

Brooklyn NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

January/February, 2024

HAPPY NEW YEAR, BROOKLYN



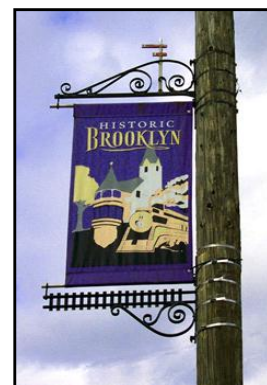
Where Are the Historic Neighborhood Banners that once hung along Milwaukie Avenue?

by Daryl Phillippi

In May 1999, residents, business owners, planners, and architects in Brooklyn recommended installing historically styled banners to bolster the neighborhood's identity and make the business corridor more memorable. Reach Community Development, Inc. coordinated with the city on streetscape improvements. An artist designed the banners, and a metalworker fabricated the brackets.

In August 2000, the board signed a contract with PGE, providing insurance to install the banners on twenty approved poles. On August 19, the first banner was installed with much fanfare, symbolic of the area's bright future. For 23 years, the neighborhood has diligently maintained the banners, purchasing new ones in 2014 to replace those faded by the sun.

This year, it was noticed that banners were missing. When notified, PGE stated they had no knowledge of what had occurred. Further inquiry with their Claims Department, revealed that because the banners were hung too low, a contractor had been hired to remove them after PGE received a complaint from the city. When asked to return the banners and brackets to the neighborhood, PGE stated that the contractor felt they were not worth saving and disposed of them.



Article continued on page 4

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Printing the Brooklyn News
these many, many years!
We are so grateful!



Brooklyn Neighborhood General Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2024

Meeting at Sacred Heart Villa, 7 pm

BAC SEEKS NEIGHBORHOOD INPUT

"The BAC Board will hold a focusing session annually in order to garner general recommendations to pursue for the following year." BAC Bylaws

The Neighborhood Board would like to hear your concerns and vision for the neighborhood, so please bring your ideas on how we can better serve the needs of our neighborhood.

Go to www.brooklyn-neighborhood.org for the latest updates and this newsletter in full color.

For the weekly online news update, go to the website or scan this QR code.



Calendar of Events

GBBA Networking Happy Hour

January 3rd 4:30-6:30pm
Rainy Days Tavern -
4774 SE Milwaukie Ave

GBBA Coffee Chat Networking

February 2nd 9-10am
Security Signs
2424 SE Holgate Blvd

BAC Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 10, 2024
Sacred Heart Villa, 7 pm

BCAT Meetings

Thursday, Jan. 11 & Feb. 8, 2024
The Chomp Restaurant
Thursday, Jan. 25 & Feb. 22, 2024
Rose City Coffee

Neighborhood General Meeting

Wednesday, January 24, 2024
Sacred Heart Villa, 7 pm

BAC Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 14, 2024
Sacred Heart Villa, 7 pm

New Neighbor Meet Up

Thursday, Feb. 29 6 pm
Brooklyn Park Pub
(Door Prize!)

BCAT Supports A Brooklyn Cooperative Grocery Store

by Jeff Kleen

The Brooklyn Climate Action Team (BCAT) recognizes the value of shopping locally to minimize car pollution and increase the neighborhood's walkability. Purchasing local products such as fresh produce, meat and dairy, reduces a household's climate impact in comparison to how food is typically produced, stored, and distributed.

In the United States, food now typically travels between 1,500 and 2,500 miles from farm to table.

For these reasons, several members of the BCAT have recently gotten involved in supporting the Brooklyn Cooperative Grocery store (also known as Know Thy Food) at 3434 SE Milwaukie Ave. A neighborhood grocery store is a critical part of a thriving community, and was identified as a priority by neighbors during the Brooklyn Action Corps's annual visioning session last January.

The Brooklyn Cooperative Grocery is facing challenges and needs the neighborhood's help. On two consecutive Sunday evenings in December, BCAT members joined neighbors and co-op staff and volunteers for community meetings to discuss the store's challenges and potential solutions. Several neighbors stepped up to become new co-op board members and serve on working groups (including store management, fundraising, events, and communications). The new board is developing a plan to survey the Brooklyn's priorities for a neighborhood grocery store and assess the store's inventory, advertising, and events.

