

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Taking a Tip From Joan of Arc

Dear Editor,

I think the way some people are ready to demolish Ivy Island in service to the Farid Bolouri Development is the wrong direction. I think we have come to take Ivy Island for granted. After all, it is "just" a traffic island that we drive by all the time with little notice.

What if we take a tip from Laurelhurst? Just by saying the word "Laurelhurst," for most people, the first, and sometimes the only thing that comes to mind, is the Joan of Arc statue on the 39th Street Traffic Circle. Without that, Laurelhurst would just be part of the blur of neighborhoods on the Eastside, and certainly no one would give any thought to the traffic circle. Laurelhurst made their ordinary traffic circle significant and delightful. The first time you see it, it's totally unexpected and charming and it stays in your mind. It's something you can easily picture when you're someplace else. Wherever you may be, the Traffic Circle places and anchors the Laurelhurst Neighborhood.

Could we do something similarly amazing with Ivy Island on behalf of St. Johns? If we could, it would be a boon for the St. Johns Business District. I've always wondered how extraordinary it would be if something as simple as artistically dramatic floodlights were part of the Ivy Island experience. Banners? Flags? Amazing art? But most of all, a statue of James John! Kinda like the Ugly Duckling story, where from a humble beginning

Ivy Island transforms into a beautiful swan and becomes a truly valued part of our community. A memorable entrance that celebrates the independent spirit of St. Johns.

For the many reasons that people want the Bolouri Project, I've yet to hear that aesthetically, driving into a "lovely" four-story wall of unremarkable apartments is one of them. This is what we will have when driving west on Lombard when the Bolouri Project is finished. Or that anyone actually desires for its own sake, a right turn stoplight into St. Johns. In accepting the Bolouri Project into our community, we give up some of our small town appeal and end up looking like every other gentrified neighborhood in Portland. Our St. Johns charm becomes collateral damage. Acknowledging how nice the landscaped Ivy Island has become, Bolouri Project is like the Ugly Duckling story in reverse.

There are other options and traffic strategies to solving the Blind Lombard Curve at the Charleston corner, other than razing Ivy Island. A lot is going to change these next few years as Developers discover our community, and seemingly, we have little control over what happens. But I think we should try to keep a bit of our historical and traditional St. Johns for St. Johns.

John Teply
Find more info at "Save Ivy Island" on Facebook

Friends of Multnomah County Library holds fall used book sale

Oregon's largest used book sale, organized by the Friends of the Multnomah County Library, takes place the weekend of October 23-26 at the DoubleTree Hotel Exhibit Hall at Lloyd Center, 1000 NE Multnomah St., Portland, Oregon 97232. Proceeds from the sale benefit the Multnomah County Library.

It will open with a Members-Only Night on Friday, October 23, from 6 to 9 pm. Annual memberships can be purchased at any time, including at the door Friday night, for as low as \$10 for individuals or \$15 for families. Admission is free to the public on Saturday 9 am to 9 pm, Sunday 11 am to 5 pm, and Monday 9 am to 3 pm.

New this year is a Literary Trivia event, with a cash bar, on Saturday, October 24 from 6 to 9 pm. Also, for the first time is a Halloween Costume Contest, for all ages, Sunday, October 25 at 1 pm. More details can be found on the Friends of the Library website: friends-library.org

The Friends' Fall Used Book Sale boasts of 100,000 items at great prices. Hardcover and quality trade paperbacks start at \$2, mass-market paperbacks and children's books at 50 cents, CDs at \$2, and DVDs at \$3. Also available are audio books, LPs, video games, pamphlets, sheet music, and maps - all sorted and in good condition.

No electronic devices to check prices will be allowed during

Friday's Members-Only Night. Phones and scanners will be allowed Saturday through Monday for checking individual items. Items may not be set aside to be scanned later.

Monday will be a 50% off Discount Day on all remaining items.

The ever-popular Collector's Corner is back. These special and rare books and ephemera are culled from the Friends' online store and will be available for purchase Friday and Saturday.

