

The Baysider

SUMMER Edition



July 2026

Published by the Bayside Neighborhood Association



Beat the Trail

Get ready for an exciting day of music and community in our favorite neighborhood greenway. On Saturday, August 1st, from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM, the Bayside Trail will host the Inaugural BPM Traditional Drum Festival. The free, family-friendly afternoon is kicking off near the intersection of Somerset and Elm Streets.

Supported by a grant from the Levitt Family Foundation, the festival is part of the Bayside Neighborhood Association's effort to celebrate our neighborhood's great cultural diversity and bring neighbors together along the trail corridor.

The afternoon features a great lineup of regional musicians representing deep percussion traditions from around the world. Kicking off the festival is the Taiko Maine Dojo, bringing the booming, athletic art of traditional Japanese ensemble drumming to life using huge, hand-crafted taiko drums.

Also featured is Island Beats, a steel drum ensemble dedicated to the sounds of the Caribbean including calypso, reggae, soca and more.

Rounding out the lineup will be a collaborative performance by West African master drummers Namory Keita and Sayon Camara. Both originally from Guinea, Keita and Camara are known for sharing the vibrant polyrhythms and vocal traditions of West Africa, bringing incredible energy and clear djembe tones to the trail.

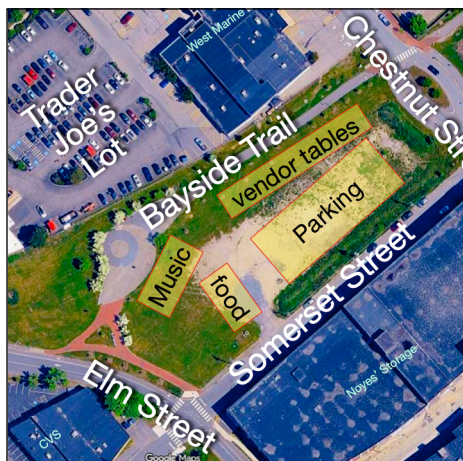
To wrap up the festivities, the event will transition into a community-led, BYOD (Bring Your Own Drum) circle as evening approaches. Neighbors of all ages and skill levels are invited to bring a drum, a percussion shaker, or just their hands to join in the rhythm and help close out the night together.

We are excited to host a diverse group of non-profit partners, local artists, and

small businesses at the festival. While most vendor spots are now filled, there may still be limited space for additional participants to join. If you or your group is interested in being part of this community celebration, please reach out to the BNA events team at events@baysideportland.org.

In addition, Bayside's favorite resident food truck—Hank & Artie's—will be right there on the trail to serve up nostalgia on a soft, buttery bun using fresh ingredients straight from Maine farms. The Bayside Neighborhood Association board will be offering free lemonade and iced tea to keep us cool and ready to dance it out to the beat of the latest Bayside tradition. — • —

look for more information on our website at www.baysideportland.org/BPMfest and you can sign up to volunteer or be a festival vendor.



The Baysider

The Baysider is a quarterly publication of the Bayside Neighborhood Association, a 501(c)3 not-for-profit community organization based in Portland, Maine.

For more information, please visit baysideportland.org

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Special Issue Visitors' Guide

See inside spread for trifold map

Nearly a year in the making, the Bayside Neighborhood Association's Business Team—the Bayside Business Breakfast Club—has proudly partnered with Visit Portland (visitportland.com) to launch a brand-new trifold map and neighborhood information guide, featured as a special insert right here in the inside spread of this issue of The Baysider.

We are excited to announce that 10,000 full-color copies of this guide will be printed and distributed across the region by Visit Portland. This extensive reach ensures that Bayside's local character is highlighted at key transit hubs like the Portland International Jetport and the Portland Transportation Center. For those traveling into the city via the waterfront, the Visit Portland shuttle provides seamless neighborhood access with convenient key stops along Congress Street at both Chestnut and Preble Streets.

This beautifully designed guide is perfect for helping newcomers navigate our local offerings, and its true purpose runs much deeper. It is built to showcase the rich stories, creative spaces, and diverse people that make Bayside such a vibrant place to live, work, and explore. Featuring hotspots for arts & entertainment, retail shopping, health & wellness, grocery & convenience, and of course food & beverage, and landmark assets like the Bayside Trail and the Public Library, this map captures the unique essence of our community.

