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# The Southwest Portland Post

Volume No. 24 Issue No. 11

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Portland, Oregon

Complimentary

September 2016

# City staff and neighbors take walking tour of Southwest Capitol Highway

By Erik Vidstrand The Southwest Portland Post

In late July, nearly 40 invested citizens, four babies, two dogs, and this reporter, took a walking tour along the mile-long stretch of Southwest Capitol Highway between Taylors Ferry Road and Garden Home Road.

Chris Lyons, Multnomah transportation chair, organized the event after he and his ad hoc Capitol Highway Committee lobbied the city for improvements.

The Fixing Our Streets Fund, a temporary increase in the gas tax passed by voters in May, will partially finance the project. Although the total cost is over \$12 million, approximately \$9 million will be available.

Portland Bureau of Transportation project manager Steve Szigethy and Bureau of Environmental Services stormwater systems manager Dawn Uchiyama headed the tour with several other city staff.

Szigethy and Uchiyama are

coordinating transportation and stormwater improvements on this stretch of road.

"At this early stage of design," said neighbor Marianne Fitzgerald, "the city is working with citizens to design the project and identify potential additional sources of funding."

The tour began at the Barbur Transit Center then proceeded to Taylors Ferry Road across from Walgreens.

"In order for us to access the transit center, we need a safe way to cross Barbur," said Betty, a

longtime resident. "It would also be nice if the traffic signals were synchronized at this intersection [Barbur Boulevard



center, we need a Some 40 neighbors and city staff gather at the corner of Alice Street during the Capitol Highway tour. safe way to cross (*Post photo by Erik Vidstrand*)

and Capitol Highway]."

Lyons noted the Capitol Highway project needs to extend to Barbur

Boulevard (Highway 99W) in order to get state transportation funding from (Continued on Page 3)

# Controversy continues over planned 'gathering space' in Spring Garden Park

#### MULTNOMAH NOTEBOOK

By Erik Vidstrand The Southwest Portland Post

At last month's meeting of the Multnomah Neighborhood Association, the debate about the "gathering space" slated for Spring Garden Park lasted nearly an hour. Over 45 people attended the August 9 meeting.

Park community liaison Elizabeth

Kennedy-Wong and project manager Travis Ruybal were invited to go over the development process. Unresolved issues at the July neighborhood meeting sparked the request.

Staff reiterated that the entire process had been vetted over the past year. Staff canvassed the neighborhood with flyers, put signs up at the park, and posted social media.

But the controversy lies with a cement pad, or amphitheater, as the neighbors have called it. It does not sit well with

nearby residents who feel the process was not transparent enough.

Neighbors are also not pleased with predicted noise due to a proposed electrical outlet most likely opening up revenue generating rentals from bands, parties, and other events on the pad.

Ruybal shared the latest rendition of the park depicting the approximate 400 square foot concrete pad, turf, and seating walls. According to the park website, he said, this area will better accommodate movies in the park and provide an additional gathering space for learning and interpretation of an adjacent stream daylighting project.

"It has a two-foot retaining wall," Ruybal pointed out. "We understood the intent of this area was mostly to appease to teens who requested an area for them."

"It was in response from the PAC (project advisory committee)," Kennedy-Wong added. "I'm not sure where the words 'amphitheater' or 'amplification' came from. The electricity outlet is for plugging in the projector."

An audience member said other parks that have amphitheaters and electricity have major setbacks away from homes.

It wasn't until most recently that the minutes of a January 29 park advisory committee meeting suddenly appeared after questions about its whereabouts came from The Post.

Those notes state that the project manager had asked "if there are other design elements that need to be changed, this is the time to give your opinions."

No other issues were raised by those present.

Residents most impacted by the decision were at the association meeting. Hannah Davidson, Ken Boltz, and Chris Powers all expressed various concerns about the city's process.

"I never agreed to that," responded Davidson, "and I was at the January meeting."

One woman said if it wasn't for the newspaper article in *The Post*, she would have never known about the controversial pad. She said no one at the city ever reached out to her.

"I was brought here to discuss the process only," Kennedy-Wong repeated, "not other issues." But it was Ruybal who had the final word.

