing, pursuing a more direct route, is 7951 feet), and the most expensive at \$34,300,000.

At a Portland Planning Commission meeting last month, Mark Williams of OHSU and Pat LaCross of the Oregon
(Continued on Page 3)



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Hillsdale, South Portland reach compromise over Naito Parkway plan

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

Hillsdale Neighborhood Association chair Don Baack, and longtime South Portland neighborhood activist Jim Gardner, say they may have an agreement to end a long-running dispute about the proposed South Portland Circulation Plan.

The plan, conceived in the late 1970s, would shrink Southwest Naito Parkway between Arthur Street and Barbur Boulevard from a freeway to a neighborhood collector, with standard intersections at local streets, two traffic lanes, on-street parking and lower speed limits.

The plan would also simplify the spaghetti maze of access ramps at the west end of the Ross Island Bridge. This would at least reduce some of the road barriers that have divided the neighborhood since the 1950s, and free up land for other uses.

Baack has consistently opposed the project, saying that it would cause through traffic to shift to Barbur and interfere with road access to much of the rest of southwest Portland. In addition, the current plan would replace the current direct connection to the Ross Island Bridge with a more roundabout

and time consuming route.

Although City Council agreed in principle to implement the project (without allocating funds toward its estimated \$50 million cost), Baack has continued to argue against it.

Baack has long called for two interim steps: to retain a direct connection from Barbur to the bridge, and to re-engineer Naito so that it can be converted into "pro time parking" (wherein parking lanes become traffic lanes during rush hour) if city and state traffic engineers deem this necessary to handle traffic demand.

Baack has made a tentative agreement with Gardner to cease active opposition to the project in exchange for these concessions. Gardner told his board that the bridge connection would have the positive effect of reducing the amount of through traffic on neighborhood streets.

Board member Connie Crookham, who lives near the bridge, agreed. "I would love to remove the ramps and be able to cross Naito, but I agree with Hillsdale that sending cars north (to get onto the bridge) would equal a failure that no one would go for," she said.

As to the pro time parking, Gardner said that city engineers are likely to recommend this regardless. "I don't think

we'd be giving up much," he argued. "This gets an active opponent out of the picture, and reduces the impulse for the city to do nothing."

The matter is crucial, Gardner said, because City Commissioner Sam Adams, in charge of the Office of Transportation, has recommended spending \$200,000 on an environmental assessment for the project. "We've been trying for years to get to this first step," he said. "This is a prerequisite for any sort of federal aid."

South Portland land use chair Jim Davis, who lives in Hillsdale, disagrees, and in March he went to Hillsdale's meeting to debate the matter with Baack. "I'm tired of our neighborhood being a through route to other communities," he said later.

Most South Portland board members, with the notable exception of Davis, seemed to agree with Gardner, but no vote was taken at the April meeting. Baack told *The Post* that he is waiting for South Portland to take formal action before taking the matter to his board.

Meanwhile, the project suffered at least a temporary setback when Portland Mayor Tom Potter failed to include funds for the environmental assessment in his draft city budget.

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Portland Development Commission schedules open house at Sears Armory

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

The Portland Development Commission is holding an open house beginning at 7 p.m. May 8 at the Sears Armory, 2730 S.W. Multnomah Blvd., to discuss future plans for the property.

The U.S. Department of Defense declared the four-acre property "surplus" in 2005. In keeping with standard practice in such cases, the feds are entertaining requests for the property by "the local jurisdiction" (the city of Portland), and have given the city grant funds to develop "a community vision of how the property should be used."

Portland City Council appointed PDC the "local redevelopment authority" to accomplish this task in 2006. The agency is considering three redevelopment proposals for the site, according to PDC's David Sheern.

The first is for a mixed-income housing project that would include units

for people with very low or zero income. The second is for a new Westside Christian High School. The third is a facility that would serve the Portland Office of Transportation, Water Bureau and Bureau of Emergency Management.

PDC held several public meetings about the future use of the property last year. "We received a lot of good input," Sheern said. "There was some concern about the effect on traffic. There was support for use as a high school and support for housing. There were a lot of comments that the site should be used well, and that space be retained for community use."

At press time PDC is looking at bringing the issue before City Council sometime in late May. Sheern pointed out that the federal government retains

title to the property at this time, and is not compelled to donate it or sell it to the city.



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Some neighbors oppose 'halo' bicycle and pedestrian funding districts

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

Based on community input received so far, by e-mail and at recent open houses, there is less than consensus support for four proposed Southwest "halo" local improvement district (LID) projects.

According to Southwest Neighborhoods Inc. land use specialist Leonard Gard, the vote is close for projects on Hamilton Street between 39th Avenue and Scholls Ferry Road, 35th Avenue between Arnold and Stevenson streets,

and Vermont Street between 30th and 37th avenues.

On the fourth project, Vermont Street between 45th and 65th avenues, there is a clear majority opposed to the project based on the recorded vote, he said. The halo projects are an experiment in spreading the cost of road improvements through LIDs over a wider area, rather than just the immediately adjacent properties.

The assessments would pay for bicycle and pedestrian-related improvements on the roads. "Some people have questioned the need for the projects, and some are just suspicious of government projects in general; it's fallout from the OHSU tram," Gard said. "Most people, though, said it was the cost, that they just couldn't afford this."