As we look toward the future, we hope more of our local shops, restaurants, and service providers will choose to join Visit Portland as marketing partners. Meanwhile, the Bayside Business Breakfast Club continues to plan more projects and is always looking for more input, more participation, and more collaborators. Reach out to the business team by emailing breakfastclub@baysideportland.org — • —

Inside This Baysider

Performing Arts	2
Proprietary Blends	3
Natural Helpers	3
Visitors' Guide	4-5
President's Remarks	6
Councilor's Corner	6
Bayside House Stories	6
Heath & Ecology	7
In memory of Pat Scally	7
BNA Teams	8



82 Hanover Street #6

Bayside, Portland, Maine



ARGENTA
BREWING COMPANY



Taiko in Maine

Live Music Review by Deirdre Paul



Approaching the old Portland waterfront warehouse. I had no idea what to expect, having been invited to what was described to me as an off-map concert in a rehearsal space above a sea-urchin processing facility. The sign on the door read, “Tricky Left Upstairs.” Hmm. Up the stairs we went, properly warned. At the top I think we actually turned right, into a really cool common space, the cafeteria for the people who work here. Lucky them, as the place had mad atmosphere, with lots of cultural art and references. At one end was the space where the evening’s entertainment was set up. Or more like tricked out, as there was all manner of acoustic instruments and sophisticated electronica, all carefully curated. Turns out “Tricky Left” was the name of the visiting musical duo being hosted here by the Maine-based traditional Japanese drum group Taiko Maine Dojo.

A dynamic and emotional powerhouse of original music and choreography, Tricky Left was formed in 2020 by lifelong dancer Minh Nguyen and internationally recognized taiko artist Kristofer Bergstrom, and they are currently one of the taiko world’s most thrilling acts. What we thought was going to be a straightforward display of traditional drumming was so much more. They masterfully enmeshed massive Japanese taiko drums with synthesizers, fluid physical movement, and

fascinating home-made instruments. It was less like a traditional concert and more like a dreamy and raw sonic journey that had the entire room completely spellbound.

After the concert, we spoke with our host, Alex Pine of Taiko Maine Dojo, who invited us to stay for an impromptu demonstration in the group’s adjoining rehearsal space. Because this kind of spontaneity is what we live for, of course we said yes. This is a group made up of neighbors from all walks of life and cultural backgrounds, bound together by a shared heartbeat. What ensued was an absolute revelation. Founded in 2006, they share Japanese culture through the unifying, thundering spirit of kumi-daiko (ensemble drumming). Watching Alex and the local members strike the drums with such intense focus, skill, and sheer joy was infectious. You could feel the deep bass reverberating straight through the floorboards and right into your chest. Wow. It would be impossible to not be touched by the awesome power of the experience, especially with the massive 6 ft drum in the center that they all took turns banging on. Altogether an unforgettable evening.

Catch Taiko Maine kicking off the BPM Traditional Drum Festival on August 1st on the Bayside Trail behind Trader Joe’s.

Deirdre Paul, an artist and singer living in Bayside, leads the BNA Events Team.

Making Time, Sound, and Community

A Conversation with Huichun Yang
by John McArthur

Tucked above Portland Street, Open Systems Studios has become a distinctive home for experimental sound, visual art, and creative exchange in Bayside. This spring, the artist-run space expanded that role through a ten-day residency with artist Huichun Yang, whose work brought together instrument making, environmental listening, electronics, improvisation, and community participation.

Open Systems Studios, at 47 Portland Street, is known for presenting improvised and experimental electronic music and visual art in an intimate setting. The venue’s recent residency program offered something different from a one-night performance: time for an artist to work, explore the area, share her process, and build relationships with local participants.

For Huichun, instrument making is central to her artistic practice. She describes her work as a collaboration among her body, wood, electronics, and technology, with each material offering both limitations and possibilities. She first connected with Open Systems Studios through John Fireman, whom she met at the Experiments



can create something unexpected when placed in relationship with one another.

Huichun also used the residency to explore Portland and Peaks Island. With geophone and hydrophones, she recorded sounds from the land and ocean, gathering material that later became part of her final performance. Her time on Peaks Island included visits to abandoned military forts and early-morning walks to watch the sunrise, experiences that deepened her interest in the history and changing character of a place.

On the final day of the residency, Huichun presented a performance that combined those pre-recorded environmental sounds with live improvisation. The work brought together the elements she had been exploring throughout the ten days: sound collected from the local environment, handmade instruments, electronics, and the unpredictability of live performance.



in Electronic Sound Festival at CalArts in 2025. After that meeting, Fireman invited her to perform at Open Systems and later to take part in the residency.

During her stay, Huichun led an instrument-making workshop for approximately 12 participants. Using cherry and ash wooden blocks, participants created small instruments that could be played through touch and the moisture in their hands. Though everyone began with similar materials, each instrument developed differently.

