

Alameda PDX

Spring 2022

Volume 36 Number 1



THE GRANT HIGH SCHOOL CONSTITUTION TEAM (L.) WON THE "WE THE PEOPLE" STATE TOURNAMENT, AND CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL (R.) TOOK 2ND PLACE. BOTH TEAMS WILL TRAVEL TO THE NATIONAL FINALS IN APRIL.

Grant High, Central Catholic Constitution Teams Head to Nationals *by Annette Bendinelli*

The Grant High School Constitution Team placed first in the "We the People" State Tournament on February 5, and will travel to Washington, D.C. April 22 for the National Finals. And for the first time in its 11-year history of participation, the Central Catholic High School Constitution team will be joining them.

Central Catholic took second place at State, and earned a wild card spot to travel to Nationals. Each schools' team is made up of over 30 senior students who spend hundreds of hours during the school year preparing for the competition.

According to Grant team advisor Angela DiPasquale, who also teaches Government/Economics and U.S. History, "Constitution Team is an intense academic experience that appeals to students interested in government, social justice, history, politics, law, activism, social change, public speaking, competition, as well as independent and collaborative learning."

She added that, "Students are successful as a result of intensive reading, writing and repeated practice on oral presentation, or "mooting." In addition to myself, The Grant team has at least 14 volunteer coaches, many

of whom are lawyers or judges in Portland. In recent years, several young professionals who were past team members have also joined the coaching staff."

Beginning in the fall, Con Team members divide into six units and study different aspects of the Constitution, then prepare four-minute oral responses to questions provided by the Center for Civic Education, which sponsors the competition.

The questions are meant to test whether the students have only a surface understanding, or have truly grappled with the difficult issues of history, the Constitution, current events and politics. The class builds to a mock Congressional hearing, where students testify on their area of expertise in front of a panel of three judges.

Central Catholic's "We the People" class is taught by longtime Social Studies teacher, Geoff Stuckart, and like Grant, the team is also coached by various volunteers including local attorneys and previous Con Team alumni.

Alameda resident Teresa Osborne, a Reynolds High School history and government teacher for 34 years,

came out of retirement in 2019 to teach at Central Catholic. She has helped coach its Constitution Team for the past several years.

Osborne noted, "The work of the students and coaches this year has been amazing to watch. But the efforts of the teacher, Geoff Stuckart, to pull this all together to get Central Catholic to a first-ever trip to Nationals has been heroic. I'm excited for another month of helping students dive into the Constitution."

For both schools, the Covid-19 pandemic presented unprecedented challenges.

"It's been a rollercoaster," said Stuckart. "This year started with the promise of in-person, and we were doing everything to prepare for an in-person competition. Then, mid-December we get the word that we're going online. So we spent winter break reconfiguring everything to get ready for an online competition."

Stuckart added, "The body language and the cues the students learn to give each other about who is going to answer are so important, and then you move to an online environment where you don't get that anymore. So it's a real skill to pivot to competing online."

Due to Covid, both teams will travel to Washington, D.C. but will participate in the National Finals via Zoom. Specific meeting rooms will be set up, with coaches joining remotely. The judges will also Zoom in from across the country. Teams from 48 states will compete for the first two days, with the top 10 vying for the National Championship on the third day.

During non-competition times, the teams will meet with elected leaders and visit sites of historic significance, along with various museums and galleries.

Parents and students at both schools are now working on fundraising to cover the cost of their trip. To donate to the Grant team, visit: <https://www.schoolpay.com/pay/for/CONSTITUTION-TEAM/SbwcnuN>.

To donate to Central Catholic, go to <https://www.centralcatholichigh.org/giving/make-a-gift.html>. Select the option "Area of Greatest Need" and write "Constitution Team" in the comment box.

Checks can also be mailed to each school, with "Constitution Team" noted in the memo line.



Alameda Kindergarten Open House April 14

Kindergarten enrollment is now open for the 2022-23 school year, and Alameda Elementary School has scheduled a Kindergarten Open House on Thursday, April 14, from 4:30-6 p.m. For information and to enroll online, visit <https://www.pps.net/alameda>

There will also be a family gathering for newly enrolled students at the Alameda playground on Friday, May 13 from 4:30-6 p.m. Hosted by the Alameda PTA, the event will be by invitation only.

Portland Public Schools encourages all new families to register for kindergarten as soon as possible so that school staff can be ready for each student, and keep them informed over the summer. Children must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2022 in order to begin kindergarten.

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Editor's Message



by Annette Bendinelli

It would be an understatement to say there's a lot happening in and around Alameda this spring! So many businesses that closed or shortened their hours during the pandemic are steadily reopening, and new shops

and restaurants are popping up all over.

Some of the most exciting activity is happening just a few blocks north of us, in the Alberta Arts District. If you haven't been over there recently, it's time to get out and rediscover this vibrant, multicultural neighborhood.