A large portion of the store's building is a 1,000 square foot rental space that is currently vacant. If you or someone you know is interested in renting the space, please contact climate@brooklyn-neighborhood.org.

Brooklyn neighbors can support the co-op by patronizing the store, volunteering on one of the co-op's working groups, and by taking the store's survey to share ideas and opinions.

To take the survey, visit <https://bit.ly/brooklyncooperativegrocerysurvey>. Brooklyn neighbors can support the co-op by patronizing the store, volunteering on one of the co-op's working groups, and by taking the store's survey to share ideas and opinions.

For BCAT meetings, please check the calendar above.

All Brooklyn neighbors are welcome. Email climate@brooklyn-neighborhood.org or check the Brooklyn Action Corps website, calendar, and Instagram to join the BCAT 100 and for more information.

Music at Know Thy Food

3434 SE Milwaukie Ave., Portland
1st and 3rd Wednesday each month



4:00 - 4:45 PM

Barbara Ulman plays
classical music on the
piano

4:45 - 5:30 PM

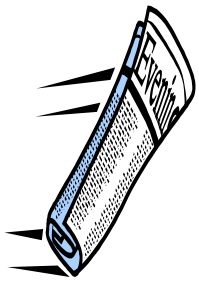
Anita Stryker sings
with Barbara



Brooklyn Neighborhood News is published bi-monthly by the BAC. To contact the Brooklyn News, email the newsletter at brooknews@brooklyn-neighborhood.org Community announcements, local events and press releases are accepted on a space available basis. Closing date for the newsletter is on the 15th of even-numbered months.

This newsletter is designed and edited by Marie Phillippi.

A BIG THANK YOU to the following volunteers who deliver this newsletter to your door, come rain or shine, hot or cold! The neighborhood saves thousands of dollars every year by hand delivering instead of mailing.



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Carol Wittwer
Stuart Zeltzer
Esther Fowler &
Cordon Simons - new

Thanks to our retired distributors: Matt & Annie Smeraglio

We are in need of more distributors. If you are interested in delivering newsletters, please email brooknews@brooklyn-neighborhood.org

The Greater Brooklyn Business Association Update

by Melaney Dittler

The Greater Brooklyn Business Association is pleased to announce that after restarting our efforts in June of 2023, we have 25+ active members and growing! The GBBA currently hosts monthly networking events with a morning Coffee Chat event in even months and a Happy Hour event in odd months, open to all businesses within our boundaries from Powell Blvd to Steele Avenue and McLoughlin to SE 28th Avenue.

Take advantage of marketing, business building, and advocacy opportunities in 2024 and join the GBBA today! Find more information on our website at www.greaterbrooklynba.com or email us at greaterbrooklynba@gmail.com. For meeting dates, please check the Calendar of Events on opposite page.

LUTC Volunteers Needed

by John Karabaic

Want to make a difference in road conditions, bikeability, short-term rental policy, parking and anything else in Brooklyn related to land use and transportation?

The Brooklyn Action Corp's Land Use and Transportation Committee reviews, advocates, and makes recommendations on land use and transportation issues which affect our neighborhood and the surrounding area. They've taken action on issues ranging from getting a traffic light on McLoughlin to making sure the route to Grout School remains bikeable. Want to make a difference?

Email bluc@brooklyn-neighborhood.org
or scan this QR Code right now.



Adopt a Block Update

by Kathy Orton

DO GOOD IN THE NEW YEAR! Join many of your neighbors in picking up litter and be watchful for hazards on one or more blocks. Many blocks are still available. Your commitment is to walk your block/s at least once a month, pick up litter, call in hazards. That's it... but it makes a huge difference towards the livability in Brooklyn.

Interested? Contact Kathy Orton: kt_orton@hotmail.com or attend a BAC meeting and check the map of available blocks and sign up at the meeting. Happy New Year to Brooklyn!

Bear Paw Holiday Singalong

Every year, "Brooklyn Santa" puts on a singalong at Christmas time that is a benefit for several adopted families in the area providing food and gifts. This year it took place Wednesday, Dec. 13th at the Bear Paw Inn.