The workshop also became an exercise in collaboration. Participants shared tools and techniques as they worked, then discovered a more spontaneous form of collaboration when they began playing their instruments together. The result reflected a central idea in Huichun’s practice: individual materials, bodies, and sounds

Huichun said she is interested in returning to Portland for a longer-term project, possibly one that unfolds over years rather than days. That idea of durational practice, or spending extended time with a place and documenting how it changes, feels especially meaningful in a culture that often moves quickly from one experience to the next.

Her residency at Open Systems Studios was brief by comparison, but it demonstrated what can happen when an artist is given room to slow down, listen closely, and invite others into the work. For Bayside, it was another example of Open Systems Studios growing as a place where experimental art is not simply presented, but made, shared, and experienced collectively

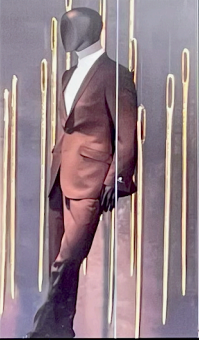
John McArthur co-owns The Studio Portland on Casco Street in Bayside thestudioportland.com



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PROPRIETARY BLENDS

by Peter Markoe

With my schedule busting at the seams like a Commercial Street sidewalk on a sunny Saturday in July, I decided to employ a different approach to my column. I resolved to meet with the leadership team at Bar Publica and Another Round separately to learn more about what makes

What's not gluten-free is the pastry I get every time I stop by Another Round. Naturally, it's accompanied by an expertly drawn double espresso, and as I sip and play with the retractable light over the table like a 2-year-old, I think of how, over its first couple of years of operations, Another



Bar Publica photo by Mat Trogner courtesy of Visit Portland

their businesses tick and why they are such welcoming spaces.

Speaking of spaces, through my work with the Bayside Opportunity Center, I've found myself using the term 'third space' quite often. But it wasn't til I went to Another Round for the first time last year that I learned about the term 'fourth space.' Typically, this is defined as a space occupied by a community centered entirely on a specific passion. At first glance, Another



Another Round on Game Night

Round might look like a fourth space for fans of tabletop, parlor, and strategy games. But in reality, the space, a passion project of owner Harry Sultan, was built to be a cafe. And a bar. And a board game store and playspace. And most importantly, a space where, no matter what time of day you stop by, you will find a familiar face or have an opportunity to make a new friend.

Over the past few months, I'm glad to have made the acquaintance of Chef Ron Medlock and his leadership team, Dustin and Ruth of Bar Publica. Every time I stroll down Hanover Street (enough times that I've tried nearly the whole menu!), the team is always interested in hearing about neighborhood happenings and how they can get involved in promoting the Bayside community. Reopening after an extended winter break, Bar Publica has returned with a vengeance, elevating their vibe and mouth-watering menu during the hiatus. A few highlights are the Jugo Frescos (fresh juices; I'm a sucker for Horchata), Oxtail Relleno de Papa, Canoa, and Chuleta. It's clear even to me that Chef Ron's presentation of classic Puerto Rican dishes is masterful and fresh, with plenty of gluten-free and vegetarian options to boot. Can't wait to see what this team has in store for us.



Wednesdays - Saturdays, 7:30am-4pm

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BAYSIDE

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Congratulations Natural Helpers

We are thrilled to celebrate the recent graduation of our very own Bayside Neighborhood Association Vice President, Peter Markoe, from the City of Portland's 2026 Natural Helpers cohort.

Peter has consistently poured his heart into making Bayside an inclusive, vibrant place to live, and he stepped into this intensive fellowship to find new ways to elevate and empower the voices of our residents. Reflecting on the experience, Peter noted, "The Natural Helpers Cohort helps forge relationships and bonds between individuals and communities, based on the common ground of helping your neighbor regardless of their

Organized by the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO), this brilliant program is a five-month fellowship designed to bridge the gaps between our diverse neighborhoods and vital local resources. This year's cohort included 14 dedicated individuals representing seven countries of origin and 11 local organizations—all working together to build a stronger, more connected city.

The collective impact of this group is incredible. Over their five months together, the fellows provided over 650 direct support actions, helped eliminate thousands in medical debt for neighbors, assisted 60 individuals with workforce



circumstance. This virtue is a pillar of what it means to be a Mainer. There is really something special happening here in Portland and I cannot wait to see what this group accomplishes."

Also graduating was Bayside Opportunity Center (BOC) board member Obed Frempong Aboagy. Obed has since been volunteering with the English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) conversation group hosted by the BOC at Avesta's Pearl Place. Peter and Obed have been working together to make the dream of a community center in Bayside a reality.

development, and reached roughly 4,500 community members through events and outreach.

