

## Several Hillsdale businesses close; Cuttlefish and Coral coming soon

### THE COUNTRY STORE

By Erik Vidstrand  
The Southwest Portland Post

Besides the Hillsdale post office recently shutting its doors, several other businesses have recently closed in Hillsdale and one new business will be relocating to the town center.

**Hillsdale Arts Supply**, a few doors down from the former post office, shut its door Aug. 31.

The store featured recycled art supplies and showcased art from Robert Gray Middle School and Wilson High School students over the years.

"My lease was up at and I decided not to renew," owner Denise Rumsey told *The Post*. "I am considering a new location, but at this time, that has yet to be revealed."

**Bellamy Studios** relocated into Rumsey's old space at 6327 SW Capitol Hwy.

Rumsey said to check her website at <http://www.hillsdaleartsupply.com/> for future updates on her plans. She wanted to convey her appreciation for the community's support all these years.

**Queen of Diamonds Jewelry** also recently closed. Located at 6315 SW Capitol Hwy., in the same building as Bank of America, the jewelry store had been in operation for several decades.

According to property manager Julie Seid, the business owner closed the store for personal reasons. The owner could not be reached for comment.

"The storefront is being renovated,"

Seid commented. "A new tenant has not been identified yet."

Across the highway, another art store, **Paint Pots**, has closed its doors after losing the lease. Located at 6360 SW Capitol Hwy., the business provided a studio for painting mugs, bowls, and other ceramics for over 20 years.

"I am choosing not to relocate the store so I can focus on my personal pottery," said the business owner, Laura Berg. "Despite several leads, I have been unable to find someone willing to purchase the contents of the store and relocate. If anyone is interested in a creative business opportunity, please contact me on Facebook."

Landlady Ardys Braidwood is making some changes to the space. "I'm updating the storefront with better windows and central air as well as upgrading requirements for the Americans for Disability Act," Braidwood explained.

Braidwood did not divulge who may occupy the space after improvements are completed.

The retail space next to OnPoint Community Credit Union, located at 6367 SW Capitol Hwy., has finally been leased. Braidwood, who owns this building as well, recently announced that the new tenants will be **Cuttlefish and Coral, LLC**, a saltwater aquarium business.

Owned by Jeffrey Slemp, the store specializes in aqua culturing practices growing coral and offering a variety of exotic saltwater fish. Slemp will offer saltwater tanks and servicing for businesses and residences. The store will feature a two-foot shark.

Located the last four years on North Mississippi Avenue, Slemp will be setting up his space during the coming month.

"The unit has been vacant for several years," Braidwood said. "I was waiting for the right fit and the aquarium will be a great addition to the Hillsdale Town Center."



Laura Berg, the owner of Paint Pots, has closed the business after 20 years in Hillsdale. (Post photo by Erik Vidstrand)

### MULTNOMAH NOTEBOOK

(Continued from Page 1)

Houston Markley, who helped lead the association in the recent Multnomah Days parade, brought up various groups in the city like Portland for Everyone who are in support of density development.

"That organization has made it clear it makes no sense when a standard 50 by 100 lot, within easy walking distance of a center, can't be used for anything more than a single-family house," Markley said after the meeting. "That group is for density."

Jessica Wade, a long time activist, said she is not against density but said, "We need to bring the infrastructure improvements with the development, but developers get waivers of remonstrance."

She questioned whether the west side was getting its fair share of the developers' contributions for improvements elsewhere in the city.

"We don't want stupid, arrogant development," said another audience member. "We want the mayor to stand up to these values."

Someone suggested having a moratorium on development until there is further research looking into the issues being brought up tonight.

Another stated that the village was not a Hawthorne Boulevard or Division Street. Both neighborhoods have experienced high-rise development in recent years.

Testimonials continued as Howard sat patiently although without taking notes. Members described homes being flooded due to improper developments, solar panels being shaded by large houses built up next to their property, trees being cut down, and livability issues not being fully addressed.

Beth Omansky, who volunteered at the Sears homeless shelter earlier this year, described the empathy the community has for the homeless.

"Over 200 neighbors helped contribute meals and supplies for the temporary residents who resided at the old armory," she reported.

"This November," Howard responded, "Measure 26-179 is on the ballot to create 1,300 permanently affordable homes for those who need them most. The \$258.4 million affordable housing bond marks the first time that Portlanders will be able to vote in support of affordable housing."

This was McCarthy's last meeting as chair of the Multnomah Neighborhood Association. Her two-year term is dictated by the organization's bylaws. Nominations and elections will be held at the October 11 meeting.

*The Multnomah Neighborhood Association meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. in room 30 of the Multnomah Arts Center.*

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