

Garden Home's
Matt Miner is
keeping the
music live
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The Southwest Portland Post

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reviews
"Taming of the
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Volume No. 22, Issue No. 11

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Portland, Oregon

Complimentary

September 2014

West Portland resident Jon "Yosh" Yoshiwara recalls his days with the Portland Mavericks

By Lee Braymen-Cleary
The Southwest Portland Post

In July, Netflix released a compelling, high quality documentary, entitled "The Battered Bastards of Baseball." Written and directed by Portland Mavericks owner Bing Russell's grandchildren Chapman and Macclain Way, it uses original footage and recounts how the Mavericks played superior heart-felt baseball with a zany irreverence, sealing themselves into the annals of Portland's sports and cultural history.

Jon "Yosh" Yoshiwara is calm and level headed, personable and honest. This West Portlander is the sort of man parents would want for their children's physical education teacher.

And from 1980 to 2010 that's what Yoshiwara was: an elementary and middle school PE teacher, instilling fair play and strengthening young bodies.

Yoshiwara taught first at Portland's Astor Elementary School in North Portland and later at Jackson Middle School. He is now retired, but one peek at his

apple-green dining room reads *baseball*.

For a well framed photo of Boston's Fenway Park as well as a dozen baseball player nutcrackers garbed in varied red, white and blue baseball uniforms dominate. (His wife, Theresa, wild about nutcrackers, supports his passion.)

The game has figured in his life for so long that Yoshiwara, whose given name is Jon, cannot remember when he became "Yosh." "Jon disappeared long ago when I got into sports," he said.

Because his father, Ted, played baseball, his older brothers, Ted and Dean swallowed the baseball bug, too. So their younger brother Jon's baseball activities were all but a foregone conclusion.

A native of Southern California, Yoshiwara played high school ball there before playing in junior college. Next it was Cal-Poly State University at San Luis Obispo.

"If it doesn't work out here, come up and see me in Portland" said Bing Russell, the successful character actor who played many roles including Clem, the
(Continued on Page 7)



Jon "Yosh" Yoshiwara played for the Portland Mavericks back in the 1970s. He hung on to his jersey and cap. (Post photo by Lee Braymen-Cleary)

Sears Armory property redevelopment moves along...slowly

By Erik Vidstrand
The Southwest Portland Post

The former SFC Jerome F. Sears Army Reserve Center, future home

of Portland's west side emergency operations facility, recently was granted a new zoning designation by the Portland City Council: EG2 (general mixed employment) with conditions.

According to Ordinance 186711,

the city wanted to "insure the future long-term development of the site which respects the fabric and height allowances in surrounding zones."

Originally slated for affordable housing, the city of Portland took possession of the site in September 2012 after a multi-year process involving federal agencies, city bureaus, and the surrounding neighborhood.

The City Council considered concerns raised by the Multnomah Neighborhood Association, as well as information submitted by the applicant's representative.

According to memos from the city, any request to increase building height beyond 45 feet, the process shall be subject to a Type II Adjustment Review.

According to the city auditor, LaVonne Griffin-Valade, the ordinance also addresses a 25-foot (front) building setback.

"This will contribute to a building envelope that respects the fabric of the established neighborhood," Valade wrote. "It sets a 15-foot setback where the site abuts to the rear of the lot."

Jim Peterson, Multnomah Neighborhood Association's land use chair, has been communicating with the city for years about this project.

"[Without a height limitation] they could build another U.S. Bancorps Tower if they wanted to," Peterson exclaimed. "We need to monitor the city at every move."

The Post contacted the city and asked about the height limit. The city said there were some exemptions.

"A free-standing communication tower is not subject to the land review process," said Dan Douthit, public in-

formation officer at Portland Bureau of Emergency Management.

"A fueling station will be built first," Douthit explained, "but the current budget [of \$1.2 million] will not be enough to cover the project. The facility needs ADA updates, earthquake retrofitting, and other components of the master plan that was approved."

Douthit reminded everyone that the Sears Armory property was free: it was a gift from the Department of Defense.

"The city places a high priority on this project," Douthit continued, "There is a big need for an emergency center on the west side."

A new emergency center just opened at Southeast Powell Boulevard and 99th Avenue. City and other emergency personnel will preside here in the event of a major emergency.

A fueling station is located at Southwest First Avenue and Jefferson Street. However, if bridges are down, and debris makes it impossible to fuel vehicles, the new west side emergency location would be utilized.

According to the city, the project is expected to take 18 months.

"We're willing to come back to the neighborhood meeting in the fall," Douthit said. "We want to be as transparent as possible during the entire process."

Multnomah Neighborhood Association meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Multnomah Arts Center, Room 30. For more information about the Sears Armory progress, please contact project manager, Rich Attridge at rich.attridge@ci.portlandoregon.us.

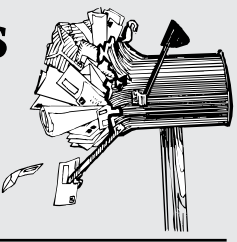


The Portland City Council recently approved a zone change for the Sears Armory property, allowing the Bureau of Emergency Management to move forward on development. (Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)

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Letters to the Editor



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When will other Southwest streets get upgraded like Maplewood Road?