As OEO Director Melissa Hue shared during the celebration, these leaders do this work simply because they genuinely care about their communities, helping neighbors navigate difficult situations and providing a shoulder to lean on. Portland is a better, kinder, and more resilient place because of their dedication. Congratulations to Peter, Obed, and the entire 2026 cohort of Natural Helpers!



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- 5. Portland Hearts of Pine Team Store**
127 Marginal Way
207-536-1607
- 6. SeaWeed Co.**
23 Marginal Way, Suite 7
207-800-3588

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207-791-2695
- 15. Isa Bistro**
79 Portland St
207-808-8533
- 16. Lay Day Roasters**
150 Preble St
- 17. Leavitt & Sons Deli**
200 Kennebec St
207-536-1076
- 18. Miss Portland Diner**
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- 19. Pizzaiolo**
360 Cumberland Ave
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- 20. Two Fat Cats Bakery**
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ABOUT BAYSIDE

The Bayside neighborhood is located in the heart of the Portland peninsula, bordered by Forest Avenue, Franklin Arterial, Interstate 295, and Congress Street. Its central location places Bayside just minutes from downtown, the Old Port, the Arts District, and the waterfront, with easy access from Congress Street, Portland's main downtown corridor.

LOCAL TIPS & THINGS TO KNOW

GET AROUND ON THE BAYSIDE TRAIL

One of Bayside’s best features, the Bayside Trail is a paved, multi-use path ideal for walking and biking.

- Connects Preble Street to Marginal Way
- Links directly to the Eastern Prom Trail and Back Cove Trail
- A mix of urban scenery and green space
- Flat, easy, and family-friendly

GREEN SPACES TO ENJOY

Bayside offers pockets of calm and greenery woven into an active urban neighborhood.

- Bayside Community Garden – A peaceful neighborhood garden worth a look; please enjoy visually, as this is a working garden for local residents
- Pocket parks, planted areas, and new trees throughout the neighborhood
- Especially noticeable along the Bayside Trail

PUBLIC ART & CREATIVE DETAILS

Art and creativity show up in everyday places throughout Bayside.

- Painted utility boxes
- Community art installations
- Rotating displays by local artists

PET-FRIENDLY & WALKABLE

Bayside is designed for people on foot, with plenty of space to explore at a relaxed pace.

- Leashed dogs welcome on the trail
- Wide sidewalks and pedestrian crossings
- Community events and pop-up gatherings

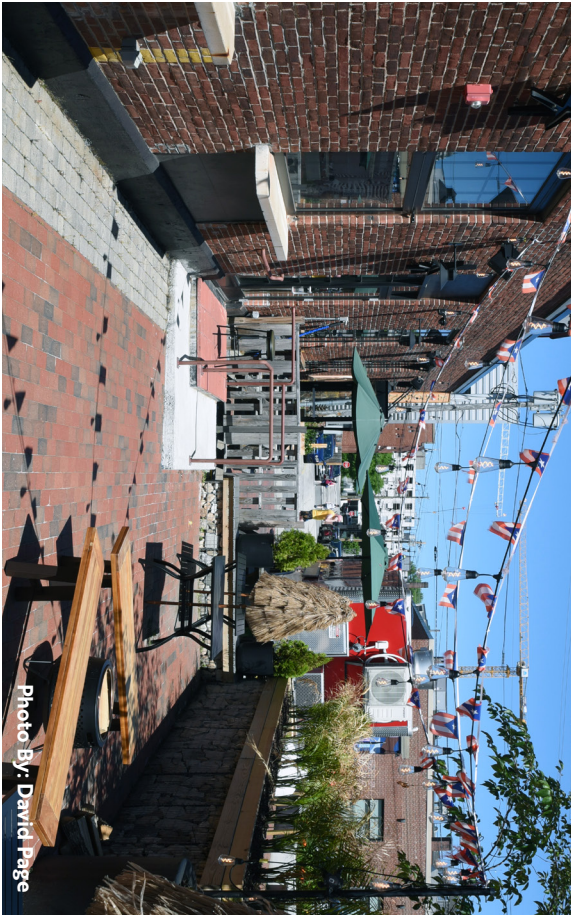


Photo By: David Page

ABOUT THE BAYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

The Bayside Neighborhood Association (BNA), represents the residents, businesses, and stakeholders who care deeply about Portland’s Bayside neighborhood and its continued growth and vitality.

Located in the heart of the Portland peninsula, Bayside offers easy access to restaurants, shops, arts, and the waterfront, all just minutes away by foot, bike, or bus.

Bayside’s flat terrain, compact size, and easy-to-navigate street grid make exploring simple and enjoyable. The Old Port, Arts District, and waterfront are all within walking distance, making it easy to experience the best of Portland at your own pace.