The DoubleTree at Lloyd Center is easily accessible by TriMet and MAX. Metered street parking is available. The DoubleTree Hotel parking offers a special day rate with a voucher available at the sale.

For more information or to become a Friends of the Library member, see www.friends-library.org or contact the Friends at 503-224-9176.

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

RHS theater students volunteer to Trick or Treat for hunger

The International Thespian Society (ITS), a division of the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA), is pleased to announce the participation of Roosevelt High School, Thespian Troupe #7289, in the Trick or Treat So Kids Can Eat program. Trick or Treat So Kids Can Eat is a national community service program for ITS-member schools to collect canned and dry goods for local charities and food banks.

Theatre students from Roosevelt High School (RHS) will be dressed in costumes to collect food donations in the RHS neighborhood during the local Trick or Treat activities on Friday, October 30 from 12:00 P.M. until 2:00 P.M. If you are not in the immediate RHS neighborhood, but wish to help, feel free to drop off donations in Ms. Lane's classroom between 12:00-2:00 P.M. the same day. These donations will go to benefit Oregon Food Bank. Thousands of pounds of food will be collected in one night across the state, giving organizations the ability to help thousands of local people.

About the International Thespian Society
Founded in 1929, The International Thespian Society (ITS), is an honorary organization for high school and middle school theatre students located at more than 4,300 affiliated secondary schools across America, Canada, and abroad. The mission of ITS is to honor student achievement in the theatre arts. High school inductees are known as "Thespians" and junior high/middle school inductees are known as "Junior Thespians."

ITS is a division of the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA).

About the Educational Theatre Association

The Educational Theatre Association (EdTA) is a national nonprofit organization with approximately 90,000 student and professional members. EdTA's mission is shaping lives through theatre education by: honoring student achievement in theatre and enriching their theatre education experience; supporting teachers by providing professional development, networking opportunities, resources, and recognition; and influencing public opinion that theatre education is essential and builds life skills. EdTA operates the International Thespian Society (ITS), an honorary organization that has inducted more than two million theatre students since its founding in 1929. EdTA also publishes Dramatics, a monthly magazine for high school theatre students, and Teaching Theatre, a quarterly journal for theatre education professionals.

North Star Village offers Age in Place talk

If interested in remaining in your home as you age, now is the time to start planning.

North Star Village is hosting *Village at Home* talks introducing the local Village Movement and how Villages support folks to remain in the homes they love and the familiar neighborhoods they cherish. It's called "aging in place" and is a national movement responding to the need for services so folks can age comfortably and safely at home.

Invite your neighbors, friends, co-workers and reserve your seat for one of these living room talks on Saturday, October 24 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. Find out what North Star Village will offer and how you can join others to shape the services and programs of our own virtual village.

Space is limited and those interested are encouraged to call 503.978.0540 or go to www.NorthStarVillagePDX.org to reserve your place and receive the location.

BRIDGE CITY CHURCH
a new church start-up in NoPo
MEETING AT BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH BUILDING
//SECOND SUNDAY NIGHT (SEPT-DEC)/5PM//
Family Meal to follow
WWW.BRIDGECITYCHURCHPDX.COM
INFO@BCCPDX.COM

St. Johns Main Street hosts monthly Plaza clean ups

For those concerned about keeping the neighborhood clean and tidy, the St. Johns Main Street organization says, "Show your neighborhood pride by giving our plaza some love!!"

Every third Sunday of the month at 1:00 p.m., there will be a neighborhood plaza clean up." Main Street will provide the supplies and there is no need to sign up, just drop by and lend a hand!

For more information, visit: stjohnsmainstreet.org or email Sydney Leonard at: sydney@stjohnsmainstreet.org.

Sunlan Lighting
Neodymium For A New Home
By Kay - the Light Bulb Lady
Dark Gray Days are on their way!
Portland has early evenings with gray rainy days and very little sun which can create a feeling of sleepiness.
If you are someone who needs the sun to feel better and you find yourself wanting to sleep more, here is a simple way to feel like your normal sunny self.
Come to the playroom at SUNLAN LIGHTING and play with the light bulbs and fluorescent lamps.
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