

The Baysider

SPRING EDITION

February 2014

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Midtown

By Steve Hirshorn

On January 10th the Portland Planning Board gave its approval to the Midtown Master Plan. The plan includes both sides of Chestnut Street along Somerset. The Public hearing, which took place over two dates in December and January, was the culmination of a process that took nearly a year to complete. The first phase of the project, a fifteen-story apartment building and 700-space parking garage, is now cleared for construction.

Midtown has attracted its share of controversy. Many people objected to the height of the apartment building, which required a height variance to reach its projected height of 160 feet. Others objected to the garage and the wall-like effect it will create. Still other issues emerged, such as pinch points along the Bayside Trail along with flooding and shadows cast by the buildings. The status of Somerset Street was also an important issue. The prospect of flooding and the need to raise the street's elevation 3 feet to mitigate insurance-carrier concerns needed to be resolved as well. Abutting property owners along Somerset Street were directly affected, and their concerns needed to be resolved for the project to move ahead.

In time, the major concerns of stakeholders were resolved. Left unresolved, however, was the general opposition to a project that some people felt was out of scale for Portland. A group, Keep Portland Livable, headed by Tim Paradis and landscape architect Peter Monro, formed to challenge the Planning Board's approvals.

The group has made several presentations to neighborhood groups around town and actively solicited funds for a legal challenge. As of this writing there appears to be enough money and enough interest from people displeased with the project and the outcome of the planning process for the legal battle to begin. Follow developments online by visiting <http://keepportlandlivable.com/>

FEB: TIME TO CARE

Swiss Time to donate portion of retail sales and 100% of raffle ticket sales to benefit Preble Street, "creating solutions for homelessness hunger and poverty"

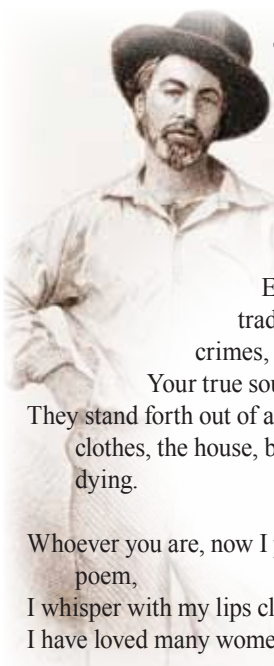
Time for a new watch? Swiss Time will donate 3% of their retail sales for the month of February to Preble Street! The store will also sell raffle tickets for a chance to win two Fossil watches, two Skagen watches and one Skagen jewelry set. Raffle tickets cost \$5 each or five for \$20. Through February 2014 at Swiss Time, 86 Exchange Street Visit their store to learn more. Or go online: <http://www.myswisstime.com/events/februarys-time-care/>, or <http://preblestreet.org/events/Time-to-Care/656/>



Construction site on the corner of Cumberland and Forest Ave., where the sign on the fence promises a "Rooftop Garden & Teaching Kitchen." Photo by Annie Seikonia

To You

—by Walt Whitman—



Whoever you are, I fear you are walking
the walks of dreams,
I fear these supposed realities are to melt
from under your feet and hands,
Even now your features, joys, speech, house,
trade, manners, troubles, follies, costume,
crimes, dissipate away from you,
Your true soul and body appear before me,
They stand forth out of affairs, out of commerce, shops, work, farms,
clothes, the house, buying, selling, eating, drinking, suffering,
dying.

Whoever you are, now I place my hand upon you, that you be my
poem,
I whisper with my lips close to your ear,
I have loved many women and men, but I love none better than you.

O I have been dilatory and dumb,
I should have made my way straight to you long ago,
I should have blabb'd nothing but you, I should have chanted nothing
but you.

I will leave all and come and make the hymns of you,
None has understood you, but I understand you,
None has done justice to you, you have not done justice to yourself,
None but has found you imperfect, I only find no imperfection in you,
None but would subordinate you, I only am he who will never
consent to subordinate you,
I only am he who places over you no master, owner, better, God,
beyond what waits intrinsically in yourself.

Painters have painted their swarming groups and the centre-figure
of all,
From the head of the centre-figure spreading a nimbus of gold-
color'd light,
But I paint myriads of heads, but paint no head without its nimbus of
gold-color'd light,
From my hand from the brain of every man and woman it streams,
effulgently flowing forever.

O I could sing such grandeurs and glories about you!
You have not known what you are, you have slumber'd upon yourself
all your life,

Your eyelids have been the same as closed most of the time,
What you have done returns already in mockeries,
(Your thrift, knowledge, prayers, if they do not return in mockeries,
what is their return?)

The mockeries are not you,
Underneath them and within them I see you lurk,
I pursue you where none else has pursued you,
Silence, the desk, the flippant expression, the night, the accustom'd
routine, if these conceal you from others or from yourself, they
do not conceal you from me,
The shaved face, the unsteady eye, the impure complexion, if these
balk others they do not balk me,
The pert apparel, the deform'd attitude, drunkenness, greed,
premature death, all these I part aside.

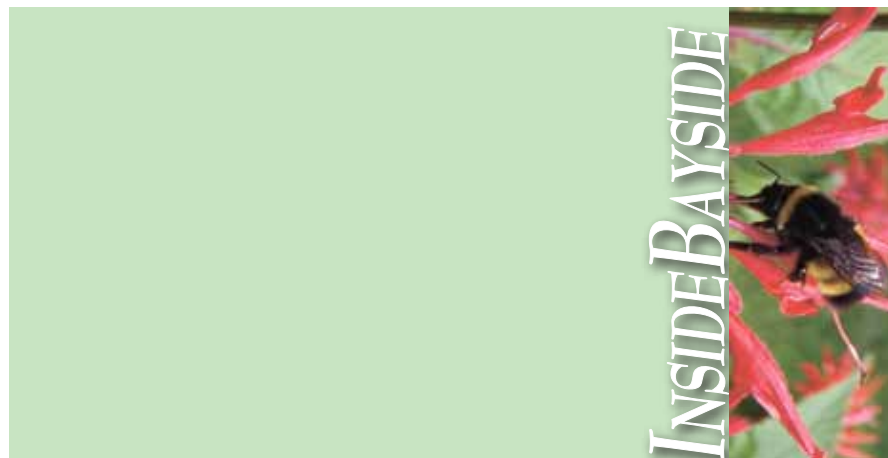
There is no endowment in man or woman that is not tallied in
you,
There is no virtue, no beauty in man or woman, but as good is
in you,
No pluck, no endurance in others, but as good is in you,
No pleasure waiting for others, but an equal pleasure waits for you.

As for me, I give nothing to any one except I give the like
carefully to you,
I sing the songs of the glory of none, not God, sooner than I sing the
songs of the glory of you.

Whoever you are! claim your own at an hazard!
These shows of the East and West are tame compared to you,
These immense meadows, these interminable rivers, you are
immense and interminable as they,
These furies, elements, storms, motions of Nature, throes of
apparent dissolution, you are he or she who is master or mistress
over them,
Master or mistress in your own right over Nature, elements, pain,
passion, dissolution.

The hobbles fall from your ankles, you find an unfailing sufficiency,
Old or young, male or female, rude, low, rejected by the rest, what-
ever you are promulges itself,
Through birth, life, death, burial, the means are provided, nothing is
scanted,
Through angers, losses, ambition, ignorance, ennui, what you are
picks its way.

Above, image of Walt Whitman, steel engraving from July 1854 in
New York; Photographer: Samuel Hollyer of a daguerreotype by
Gabriel Harrison (original lost), Credit: Bayley Collection, Ohio
Wesleyan



B.N.A.