We hope you enjoy your time in Bayside and discover what makes this neighborhood such a vibrant and welcoming part of Portland.

baysideportland.org

ABOUT VISIT PORTLAND

Visit Portland is the organization that promotes the Greater Portland region as a destination for visitors. We help showcase to the world the people, places, businesses, and experiences that make this area such a special place to live and visit year-round.

Whether you’re looking for great restaurants, things to do, local events, shopping, outdoor adventures, or ideas for exploring the coast, visitors can find helpful trip-planning on our website.

Visitors can also stop by the Visit Portland Visitor Information Center at Ocean Gateway for maps, brochures, recommendations, and local tips.

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14 Ocean Gateway Pier, Portland, ME 04101

visitportland.com



This map is a collaboration between Visit Portland and the Bayside Neighborhood Association.

BAYSIDE

A PORTLAND NEIGHBORHOOD



Photo By: Knack Factory

View from the

President's Porch

by Tom Blackburn

Bayside on the Cusp of Change

There is a lot of momentum in Bayside right now, and the BNA and Bayside Opportunity Center (BOC) are working hard to make sure that momentum translates into a safer, more connected neighborhood for everyone.

We recently sat down with City leadership to talk about practical infrastructure improvements. Using data collected by our BNA Safe Streets team, we showed them exactly where we need better street lighting—especially dark stretches around Portland Street. We also pushed to make sure Bayside's \$5 million in TIF funds are actually unlocked for these kinds of neighborhood projects. At the same time, we're looking into starting a Bayside Improvement District. In the same way that the city partners with the Portland Downtown District, we could bring cleanup and safety teams like their ambassadors and constables directly onto our streets, while giving our local residents and businesses a much stronger voice at City Hall.

On the programming side, the BOC is focused on immediate, ground-level wins

that bring people together. We just launched our Conversation Corner right here in Bayside—a weekly ESOL class that is already helping neighbors connect, learn, and build mutual trust.

Looking ahead, our big focus remains on advocating for a permanent Bayside Community Center at 28 Portland Street. We want to be clear that the BOC's strategic plan is built to directly support Portland Public Schools' own goals. The district's strategic plan emphasizes equity, a sense of belonging, and robust adult education to support whole families. By working together to repurpose 28 Portland Street, we can create a neighborhood space that delivers on those exact promises—accelerating language learning and giving our New Mainer families a reliable place to find community support.

Bayside's real strength has always been the people who show up for it. Whether you're helping out with our new ESOL classes or advocating for safer streets, you are making a difference. If you want to get involved, we would love to have you join us.

—•— Tom Blackburn is President of the Bayside Neighborhood Association

Portland Downtown is a 501c4 nonprofit Downtown Improvement District (DID). Our mission is to stimulate a vibrant, thriving, and sustainable downtown community.

Stay in touch & get involved!

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Bayside House Stories

by Darren McLellan

142 Pearl Street: My Favorite Carriage House That's Not In The West End



I am not sure I can say why, but this little carriage house has always fascinated me. Tucked in behind a somewhat nondescript brick house on Cumberland Ave, this is a cute survivor.

Dating from 1900 according to tax documents, 142 Pearl is a two story rectangular box with no windows of any kind on two sides. The street side has a fabulous arched, story-and-a-half door with the eight pane sashes and there are some windows on the east entrance wall.

It looks like the small window in the second floor has been added whilst the window on the first floor seems to be a filled doorway.

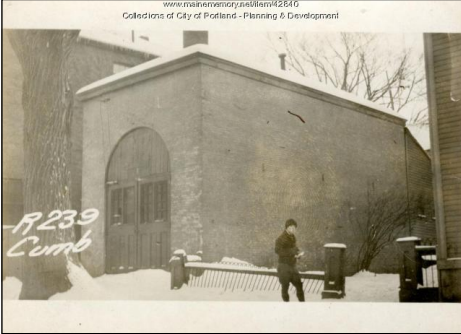
As for the modern third story addition, I like it. The use of horizontal metal siding with a bronze-like, albeit dirty, finish

contrasts with, but doesn't contest with, the brick of the lower levels.

The windows state their modern style boldly while giving what must be a fantastic view to the west. The deck is nice but this is not a quiet neighborhood. I wonder how much use it actually sees.

It's a shame that they have chosen to paint over the bricks. It's not good for the bricks and the mortar even more so. It also creates an uneven, lumpy, look to the walls that I do not find comforting.

The 1924 tax records show the building to be in a rather run-down condition. The owners were one Fred Johnson then the



Danish Building Society. I have never heard of this group before but will certainly be looking to learn more about them. The combined value in 1924 was \$500.00.