In 2013, two bureaus in Portland worked together to make Maplewood Road more walkable, from the corner of 45th Avenue and Multnomah Boulevard towards 51st Avenue near Maplewood School.

I've heard the same thing will be done on Hamilton Street which connects Scholls Ferry Road to Dosch Road.

Are you aware of the \$7.3 million dollar Fanno Creek bridge construction on Oleson Road just south of "Crash Corner" by Parr Lumber in Raleigh Hills?

Approximately 11,000 freight trucks, school buses, cars use that bridge every day. Many people are now speeding on roads in southwest Portland that have not been upgraded.

I do want to make it known that I'm very excited about the new bridge. An eight-unit apartment was built on the banks of Fanno Creek, bulldozed earlier this year and that half-acre will be given to nature.

Sixteen storm filter vaults will be installed to clean storm water runoff, and it sends a message to county officials and developers to never again construct buildings on the banks of creeks.

There will soon be a temporary pedestrian bridge over Fanno Creek. Carter & Company is the contractor. They also built the Union Street Bridge in Salem (basically, a rails-to-trails pedestrian and bike bridge over the Willamette River) and also helped with the Banks-Vernonia State Trail which was a rails-to-trails project.

[As a result of the temporary closure] many drivers are doing highly illegal things and also driving very fast on the nearby southwest Portland roads.

Kyle Chisek, from the Portland Bureau of Transportation, told me this summer that PBOT has asked the Oregon Department of Transportation to lower the speed limit on Vermont Street, from 30th Avenue to the county line from 35 miles per hour.

The new limit might become 30 mph. Somehow, Cameron Road is 35 mph which connects from 45th Avenue to Shattuck Road.

I would like to see Shattuck Road, the southern stretch from the Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway to Vermont Street, receive the same, lower-cost (versus sidewalk and bike lane) upgrade that Maplewood Road got in 2013.

Vermont Street, from Southwest 45th Ave to 65th Ave, needs the same upgrade as Maplewood Road received. Put it on the south part of Vermont. Cameron Street also needs that upgrade along with a lower speed limit to 25 mph.

Rick Kappler
Southwest Portland

Kudos to the volunteers who attempted to cleanup this triangle of land

Regarding, "Trash, overgrowth and camping rampant in Multnomah Village park," letter by Marsha Overton, editorial response by Don Snedecor, photo by Erik Vidstrand, The Post, August 2014.

I was moved to stop and walk [through Multnomah Village Park] after reading The Post article and anyone can see what a task this is. It appears that at some point quite a bit of landscaping was attempted. Landscape cloth is visible in several places, and a number of plants have been planted.

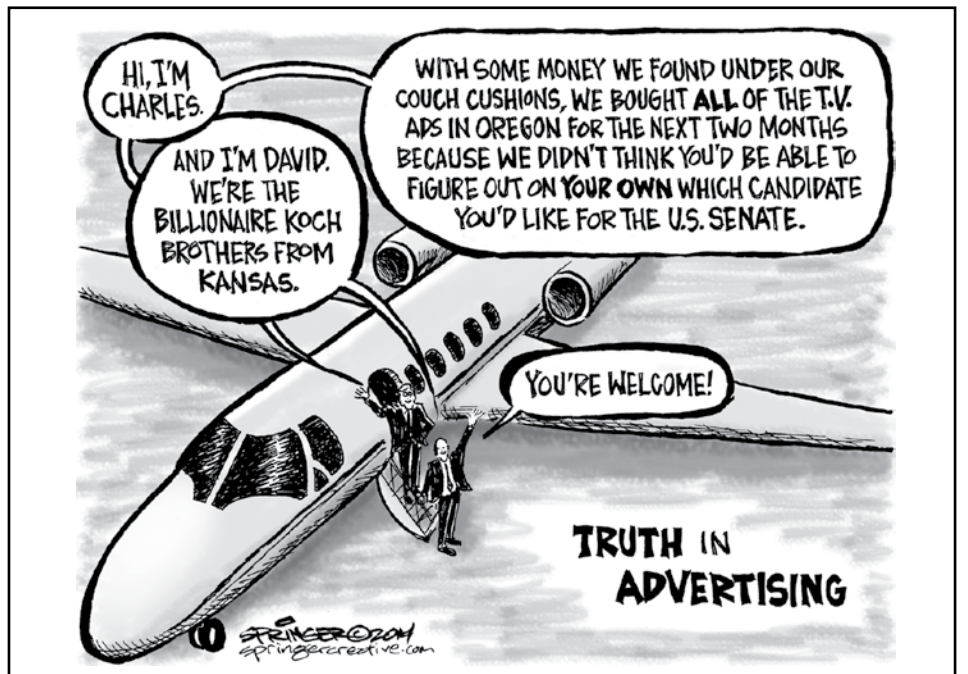
But the job of maintaining this space as a garden or park space seems far too big for a group of volunteers. Surely

this would take one or two people an hour or two per week for most of the year, and more than that during the peak seasons. Is there no way to get the city to take responsibility?