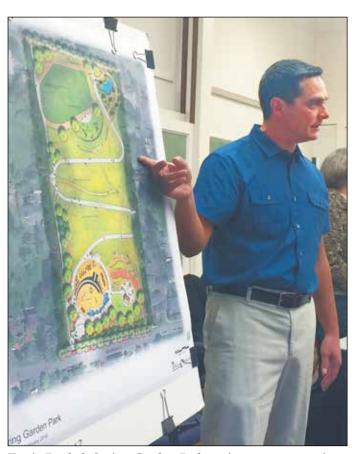
"If this goes away," he said pointing to the amphitheater pad, "you'd all be happy?"

A large cheer resounded in the room. Kennedy-Wong disagreed with her colleague that this would need to be decided upon by a committee process. And with that, the two left 55 minutes after they had begun.

Weeks later, Hun Taing, the community engagement coordinator, (Continued on Page 3)

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Travis Ruybal, Spring Garden Park project manager, reviews the master plan at the Multnomah Neighborhood Association meeting on August 9. (*Post photo by Erik Vidstrand*)

# Letters to the **Editor**

The Southwest Portland Post 4207 SE Woodstock Blvd #509 Portland, OR 97206 Fax: (866) 727-5336 email: editor@multnomahpost.com

#### **Spring Garden Park should** not be subject to noise of amplified music

Regarding, "Neighbors concerned about proposed amphitheater in Spring Garden Park," by Erik Vidstrand, The Post, August

I'm writing regarding the inclusion of a paved amphitheater with electric hookups to the proposed "improvements" to Spring Garden

I am a former resident of the



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surrounding neighborhood and am astounded to hear of such a proposal.

Spring Garden Park is a quiet, open green space, and as such deserves protecting for that alone. Portland has many, many venues for amplified music; a small park in a quiet neighborhood should not be among them.

There is little parking in the area, for one thing, and most visitors walk to this park. I do not imagine teenagers, for whom this particular feature has been

#### CORRECTION

Regarding, "Park bureau and school district continue to test lead levels in drinking water," by Jack Rubinger, The Post, August 2016.

As soon as the Portland Parks and Recreation director and commissioner-in-charge became aware there had been previous water testing at the Multnomah Arts Center, which showed some fixtures had lead levels above the Environmental Protection Agency's actionable threshold, the parks bureau closed off access to Multnomah Arts Center drinking fountains.

Mark Ross Media Relations Portland Parks & Recreation

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touted, will be walking in with their amplifiable instruments.

People who visited the park when I lived there walked their dogs, picked blackberries, had quiet picnics in the grass and sledded occasionally in the winter.

If amplified music is a possibility in our green spaces going forward I predict there will be much more local resident opposition to Portland Parks and Recreation development in the

Noise pollution is difficult enough to avoid in our urban environment; it is no small issue that this proposal includes such an outlier of a feature.

I do not feel it is appropriate for this or any small green space with adjacent housing where residents will be held captive to whatever noise emanates.

Michele Dickson Portland

#### Garden Home reader wonders what happened to his right to sunlight

Regarding, "Giant cedar tree in Multnomah Village cut down in July," letter with photos from Stewart Rounds, The Post, August 2016.

In Stewart Rounds' letter published in your August edition, he said "These grand old trees are a wonderful feature of this place" in reference to the 60-year-old ornamental landscape tree that was recently felled in his neighborhood.

A tree that was likely planted when the house was originally landscaped following construction in the mid-1950s. Hardly a "heritage tree" by my estimation. Still, a nice big tree.

It's easy to make demands about other's property when you have no (Continued on Page 3)







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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page 2)

investment at stake. So much easier to claim community ownership of someone's trees, so why invest in, purchase to own and maintain? But now on to the bigger question, the *right to sunlight*.

I am an Oregon woodland owner and understand the value of trees in an ecosystem for shade, clean air and water, habitat, wood products and aesthetics.

Oregon is a forested state with multi-use forestry practices and progressive environmental policies.

The City of Portland has also encouraged gardens, local food production, consumption, and alternative energy. But has the urbantree loving community considered and addressed the potential conflict with these other values?

Over the past decades I have given up gardening on my Garden Home lot and my fruit trees don't ripen now because of the oversized landscaping trees in neighboring yards.

The [trees] have grown and now block 70 percent of my direct sunlight. Along with the unwanted shade, I must now rake non-native pin oak leaves (from September to May) while the tree owners care little about yard work.

When I investigated solar electric panels for my roof, I was told, "too much shade from neighboring tree."