Thanks to everyone that came, enjoyed and supported this worthwhile program.



BUSINESS FOCUS

by Marie Phillippi

Aladdin Alterations

4325 SE Milwaukie

503-839-4999 (Call or Text)

Open Monday – Thursday, 10am – 3pm

Jennifer Faust grew up in Redding, California, before moving to Portland in 1995. She bought a house in Brooklyn in 2005, and works out of a vintage 1968 Oregon-made Aladdin camping trailer.

In college, Jennifer majored in computer aided design for apparel, focusing on sewing techniques and fashion design.



Although alterations such as hemming, zipper replacements, patchwork, and fittings are the most requested service from her business, she also does custom designs and more. Due to her limited space and types of machines, she avoids larger projects like upholstery.

In addition to her sewing, Jennifer is a talented musician who plays bass and guitar in bands with fabric-inspired names like Cotton Jenny and Denim Wedding.

She loves this neighborhood for its wonderful, supportive customers.

“Where Are the Banners” Continued from page 1

A claim was filed with PGE for the cost of the destroyed banners and brackets. PGE responded that according to the original agreement, they had the right to remove and dispose of banners at their discretion.

After 23 years of the neighborhood upholding their end of the agreement, PGE now wants to invoke a statement in the original contract allowing them to remove banners without notifying the neighborhood. PGE offered a small settlement, which the neighborhood rejected. The issue remains unresolved, boiling down to the old adage that “just because you can, doesn’t mean you should.”

9th Street Overpass Stewardship

By Stephen Bachhuber

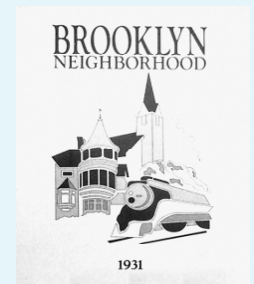
The 9th Avenue pedestrian/bike bridge over Powell Boulevard has been gradually transformed into a cleaner, more welcoming public space, thanks to the dedicated efforts of local volunteers. Originally spearheaded by Garret Hill and Stephen Bachhuber, a group of around 20 neighbors known as the 9th Avenue Bridge Volunteers now work periodically in organized parties or independently to maintain the area. By picking up litter, removing graffiti, trimming shrubs, and creating a tidy, park-like setting, they have turned the bridge into a gateway that signals travelers' transition into a well-kept neighborhood where rules and care apply.

The City and Portland Bureau of Transportation have granted the Brooklyn Action Corps stewardship over this area. Our plans are to clear blackberries and clematis from the north side of the bridge, remove invasive plants, and add wildflowers. Urban Alchemy patrols the area and discourages campers as part of a Good Neighbor Agreement between the neighborhood and the Gideon Triangle Sanctioned Camp, so camping is less problematic than before. After the holidays, we will resume work parties and could use your help. If interested in joining, email 9thStreetOverpass@brooklyn-neighborhood.org to be added to the mailing list. We meet 10am-12pm on selected Saturday mornings. Sign up and we'll keep you posted on volunteer opportunities.

Brooklyn Historical Plaques

Have you notice these plaques around our neighborhood? The Brooklyn Historical Society will provide the plaques for \$32 each. The plaques are identical in design and color to those already in existence, except for the date, a custom script if desired, and a new coating.

Ordering details are online at brooklyn-neighborhood.org/historic-plaques.
Questions? Contact treasurer@brooklyn-neighborhood.org





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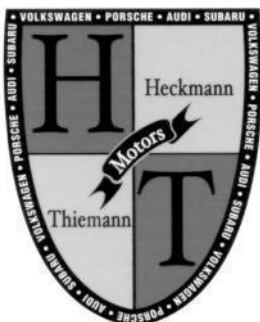
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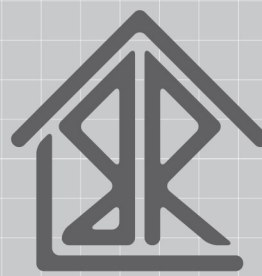
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