I can hear the discussion now. This is Portland Bureau of Transportation property, and we don't maintain parks. PBOT might need this right-of-way in the future, so we can't give it to the Park Bureau. On and on and back and forth.

What if we as citizens raise our voices and ask that this kind of maintenance be included in the proposed transportation tax? Yes, the needs are already huge and unfunded, but somehow other cities I've visited manage to maintain small green-spaces.

Jeremy Grand
Southwest Coronado Street



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Advertising Sales: Leslie Baird Design
Graphic Design: Oregon Lithoprint
Printing: Oregon Lithoprint

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The Post has a circulation of 7,000 in Multnomah Village and the surrounding neighborhood business districts including Burlingame, Capitol Hill, Garden Home, Glen Cullen, Hillsdale, South Portland, Raleigh Hills, West Portland and Vermont Hills. The Post is published on or about the 1st of every month. Subscriptions are \$14 per year. Back issues are \$2.50 each when available. All major credit cards accepted.

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Commissioner Novick brings OurStreetsPDX media tour to Multnomah

By Erik Vidstrand and Don Snedecor
The Southwest Portland Post

Community activists, reporters, and city officials gathered at the corner of Capitol Highway and Garden Home Road, across from Handy Andy's in Multnomah Village, on Aug. 19 to meet with Portland Transportation Commissioner Steve Novick.

This was the last stop on a media tour of a few of Portland's maintenance and safety needs as part of the Our Streets PDX transportation funding conversation.

The tour showcased busy streets that lack sidewalks and commercial corridors in need of preventive maintenance.

City officials also introduced the Portland Transportation Needs Guidebook, an online compilation of the maintenance and safety needs identified by the Portland Bureau of Transportation and prioritized by community input over the years.

The main topic at the news event was the extreme cost of putting in sidewalks along Capitol Highway from Taylors Ferry Road to Garden Home Road.

It's been 18 years since the completion of the 1996 Capitol Highway Plan, which called for sidewalks and bike lanes the

entire length of the road. Large segments of that plan are still incomplete.

According to Don Baack, president of SW Trails, it currently costs \$21.7 million per mile for full street improvements (streets, curbs, sidewalks, and storm-drains).

The reasoning behind this is that the topography and stormwater management is more complicated in Southwest.

Novick said that first and foremost is the safety of citizens and maintenance of all the city's existing streets.

"We must get a handle on the most basic street needs before constructing improvements," Novick explained above the roar of cars and buses traveling along Capitol Highway.

According to Baack, who spoke first, the city must find more efficient designs to improve transportation and stormwater management.

"If we can build seven times as many sidewalks using different approaches," Baack suggested, "SW Trails strongly support that effort."

The organization has been supporting all steps toward improving connectivity, safer crossings, more complete streets, which in turn will make the community more livable.

Keith Liden, a Bridlemile resident and bicycle commuter, suggested that the key

to building new streets and sidewalks in Southwest was for the Bureau of Environmental Services and the Transportation Bureau to work together on improvements and to find ways to reduce costs.

"We need to be creative," Liden said. "We need efficient designs to improve the safety of the streets."

Baack suggested that recent improvements to rural Maplewood Road, which expanded gravel shoulders to allow for pedestrians, was the kind of solution folks in Southwest were looking for.

Mark Lear, a planner with the transportation bureau, said that approach could work on low traffic streets, but not on major arterials such as Capitol Highway.

The Post asked Novick why the city was continuing to issue "waivers of remonstrance" to developers building homes on unimproved streets, in a community so badly in need of improved streets and sidewalks.

Novick, who lives about 10 blocks from this event, explained that new construction projects create floating sidewalks (there is an example on Multnomah Boulevard across from Grand Central Baking).

"If we could have this money pooled," Novick said, "more important sidewalk improvements could be developed to allow for better connectivity."

One of Novick's aides explained that the new website, Our Streets PDX, is an interactive site with tabs for maintenance, fees, repairs that are needed, and a list of "safe routes to school."

"I don't want to compare East County



Keith Liden (left) and Commissioner Steve Novick (right) listen as Don Baack talks about the lack of sidewalks in Southwest. (Post photo by Erik Vistrand)

and Southwest Portland," Novick said. "We need to have the best bang for the buck."

For more than a year, Mayor Hales and Commissioner Novick have been calling for more investment in transportation. They have been addressing longstanding issues with diminishing resources from the gas tax.

Since January, Hales and Novick have asked the public for input on transportation priorities and options for raising money. They expect to have a proposal for City Council to consider in November.

According to Novick, workgroups have been created to work on the street tax. One group is looking at business fees; another at residential fees, a third is considering how low-income residents can contribute.

"We're trying to find a new formula," Novick said. For more information about the transportation funding conversation visit www.OurStreetsPDX.com.