So now, after 40 years of yard planning, I have a house that mildews in the shadows, fruit that can't ripen, and a perfectly angled roof made unsuitable for solar panels. All because of overgrown landscape trees beyond my control.

I share Mr. Rounds' distress over the region's tree management policies, but clearly for different reasons

Gary Orehovec Garden Home

#### **Capitol Highway Tour**

(Continued from Page 1)

the legislature.

"Legislators are willing to push for this project," Lyons remarked, "but it needs to be associated with a state highway."

As the tour continued, periodic stops drew discussions around parking availability, tree loss, and water runoff. Some of the homes have fences and privacy shrubs in the city's right-of-way.

"These homeowners should not be alarmed when the city comes through with their final plans," one city staffer said. "There's some encroachment and everything will need to be negotiated."

"Some places will need to have a pinch point in some areas due to lack of available land to work with," city staffer Matt Brown said as he pointed to a steep driveway and gully.

As the tour continued, staff diligently listened to concerns, although from this reporter's viewpoint, no one seemed to be taking notes. Marianne Fitzgerald later submitted her notes of the group's observations which were sent to the group listserv.

Speeding traffic was brought up several times.

"Could a speed reader board be installed?" suggested a homeowner.

Szigethy said with the upcoming highway study, this could be a short-term fix for slowing vehicles.

At Alice Street, a local improvement district was introduced as creating side projects that feed into the highway.

"This involves all the neighbors agreeing and paying for a set of improvements for their street," Szigethy explained.

Uchiyama, of the environment bureau, noted the many unimproved side streets and getting stormwater to the streams.

"BES will need to take a look at these streets and the type of system needed for better stormwater management."

At Marigold Street, intersections, crosswalks, bus stops, and road striping were discussed. Szigethy stated that there are various levels of creating safe crossings from yellow striping to

flashing beacons to traffic lights.

"Every intersection will be analyzed and assessed," Szigethy assured the crowd. "Several bus stops may be removed for safety concerns but will be left up to TriMet."

Almost everyone agreed that only one sidewalk would be proposed and that it would be located where the goat trail exists on the east side of Capitol Highway.

"This makes sense," said Lyons. "It's on the same side as access to the transit center and the viaduct sidewalk."

Bicyclists in the group chimed in about bike lanes. Most want one on each side of the street and they dislike shared bicyclist and pedestrian lanes. An example of one is on Multnomah Boulevard near the former Sears Armory.

The rest of the tour reviewed additional shrubs, parking issues, and clogged drains. Stormwater issues are more prevalent as the shoulder is steeper and many homes have suffered flooding.

"We're still at the beginning of the process," Szigethy said. "Chris Lyons will use his email list to keep people informed and the city will be setting up a website."

"In order to continue to utilize the knowledge of our group and solicit our preferences on the project," Lyons announced, "the city will use our committee as a non-appointed project advisory group."

The city will present concept designs this fall along with an open house. Groundbreaking on the project is expected in late 2018.

To be kept informed of the Capitol Highway project, please email chrislyons 7@yahoo.com.

#### **Spring Garden Park**

(Continued from Page 1)

wrote the neighborhood listserv that a new meeting would be taking place.

"The scope of the discussion is limited to the gathering area," she wrote. "More specifically, Travis (Ruybal) plans to present three design options for the gathering area for the public to consider: leave the design as is, remove the concrete pad, or remove the concrete pad and wall leaving a grassy bowl."

Taing said that the purpose of the meeting is to provide a space for the community members to hear each other and get public feedback on the design options.

The park meeting will be held on Tue., Sept. 20 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Spring Garden Park community gathering area. Even this decision seemed to not sit well with some neighbors.

"I think the [Multnomah Neighborhood Association] and [Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc.] are saying the park is not an appropriate place for the meeting," Boltz said in a letter to *The Post*. "I still hope to meet with the parks department and have an agreed upon method for the decision process for the meeting."

For those who cannot attend, visit the project website http://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/67420 and fill out a comment form regarding preferences for the gathering area.



The Southwest Corridor project is a proposed 12-mile light rail MAX line that would connect SW Portland, Tigard and Bridgeport Village.

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#### THE COUNTRY STORE

By Erik Vidstrand The Southwest Portland Post

# **Eye Care Northwest opens in Multnomah Village**

A new medical care business has opened in the Meals on Wheels building





in Multnomah Village. Located at 7724 SW 31st Ave, Eye Care Northwest is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

Eye Care Northwest offers a state-ofthe-art medical practice for individuals with traumatic eye injuries, embedded foreign bodies, or cancers.