The current owners are artists. —•—

Darren McLellan is a history and architecture buff who likes to tell stories. This article was first published on his blog, *Portland House Stories*, online. www.portlandhousestories.com

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—Councilor's Corner—

by Sarah Michniewicz

Greetings, Bayside!

Summer comes to Bayside in unique ways. A lush community garden suddenly interrupts the asphalt heat sink, joyful overlapping languages from the playground bounce between 1800s homes, modern multi-units, and a concrete parking garage. String lights of rooftop bars glow while below, the daily challenges we navigate in our shared spaces intensify. For decades, those challenges have been central to Bayside's identity.

This summer is different. The changes are structural and unmistakable, even at a distance. On Elm Street, dueling cranes are assembling the first of thirteen new buildings approved within the footprint of just a few blocks. In the coming months, excavators will indifferently erase the ghosts of the Oxford Street Shelter, the one-time PHS luncheonette, and the sturdy

brick-and-granite Buick garage, as they did the Preble Street Chapel this spring. That history mattered.

Building Bayside's future matters too, and we still have great opportunity to shape it well. Beyond the 1,000 housing units already approved, opportunity abounds on flatter ground. Soil being delivered to the former scrapyard will eventually elevate several hundred more homes out of reach of rising seas, and in the coming months the Council will make decisions on how to finally develop the long-suffering Midtown parcels on Somerset Street.

We do know that Midtown will fill at least one crucial Bayside need - a park - and there will be other opportunities to develop gathering places in the neighborhood that keep families from having to seek community space on the other side of Portland's most deadly intersections.

However this summer changes our neighborhood, true transformation is just beginning. I know Baysiders will continue to be a part of that evolution, because Bayside's strength has never come from City Hall downward. It's come from neighbors, businesses, and stakeholders doing hard, collaborative work. That strength is what will keep Bayside resilient, inclusive, and unique no matter where the future takes us. —•—

Sarah Michniewicz lives in Bayside and serves on the Portland City Council representing District One.



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LIVING WELL

with Katie Johnstone, PharmD of Coastal Pharmacy & Wellness

The Hidden Engine: Mitochondria could be the key to your energy

Most of us focus on a few main things when it comes to health: what we eat, how active we are, and more recently, how well we sleep. But there’s something even smaller that often gets missed. Inside your cells are tiny structures that turn your healthy habits into real energy. These are called mitochondria, and their health can affect how you feel even more than any single habit.

Mitochondria act like power plants for your cells. They are found in almost every cell in your body and turn the food you eat and the oxygen you breathe into ATP, which is the fuel for every heartbeat, step, and thought. Your heart and brain have especially high numbers of mitochondria because they need so much energy. In simple terms, mitochondria are where your food turns into energy.

Two main things affect how well mitochondria work. The first is the fuel you give them. Mitochondria need good raw materials like B vitamins, magnesium, and a compound called CoQ10, which is important for making energy. When you eat colorful, whole foods, your mitochondria get what they need. If you rely on processed foods, their work slows down.



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The second factor is less well known. When your mitochondria make energy, they also create a small amount of waste called free radicals. In small amounts, your body can handle these easily. But things like chronic stress, not moving enough, and a diet low in nutrients can make this problem worse. Over time, too many free radicals can damage your mitochondria. The good news is you can help prevent this. Antioxidants in colorful fruits and vegetables help clear out free radicals, and regular movement tells your body to make new mitochondria. Even a daily walk helps your cells make more.

As mitochondrial function goes down with age or unhealthy habits, you might notice a range of effects. You may feel tired in the afternoon, have trouble thinking clearly, or find it harder to manage your weight. Exercise can feel more difficult. Since many tissues rely on steady energy, slow mitochondria are now linked to many chronic health problems.

Other things like changes in blood sugar, poor sleep, and missing nutrients can make low energy worse. Pay attention to what happens on days when you feel tired compared to days when you feel good. Over time, you’ll see patterns that show what helps your body. Try to make those helpful habits part of your routine. In health, being consistent is more important than going all out once in a while. A daily walk and regular healthy meals help more than a rare burst of effort.