COMMITTEES

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Meets on the second Tuesday of every other month, starting in January, in the community room in Unity Village, unless otherwise posted, at 6 pm. Please contact the BNA or Mary-Ellen Welch at Midtown Policing if you have an issue to bring to a meeting. The public is always welcome.

Laura Cannon, Chair
Midtown Policing 772-1371

BAYSIDER COMMITTEE

Meets regularly at various locations. Writes, collects articles and information. Publishes The Baysider quarterly. Promotes advertising.

Colette Bouchard
Steve Hirshon
Susan McCloskey
Rob Sylvain
Tina Victor
Annie Wadleigh

Seeking new members with an interest in writing or graphics. No experience necessary. Call the BNA for more information.

GARDEN COMMITTEE

Organizes and runs the Bayside Community Garden on Chestnut Street.

John Affleck
Kate Pendleton
Robert Sylvain
Deborah and John Van Hoewyk,
Co-Chairs

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Meets the third Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm in the community room at Unity Village. Plans events and community gatherings. Helps with After-School Arts Program and Summer Children's Lunch Programs.

Cindy Bachelder, Chair
Colette Bouchard
Susan McCloskey
Steve Hirshon

Currently looking for new members. Please call the BNA if interested.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Works on developing and maintaining membership in the BNA.

Sean Kerwin, Chair
Robert Sylvain
Colette Bouchard
Susan McCloskey
Alex Landry

Currently looking for new members. Call the BNA if interested.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Meets as needed.
Steve Hirshon, Chair
Chris Danse
Sean Kerwin

TRANSPORTATION/ PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE

Meets as issues arise.
Alex Landry, Chair
Colette Bouchard
Steve Hirshon
Ron Spinella

TREE COMMITTEE

Meets as needed. Works on bringing more trees to Bayside streets.

Robert Sylvain, Chair
Jeff Tarling
Colette Bouchard
Alex Landry

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Meets as needed.
Colette Bouchard
Sean Kerwin
Rob Sylvain, Chair
Annie Wadleigh
Denise Victor
Alex Landry

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Meets each year to recruit and nominate new members for the Board.

Colette Bouchard, Chair
Cindy Bachelder
Susan McCloskey
Alex Landry
Rob Sylvain



Bayside Neighborhood Association

PO Box 11563
Portland, Maine 04104
207.523.0602

email: Bayside_neighbors@msn.com

Websites: www.facebook.com/
BaysideNeighborhoodAssociation

www.baysideportland.org

BNA BOARD

Meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 6 pm in the community room of Unity Village, 24 Stone Street (behind City Hall). This is a great way to find out all that is going on in Bayside. Reports from all the subcommittees are given regularly. The public is welcome.

Cindy Bachelder
Mike Bachelder
Colette Bouchard
Bill Burns
Steve Hirshon (President)
Carol Hutchins
Sean Kerwin
Alex Landry
Susan McCloskey
Ron Spinella
Rob Sylvain
Deborah Van Hoewyk
Denise Victor
Tina-Marie Victor
Annie Wadleigh
Jay York

BNA MISSION STATEMENT

The Bayside Neighborhood Association brings members of the Bayside community together. BNA brings conversations about Bayside to Bayside and to the greater community in a way that organizes, informs, and empowers residents, social service and other organizations, local businesses, and city representatives to form meaningful and long-term partnerships. BNA preserves and promotes safety, multicultural diversity, housing, and carefully planned social, economic, and physical development in this unique urban community.

poetry corner

Out of the Rolling Ocean, the Crowd

BY WALT WHITMAN

Out of the rolling ocean, the crowd, came a drop gently to me,
Whispering, *I love you, before long I die,*
I have travel'd a long way, merely to look on you, to touch you,
For I could not die till I once look'd on you,
For I fear'd I might afterward lose you.

2

(Now we have met, we have look'd, we are safe;
Return in peace to the ocean, my love;
I too am part of that ocean, my love—we are not so much separated;
Behold the great rondure—the cohesion of all, how perfect!
But as for me, for you, the irresistible sea is to separate us,
As for an hour carrying us diverse—yet cannot carry us diverse forever;
Be not impatient—a little space—know you,
I salute the air, the ocean and the land,
Every day, at sundown, for your dear sake, my love.)

THE BAYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (BNA)

Bounded by Forest Avenue, Marginal Way, Congress Street, and Franklin Street, we are just minutes from Downtown, the beach, the working waterfront, and the bay. Historically, Bayside has been home to warehouses, scrapyards, manufacturing, small businesses, and many families that go back generations. Today, it is a mix of families and singles, young and old, immigrants and Mainers, old and new development, social services, businesses, offices, and an active neighborhood association.

We have monthly Board meetings **the first Tuesday of the month at 6 pm**, which are always open to the public. It is a great way to hear all that is happening in the neighborhood. Unless otherwise noted, all meetings take place in the community room at Unity Village, 24 Stone Street. Check out the committee page to see all the active subcommittees and what they are doing.

The BNA also produces the newspaper on a quarterly basis to keep members and the community informed on issues and events of interest. We have special meetings and host forums as the need arises to get people together to discuss issues impacting our neighborhood.

THE BAYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (BNA) REPRESENTS ALL

THOSE WITH A VESTED INTEREST IN THE BAYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD.

OUR MEMBERS ARE MADE UP OF

RESIDENTS, PROPERTY OWNERS, BUSINESSES, AND ORGANIZATIONS

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD. WE WEL-

COME ANYONE WHO LIVES, WORKS,

OR OWNS PROPERTY IN BAYSIDE TO

BECOME INVOLVED.

Neighborhood Illustration in masthead
by Robbie Neil

Layout & design by Lisa Peñalver,
penart1@alaska.com

Community

CONTACTS

Government

Portland City Hall
874-8300 | 389 Congress St.
www.portlandmaine.gov

Kevin Donoghue, District 1 Councilor
kjdonoghue@portlandmaine.gov
409-2807

John Anton, Councilor-at-Large
janton@portlandmaine.gov, 650-8979

Representative Ben Chipman
RepBen.Chipman@legislature.maine.gov
318-4961

Senator Justin Alfond
Justin@JustinAlfond.com | 828-0277

Police Department

EMERGENCIES: 911

Senior Lead Officer Dan Knight:
Cell: 650-8657
danielk@portlandmaine.gov

MIDTOWN COMMUNITY POLICING CENTER:

Mary-Ellen Welch/Officer Dan Knight
772-1371, 26 Portland St.

Police Information Desk 874-8479

Non-emergency Dispatch..... 874-8575

Office of the Chief 874-8601

Internal Affairs 756-8351

Patrol Division 874-8555

Police Personnel..... 874-8588

Directed Patrol 874-8545

Criminal Records 874-8570

Traffic Unit 874-8532

Detectives..... 874-8533

Social Services

Preble Street Florence House
Amanda Wells, 699-4392
190 Valley Street

Preble St. Teen Center
Chris Bicknell, 874-1197
343 Cumberland Ave.

Oxford Street Men's Shelter
Josh O'Brien, 761-2072
203 Oxford St.

Family Shelter
Jeff Tardiff, 772-8339
54 Chestnut St.

Homeless Health Clinic
Beth Eilers, 874-8445
20 Portland St.