Baskin-Robbins to be torn down and replaced by OnPoint Credit Union

THE COUNTRY STORE

By Erik Vidstrand
The Southwest Portland Post

Bob Dylan sang it, "the times, they are a changin'." Sorry ice cream cake lovers, the Hillsdale Baskin-Robbins is no more. Demolition is next. That, and construction of a new concept for the community.

Located in the Hillsdale town center, OnPoint, a community credit union, recently broke ground and will serve the area in a so-called "credit union desert."

Community leaders have been trying for years to draw some type of business at the site of the old Estby gas station.

Bankers from JP Morgan Chase had presented plans to build a branch at the site some years ago, but activists and business leaders shut them down due to several issues the community did not agree to.

OnPoint was founded in 1932 as Portland Teachers Credit Union. Sixteen schoolteachers gathered to create

a safe place to save their money and to provide low-cost loans for those looking to build a better life.

Two other branches are also being built: one on the bus mall at Stark and Fifth; the other on West Burnside at 20th Avenue.

The branches will create approximately 25 jobs for the local community.

"We're committed to the financial well-being of our members and adding new branches is one way we are helping them achieve their goals with better access to our financial products and services," said Rob Stuart, OnPoint's president and chief executive officer.

The Baskin-Robbins has been in the Hillsdale neighborhood since 1967 and has no plans to reopen anywhere else. The closest one is in Garden Home.

The project will consist of a four-unit commercial building spanning both sites and won't open its doors until early next year.

Richard Brown Architect AIA has designed a building to replace Hillsdale's Baskin-Robbins and the vacant lot next door. (Drawings courtesy of Richard Brown Architect AIA)



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During a dentistry tartar is removed via ultrasonic cleaners. Each tooth and associated gum is examined and the gums are probed for pockets of infection.

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COMMUNITY LIFE

By KC Cowan
The Southwest Portland Post

3 Hillsdale Neighborhood Association Meeting: will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 3, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Barnabas Church, 2201 SW Vermont St. Contact Mikal Apenes 503-705-9777, Mikal@windemere.com or visit www.hna-pdx.com for agenda information.

5 Double Bill of Fun: If you missed The Dairyville Players' production of *Trial by Jury* and *Cox and Box* at Alpenrose Dairy, you can still see them. There will be a special performance of the two plays on Friday, Sept. 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the Multnomah Arts Center, 7688 SW Capitol Hwy. It's a fundraiser to help renovate the auditorium there. Suggested donation of \$8.

First Friday means participating shops are open until 9:00 p.m. in

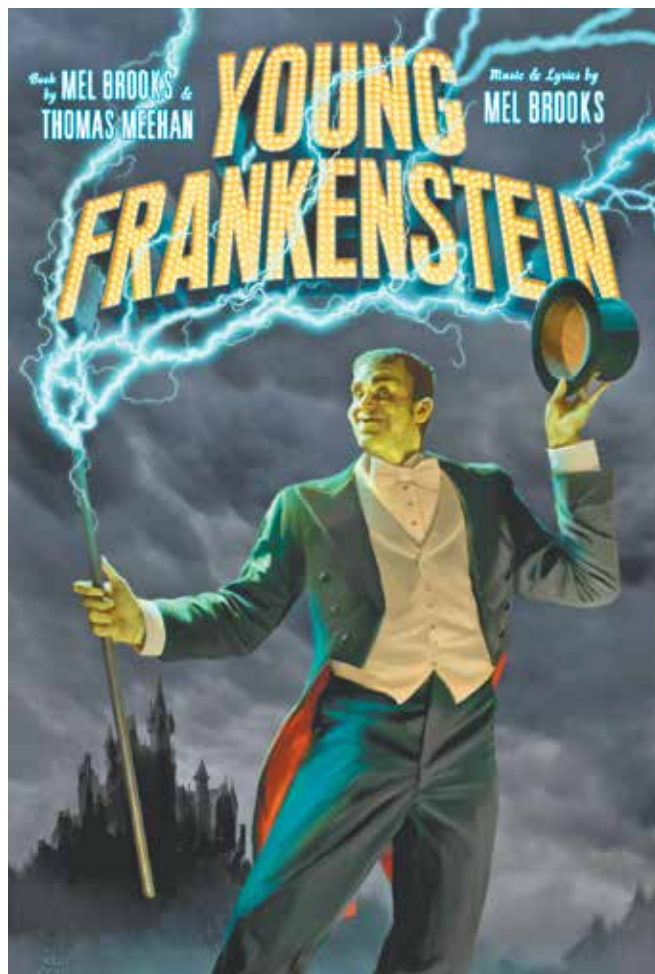
Multnomah Village. Come celebrate "Back to School" with refreshments, specials and live music. Visit www.multnomahvillage.org for more information.

8 Hayhurst Neighborhood Association: will meet on Monday, Sept. 8 at 7:00 p.m. at Hayhurst School, 5037 SW Iowa St. Among the agenda items will be a discussion of the impact of the temporary closure of Oleson Road (to build a new bridge over Fanno Creek) has had on Shattuck Road traffic. Visit www.swni.org for more information.

