# SUNINGSIDE Neighborhood News August / September 2019

### October SNA Meeting to Feature a Town Hall Discussion on Portland's Housing Crisis

By Matt Lembo

Please join us at the Sunnyside
Environmental School Auditorium\*
on October 10th from 7-9 p.m. for
a special meeting of the Sunnyside
Neighborhood Association. The entire
meeting will be devoted to Portland's
Housing Crisis. Confirmed attendees
include Marc Jolin (Director, Joint
Office of Homelessness Services), Erin
Martin (District Superintendent, United
Methodist Conference), Amy Kleiner
(Principal, Sunnyside Environmental
School) and Mike Krantz (Central
Precinct Commander, Portland Police
Department).

Please email board@sunnysideportland. org with feedback regarding the approach, discussion topics or specific questions you would like addressed.

\*Location subject to change. Please see sunnysideportland.org for the most upto-date information.

# Volunteer for the Belmont Fair and Get Your Swag On

By Tonya Oyala, Belmont Street Fair Volunteer Coordinator

The final Portland street fair of the season is coming on Saturday, September 14th. Please join us! We are looking for a few fun-loving volunteers to help us out at the Belmont Street Fair.

Volunteers are needed for the following shifts:

• 7 – 11am: Move-In Block Captain

9am – 1pm: General Help/Runner

10am – 2pm: Info Booth Staff

• 2 – 6pm: Info Booth Staff

3 – 6pm: General Help/Runner

• 5 – 7pm: Move-Out Block Captain

All volunteers will receive an event t-shirt and some other great perks courtesy of local businesses on Belmont Street! For more details, and to sign up, please email amy.theberge@gmail.com.

#### New Congregation to Begin Gathering at Sunnyside United Methodist Church

By Sunia Gibbs, Pastor The Groves Church

Hello! I'm Sunia Gibbs, the newly assigned pastor/executive director at Sunnyside UMC. I have already met and corresponded with many of you and I am looking forward to future conversations and collaborative work for good in the neighborhood.

A little bit about me: I grew up in Minneapolis and I lived in Phoenix and St. Louis, before landing in Portland 12 years ago. My partner, Paul, and I have been married for 22 years and have three kids, ages 16, 13, and four. We currently live in the Lair Hill/Johns Landing neighborhood. My education is in piano performance (North Central University)

and sociology (Portland State). I've been a pastor for 18 years, ten of them with my current faith community, The Groves. I also have a small creative arts business as a musician, abstract painter, and florist.

Along with my appointment comes a team that I've worked with for over ten years. We are a humble faith community with a vision – being part of a neighborhood that is inclusive and will create a welcoming space for all neighbors. You may have already seen some of us in the UMC building, at neighborhood meetings, walking the streets, eating at the food carts, drinking Never Coffee, cleaning out the vacant adjacent property, or playing with our kids at the school playground. I've been meeting with interns on-site. We hosted a spoken word event with Amena Brown a couple months ago and will begin hosting our Sunday worship gatherings in August. We hope to create more public spaces for conversations, development, and the arts.

cont'd on page 2

#### MEETING SCHEDULE

SNA Ice Cream Social, General & Board Meeting

Sunday, September 8, 4-6 p.m. @ Laurelhurst Park

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Savety & Livability Committee September 3rd, 6:30pm - 7:30pm Location TBD

**SNA Housing Crisis Town Hall** 

Thursday, October 10, 7pm - 9pm

@ Sunnyside Environmental School \*

\* Location subject to change



### SUNNYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SunnysidePortland.org board@sunnysideportland.org



John Mayer, Pat Schweibert and their outreach will be vacating Sunnyside UMC. I've received many emails with a wide range of positions and emotions regarding their work, most with questions about what the future will look like regarding our ministry to unhoused friends and neighbors.

The short answer: We are committed to serving vulnerable persons in the neighborhood and it will look very different from what it has been.

The long answer: First, we will listen and join with our neighbors to serve. Sustainable work must be relational and collaborative. For example, through relationships our faith community is currently involved with many facets of foster care and adoption through Embrace Oregon and directly with DHS. We also support and volunteer with Cupcake Girls, a non-judgmental network and support system for those in the adult entertainment industry. We have also been growing and learning alongside The Center for Equity and Inclusion to ensure our systems and beliefs align to love all our neighbors. These are just a few examples of ongoing, maturing, mutual partnerships we currently sustain.

Second, we will not make decisions out of fear, guilt or shame, but from generosity and good faith. Distance from who we consider "other" can cause us to respond in ways to alleviate our guilt or to quickly appease others. We might act nice/do good, but out of pity or shame. This does nothing to empower or elevate dignity and respect. We must do the internal work to identify our own fears and motivations and eliminate the distance between "us" and "them". Then, together, we can operate from abundance and health towards one another, as neighbors.