To that end, we're excited to present "A Spotlight on our Neighbors," a special feature on Page 5 that highlights six small businesses on NE Alberta. Their owners – many of them women of color - have overcome some pretty incredible odds to be where they are today, and they're making a positive impact on their community in a variety of ways.

Check out their stories in our feature, then go check

out their shops. The Alberta area is seeing a renaissance thanks to the efforts of Alberta Main Street, a nonprofit community organization, and its dynamic new Board Chair, Devon Horace. Horace has gotten people on Alberta fired up with a renewed energy, and it shows.

Says Horace, "Alberta Street is rapidly changing, and we want to make sure we continue to partner with and support small, BIPOC-owned businesses and artists. One of Alberta Main Street's goals is to build and repair existing relationships with our community, while collaborating with other organizations to help provide additional resources."

He adds, "If you share our mission and want to help, please go to albertamainst.org to sign up to be a volunteer or join a committee. We can achieve great things for the community if we continue to work together."

Through a partnership between the Alameda Neighborhood Association and Alberta Main Street, we plan to bring you more coverage of our Alberta neighbors in upcoming issues. In the meantime, get out and shop local, and support these great businesses we're so fortunate to have nearby!

— Annette



DEVON HORACE, ALBERTA MAIN STREET CHAIR

Multnomah County Passes Leaf Blower Resolution by Michael Hall

Editor's Note: Alameda resident Michael Hall is a Co-Founder and Steering Committee member of Quiet Clean PDX, a volunteer organization dedicated to phasing out gas-powered leaf blowers in the greater Portland area.

Good news! In December the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners unanimously passed Resolution 2021-094, which not only supports accelerating the county's own transition away from the use of gas-powered leaf blowers at county facilities, but also calls for convening a joint work group with the City of Portland to explore an equitable, community-wide phase-out strategy for gas leaf blowers.

This puts Multnomah County on the path toward becoming the first county in the nation to end the use of gas leaf blowers countywide!

Quiet Clean PDX is deeply grateful to Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson for her leadership in sponsoring this resolution, and to all five commissioners for supporting it. We understand the new work group is likely to have a recommendation before the Board of Commissioners within a few months.

Fifteen Portland-area neighborhood associations so far have endorsed the goal of eliminating gas leaf blowers. We greatly appreciate the Alameda Neighborhood Association for being among them. You are part of a national movement to do away with gas-powered landscape equipment due to the harm it causes to workers, to our neighborhoods, to public health and well-being, and to the environment.

The ANA's endorsement is well worth repeating here:

The Alameda Neighborhood Association is happy to endorse the efforts of Quiet Clean PDX and the city of Portland to greatly reduce, or eliminate, the use of gas powered leaf blowers. Our support extends beyond our neighborhood, with the goal of continued improvement for all of Portland - making our neighborhoods safer, cleaner and more accessible for everyone. We also recognize the burden that can be placed on small businesses and support incentives and programs that encourage this transition. The Alameda Neighborhood Association is proud to stand with those that are putting forward effort to improve livability.



WORKERS USE LEAF BLOWERS AT ALAMEDA SCHOOL

For more information about the Quiet Clean PDX campaign, and to follow our progress via our newsletter or social media, visit www.quietcleanpdx.org. Thank you, Alameda!

ALAMEDA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION STATEMENT OF INCLUSION AND SUPPORT

Our community declared the Alameda neighborhood a hate-free zone in 1995. Today, we reaffirm Alameda's commitment to be a loving, caring, supportive and inclusive community for all who reside, work, do business, or visit our neighborhood. We stand against hatred, racism, xenophobia, discrimination and/or marginalization of any kind. We are committed to growing, nurturing and sustaining a community where all feel welcomed, safe and included.

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The ANA meets on the 2nd Monday of every month at 7pm at Fremont United Methodist Church.
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Prices are per issue. To place an ad, contact **Teresa St. Martin at alamedatreasurer@gmail.com**.

Publication dates:	Deadlines:
December 10	November 10
March 10	February 10
June 10	May 10
September 10	August 10

Please submit pdf, jpg, or Adobe Distiller X-1A compliant artwork at 300dpi or greater.

Folly Moves to NE Fremont Location

After nearly 14 years in Northwest Portland, local designer Sarah Bibb has moved her boutique and clothing manufacturing to the corner of NE Fremont St. and 41st Avenue, in the former Gazelle space.

Joining Beaumont Village “has me very excited,” says Bibb.

“I’m thrilled to have so many wonderful, small business neighbors and can’t wait to meet everyone!” she notes, adding, “I already feel proud to call Fremont Street home for Folly!”

Bibb’s eponymous clothing line is produced in-house, making her selection unique to Folly.

“I want people to feel connected to the process,” she explains, noting that customers can take a peek at production through a

window in the shop. “Making something out of nothing is the joy of my life, and it’s wonderful to meet people who appreciate the effort!”