Karen Winchester, M.D., has been practicing comprehensive ophthalmology in the Portland area

for over 18 years and just recently opened her business.

"My practice includes routine eye exams," Dr. Winchester said. "I also treat a wide variety of conditions such as glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, cataracts, and macular degeneration."

Dr. Winchester earned her medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania, interned at Cornell University Hospital, and completed her ophthalmology residency at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

According to Allan Arlow, business administrator, there is a vacuum of ophthalmologists in southwest Portland.



Martha Younie sells Nate Washington, 12, a book of stamps at the Hillsdale Post Office. (Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)

"Ophthalmologists provide all services that optometrists do but can also treat a broad range of diseases," Arlow said. "There are many nursing homes and assisted living centers in the area with elderly patients in need of ophthalmology care."

Arlow explained that Winchester's practice includes evidence-based guidance on nutrition, exercise, and other lifestyle choices in the support of optimal eye health.

Dr. Winchester offered some tips on eye care, especially for elderly people.

"As we get older," she said, "our eyes can change in many ways. Cataracts

(clouding of the lenses), is a problem most people will eventually develop. This can be routinely and successfully treated with a surgical procedure."

Winchester explained that other

Winchester explained that other problems which can arrive later in life are not so obvious in the early stages.

"That's why it's important to have a thorough eye exam more frequently as people age," she warned. "Glaucoma (high pressure in the eye), like high blood pressure, usually has no immediate symptoms but can cause vision loss if not found and controlled.

"Anyone with diabetes should also have an eye exam at least once a year because it, too, is a leading cause of vision loss."

Dr. Winchester has lived in the Bridlemile neighborhood for 17 years.

# Hillsdale contract post office closes after 25 years

After years tucked away in a Hillsdale parking lot, the Hillsdale Postal Center has closed. The owner, Angie Hefflinger, is retiring after 25 years. She is prohibited from transferring her ownership title.

It's actually called a mail contract postal unit and many of them are located all across the country. The U.S. Postal Service poster on the door stated that they would not expand any contract stations before July 2017 due to national labor arbitration.

Postal clerk Martha Younie interacted with customers as they shared personal gossip with each other. News of 'Aunt Margaret' and how someone's son was doing were overheard during this reporter's interview.

Behind the counter is a map with hundreds of pins showing all the places packages have been mailed over the years. It's framed by postcards from customers who have traveled the world and sent their well wishes to the postmistress. Even this reporter saw one of his cards still hanging up from years ago.

A wall-of-fame display showcased over three dozen local authors' books. Who's to know where these artifacts will go?

"There will never be a place like this again," said regular customer Donica Washington. "I opened my mailbox here in 1993." Washington comes all the way from Tigard.

"We're all going to mourn the loss of community here after we close," Younie sighed as she repackaged a gift for a customer. "It's a big loss."

Angie Hefflinger was not available for comment.

The next closest post office is at the U.S. Postal Service, Multnomah branch located at 7805 SW 45th Ave.

(Continued on Page 5)





Opthamologist Dr. Karen Winchester opened Eye Care Northwest recently. She treats people with traumatic eye problems and offers routine eye wellness exams. (*Photo courtesy of Allan Arlow*)



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Pokémon Go gamers congregate in Multnomah Village searching for characters to capture. (Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)

#### Pokémon Go brings business and problems to Multnomah Village

If you've noticed more people hanging out on the streets in Multnomah Village lately, it's because of the new phenomenon called Pokémon Go. Created by a San Francisco software company, Niantic, Pokémon Go was released on July 6, 2016.

Although it does get gamers outside walking instead of sitting in front of screens for hours on end, adults, teenagers, and tweens alike use their phones to hunt for virtual characters with names like Squirtie, Weedle, and Jigglypuff.

They can show up anywhere and many have been found near certain businesses in Multnomah Village. Business has been so brisk at some locations that trashcans are over flowing and cigarette butts litter the sidewalk.

Pokémon Go has become a worldwide phenomenon attracting over 21 million active users, attracting more users than Twitter. Accidents, cyber safety issues, and trespassing have occurred to players everywhere it's played. Local leaders urge awareness of potential problems that can take place.

According to the Multnomah Village Business Association, trash has been a sore point and business owners have been instructed to pay more attention to the overflow.