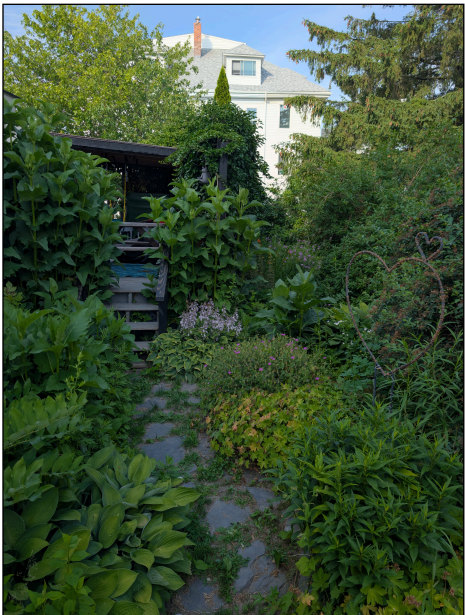
Low energy usually isn’t just about willpower or needing more coffee. Real, lasting energy starts in your cells and depends on what you eat, how you move, and how you rest. When you take care of your mitochondria, you build a strong base for all your other healthy habits.

— • —

Grow Wild Bayside

by Emma Bordi

Biodiversity, the variety of life on Earth, is declining globally at an unprecedented rate due to habitat destruction, use of synthetic pesticides, and climate change. According to the UN, “halting and reversing biodiversity loss and the stabilization of the climate system go



a wilded backyard in Bayside (P. Markoe)

hand in hand.” Globally, around one million species are at risk of extinction, including important pollinators like bees, butterflies, and birds, which are crucial to food production.

Most urban areas, including Portland, have become what ecologists describe as food deserts for pollinators and birds. Paved areas, lawns, and ornamental gardens with non-native plants provide little ecological value. As a result, bees, butterflies, and birds struggle to find the food and shelter they need to survive. Increasing the abundance of native plants throughout the city can help reconnect fragmented habitats and provide the resources that wildlife depends on.

The City of Portland is launching a program called Grow Wild Portland to encourage residents to grow native plants in city esplanades, yards, and planters. This will provide food and shelter for wildlife and pollinators, helping to strengthen local ecosystems and build biodiversity. The program will focus on “keystone plants” that support a disproportionately large number of pollinators compared with other plants. Doug Tallamy, a renowned entomologist and ecologist, and his team at the University of Delaware found that just

14% of native plant species support 90% of butterfly and moth species. In addition, horticulturist Jarrod Fowler discovered that 15% to 60% of North American native bee species are pollen specialists, relying on only 40% of native plant species for food. These findings demonstrate that planting even a few keystone species in our yards or public spaces, such as esplanades (narrow grassy areas between sidewalks and streets), can make a significant contribution to urban biodiversity.

You can help restore habitat by participating in Portland’s Grow Wild initiative. It’s simple: just plant some keystone plants near your home. Check out the Grow Wild Portland website (see below) for resources to help you get started. Let’s restore native habitat together, one street at a time! Reach out to us at landcare@portlandmaine.gov for more information.

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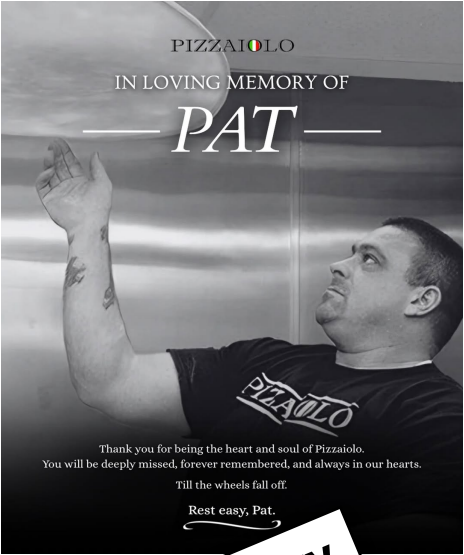
Emma Bordi is the Resilience Corps fellow for the City of Portland’s Office of Sustainability.

Grow Wild Portland

www.portlandmaine.gov/grow-wild-portland
landcare@portlandmaine.gov

R.I.P. Pat Scally

It is with heavy hearts that we share the passing of Pat, the heart and soul of Pizzaiolo. Your passion, dedication, and love for pizza touched the lives of so many. You built more than a restaurant. You built a community, creating a place where family, friends, and neighbors came together. Your legacy will live on, and you will never be forgotten.



poetry place

after the solstice

... golden moments in the comb
as the carnival turns inside out

steeping in the tea of death
(hovering) on a bright morning

hemmed by the quiet explosions
of pines swallowing the blue

sitting in emptiness
serenaded by chimney swifts and sparrows

this body is a hostel of fire
burning through limbs

searing the non-existent soul
in the delicate equipoise of shadow

trying to transform monsters
into goddesses

listening to what the crows
have to say

joyous while struggling in this glassine dream
elastic with suffering

buried by the oblivious moon
the silent inexorable bloom...