9 Multnomah Neighborhood Association Meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 9, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. at the Multnomah Arts Center, 7688 SW Capitol Hwy. Guest speaker is Portland City Commissioner Nick Fish, who will be addressing the city's surplus property policy. For more information, contact Moses Ross at mnachair@gmail.com or visit www.swni.org.

10 Maplewood Neighborhood Association Meeting: Wednesday Sept. 10, 6:45 – 8:30 p.m. at the Maplewood School library, 7452 SW 52nd Ave. Bob Stacy, Metro Councilor Position No. 6, will be guest speaker. For more information, contact Maplewood@swni.org or visit www.swni.org.

12 Putting on the Ritz! The Broadway smash hit, "Young Frankenstein" kicks off the 62nd season of the Lakewood Theatre Company in a local premiere. The show opens Sept. 12 and runs through October 19 at the Lakewood Center, 368 S. State St., Lake Oswego. If you loved the movie, you'll love the play, with loads of songs and laughs written by Mel Brooks. For tickets, call 503-635-3901 or go to tickets@lakewood-center.org



Multnomah Outdoor Cinema: Come to the show and laugh with "Rango," an animated feature. It shows Friday, Sept. 12, at the covered basketball court at the Multnomah Arts Center, 7688 SW Capitol Hwy. Pre-movie entertainment begins at 6:30 p.m., including a live performance by Red Yard and free popcorn. Movie begins at dusk. More at Portland Parks and Recreation Summer Free for All, www.portlandoregon.gov/parks.

16 They say the "Big One" is coming, so celebrate National Preparedness Month by attending a one-hour workshop on emergency preparation. Tuesday, Sept. 16, from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. From snowstorms to heat waves to a major earthquake, you'll learn what you need to get through an emergency. Led by qualified Red Cross staff and volunteers. Garden Home Community Library, 7475 SW Oleson Rd. Free. For more information call 503-245-9932 or visit www.gardenhomelibrary.org.

20 Not ready to retire? Looking for the next chapter of your

professional life? Come to the Hillsdale Library (1525 SW Sunset Blvd) on Saturday, Sept. 20 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. to learn about free resources and tools to get you started! Presented by the Small Business Administration's Portland district office and Portland Community College's Small Business Development Center. For more information, call 503-988-5388 or <https://multcolib.org/library-location/hillsdale>.

28 Sunday Parkways: Wrap up the Sunday Parkways season with a bike or trek in Southwest! Sunday, Sept. 28, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. End the Sunday Parkways season by taking advantage of the six-mile bike route. It also includes a walk-only trail. Whether rolling down Troy Street or exploring the SW Trails with its rolling hills and scenic views, there is lots to see and do in Gabriel Park, Multnomah Village and Hillsdale. Visit www.portlandsundayparkways.org for more information.

30 They said it couldn't be done! Find out why the historic Columbia River Highway was such an engineering marvel at the time. Peg Willis, author of "Building the Columbia River Highway," will discuss the characters and challenges in building this road. Tuesday, Sept. 30, 6:30 – 7:30 pm at the Capitol Hill Meeting Room of the Capitol Hill Library, 10723 SW Capitol Hwy. Free, but registration is required. For more information, call (503) 988-5385.

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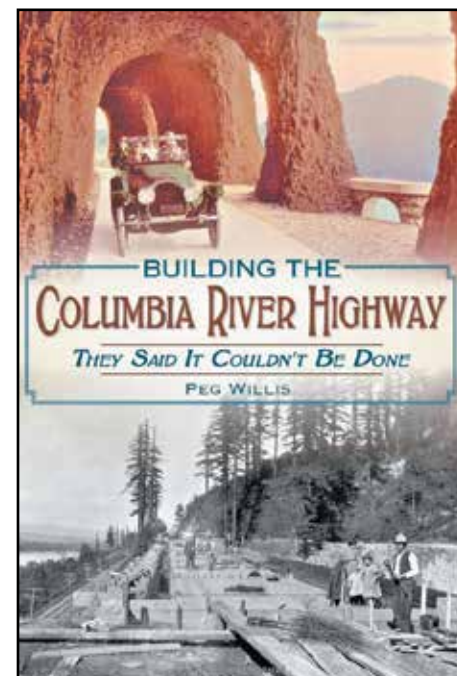
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TOP: Portland Bellydance Guild performs in the parade. MIDDLE: Vagabond Opera performs on the Main Stage. BOTTOM: Officer Rob Bender of the Portland Mounted Police shows off his horse, Olin. TOP RIGHT: Drummers in The Beat Goes On Marching Band perform after the parade. Find additional Multnomah Days photos on our website, www.SWPortlandPost.com.

Multnomah Days

Photo Essay by Don Snedecor

Special thanks to photographers Erik Vidstrand, Lisa Jensen and Aubrey Wassouf



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Matt Miner music

(Continued from Page 6)

what is called “singer-songwriter” or “Americana” style. But just because it’s in a smaller space, does not mean the talent is lacking. Miner says he would compare the singers to that of James Taylor or Carole King.