HOME Team (The Homeless Outreach and Mobile Engagement Team)

MORNING Outreach Team—Mon - Fri 7am to 3pm:
Peggy Lynch cell: 838-8798, Email: plhomet@gmail.com; or Ryan Searles cell: 233-4543

AFTERNOON Outreach Team—Tues - Sat 12 to 8 pm:
John Dana cell: 838-8718, Email: jdhome@gmail.com; or Jesse Flynn cell: 838-8904

Salvation Army
Major Terry Shaffer, 774-4172
297 Cumberland Ave.
terry.shaffer@salvationarmy.org

Ingraham Youth and Family Services
Tom Dunn, 774-4357
237 Oxford St.

Preble Street
Mark Swann, 775-0026
18 Portland St.

Goodwill Industries
774-6323
353 Cumberland Ave.

The Adaptive Reuse of Public Assets for Public Benefit

By Thomas Blackburn

The Creative Space committee, an initiative of Creative Portland, the city's quasi-municipal arts agency, is suggesting that the Traffic Operations and General Store buildings on the Public Services site in Bayside be adaptively reused as an arts and technology center. The center could be called The PACE Center, short for Portland Arts and Creative Enterprise: A Center for Innovation and Design.

Recently the city announced that the Public Services Department might relocate its Traffic Operations and City Trades functions, located at 65 Hanover Street, to the former Nelson and Small building at 212 Canco Road. The City's Housing and Community Development Committee conducted a public hearing on this issue on February 12. If the City approves the lease and acquisition negotiations, 65 Hanover Street may become available in the fall of 2014.

The Creative Space committee has met with members of Greater Portland's academic institutions to discuss forming a partnership to develop The PACE Center, envisioned as a "maker-space" with workshops and equipment (wood, metal, ceramics electronics, computers) available to the community for arts and technology projects, material processing, and prototyping of innovative designs. PACE will address the critical shortage of affordable workspace for artists and entrepreneurs in Portland.

The academic institutions may offer degree programming accessible to all students and the community in a collegial atmosphere for the cross- pollination of ideas and disci-

plines. Creative Space has looked at the very successful Artisan's Asylum in Somerville, MA, which has grown from a 1,000-square-foot garage to a 41,000-square-foot warehouse in five years and has supported creation of over fifty business startups.

One of the PACE Center's goals is to attract and retain students and recent graduates in the arts and technology by providing the resources they need to start their own businesses, thus "growing" Portland's creative and innovative economy by building on Maine's tradition of nurturing artists and artisans, craftspeople, and technical problem solvers.

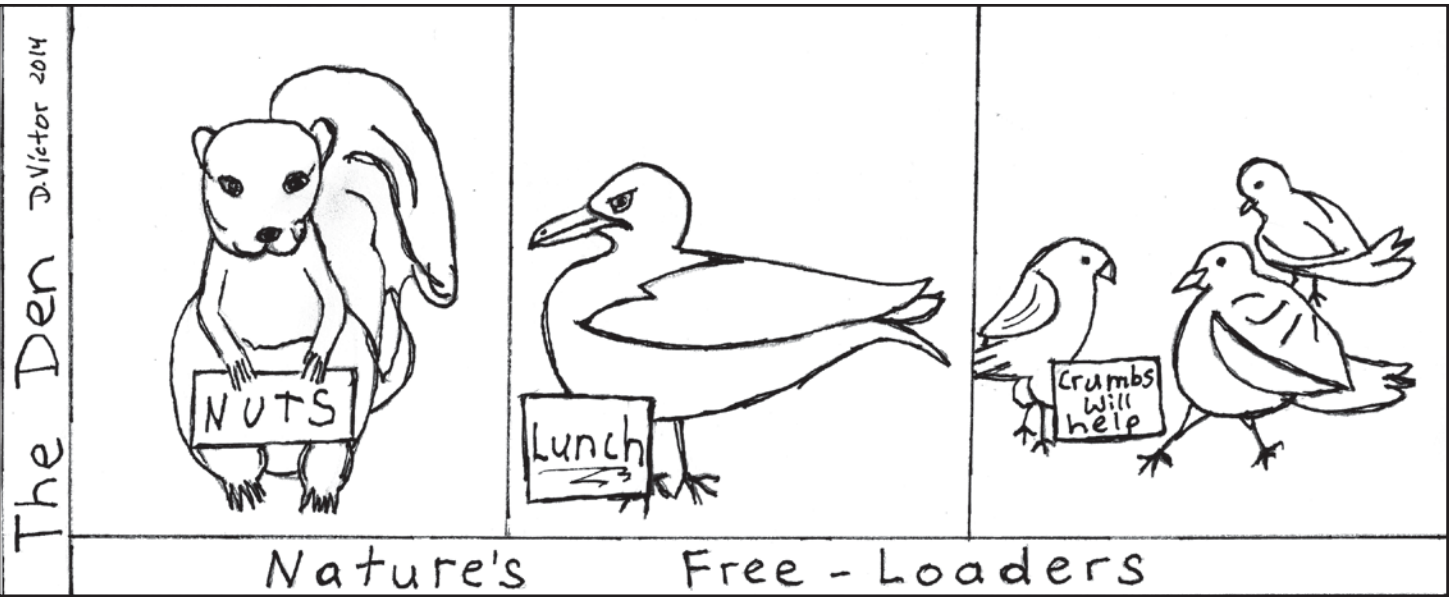
Creative Space is developing a facilitating team consisting of members of the Creative Space committee and several members of the public to explore issues that will address the technical and economic feasibility of The PACE Center.

1. Is an arts and technology center needed in Portland?
2. If so, how does the center fit into Portland's growing creative economy and the mission of Creative Portland, the city's quasi-municipal arts agency?
3. What are the possible locations for a center?
4. If the Public Services site is a likely location, are there other "higher and better" uses for the site than the PACE Center?
5. If the PACE Center is deemed to be the highest and best use, does it achieve the goals of the Economic Development Plan and Vision adopted by the City in 2012? Should the City invest further in the

- creative economy by providing the land and buildings for PACE?
6. What are the benefits to the city, the region, and the state of such a center?
7. Who are the necessary and beneficial partners? What are their interests and how might they best be aligned?
8. What should the PACE Center look like in terms of legal, administrative, and operating structures? How should PACE be set up to become economically self-sustaining?

If the answers to these questions support the development of an arts-and-tech center, the Creative Space committee will present its findings to Creative Portland for its formal endorsement, followed by presentation to the City Council for action consistent with the findings.

The members of the Creative Space committee are Kathleen McKeen, Chair and Vice President of Creative Portland; Ronald Spinella, Bayside resident and Chair of the Bayside Community Development Corporation; Patrick Costin, Board Member of Creative Portland, architect with canal5studios in Portland; Jessica Lipton, artist, staff member at Creative Portland; Michael Shaughnessy, Professor of Sculpture in the Art Department, University of Southern Maine; Deborah Van Hoewyk, Bayside resident and member of the Bayside Neighborhood Association; Jennifer Hutchins, Executive Director of Creative Portland; and PACE Project Manager Thomas Blackburn, head of the Creative Space committee and consultant to Creative Portland's project to inventory existing and potential creative workspace.



Spotting youth drug use requires all five senses

Tip of the Month February

So go ahead

SNIFF

hands & clothes

21 reasons to protect your child

MCD Public Health

www.21reasons.org/parents.php

sudoku

The goal of Sudoku is to fill the grid by entering a numeral from 1 through 9 in each cell of the grid. Each row, column, and region must contain only one instance of each numeral. www.veryfreesudoku.com.

2	3				8			
5		9	3				1	
4					1		5	6
				6		8	2	
3	8			9		4		
	1	5	6		2			
	2							
				4			9	

REPORT FROM THE LEGISLATURE

Legislature is Back in Session!