"At the July meeting we had a rather humorous discussion about all the extra people in the village playing Pokémon Go," said Randy Bonella, MVBA executive director. "We discussed how to encourage them to pick up after themselves."

One business owner, who wanted to remain anonymous, didn't find it so (Continued on Page 6)

#### **COMMUNITY LIFE**

By KC Cowan The Southwest Portland Post

**2** Mixed Media: "Connections," an exhibit of mixed media paintings and collage by Barbara Rawls and Dale Rawls, will be on view at the Multnomah Arts Center gallery (7688 SW Capitol Hwy) beginning September 2. The artwork consists of mixed media on wood panel or paper with acrylic, plaster, collage, ink, gouache, and graphite. An opening reception will be held in the gallery Friday, Sept. 2, 7 to 9 p.m. The artists will give a gallery talk on Saturday, Sept. 24 at 11 a.m. The two-person show is up through October 4.

**5** Big Truck Day: Come to the Mittleman Jewish Community Center (6651 SW Capitol Hwy) parking lot to meet and listen to the drivers talk about their vehicles up close and personal! Police car, fire truck, antique cars, and more! Monday, Sept. 5 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Free and open to all! Vegetarian food trucks will be available for your lunch.

 $10^{\,\mathrm{Walk}}$  to Lake Oswego: This month's seven-mile SW Trails walk heads to Lake Oswego through Marshall Park and Tryon Creek Park. From the Lake Oswego Safeway you will take TriMet back to Wilson High School, so no dogs allowed. Bring a bus ticket. Meet behind the bleachers, near the food carts, at Wilson High School, Sunset Boulevard and Capitol Highway, and be ready to go by 9 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10. For more information, or to volunteer to lead a walk in your neighborhood, contact Virginia at vehendric@comcast.net.

Let's Get Physical: No matter your age, you can make lifestyle changes to maintain or even improve your physical and brain health. This workshop covers four areas of lifestyle habits: cognitive activity, physical health and exercise, diet and nutrition, and social engagement. Register online, in the library or by calling 503-988-5234. At the Hillsdale Library, 1525 SW Sunset Blvd. Wednesday, Sept. 14, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

15 Future Shock: What should the Portland Community College Sylvania campus look like in the next 25 years? Come to a community meeting with experts in land use, campus planning, transportation and architecture

to discuss future campus amenities, transportation, sustainability, green spaces and more. Thursday, Sept. 15 from 8 a.m. to noon and Friday, Sept. 16 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the Tree Rooms. Lunch will be served on Friday. For more information, please contact Celina Baguiao at 971-722-4339 or celina.baguiao@ pcc.edu.



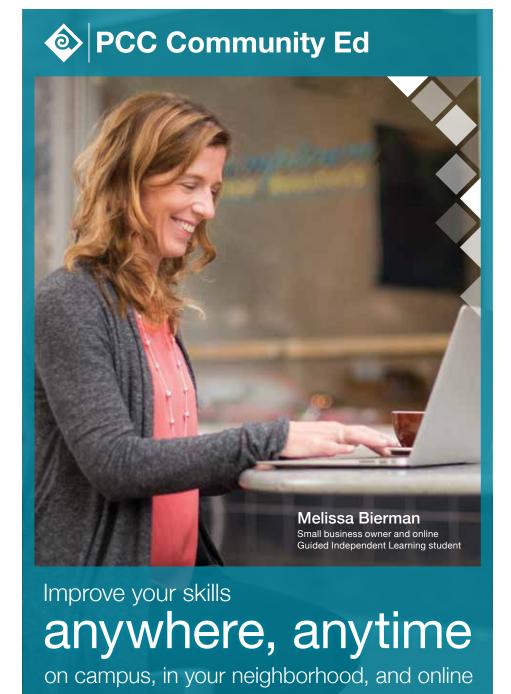
REVOLUTIONARIES: Mark Pierce as Benjamin Franklin, Adam Elliott Davis as Thomas Jefferson, and Darius Pierce as John Adams in the Tony award-winning musical "1776." Performances are September 9 through October 16 at Lakewood Theatre Company in Lake Oswego. (Photo by Triumph Photography)

16 Foreign Film Night: Join fellow film buffs to watch "Sea Fog" from South Korea. It tells the story of Kang, a long time captain of the Junjin, who learns his ship has been sold by its owner, leaving Kang's entire crew in danger of losing their livelihood. At the Garden Home Community Store, 7306 SW Oleson Rd., Friday, Sept. 16 at 7:30 p.m. Free.