“The people I represent are every bit as talented as those people, but they either didn’t get the same kind of breaks, or they didn’t choose to take them when they came along,” he said. “Same caliber, but not the same level of fame.”

One concert that has become especially popular at O’Connor’s is the Songwriter Circle, held nearly every month. Two or three musicians get together and share songs, back each other up, and play all original work. It regularly sells out.

Since starting his house concerts, Miner has developed a reputation among local and out-of-state musicians for putting together quality evenings that celebrate music.

With an emailing list of nearly 700, he attracts enough of a crowd to guarantee a decent payout for the talent, plus a little something for himself. It’s not, however, a “living” by any stretch of the imagination.

“No, it’s mostly a labor of love. I wouldn’t want to figure out how much I get paid by the hour,” he laughed.

But it also isn’t so demanding, that Miner can’t imagine not doing this for

many more years. Always one who has wanted to share an album or compact disc when he heard something good, Miner says he’ll just continue, keeping the music live and alive.

For information on upcoming concerts, email mattminermusic@gmail.com



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Garden Home's Matt Miner is keeping the music live with small concerts

By KC Cowan
The Southwest Portland Post

Portland is known for having an outstanding music scene, with jazz to rock and everything in between. But when you no longer want to hassle with the crowds at the Rose Garden, or risk your hearing with mega-loud concerts, you start looking around for something different.

You just may find it at O'Connor's Vault, a small music venue in the former Multnomah Bank and next door to O'Connor's Restaurant and Bar in Multnomah Village.

The man behind the music is Garden Home resident Matt Miner, a former television producer who has always had love for a good song.

About 10 years ago, he heard a story

on National Public Radio about people doing "house concerts," where professional musicians performed in a private home setting.

"And then I happened to run into (musician) Richard Moore. And said, would you be willing to try this thing out?"

The answer was yes, and Moore brought in jazz singer Mary Katterly to round out the show. Miner sold tickets, and his wife, Sasha Kaplan, decided to cook a buffet for the guests. They charged \$12.50 a head.

"And from that one, we did 50 of those in six and a half years, to at the end we were charging upwards of \$30 to \$35 per person and seating 40 to 45 people for the show," Miner said.

But the toll of hosting all those people and moving his furniture for each show made Miner start looking around for a

venue outside his home. O'Connor's looked like a good fit, and Miner said owner Steve Arel immediately jumped on board.

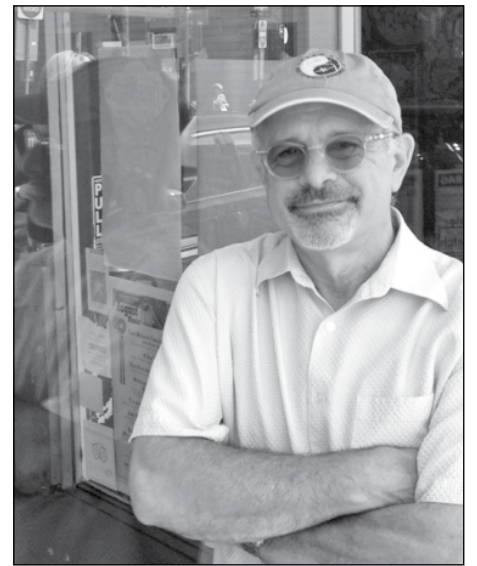
"The management and staff are really supportive. Steve actually kicks in money to the till, and he runs the door. He's very supportive, whether it looks like it will be a moneymaker or not. He lets me do what I want to do here."

And what Miner wants to do is create as intimate a music experience as he did in his own home. That's why O'Connor's works so well. There are no distractions like a bunch of rowdy bar patrons in the background. The environment lets you focus on the music.

"It's not about the scene, it's about the music," says Miner.

Mostly what you'll find at these concerts are acoustic performances in

(Continued on Page 5)



Matt Miner stands outside O'Connor's Vault in Multnomah Village where he regularly schedules intimate music events. (Post photo by KC Cowan)

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Jon "Yosh" Yoshiwara

(Continued from Page 1)

deputy sheriff, for years on the television hit series, "Bonanza."

No pun intended, but Russell was a "big picture" guy whose passion for baseball eclipsed even his love of acting, and he'd seen the youngest Yoshiwara brother play ball. So our future PE teacher traveled north toward unforgettable athletic adventure.

If you were a Portlander and baseball buff in the 1970s, you may remember Russell as the energy, mind, mouth and money behind our colorful, independent minor league baseball team, the Portland Mavericks.

The Portland Beavers' organized team moved to Spokane for the lack of audience in 1972, so Russell purchased their territory for a walloping \$500. From 1973 to 1977 Russell lived out a dream.

His "gall-darned" independent "A" level team played great baseball from the heart, capturing local fans' sentiments and sense of humor.