THE HOUSE AND Senate convened on January 8th to begin the 2014 legislative session. We will be taking up some crucial issues this year, such as education funding, protecting our environment, eliminating corporate tax breaks, and accepting federal funding to expand Medicaid to 70,000 Maine residents.

This session is scheduled to end by mid-April. However, I am hearing that it may last longer because of the number of bills we have to decide on. Regardless of how busy things are, please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, or ideas.

RALLY AT THE STATE HOUSE

The opening day of session was marked by a rally at the State House sponsored by the Maine People's Alliance. Hundreds of citizens from all over the state packed the halls calling for state lawmakers to support Medicaid expansion for 70,000 Maine residents who currently have no coverage.

The federal government will pay 100% of the cost for the first three years and 90% after that.

This proposal was passed last year but was vetoed by the Governor. We came just two votes shy of overriding the veto. The bill has been introduced again, and I will be doing everything I can to rally my colleagues to vote in favor.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO DENTAL CARE

This week the House of Representatives passed L.D. 1230, "An Act to Improve Access to Oral Health Care." The bill will expand access to dental care and lower costs to consumers by allowing dental hygienists, after receiving additional training, to perform procedures that are currently only allowed to be performed by dentists. The bill will now go to the Senate for consideration.



STATE REP. BEN CHIPMAN

VETO OVERRIDE ON TOBACCO ILLNESS PREVENTION BILL

We just passed a new law to prevent tobacco-related illness, without the support of the Governor. The House of Representatives voted 131 to 10 to override the Governor's veto of L.D. 386, "An Act to Reduce Tobacco-related Illness and Lower Health Care Costs in MaineCare." The Senate also voted strongly in favor of the override.

The new law requires MaineCare to cover the cost of tobacco cessation treatment. This override represents a huge step in the effort

to help smokers quit and reduce health costs for the State of Maine. It will benefit about 42% of current MaineCare recipients who are smokers. I am glad we were able to pass this bill despite opposition from the Governor. Please contact me if you think you or someone you know may benefit from this new law.

HEATING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides low-income homeowners and renters with money to help with heating costs. Assistance is generally available to

households with incomes up to 150% of the federal poverty guidelines.

To find out if you or someone you know qualifies and/or to apply for assistance, contact The Opportunity Alliance at (207) 553-5900 or visit www.mainehousing.org.

State Rep. Ben Chipman can be reached at (207) 318-4961 or e-mail Ben.Chipman@legislature.maine.gov.

HONORING GEORGE MITCHELL



Senator George Mitchell recently visited the State House. He represented Maine in the U.S. Senate from 1980-1995, serving as Senate Majority Leader from 1989-1995. We recognized Senator Mitchell's many years of service with a beautiful portrait that is now on display in the Hall of Flags.

CITY OF PORTLAND

Dear Neighbors,

I appreciate the opportunity to write you here in this space as I appreciate when you write me on issues of concern to you. Best of all, of course, is when we have opportunities to speak face-to-face, whether just in passing or in a more formal official setting. To those ends, please take advantage of two upcoming meetings for district residents with me and city staff: —Kevin Donoghue

How about housing for the middle class?

RECENT DEVELOPMENT proposals throughout District One, but particularly the East End, have provoked a lot of reaction. Much of public input has related to design, scale and the like, but no takeaway has been more obvious than the anxiety over the future of the middle class, namely whether residents will be priced out of - or condemned to forever live in - apartments. The private sector caters to the top of the market while the public sector caters to its bottom. It is time for us to look more closely at strategies that promote collaboration between sectors to foster growth across the whole income spectrum and develop a more inclusive community. Key areas of inquiry should be city land, zoning reform, tax incentives, and maybe mandates.

City Land

As the former Adams School was redeveloped into homes for middle class families, there remained substantial land left undeveloped, most notably the parking lot facing Munjoy Street. The lot does offer coveted snowstorm parking, and the anticipated construction has led to creating snow ban parking areas on the Eastern Promenade, while it may offer an opportunity for future middle class housing.

Along Franklin Street, the owner of several parcels, after buying, emptying, and demolishing apartment buildings to make room for condos, then opted not to build, instead raising the profile of another city parking lot. At the corner with Middle Street, this lot provides parking for perhaps a dozen city employees. Once we find an alternative for this parking need, this collection of lots could also become middle class housing construction. There are other nearby properties of interest, not least of which is the metered parking at High and Spring. We will be evaluating the prospects and challenges associated with redeveloping these lots, potentially contributing land, and packaging it with other resources for middle class housing.

Zoning Reform

You will recall how late last year the City Council voted (6-3) to amend zoning to allow more height to accommodate the development of spacious condos at 118 Congress Street. Would we not then also amend zoning to allow for housing types affordable to local people? Whereas allowances for height were tied to views and commanding higher purchase prices, zoning reforms that promote middle class housing would seek to reduce construction costs so that families with children or active in the labor force might yet finance the purchase price. Zoning reform may have many aspects as we review dimensional standards such as density and setbacks in the Urban Residential (R6) and the Community Business (B2) zoning districts, but I suspect that already no consideration is more pressing than parking requirements. Structured parking not only makes for



CITY COUNCILOR DONOGHUE

ugly buildings, but it also makes for expensive housing. We will look into limiting "parking facades," that fail to obscure large ground floor parking lots, and at the parking requirements that compel both poor design and limits on affordable housing projects.

Tax Incentives

You might also recall how City Councilors voted (6-3) on a tax break for the Bayhouse, the recently completed condos off India Street, to help the developer secure bank financing. In order to comply with State laws on tax breaks, the project was redefined as rental housing until such time as sales of the units eliminated the need for help. Then they would convert to condos. As the City Council had already voted to amend zoning to allow more height for the Bayhouse, one might ask what public benefit would be served by offering a tax break for sky-high condos? The answer certainly is not affordable housing, but this is a card we should be ready to play. Would it not be reasonable to require that taxpayer subsidies be conditioned upon some affordability? This is a question we will engage as we review our policies for Tax Increment Financing (TIF).

Mandates?

It is one thing to require mixed-income housing as a condition of receiving tax breaks, yet it would be quite another, if not new, to have mixed-income housing as a matter of course. Developers of low-income rentals are often asked to include a share of market-rate rentals. Is asking higher-end condo developers to include a share of middle class condos so radical?

Many cities that are farther along the course of gentrification have a wealth of experience in linking the development of affordable housing to the development of housing for the wealthy. What might we give up in pursuing this policy known as Inclusionary Zoning? More height? We've been giving it up anyway, but have very little to show for it, since we've been giving it up for free. The devil would be in the details, but I expect that when we come to understand those details, we can learn from experiences of other cities that have tried to stem the loss of the middle class.

As always, you may continue to contact me directly: kjdonoghue@portland-maine.gov

"America is great because she is good.

If America ceases to be good, America will cease to be great."