Third, we will choose depth over width, quality over quantity. There are practical questions such as:

Do we have a committed staff and leadership for desired services?

Are there resources to sustain the work?

As we strive for ideals, what is our capacity to do good and do no harm?

I'd like to share more about the future we envision for Sunnyside UMC, which involves creating a community space for

faith, arts, and equity in, of, and for the neighborhood.

Please feel free to reach out to me via email: sunia.gibbs@thegroveschurch. com. You can also find me on Facebook (Sunia Gibbs) or Instagram (suniagibbsart) or (thegroveschurch).

#### Call for Neighborhood Event Suggestions

By Lorraine Henriques, SNA Board

What is the best way to get to know your neighbors and have a fun time doing it?

Your Neighborhood Association would like your ideas for events. Spaghetti Feed? Block parties? A Health Fair? Night Markets? Send your ideas to me so we can discuss them at our next meeting. Thanks!

Lorraine Henriques, SNA Board henriqueslorraine@gmail.com

# Tour de Lab Fundraiser Benefiting DoveLewis Animal Hospital to Pedal Through Sunnyside

By Dena Whipple

The Tour de Lab will take place on Sunday, September 1st, 2019. This community bicycle ride is a fundraiser to benefit DoveLewis Animal Hospital.

Tour de Lab participants have the option to ride a 19 mile "urban" course or a 42 mile "challenge" course. Both routes are the same as 2018 and will go through the Sunnyside neighborhood. Both routes start and end at the Lucky Lab Brewpub on SE Hawthorne and are on our website: eventsbyaxiom.com/tourdelab. The event starts at 8 a.m. and will be over by 3 p.m.

We anticipate approximately 650 riders pedaling for the pups. We will release the riders at the start in waves to ensure they will be spread out on the route. Marshals will be in place at important intersections to ensure safety and we will also have motorcycle escorts on the course.

All participants receive heavy messaging in the website, event flyers, emails, and



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a metaphysical book for healing Erin Emily Lassell, author available on amazon.com www.thecolorofsunshine.com

# Children, Teens & Adults LEARN AIKIDO The Art of Peace at Two Rivers Aikikai



Your Community Dojo Belmont & SE 30th Ave. www.2rivers.org



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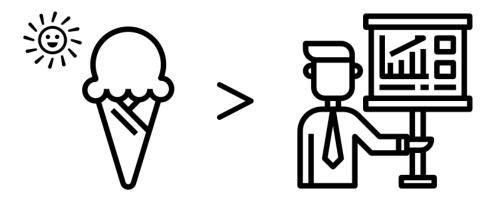
at the ride start regarding respectful shared road/path usage and they commit to abide by this as ride participants in their rider registration.

This is a wonderful community event celebrating the quirky fun spirit of Portlanders and their dogs and it benefits an important organization in our community. I encourage you to come participate or cheer the riders on as they go by.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association

# Ice Cream Social General & Board Meeting

Sunday, September 8th 4pm - 6pm Laurelhurst Park



Join us for an opportunity to meet your neighbors, enjoy some ice cream \* and talk a little business before the summer ends. All are welcome. We'll be on the lawn just northwest of Firwood Lake. Bring a blanket!

\* Ice cream provided by Ruby Jewel sunnysideportland.org

# Michelle McCabe Sunnyside Realtor



For all your real estate needs, home project referrals or market updates, contact your local real estate expert Michelle McCabe.

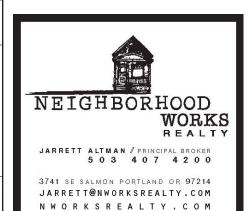
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Piano Lessons by Amie Rose



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The Sunnyside Neighborhood News is published monthly by the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association.

Editor: Gloria Jacobs Delivery Coordinator: Diana Deumling

Matt Lembo	President
Reuben Deumling	Vice President
Lorraine Henriques	Secretary
K.C. Hoffert	Treasurer
Dave Boush	Member-At-Large
Russell Rinaldi	Member-At-Large
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SunnysidePortland.org c/o SEUL, 3534 SE Main, Portland, OR 97214

Any opinions expressed, unless specified, are not necessarily those of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association or its board. Sunnyside residents are welcome to submit articles for consideration that concern neighborhood issues, by emailing newsletter@ sunnysideportland.org. Many wonderful volunteer Sunnyside residents distribute the Neighborhood News.

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# Sunnyside Neighborhood Map

Delivery help needed here