Dressed in their eye catching street-walker red, dig black and snow white uniforms, the "Mavs" turned local baseball attendance on its ear, ranking highest nationally in minor league fan attendance, with that attendance growing year after year.

Their excellence as well as their edgy outrageousness even garnered the attention of national sports commentator Joe Garagiola.

The quirky Mavericks gained acclaim for at least one additional reason. They made Yoshiwara general manager in 1977. In other words, our 22-year-old Maverick infielder was the country's first Asian American to hold that professional post.

"I didn't think anything about it at the time. I was a third generation Japanese American. But now I guess being first at anything is noteworthy."

What Yoshiwara didn't say is that he might downplay his accomplishments because of his father, Ted, who was socio-politically a hard act to follow.

During World War II the elder Yoshiwara fought for the United States of America in the much honored 442nd Regiment, 100th Battalion.

At a time when Japanese Americans entered concentration camps stateside, these crack infantry men [wanting to prove their loyalty] were earning the largest number of decorations of all

soldiers during that war.

The men of the 100th Battalion earned eight Presidential Unit Citations and 21 Medals of Honor. Ted Yoshiwara himself received a Purple Heart.

Whichever role he played, general manager or infielder, third son Jon "Yosh" Yoshiwara simply had fun. That's what Russell wanted. "We weren't hooligans," says Yoshiwara with a calm smile.

"But we had to play second fiddle to the Blazers and Timbers." So the Mavs with a chip on their collective shoulders made their mark.

"You know, we did things like rubbing it in when we beat other teams," Yoshiwara continued. "Or if the other team's pitcher got replaced, we sang the old Roy Rogers theme song, 'Happy Trails.'"

Then, of course, there was that wacky sweep. If the Mavs won a series, out came the broom, used first to sweep bases and then to be set afire. But that single broom was not the only thing to be lit.

The fans' imagination came next. Soon they toted their own brooms to games and waved them in support of a sweep. Then they watched as the entire club ran the perimeter of the field like soccer players, Russell in the lead.

Off-field high spirits also flourished. "We traveled in an old Laidlaw school bus that someone tore the back seats out of. That space was supposed to be the place where the next day's pitcher slept. But we played cards back there, had a good time. We didn't hate traveling like other ball players did," he recalled.

Still, he remembers that a few Mavs had some problems. "We all made \$300 a month in 1976, but we were also each given a check that amounted to \$7.50 a day for all travel meals. Some card players got into a little trouble food-wise, but we worked it out."

"If we played for fun, we also played for Bing," said Yoshiwara. "He gave so many players rejected by the big leagues a second chance. He was a salesman from the get go, but never an insincere one."

"His passion alone fueled everything. With his two degrees from Dartmouth, he was brilliant and could relate to everyone from the highest politician to players to sports writers to ticket sellers to the ground crew."

"You had this loyalty to Bing. He was a nice man, but a tough one who had



Actor Kurt Russell, filmmakers Chapman Way and Maclain Way, and composer Bocker Way pose for a portrait during the 2014 Sundance Film Festival screening of "Battered Bastards of Baseball" on January 20 in Park City, Utah. (Photo by Larry Busacca, Getty Images)

a hard job. Yet I've spoken with team members he had to release back then. Even they have nothing but respect for the man."

In July, Netflix released a compelling, high quality documentary, entitled "The Battered Bastards of Baseball."

Written and directed by Bing Russell's grandchildren Chapman and Maclain Way, it uses original footage and recounts how the Mavericks played superior heart-felt baseball with a zany irreverence, sealing themselves into annals of Portland's sports and cultural history.

Yoshiwara provides commentary as do others like former *Oregon Journal* sports writer Ken Wheeler; *Oregonian* sports writer Nick Bertram; 1974-75 team manager Frank Peters; and Russell's son, actor /baseball-player Kurt Russell.

Highly informative, entertaining and nostalgic, "The Battered Bastards" is a must see, not just for baseball fans, not just for Portlanders.

Anyone with a heart for the underdog will enjoy seeing this raggle-taggle team prevail over the controlling, monolithic institution of organized baseball.

Today, Yoshiwara won't say the "bad boy" Mavericks were cult figures. But he could change his mind. The film is going viral. And however surprisingly, Adidas now manufactures Maverick clothing.

Get ready to see the iconic retro red, black and white duds recoup their heyday in the 21st Century. Who knows, some wearers may even carry brooms!

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Tuesday, November 4 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.	The 1900 Building 1900 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 2500A

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Open Houses

Open houses in September will help Portlanders understand the proposal and prepare testimony. After considering public testimony, the PSC will forward a Recommended Plan to City Council in early 2015.

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Gabriel Park becomes the Bard's yard in Allard's 'Taming of the Shrew'

THEATRE REVIEW

By Lee Braymen-Cleary
The Southwest Portland Post

If you love Shakespeare—or even if Western Civilization's vaunted poet scares your socks off—you missed something. Actors of the Original Practice Shakespeare Festival performed "The Taming of the Shrew" Aug. 9 outdoors at Gabriel Park near the baseball diamond.