—Alexis de Tocqueville



All Recycle Materials Must Be Contained in a Bin

Any Recycle Materials Outside of a Bin
Will Not Be Picked up by City

Bins Are Required per City Code. Paper Bags are **Not** Acceptable Containers

Recycle Bins are available for \$10.00 at 55 Portland Street and at the Riverside Recycling Center. For Information: Sanitation Compliance Officer 756-8166

The Civil War Hero from Hanover Street

LT. MICHAEL BOYCE OF BAYSIDE

By Hon. Herb Adams
THANKS TO SHARP eyes and kind sharing, we can update a bit more about Lt. Michael Boyce of Bayside, whose story we told in an earlier issue of the Baysider.
Boyce was an Irish immigrant who died bravely at the Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863. He left behind a widowed bride of three months, Mary Ann O’Kain Boyce, at their home on Hanover Street.
Historian Matt Barker of the Maine Irish

Heritage Center at old St. Dominic’s, shares some further—and heartbreaking—details.
Widow Boyce received \$15 a month pension (about \$300 today), small comfort for her loss, until she married Dr. John J. Brennan of New York in 1875. Apparently he was a troubled character, to say the least. By 1883 Brennan was back in Ireland in the Sligo District Lunatic Asylum, where he died in September of that year,

“a dangerous lunatic.”
Mary Boyce Brennan lived in Portland’s West End for many years. Had she been separated from Brennan? Abandoned? We do not know. But in 1901, when she was 66, her Civil War pension was restored. She died, with her many memories, in Boston on April 14, 1921, at age 86.
Mary Ann O’Kain Boyce Brennan was laid to rest in her family’s lot at Calvary Cemetery in South Portland. Nearby rests

her beloved husband of 55 years before, Lt. Michael Boyce.
She had no children, so there are no direct descendants today. But her story lives on as one of many in Matt Barker’s upcoming book, *The Blue and the Green: Portland’s Irish in the Civil War*. Thanks to Matt for letting their stories and their memories live again.

James Hurley to speak at the Brown Bag Lecture Series

Wednesday, February 26 -
Noon - 1:00pm
Location: Main Library
Audience: Adults

AUTHOR JAMES HURLEY draws upon his deep love for fly fishing on the rivers of New England for his latest novel, “The Contest,” which spins the tale of an increasingly bitter fishing debate that challenges the sport’s inherent camaraderie, and ultimately forces the anglers to decide what’s really important in life.
Hurley, who lives in Easthampton, Mass., opens his novel by writing, “Let me step out of the river here and tell this story of men and fish and beautiful water and the pursuit

of perfection... a tale of life.” And he does.
“The Contest” tells the story of Benedict Salem, a frustrated writer and teacher looking to find himself. Ben travels to Maine, and finds his new home on a river that flows through the property of the Crossing House. Ben befriends owner Bill Cahill, and together they and a group of fellow anglers found a fly fishing club. The club devises a contest, but what begins as a



friendly game to find the perfect trout fly rapidly descends into bitter rivalry, ultimately leading the men to discover the real meaning of perfection, and what’s truly important.
About the » Brown Bag Lecture Series
Portland Public Library’s Brown Bag Lecture Series features bi-weekly reading and question-and-answer sessions with authors from around the nation as well as those who hail from right here in Maine.

All Brown Bag Lectures are free to the public. Guests are encouraged to bring their lunch; coffee provided by Coffee By Design.
Special thanks to our Brown Bag Lecture Series coffee sponsor, Coffee by Design, and welcome to our new refreshment sponsor, Whole Foods. Books on sale at each lecture courtesy of Longfellow Books, who generously donates a portion of the proceeds to the Portland Public Library.
For questions about our Brown Bag Lectures or to be added to our weekly calendar e-mail, please send us an e-mail: programming@portland.lib.me.us

Fire a Winter Hazard: Portland Fire Department Urges Residents to Heat Homes Safely

With extreme cold weather upon us, the City of Portland Fire Department would like to remind residents to heat their home safely by following some **SIMPLE SAFETY TIPS**.
“Portable heating devices are a common cause of residential fires,” said Fire Chief Jerome LaMoria. “It is important that residents follow some simple safety tips to keep themselves safe during this extreme cold weather.”
Here is a list of these rules to help keep your home and family safe.

- **Never use a range or an oven as a supplemental heating device.** Not only is it a safety hazard, it can be a source of potentially toxic fumes.
- Frozen water pipes? Never try to thaw them with a blowtorch or other open flame.
- If windows are used as emergency exits in your home, practice using them in the event fire should strike. Be sure that all windows open easily. Home escape ladders are recommended.
- The Portland Fire Department strongly discourages the use of unvented fuel fire heaters in occupied buildings.
- Before you go to sleep, be sure your fireplace fire is out. Never close your damper when there are hot ashes in the fireplace. A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the home.

Portable Heater Safety:

- Although portable heating devices do not have an open flame, the heating elements might be hot enough to ignite nearby combustibles. Face space heaters

into a room, away from drapes, furniture, clothing, or other ignitable objects, and check these objects occasionally to make sure they do not feel hot.

- Always keep portable heating devices AWAY FROM WATER sources, such as tubs and sinks.
- **UL-Listed.** When selecting a portable heater or electric blanket, choose a brand tested by a nationally recognized laboratory (such as the Underwriter’s Laboratory [UL] label) to meet safety standards.
- Purchase a heater with A GUARD around the heating element.
- Purchase a heater that is right for the size of the room being heated. Do not purchase oversized heaters. Space heaters should be placed no less than three feet from any combustible items.
- Thermostatically controlled heaters keep energy waste at bay.
- Read and follow instructions regarding operation and maintenance before using the heater or electric blanket.
- Do not use a portable heater as a dryer. Do not place anything on the heater. Do not use the heater to thaw pipes. Water and electricity equal disaster.
- Keep the heater out of the reach of children and pets. Do not place the heater where someone might trip over it.
- Choose a heater with a “TIP-OVER” SAFETY SWITCH, which will automatically shut off the heater if the unit is tipped over.
- Place the heater on a level surface.
- Do not leave the space heater unattend-

ed. Turn the heater off when leaving the room or the house.

- Maintain a working SMOKE DETECTOR and carbon monoxide detector within the home and check and clean the devices on a monthly basis.

Electric Blanket Safety:

- Make sure an electric blanket has an internal temperature control that will automatically shut off the blanket when it overheats. It is strongly recommended that older models without this feature be replaced.
- Use only one electric blanket (or heating pad) at the same time.
- Do not plug your blanket into a light switch that may accidentally be turned on.
- Do not tuck the electric blanket underneath the mattress or anywhere else where the wires may be bent and overheated.
- An electric blanket should never be balled up, doubled, or folded down. Excessive heat could build up in the folded areas and cause a fire.
- Nothing should be placed on top of the blankets. This includes pets, other blankets, pillows, or objects that could cause the blanket to overheat.
- Do not wash an electric blanket and do not dry-clean electric blankets, as the chemicals could weaken the wires. Follow the manufacturer’s cleaning instructions.



- Store electric blankets flat. If that is not possible, fold it with as few creases as possible to protect internal coils.
- Do not use an electric blanket that is wet. If the blanket is wet, DO NOT turn it on to dry it out.
- Hot water bottles and electric blankets are not to be used together.
- Check embedded heating wires before use. They should not be touching anywhere inside the blanket and definitely should not feel frayed or stressed. Look for cracks or breaks in wiring, plugs, and connections. Also look for dark, charred, or frayed spots on either side of the blanket.
- Turn the blanket off when not in use.

For more information or questions about home fire safety, residents can contact the Portland Fire Department at 874-8400, and <http://www.portlandmaine.gov/fire/>. Additional information about safe heating sources can be found online.

Passages...

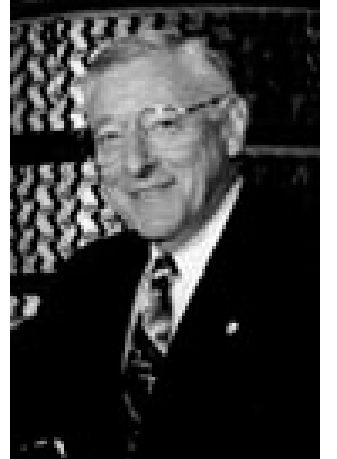


BAYSIDE HAS LOST a good neighbor and friend with the recent passing of Mike Roycroft, shown above with Steve Hirshon (at left? Right?). Mike was a familiar face at Bayside events, including the annual Health Fair, where he was a tireless volunteer.