17 Lucha Libre Masks: Lucha Libre (Wrestler) is one of the most prominent Mexican postmodern cultural icons. Lucha Libre wrestlers ("luchadores") traditionally design their masks based on animals, fictional characters and public personalities. Make your own! Saturday, Sept. 17 at 2 p.m. at the Capitol Hill Library,

10723 SW Capitol Hwy. Free tickets available 30 minutes in advance. Call 503-988-5385 for more information.

18 Lead Poisoning Prevention: With all the news of lead in our schools' drinking water, this workshop is timely! You'll get the tools and resources to locate lead sources within your home and occupation, stabilize or eliminate hazardous conditions, and find additional agencies and organizations in the Portland metro area for more help. Free booklet and kit of lead-safe cleaning and testing materials. Registration required; register online, in the library or by calling 503-988-5234. Sunday, Sept. 18, 2:30 to 4 p.m. at the Capitol Hill Library, 10723 SW Capitol Hwy.



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## Community invited to Sept. 22 open house on the future light rail project

#### **SOUTHWEST CORRIDOR PLAN**

By Erik Vidstrand The Southwest Portland Post

Beginning this fall, the Southwest Corridor Plan enters its next phase: the Southwest Light Rail Project. According to project planners, a federally required environmental review process is going to last until the end of 2017. At that time, a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) will be published with a public comment period in early 2018.

"This detailed study," said Noelle Dobson, Metro senior public affairs specialist, "is going to look at both the positive and negative impacts of the built and natural environments. The DEIS will recommend strategies for minimizing or avoiding adverse impacts."

The community is invited to learn about this phase at an open house on Thursday, Sept. 22 at the Wilson High School cafeteria from 6 to 8 p.m.

"A public scoping period has already begun," Dobson explained. "Project staff have been at local farmers markets gathering information and will continue to do so throughout September."

According to Dobson, this is the opportunity for the public and government agencies to provide input on what to study.

A packet will be released that describes the project's background, including its purpose and need. This will include the light rail plan, bicycle and pedestrian routes, and road projects.

Information will also be gathered on air and water quality, traffic and property impacts, ridership projections, and station locations.

"Decisions about final alignment



A MAX light rail train stops at Portland State University in downtown Portland. (Photo by Steve Morgan, Creative Commons license)

choices or station locations will not be made, however, until the DEIS is completed," Dobson remarked.

Dobson said that the decision about whether to run the light rail alignment on Barbur Boulevard or on Naito Parkway south of downtown will not be made at this time.

Alignment options removed during the earlier refinement phase included three potential underground transit tunnels to Marquam Hill, Hillsdale town center, and Portland Community College's Sylvania campus.

While the DEIS is undertaken, the Metro project team will continue seeking funding opportunities for other projects like connective roadways, active transportation, parks, trails, and

Metro partners will continue to work on strategies to implement the comprehensive set of goals and strategies outlined in the 2013 Southwest Corridor Plan Shared Investment Strategy. The next steering committee is not scheduled until November.

"When the DEIS technical analysis is

completed at the end of 2017," Dobson assured, "the public will have multiple opportunities to provide additional feedback and recommendations."

To learn more, visit the project website at www.swcorridorplan.org.

#### Pokemon Go

(Continued from Page 4)

humorous. She showed this reporter cigarette butts wedged in cracks between her wooden siding and bench potentially causing a devastating fire.

"These players also tapped into my electrical outlet. I'm annoyed at having to turn off my circuit breaker at night because my electric bill is higher."

Another business owner had the same problem and worries that there are no lights on in her business at night for crime deterrence.

"It's hard to say how long this fad will last," she said. "All I ask is that you respect our property and clean up after yourselves.'

For more information on cyber security associated with Pokémon Go, visit www. staysafeonline.org.

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# Three sports show great potential at Wilson High School this year

By Jack Rubinger The Southwest Portland Post

A trio of Wilson High School sports boys cross country, boys soccer, and girls volleyball — are leading the charge as we begin the fall 2016 season.

While each has its challenges and goals, these three have tremendous potential, according to athletic director Mike Easton. Here's the breakdown:

Wilson girls volleyball coach Peter Fukuchi grew up and played volleyball in Hawaii. He talked about ohana a Hawaiian word which loosely translated means building culture, building family, creating camaraderie, caring, culture and sisterhood.

