

Letters to the Editor



The Southwest Portland Post
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New officers, village construction, speeding and disaster preparedness

Greetings from the Multnomah neighborhood! Our next scheduled meeting of the Multnomah Neighborhood Association is on Tuesday, March 12, at 7:00 p.m. at the Multnomah Arts Center (7688 SW Capitol Hwy) in Room 30. We encourage everyone to attend!

We had a productive February neighborhood meeting. We re-elected Moses Ross as chair and Katy Brumbelow as vice-chair of our Multnomah Neighborhood Association (MNA). The treasurer and secretary positions remain open.

We welcomed Beth Omansky as the new chair of our safety committee, joining Kay Durtschi as transportation committee chair and Susan Rudloff as land use committee chair. Parks, Schools and SWNI board representative positions remain open.

The Multnomah Village business district construction will begin soon in the block between Southwest 35th

and 36th avenues. The plan is to complete one side of the street at a time.

Alternative parking is at the Multnomah Arts Center lower lot. Although Multnomah Village Business Association requested electrical lighting conduit to be included in the sidewalk and tree plantings, Portland Bureau of Transportation has determined that it is not economically feasible, although letter-writing in support is encouraged.

Concerns about traffic speeds on Capitol Highway near the intersection at Southwest 40th were discussed. A motion was passed authorizing Chair Ross to submit a letter of support for these efforts to the City of Portland and PBOT.

Finally, on the topic of Disaster Preparedness, Multnomah residents Mike Ashland and Bob Cogan presented their concerns with actual neighborhood readiness and ability to respond to an actual disaster.

They advocate a strategy to inventory and plan at the individual, immediate neighborhood level (15-20 houses is encouraged); to identify those in each immediate area with medical expertise, special equipment and tools, etc.; to have standardized Earthquake kits in each home.

Mike will report back to the neighborhood on a regular basis to give updates and encourage involvement. More information about their specific local efforts can be found at www.TBoneReady.com.

Moses Ross
Chair - Multnomah
Neighborhood Association
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Ghost hunting rant haunts Post reader

Regarding "Letters to the Editor: Ghost hunting in Multnomah Village simply a ploy to bring in traffic," by Anonymous, *The Post*, February 2013.

Boo to "Anonymous via e-mail." I have seen ghosts a few times but I don't believe in them. And I reserve the right to disrespect the differing opinions of others. But I am haunted by Anonymous' rant.

She really should get a life and lose sleep over matters of the living. Really? She takes the time to complain about a local, long-standing ghost story?

Poor Anonymous must be terrified of Edgar Allen Poe who sold books about the dead and Mary Todd Lincoln who bought séance time to see a dead son. Halloween must set Anonymous' hair on fire every October and I'll bet she's even ticked off at the Munsters.

Portland shops have been using dead presidents to sell merchandise every February for decades. Has she written a letter to Les Schwab and Car Toys too?

A ghostly legend of a dead lady in the basement of our local café' is harmless and it is a fun part of Keeping Portland Weird. "I ain't afraid of no ghost!" so why should Anonymous be afraid?

R.D. Bessmer

Capitol Highway, Macadam Avenue projects set for construction

NEWS

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

Work on the Multnomah Village Streetscape Project will begin this month, according to Portland Bureau of Environmental Services spokesperson Joe Annett.

As described in a December *Post* article, the project will improve Southwest Capitol Highway between 35th and 36th avenues, with the addition of trees and sidewalks widened up to nine feet.

Work will be from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, and while the street will not be closed to traffic, at times it will be restricted, Annett said. The project should take about 90 days to complete.

Meanwhile, thanks to work related to the Sellwood Bridge, Macadam Avenue (Highway 43) should be booming – literally.

According to Multnomah County spokesperson Mike Pullen, crews will be using explosives for night-time work to remove part of the hillside west of the road to make way for a new right of way.

After each blast, the road will be closed for up to an hour to allow for the debris to be cleared, Pullen said.

Meanwhile, he said, crews will be working on the riverfront to remove the piers of the old bridge. Starting in July, they will begin the in-water work on the new bridge.

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