It was good to know you, Mike. We'll miss you.

Century Tire Co. Closes Up Shop

Bayside says good-bye to one of its favorite businesses, Century Tire. The Portland Press Herald reported on February 12, that the family tire business is closing after 88 years in Portland, making way for development in the “up-and-coming” Bayside area. Congratulations on your retirement, Dick Aronson. Best of luck to you and to all your great employees!



Century Tire owner, Dick Aronson

—press releases—

ORDINANCE PROHIBITING MEDIAN PANHANDLING STRUCK DOWN

City of Portland Reacts to Federal Court Ruling Regarding Portland Median Strip Ordinance

February 12, 2014. The City of Portland has received the Federal Court decision that declares the City's median ordinance unconstitutional. City Attorney Danielle West-Chuhta has stated the following: “While we respect the Court's decision we are of course very disappointed. I am not able to respond in detail at this time as we have not had an opportunity to fully review the Judge's ruling and are still in the process of determining next steps including whether or not to appeal the decision.”

Pursuant to a prior agreement with the Court, the City of Portland Police Department had already suspended enforcement of the ordinance pending the court's decision. Per the Judge's order, that suspended enforcement will remain in effect.

“Safety has always been our primary concern,” said Police Chief Michael Sauschuck. “Although we were hoping for a different outcome we will certainly abide by the Judge's decision.”

The City of Portland has no further comment at this time.

CITY OF PORTLAND ANNOUNCES NEW COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR:

JESSICA SHUMAKER GRONDIN

After a nationwide search the City of Portland has hired Jessica Shumaker Grondin to serve as its Director of Communications. The position, which reports to the City Manager, was previously held by Nicole Clegg, who left the City in September.

Ms. Grondin is a native of Bangor, Maine, and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications with a minor in Political Science from Regis College in Weston, MA. She is currently employed by Pierce Atwood LLP here in Portland as its Marketing Manager.

Prior to her employment with Pierce Atwood, Jessica served as a spokesperson

for former Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino as the Director of Media and Public Relations for the City's Department of Neighborhood Development and before that as Deputy Director for Media and Public Relations for the Boston Redevelopment Authority.

“I believe that Jessica's public sector knowledge and commitment to customer service, as well as her proficiency in social media applications and website content management, will make her a great asset to the City of Portland team. We are very excited to have her come on board,” said City Manager Mark Rees.

Ms. Grondin's salary will be \$68,000. She will begin work with the City on March 5, 2014. An introductory reception is planned.

LIVABILITY FORUM RESCHEDULED

The Livability Forum, sponsored by the City of Portland's Disability Advisory Committee scheduled for Wednesday, February 5, 2014 from 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM at the Rines Auditorium in the Portland Public Library, has been rescheduled to Wednesday, March 26, 2014 from 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM at the same venue. The Disability Advisory Committee serves as an advisory committee to the City Manager. The purpose of the Livability Forum is to engage individuals with disabilities in an effort to assess Portland's livability.

ANSHE SFARD SYNAGOGUE

Local groups receive funds to re-search historic Jewish Community in Maine. Maine Humanities Council has recently awarded a major grant to Mt. Carmel Cemetery Association, Bayside Neighborhood Association, and Maine Historical Society to help them pursue a fascinating chapter in the history of the Jewish Community in Maine. The grant funds will be used to re-create the life of Anshe Sfard Synagogue, located at 216-218 Cumberland Avenue in Portland's Bayside neighborhood, from 1916 until it was razed in 1983.

Although not much is commonly known about the presence of pre-World War II Chassidic Jews in the United States, there were many communities of Chassidim all over the country, including Portland's Anshe Sfard Synagogue. Susan Cummings-Lawrence, Maine Historical Society's consulting researcher on Maine's Jewish history, will explore the life of this

unique congregation and increase public awareness of the complexity of Portland community life and experience.

Cummings-Lawrence will begin the project by conducting oral history interviews with the few surviving former members of Anshe Sfard. Her research will culminate in a digital exhibition related to the synagogue and its members on Maine Memory Network (www.mainememory.net), Maine Historical Society's nationally recognized online museum, a lecture and neighborhood ghost tour conducted by the Bayside Neighborhood Association, and an exhibition of historical materials at Maine Historical Society later this year.

Maine Historical Society received a generous gift of archival material related to the synagogue in 2010 through their Maine Jewish History Project--the Anshe Sfard project represents an effort to locate any more documents, photographs, and Judaica that may still exist in the community. Any newly discovered material could be used in the exhibitions and, if owners are willing, preserved and made available to the researchers and the public.

Anyone with knowledge of Anshe Sfard is invited to contact Susan Cummings-Lawrence, Project Director, c/o Maine Historical Society, 774-1822, or at info@mainehistory.org

CHIPMAN KICKS OFF CAMPAIGN FOR A THIRD TERM

Highlighting legislative success and constituent service,

Rep. Ben Chipman announces re-election campaign. On the heels of two successful terms in the Maine House of Representatives, Independent State Rep. Ben Chipman has announced that he will seek re-election to a third term in the upcoming November election.

“I have enjoyed serving the residents of the Parkside, Bayside, and East Bayside neighborhoods for the last four years and hope to continue this work,” said Chipman.

Chipman has many accomplishments since being elected in 2010. He has stood up to Governor LePage and got his damaging budget changed, helped secure funding for community policing and substance abuse treatment, and has been a champion for reducing poverty

and homelessness.

“I am certainly proud of what I have been able to accomplish working together with my colleagues. We were able to increase funding for education and avoid drastic cuts to social services,” Chipman said.

During this term Chipman was able to pass nearly half of the bills he introduced. As a member of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee, he has worked to increase recycling and oppose the practice of burying trash in landfills. Last year Chipman sponsored and passed a statewide moratorium on the expansion of landfills.

For more information, contact Rep. Ben Chipman at (207) 318-4961 or e-mail VoteChipman@gmail.com.

PORTLAND AWARDED MEDALS Recognizing Achievements in Addressing CHILDHOOD OBESITY

The National League of Cities (NLC) has recognized Mayor Michael Brennan for recent completion of key health and wellness goals for Let's Move! Cities, Towns and Counties (LMCTC). LMCTC is a major component of First Lady Michelle Obama's comprehensive Let's Move! initiative, which is dedicated to solving the childhood obesity epidemic within a generation.

“Local elected officials play a critical role in addressing childhood obesity in our country and communities, and we commend those leaders being recognized for their achievements in taking action to improve healthy eating and physical activity in their communities,” said NLC President Marie Lopez Rogers, mayor of Avondale, AZ.

“I'm thrilled to see Portland being recognized nationally as a city that is committed to combating the childhood obesity epidemic” says Mayor Brennan. “Let's Move! Cities, Towns and Counties has provided a framework for viewing our accomplishments thus far and reconfirms the importance of healthy, active youth in the community. I'm excited to continue working with Healthy Portland, our local Healthy Maine Partnership, to achieve success in all five goals, and to the ongoing promotion of Portland as the beautiful, vibrant community that it is.”