Annie Seikonia



BNA Team Reports

Bayside is powered by people-focused, purpose-driven teams. You don't need to be on a formal committee to participate—everyone who lives, works, or hangs out in Bayside is welcome to jump in.

Art Team

Our spring funding application for a public art installation utilizing a historic oak tree stump wasn't selected this round. However, the Maine Arts Commission gave the concept excellent reviews and we're looking for alternative funding sources. Meanwhile we're pursuing smaller projects including more utility box painting this fall. Ideas welcome. (arts@baysideportland.org)
Lead: Kincaid Pearson



Bayside Business Club

The brand-new Bayside Visitors' Guide is officially complete and heading to print. Created in partnership with Visit Portland, the printed maps will be distributed across town soon to drive positive foot traffic to our neighborhood's unique shops and restaurants. Look out for the digital version online and get a sneak peek in this issue! (business@baysideportland.org) Lead: Stacy Begin

Citizens' Trash Brigade

The CTB keeps Bayside looking sharp through targeted, volunteer-led neighborhood cleanups. Our latest sweep

focused on clearing litter around the Portland Public Schools central office area. (ctb@baysideportland.org) Lead: Megan Holt



Relevant Developments Team

Bayside is growing rapidly, with 315 housing units currently under construction and another 1,235 units in the planning pipeline. To help you keep track of the changing streetscape, we've launched an online dashboard showing every project at www.baysideportland.org/construction. (development@baysideportland.org)
Lead: Amelia LaBreck



Events Team

The first-ever BPM Drum Festival is hitting the Bayside Trail on Saturday, August 1st! Thanks to a \$3,000 grant from the Levitt Family Foundation, we are bringing a world-class event to the neighborhood. We are always looking for volunteers and local sponsors, and looking ahead to the next big events, including Global Welcoming Week in September. (events@baysideportland.org) Lead: Deirdre Paul



Garden Team

The community garden at 78 Chestnut Street is in full summer bloom. We're always improving the beds and plan more

workdays this fall for volunteers who like to dig in to community projects. We are also moving ahead with a permanent utility connection to keep our 27 neighborhood gardeners growing strong for years to come. (garden@baysideportland.org) Lead: Holly Picotte

Tech Team

The tech team keeps the neighborhood connected behind the scenes. Recent upgrades to our website include a smoother interactive calendar to help you find local events, a dedicated page for the upcoming Drum Festival, and new ways to sign up to support community projects online. (info@baysideportland.org) Lead: Johnny Sylvain

Tree Team

This summer's intense heat wave has proven just how vital our neighborhood tree canopy is for keeping our streets and playgrounds cool. If you want to help bring more shade to Bayside, the city is inviting residents to join the advisory group for Portland's new long-term Urban Forest Master Plan. Drop-in workshops are happening this September. (trees@baysideportland.org) Lead: Avery Kamila



Safe Streets Team

This team advocates for safer, more walkable infrastructure across Bayside. Team leadership recently met with Portland's Assistant City Manager and Public Works department to push for improved neighborhood streetlighting. We have also joined forces with the citywide Safe Streets Coalition and are analyzing local traffic data to help design better pedestrian and cycling protections. (safestreets@baysideportland.org)
Lead: John Van Hoewyk



Welcome Team

We are building new ways to celebrate the diverse faces and businesses that call Bayside home. We're also committed to making sure all new residents are heard, empowered and included. Join us to help shape and promote Bayside's identity as a welcoming community. (welcome@baysideportland.org)
Lead: Rayyaan Hakizimana — • —
www.baysideportland.org/teams

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About the Bayside Neighborhood Association (BNA)

Bounded by Forest Avenue, Franklin Street, Interstate 295, and Congress Street, Bayside is situated in the heart of the peninsula as Portland's gateway to downtown. Today, it is a vibrant mix of families and singles, young and old, New Mainers and old-timers, historic architecture and new development, social services, shops, restaurants, and small businesses.

The BNA was founded in 1998 and seeks to represent all those with a vested interest in the Bayside neighborhood. The Bayside Neighborhood Association empowers the Bayside community by building meaningful partnerships that promote health, safety, green spaces, diversity, housing, and sustainable development for all who live, work, and play in this unique urban neighborhood.

The BNA board has monthly meetings the first Tuesday of the month at 6pm, which are always open to the public. It's a great way to hear about what is happening in the neighborhood. They alternate between virtual (Zoom) and in-person at the Steve Hirshon Community Room at Unity Village at 24 Stone Street.

BNA Teams meet at various times. You don't have to be on the BNA board to be on, or even lead a team! Check the website for more info— www.baysideportland.org

DONATE TODAY

Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code or visit venmo.com/baysideportland. The BNA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Qualified donations are tax-deductible.

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