South Portland neighborhood park design nearly complete

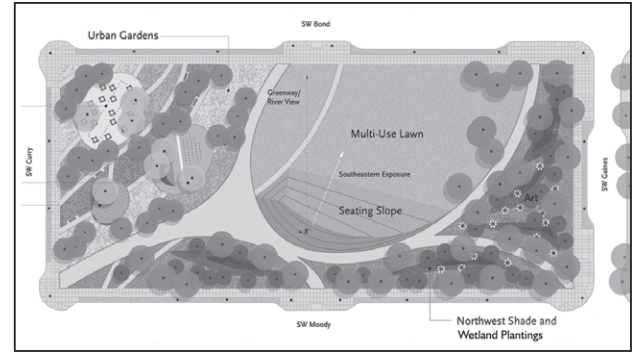
With a final public open house and committee meeting scheduled, the Portland Park Bureau is zeroing in on a design for a new South Waterfront neighborhood park.

According to project manager Sandra Buttzos, the bureau is leaning toward a so-called "hybrid" option for the two-acre park site bounded by Southwest Moody and Bond avenues and Curry and Gaines streets.

This would combine elements of three other designs: one featuring an event amphitheater, one

given over to open space and landscaping, and a third emphasizing features for community use.

At press time the final open house had been scheduled for April 22. The final committee meeting was scheduled for 4 p.m. May 13 at the Portland Building, 1120 S.W. Fifth Ave. The budget for the project is \$2.8 million, all of it from the North Macadam Urban Renewal District



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McMullen family wants to keep Crestwood estate intact

By Polina Olsen
The Southwest Portland Post

When Kathleen Reif McMullen helped her husband Floyd build their Crestwood home, Southwest 53rd Avenue and Alfred Street were the only platted streets in the neighborhood. In 1941, nearby Taylors Ferry Road was a rural road with an occasional passing car. Logged in the early 1900's, small trees and brushland covered the now heavily forested area.

The McMullen family's one-acre site, located across from Dickinson Park, became a botanical treasure as Floyd McMullen planted *Stewartia*, *Parrotia*, and *Rhododendron*. Arborists tell the family some of their *Katsura* and *Acer griseum* trees are among the largest in Portland.

Floyd stayed until he died in 1989; sons Wesley and Eugene grew up. In

December 2007, 99-year-old Kathleen moved to an apartment off Wesley's Far Southwest home.

"We need to sell the property but have great sentimental attachment," said Wes McMullen, who is vice-president of the Crestwood Neighborhood Association. A lifelong commitment to the community and respect for Floyd McMullen's botanical contribution put the family in a dilemma.

They want the property kept in one piece and preserved; the house, old growth fir trees, and exotic plants. But, according to an appraiser, the land is valuable if subdivided -- and a tough-sell if left intact.

"It was lovely with the cows; there were dairy farms all around," said Kathleen remembering Crestwood in the 1940s.

Wes remembered an old homestead on Southwest 53rd Avenue that kept pigs. "They'd say 'don't fall into that pen now -- those pigs will eat you,'" he recalled. He walked to Mrs. Schmidt's six-cow dairy down the street, now part of Dickinson Park. "Me and my brother's chore was to go down to the dairy and buy quarts of milk. We'd walk back with those glass bottles and paper stoppers."

Wes's first memory of the house is his father at work on the terrace. "My uncle came out and told him the Japanese had

bombed Pearl Harbor," he says. "I remember he dropped his hammer."

Floyd McMullen and his wife built their home, his uncle, an architect, designed it. "We made the house together," Kathleen explains. She remembers her husband's surprise when he arrived home and found her laying the living room hardwood floor. "The joke was, he said I'd done just fine. Then he found this big pail of bent nails."

Although not a professional botanist, Floyd was a recognized expert and received the American Rock Garden Marcel Le Piniac Award in 1989. "My dad traveled in the circles of botanical and horticultural pioneers in Oregon," said Wes.

"When dad got people together at the house for dinner, Latin would just bounce off the walls." According to Wes, his father discovered several native plants. "Metro asked him to help design the flora for that new Northwest part of the zoo with bears and eagles."

"If we went on a hiking trip, why Floyd would always be looking for something that he hadn't seen growing in Oregon," said Kathleen. He read books about the flora in various countries and used all the proper terms.

The Alfred Street property is not actively for sale. The housing market downturn and preservation dilemma



McMullen house. (Post photo by Leslie Baird)



Wes and Kathleen McMullen. (Post photo by Polina Olsen)

keep action temporarily on hold. Meanwhile, the Crestwood Neighborhood Association voted to preserve the property and the Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. board remains cautiously optimistic.

The land below my mother's house on the other side of 55th is all part of Dickinson Park," Wes said. "It would be nice if this were preserved like the Berry Botanic Garden or made part of the public parks system."

"We would all feel terrible never to go there again," said Kathleen McMullen, "... to see one house after another built on it." Her fondest memories are the neighborhood children who ran through the carefully tended paths and the many people who visited, like Marcel the Frenchman from Normandy. "They're all gone now," she said sadly about her old friends. "It's so hard to figure out what to do."

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