"This is a brand new team," he said. "We're young and solid and I'm excited about continuing the spirit of ohana with this group. Last year, we really gelled and went on to become league champions.

With just four team members returning from last year's squad — Rachel Hunt, Jane Woodward, Saioa Lostra and India Jones — Coach Fukuchi has his work cut out for him.

"Our offense has power, but our defense is something we'll need to really work on this season," he said.

#### Boys varsity soccer team has something to prove this season

Varsity boys soccer Coach Frank Mathews (also a Wilson social studies teacher) is very excited about the upcoming soccer season because 19 players are returning from last year's team.

Mathews said he has a great group of seniors who are determined to work their hardest in the pre-season to ensure that they have a successful season and

According to Mathews, the team's mantra this season is that they need to prove it. They are not one of the schools one automatically thinks of at the top of the 6A state standings, but this season they feel they belong in the conversation.

Mathews said they are confident in their abilities, but they need to go out there and play hard and win all those close games against good competition that were lost last season.

Like last season, their schedule is very competitive, said Mathews. There are no easy games and each match is going to be hard fought.

In the pre-season and in the Portland Interscholastic League, they will have to be mentally and physically ready to play each game because the quality of play is so high against each team, said

According to Mathews, some players of note to look out for this season include senior Alec Dunkeld, who was the leading scorer last season. Junior Tyson Horn is center midfielder with a knack for the goal; field captain and defender Sam Nathenson is a strong leader.

#### Speed, performance and talent drive the boys cross country team

They are the returning PIL champions and have the returning PIL individual champion.

According to Coach Thor Esbensen, the boys cross country team hopes to be in the top five at state. Esbensen said he hopes with some good fortune and hard work that they can be a contending team.

The boys return with Alex Slenning, junior, 8th at last year's state meet and



Wilson High School's boys cross country team trains constantly in all kinds of terrain. (Photo courtesy of Wilson High School)

the number three returner. He had a great track season and broke the school record in the 3000.

Senior Caleb Seely also returns. Seely was PIL runner-up in cross country and broke the school record in the 1500 and 800 in track this past season. According to Esbensen, junior Kian Mitchell had a break-out track season and is a top

Elius Graff will be competing in cross country full time this year after splitting time with soccer last year, said Esbensen. Aidan Manley, senior, also had a break out season in track and will be entering his second season of cross country.

"Alex and Caleb have developed incredibly fast and are tremendously talented athletes. They should be at the top of most races they run this fall," said Esbensen."We have entered our team in many top meets. We are going to try

and gain experience by going to the state's biggest meets," said Esbensen.

According to Esbensen, one of the biggest team strengths is the community and parent support and involvement. Parent groups are quick to set up camping trips, spaghetti dinners, team sleepovers and weekend trips to out-of-state meets.

Without their support many great team-building activities would not happen, he said. The team and community epitomizes the saying, "It takes a village."

"We have had a strong summer and our team motto's of the building storm and confidence, strength, desire will drive us this season," said Esbensen.

"With our top two athletes and three of our top seven returning from a breakout season last year and a flood of hard-working younger runners coming along, we anticipate great things."

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# Multnomah Days festival sizzles in 99 degree heat

(Photo essay by Erik Vidstrand and Don Snedecor)



These hardy gentlemen braved the heat to raise funds for a planned Sons of the American Revolution monument in Beaverton. (Post photo by Don Snedecor)



Violinist Asher Milman, 9, rests in the shade before performing. The temperature reached 99 degrees this year. (Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)



A farmer just drives a tractor in the parade. No advertisements or selfpromotion bringing back simpler times. (Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)



These two sousaphone players get ready to perform in the parade with The Beat Goes On marching band. (Post photo by Don Snedecor)



State Rep. Margaret Doherty (left) rubs elbows with Rick Nitti (center) of Neighborhood House before the parade. (Post photo by Don Snedecor)



Multnomah Neighborhood Association members march with signs showing displeasure at recent proposals to rezone the Multnomah Village area. (Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)



Those colorful folks at Healthy Pets Northwest get lined up for the parade. (Post photo by Don Snedecor)



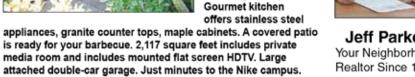
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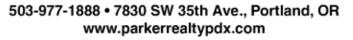


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