All LMCTC sites have the opportunity to

— see **page 7**

—press releases—
continued from **page 6**

- earn up to five gold medals, one for each actionable goal they commit to as part of the initiative. The five goal areas are:
- Goal I: Start Early, Start Smart: Promoting best practices for nutrition, physical activity, and screen time in early care and education settings
 - Goal II: My Plate, Your Place: Prominently displaying MyPlate in all municipal or county venues where food is served
 - Goal III: Smart Servings for Students: Increasing participation in school breakfast and lunch programs
 - Goal IV: Model Food Service: Implementing healthy and sustainable food service guidelines that are aligned with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans
 - Goal V: Active Kids at Play: Increasing opportunities for physical activity

Three gold medals were awarded to Portland for meeting all benchmarks set forth by LMCTC for Goals I, II, and V. Medals were earned based on actions taken to provide children with a healthier start, to support healthy eating by displaying easy-to-understand nutrition information at the point of purchase, and to map all city spaces where children can be active. A bronze medal was awarded for Goal III based on our participation rate in the school breakfast program. No medal has been awarded for Goal IV as work in this area is still in progress.

Portland is tied for eighth place and ranks in the top 10% of nearly 400 participating cities nationwide that are committed to improving access to healthy affordable food and increasing opportunities for physical activity.

The National League of Cities (NLC) is the lead collaborating partner on this initiative, working with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the National Association of Counties, and other nonprofit organizations, in assisting local elected officials to implement policy and environmental changes to prevent childhood obesity. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has awarded NLC a grant to provide technical assistance to local elected officials working to create healthier communities and prevent childhood obesity, including sites participating in LMCTC. More than 340 cities, towns and counties are participating in LMCTC. Each month, NLC recognizes local elected officials who achieve key benchmarks for the five LMCTC goals. To date, NLC has awarded 1,072 bronze, silver, and gold medals to recognize local elected officials across the country for their progress.

For more information about LMCTC and Portland's accomplishments, visit www.HealthyCommunities-HealthyFuture.org

The National League of Cities is dedicated to helping city leaders build better communities. NLC is a resource and advocate for 19,000 cities, towns and villages, representing more than 218 million Americans.

—see **page 8**

HELP WANTED

General Help

CONCESSION WORKERS ON-CALL

Recreation & Facilities Management. You can be a part of the guest experience at the Portland Expo, Merrill Auditorium and Riverside Golf Course. The City of Portland is accepting applications for part time on-call positions in food service operations, including concession stand workers, wait staff and bartenders. Successful candidates must pass a criminal convictions background check. Hourly rate of pay varies and is based on specific job assignment.

ALL POSITIONS ARE PART TIME ON-CALL NON-BENEFIT ELIGIBLE AND REQUIRE

NIGHT AND WEEKEND AVAILABILITY. Will accept applications for this position until filled.

Accepting applications/resumes 1/24/2014 through 2/28/2014.

Education

REC PROGRAMMER I/ARC CERTIFIED LIFEGUARD

Recreation & Facilities Management-Aquatics Applications are being accepted for permanent part-time positions. Various shifts available including afternoons, evenings and weekends. All Red Cross certifications must be current and include CPR for the Professional Rescuer; must attach copies of certifications to your application. Experience working

with preschool children and youth is desirable. Must possess a valid Maine Class C driver's license and a good driving record; must pass a criminal conviction background check. \$12.41/hr. Will accept applications until all vacancies are filled.

Accepting applications/resumes 1/2/2014 through 2/28/2014.

REC PROGRAMMER II/ARC CERTIFIED WSI

Recreation & Facilities Management-Aquatics Applications are being accepted for permanent part-time positions. Various shifts available including afternoons, evenings and weekends. All Red Cross certifications must be current and include CPR for the Professional Rescuer;

must attach copies of certifications to your application. Experience working with preschool children and youth is desirable. Must possess a valid Maine Class C driver's license and a good driving record; must pass a criminal conviction background check. \$14.65/hr. Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled.

Accepting applications/resumes 1/2/2014 through 2/28/2014.

RECREATION PROGRAMMER I - BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL

Recreation & Facilities Management

February to June, 2014, 5-21 hours per week, 7:00/7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

(M-F) and 3:00 – 5:00/5:30 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and 2:00 – 5:00/5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays for After School program.

Must have experience & enjoy working with children and have knowledge of various sports/leisure activities for youngsters. Must possess a valid class C State of Maine driver's license and have a clean driving record. Successful candidates must pass a criminal convictions background check. \$12.41/hr. Will accept applications until all vacancies are filled.

Accepting applications/resumes 1/30/2014 through 2/28/2014.

Little-Known Mainer
EDITH MARION PATCH

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Edith Marion Patch (1876-1954) was a U.S. entomologist and writer.

Born in Worcester, Massachusetts, she received a degree in English from the University of Minnesota in 1901 and originally embarked on a career as an English teacher before receiving the opportunity to organize the entomology department at the University of Maine. She became the head of the entomology department in 1904, despite misgivings from several male colleagues about having a female department head, and she remained in this post until her 1937 retirement.

Patch subsequently earned her master's degree from the university in 1910 and later received a Ph.D. degree from Columbia University in New York City in 1911. During her career, she was recognized as an expert in the study of aphids and published Food Plant Catalogue of the Aphids in 1938. Patch was elected president of the Entomological Society of America and the American Nature Study Society in 1930.

Patch's residence in Old Town, Maine, was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2001.

“Look at the bark of a redwood, and you see moss. If you peer beneath the bits and pieces of the moss, you’ll see toads, small insects, a whole host of life that prospers in that miniature environment. A lumberman will look at a forest and see so many board feet of lumber. I see a living city.”

— Sylvia Earle



BAYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 1563 • Portland, Maine 04104 • 207.450.769 • bayside_neighbors@msn.com • www.baysidenet.org

MEMBERSHIP FORM

name _____ date _____

email _____

full address: _____

home phone: _____ work phone: _____ cell phone: _____

Membership contribution levels - no contribution is REQUIRED for membership. All are welcome regardless of monetary contribution. Investing your time is just as important!

- ☐ \$100 – will help sustain community events
- ☐ \$50 - will pay for after-school snacks
- ☐ \$25 - will help publish our newsletter
- ☐ \$5 - will help to publicize events

☐ other _____

I'd like to help with:

- ☐ Fundraising
- ☐ Membership
- ☐ Neighborhood Watch
- ☐ Steering Committee
- ☐ Adopt-a-block
- ☐ Event planning
- ☐ The Baysider
- ☐ Community Garden

☐ Other _____

my main interests:

- ☐ education
- ☐ housing
- ☐ employment
- ☐ urban planning
- ☐ green space
- ☐ diversity / culture
- ☐ transportation
- ☐ crime / safety

☐ other _____

for funding purposes, we are required to count the number of members who fall into the following categories. Your name will not be given. Please check any box that applies to you:

- ☐ elderly
- ☐ disabled
- ☐ victim of abuse

“I choose to be a member of the Bayside Neighborhood Association.” signed _____

Maria's Ristorante

By Steve Hirshon

The solid brick front and wrought iron gate give Maria's the air of a private club in spite of the sign boasting that the restaurant has been around since 1962. It's not a place that grabs you by the wrist and pulls you in off the street. It's more of a destination type of place. Once you are through the gate and into the vestibule, though, the street is far away.

Three of us spent a frigid evening getting out of the cold and enjoying what was truly a soup to nuts experience, with a few extras thrown in. The bar and restaurant are decorated in a kind of classical Italian with touches of marble and a decor that suggests your grandmother's parlor. It's elegant and comfortable at the same time. Michael Napolitano serves as bartender and maitre d', and brother Anthony is the chef. An old high school friend serves as the only waiter. He manages to keep things under control in spite of being pretty busy on this particular evening.