You have never seen "Shrew" like this! Gone was a long-rehearsed perfectionist production like you can see in Ashland, Stratford-upon-Avon or other holy Shakespeare stages.

Such formal productions can intimidate those daunted by Early Modern English. So instead, OPSFest's family-friendly, highly-improvisational performance encouraged audience input: laughter, boos, hisses, even the odd wolf whistles.

You could say that like Petruchio of "Shrew," the company's founding artistic director, Brian Allard, believes "No profit grows where no pleasure ta'en." And it is all for free!

Allard created the OPSFest six years ago. He has performed Shakespeare with an American touring company, the New England Shakespeare Festival, the Portland's Oregon Children's Theatre, the Northwest Classical Theatre, Post 5 Theatre and the Blue Monkey Theatre.

Allard has also traveled beyond

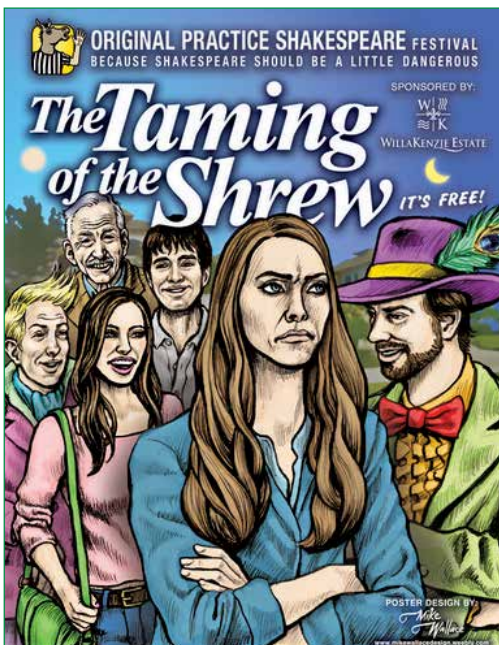
Shakespeare's realm, acting in summer stock, London Theatre productions, Off Broadway and Off-Off Broadway.

Allard made a gutsy choice when starting the OPSFest. He defied standard classical theater guidelines, opting for the seldom implemented "original practice" method. He wanted his stable of actors—now numbering 50—to perform as a coterie of Shakespearean scholars believe the Bard's original players did.

Allard could not replicate the process exactly because those treading Elizabethan boards back then rehearsed not at all and performed 20 to 25 plays a month. What memorization skills they had!

Instead, OPSFest actors were assigned their play without knowing which roles they'd perform until the morning before went go on stage. "We do this to compensate for the fact that our actors are only doing nine plays this summer; therefore, actors peruse their play and learn several roles per show," said Allard.

No rehearsals? Well, they do rehearse fights, dances and songs. But



still, if one thespian flubs lines, improve can run rampant. No wonder these flexible professionals, donning costumes they supply themselves, are paid well!

"The Taming of the Shrew" occurs in Italy. In this performance, two ten-foot-by-ten-foot tents and audience suspension of disbelief will transport us sans

air ticket. The Shakespearean language is still in tact, but to make things easy the OPSFest program elucidates the plot in 50 words.

Baptista's daughter Bianca is beset with suitors, but can't marry until after her shrewish sister Katherina. Bianca's suitors pay the roguish Petruchio to marry Katherina, who works to tame his new wife's wild tongue. Bianca's suitors squabble (often in disguise), and Katherina returns to her sister's wedding a perfect wife.

Shakespeare's players were all men. So the audience was not surprised to see a man playing a female character or even a female playing a male role like Sarah Jane Fridlich did in her role of Tranio.

"We've even toyed with the idea of

casting Kate and Petruchio as both women or as both men," said Allard. "At this point in time, audiences tolerate 'gender bent' performances. We may still do a gay or lesbian performance sometime."

Wouldn't that be interesting? Imagination can barely grasp the spin such a cast would put on the misogynistic aspect of "Shrew."


If the OPSFest approach to play delivery is different, it is even more different for the audience to see one character cast as a prompter. More different still to see actors reading their lines off of scrolls just in case they forget their unrehearsed lines.

Even more different to see the full cast ignore their lines to perform a "plane dance" when overhead a noisy jet blots out the power of their voices. This departure from play norms can raise first amazement, then laughter, in the audience.

Kiddies and picnic baskets abounded under a large tree; its generous shade and the wind cooled the 85 degree temperature.

If you missed out on "Shrew," you have another chance to see OPSFest performance at 1:00 p.m. on Sept. 28th. This time, the Bard's crew performs "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at Gabriel Park. Take a lunch and laugh yourself silly.


You might also like to know that OPSFest performs at other Portland city parks. They perform at special parties as well. For a complete list of offerings and contact information, visit www.opsfest.org.



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1. Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2008 National Crime Report http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2009/june/ucr_stats06109 2. <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/contentpub/press/vdhbpr.cfm> 3. FBI, 2008 National Crime Report http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2009/june/ucr_stats06109 4. <http://www.beyondidentitytheft.com/home-security-statistics.html>



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