The \$29 six-course prix fixe dinner would satisfy any appetite. An order of garlic bread accompanied the salads. Our party decided on a carafe of red wine that was by all means satisfactory. The salad, which was exceptionally crisp, was followed by an appetizer (two meatballs and a baked mozzarella). Although we were beginning to become full at this point, dinner was just getting started. Next came a round of pasta fazool, a bean and pasta soup served in a hearty broth.

Entrees come from the everyday menu. A diner picks from the menu of traditional Italian favorites. There are a few more veal dishes at Maria's than at other places in Portland. On this night, though, one of us had shrimp fra diavolo and the others had a chicken parmigiana and an eggplant parmi-

giana. The fra diavolo sauce was punctuated by olives, which made it as salty as it was hot. The shrimp were plentiful. The parmigianas were standard fare with portions big enough to take home for tomorrow's lunch.

The service was handled by the Napolitanos' high school friend, Gregory. He did a wonderful job paying attention to all of the guests. Later on, we found out that he used to work at the Hay and Peabody Funeral home. When someone in our party joked about it, he simply said: It's all about good customer service.

None of us really had room for dessert, but somehow we summoned the will. Out of a half-dozen choices we picked a cannoli, a lemon ice, and a homemade pistachio gelato. The gelato was creamy and full of plump pistachios. The dense cannoli filling was sweet, more dense and less creamy than others we've tried. The lemon ice was a tangy refresher. After an evening of spicy food, the ice was a nice complement.

After dinner stopped to chat with Anthony the chef, who was kind enough to share his recipe for lemon ice:

MARIA'S LEMON ICE

6 cups water
3 cups sugar
1 1/2 cups fresh lemon juice

Bring water and sugar to boil and boil for 5 mins. Let cool. Combine in shallow pan with lemon juice. Freeze mixture. Chop with a heavy fork. Put mixture in a blender with a paddle attachment and blend to desired consistency.

Maria's is located at 337 Cumberland, Ave. 207 772 9232

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Franklin Street Feasibility Study

By Michael Bobinsky, Director of Public Services

As part of the Franklin Street Feasibility Study, the city is launching a new way to gather feedback on whether or not the Franklin Street Corridor should change, and if so, how?

FranklinStreet.mindmixer.com is a new online site that illustrates the possible choices available to us as we make decisions about this important street. Our studies indicate that Franklin Street currently gets congested at peak travel hours, is not safe to walk across, and virtually impossible for bicycle use. Further, the current design includes many acres of land that is essentially unusable either for development or public space. The purpose of the study is to develop a plan to improve the corridor. Please assist us by providing your very valuable input now!

The site is easy to use - please visit, vote and/or provide comments. The site can also be translated into multiple languages with a single click. And, by being active on the site, you can earn points for Rewards: Just sign up, click on About and go to the Rewards Store. Sign up and log in at FranklinStreet.mindmixer.com

Get Bzzzzy, Bumble Bee Watch is Here!

GRAB YOUR CAMERA -There's a new website to help you identify and protect bumble bees

BumbleBeeWatch.org, a website that allows you to identify and help protect bumble bees in North America is now live! Through BumbleBeeWatch.org you can connect with experts and enthusiasts to help track the status of these essential pollinators.

If any pollinator is iconic, it's the bumble bee. Furry and hardworking, the many species of bumble bees help to deliver bountiful harvests to farmers markets and grocery shelves. Their labor also provides seeds and fruits for songbirds and many mammals, while helping to keep healthy plant populations in our meadows and backyards. In short, they are essential to wildlands, gardens, and farms.

Alarming, many recent reports suggest that we may be losing their familiar buzz from our summer landscapes. Habitat loss, insecticide use, disease, and climate change all pose threats to North American bumble bees. More information is needed to determine their conservation status, and that process demands a continent-wide collaborative effort.

We have an amazing community of citizen scientists who have helped us follow a handful of bumble bee species. This new website will generate greater awareness and make it easier for more people to join this community and to track all bumble bee species. The more people that we have directly helping to study these fascinating insects, the more likely we are to implement the changes necessary to protect them. Join us at BumbleBeeWatch.org today!

A smartphone or simple digital camera is all that's needed to start exploring BumbleBeeWatch.org:

- Upload photos of bumble bees to start a virtual bumble bee collection
- Use an interactive guide to identify the bumble bees in your photos
- Have your identifications verified by experts
- Help determine the status and conservation needs of bumble bees
- Help locate rare or endangered populations
- Learn about bumble bees, their ecology, and ongoing conservation efforts
- Connect with other citizen scientists engaged in pollinator conservation

Bumble Bee Watch is a partnership between the Xerces Society, Wildlife Preservation Canada, the University of Ottawa, the Montreal Insectarium, the Natural History Museum in London, and BeeSpotter.

For more information, go online to <http://www.xerces.org/bumblebees/>



Citizen scientists across North America now have a platform to come together and share data they've collected about local and regional bumble bee populations. (Photo: Reuters)

Learn how to take helpful photos of bumble bees. Read more about bumble bees at risk on Xerces' Project Bumble Bee web page and watch the Bumble Bee Watch trailer video on YouTube.

HOUSING FIRST

100,000 HOMES PROJECT

The only lasting solution to homelessness is permanent housing. Far too often, however, we attempt to treat the symptoms of homelessness instead of its root cause.



100khomes.org

For years, homeless service providers worked to offer medical and mental health care, addiction counseling, job training and countless other services to people living on the streets. Most homeless people were told they had to earn their way to permanent housing by checking these supplementary boxes. While the intentions behind this approach were good, the unfortunate result was that very few people ever escaped the streets. 100,000 Homes communities believe this traditional approach is backwards, and the data agrees with them. Countless studies have now shown that we must offer housing first, not last, if we want to help people out of homelessness. An immediate connection to permanent supportive housing can ensure

that over 80% of homeless individuals remain housed, even among clients with severe substance abuse and mental health conditions. The bottom line is that it is just too difficult to battle addiction, take care of serious physical and mental health conditions or find steady employment while simultaneously battling homelessness. Contrary to popular opinion, these things are not precursors to housing. Instead, they stem from the safety and stability that comes from having a permanent home in the first place. That's why all 100,000 Homes communities adopt a "Housing First" approach.

Housing First is a simple philosophy that dictates that the most vulnerable and chronic people experiencing homelessness be offered the choice to move into permanent

housing combined with available supportive services ("permanent supportive housing") right away. It discourages imposing conditions on permanent housing, whether related to health, employment or sobriety. This approach has a documented track record of ending people's homelessness while often encouraging them to make their own choices to get healthy, quit drugs and alcohol, and find employment when possible. Studies also show that Housing First approaches involving permanent supportive housing tend to be much cheaper for taxpayers than allowing people to remain homeless. As homeless individuals with the highest health and service needs benefit from the stability of housing, they are better able to tend to their needs in productive, self-driven

and long-term ways. As a result, they make less frequent use of expensive, publicly funded services like emergency rooms, shelters and jails. Ultimately, Housing First is based on the simple idea that a homeless individual will be most successful when able to make his or her own informed decisions about housing and health. Housing and services are made available when a homeless individual chooses them, not as a requirement or mandatory condition. This breeds a sense of independence and self-efficacy that is often instrumental in helping individuals remain safe, healthy and housed. See more at: <http://100khomes.org/read-the-manifesto/housing-first#sthash.0GsSdFyLdpuf>

"To ease another's heartache is to forget one's own."
—ABRAHAM LINCOLN