With a focus on wearable, feminine clothing with lots of color, creative use of print, and plenty of dresses with pockets, Bibb says there’s something for just about everyone at Folly. She reports that her “sexy but practical” slips are famous in Portland and adds, “you will want to wear one under all your dresses.”

In addition to clothing, Folly will also carry a selection of hand-crafted gifts and jewelry by other small makers.

Store hours are Tuesday - Saturday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.



FOLLY OWNER SARAH BIBB CUTS MATERIAL IN HER NEW SHOP

Artists Collaborate to Benefit Beaumont Students, Families by Patty Farrell

Members of the Artistic Portland Gallery, which opened in August 2020 at 4110 NE Fremont, are already finding creative ways to give back to the Alameda/Beaumont community.

The gallery is a co-op of more than 20 local artists who offer affordable fine art, jewelry, pottery, stationery and other handcrafted goods. This is the third location for the gallery, which was previously in the Hollywood district and in downtown Portland.

“We love the new location and wanted to get involved in the community, and then we realized there was a middle school right across the street,” said Ammi Brooks, one of the gallery’s founding artists. “When we started to learn

more about the neighborhood, we found there were many Beaumont families who needed help meeting basic needs.”

The artists have created two programs to benefit Beaumont Middle School students and families:

- The “Paint Your Own Bowl” project, which benefits the Beaumont Family Resiliency Fund. The fund was established in 2020 by the Beaumont PTA to help pay for utilities, food and other basics for families in need. For \$10, community members can take home a kit from the gallery with a bisque-fired bowl, brushes of varying sizes, glazes, and a palette. When their masterpiece is finished, they return the bowl (and kit), and artists from the gallery will fire it by the first of the next month.

Nine out of every 10 dollars raised goes directly to the Beaumont fund.

“This is a chance for community members to help each other, and also help channel their artistic side,” said Brooks, who creates and sells silk scarves, felt art, egg ornaments and other unique pieces at the gallery.

- Throughout April, the gallery will feature artwork created by Beaumont students in the school’s art program. Student work will be for sale and proceeds will help purchase a kiln to fire students’ ceramic pieces. The gallery is planning an opening to kick off the show in late March or early April. Look for details at artisticportlandgallery.com.



ARTISTIC PORTLAND GALLERY’S “PAINT YOUR OWN BOWL” PROJECT BENEFITS THE BEAUMONT FAMILY RESILIENCY FUND, AND AN APRIL ART SHOW WILL HELP RAISE MONEY FOR A NEW KILN AT THE SCHOOL.

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Volunteers Needed as Bybee Lakes Hope Center Doubles Its Capacity *by Dan LaGrande*

Bybee Lakes Hope Center, an innovative transitional housing provider, completed a major remodeling and expansion of its North Portland facility in February. A new wing added more dorms with room for 180 beds, along with another commercial kitchen and dining facility which doubled the Center's capacity. Successfully operating in the large complex that was built for - but never used - as a corrections center, Bybee Lakes is unique in several ways.

"We admit people who want to change and are willing to work to overcome barriers to achieve a better life," explained Alan Evans, CEO and founder of Helping Hands Reentry Outreach Centers, which operates Bybee Lakes. "After Covid-imposed restrictions were lifted, we have now resumed accepting new clients and with the doubling of our capacity, we are doing 10 intakes a day."

Helping Hands has been successfully providing transitional housing for the homeless for 20 years. Including Bybee Lakes, the non-profit organization now operates 11 centers in Oregon. The first opened in Seaside, with others in Clatsop, Lincoln, Tillamook and Yamhill Counties. Bybee Lakes is Helping Hands' newest and largest center.

"Our success rate in our first 18 months here at Bybee Lakes is 65 per cent," Evans said. "This is much higher than average because this is a very focused program with a high bar for entry."

Evans explained that there are two elements to entry. The first, the low barrier, is admission with emergency shelter and a four-day evaluation process. He added that about 45 percent in the initial low barrier entry group qualify for long-term entry, and after the four-day period they are assigned to a case manager for further evaluation. A customized program is then developed for the long term.

"This is a very unique approach," Evans emphasized, "because it requires the person to commit to changing their life to follow an often difficult new path to sobriety, responsibility and independence. We provide a trauma-informed, data driven path toward self-sufficiency for every person."

Evans went on to explain that the staff takes the time to learn each individual's story, then helps them connect with the appropriate local resources and services to meet their unique needs.

"With the doubling of our program," Evans said, "we have an immediate need for more volunteer support. We urge those who are interested to come visit us and tour our facility."

The Volunteer Coordinator at the Hope Center, Richelle Beck, echoes Evans' appeal for volunteers. She urges anyone interested to email volunteer@helpinghandsreentry.org

"High on the needs list are volunteers to teach classes in a broad array of life skills -- important skills we may take for granted," Richelle said. "However, these skills are essential for residents to acquire here at the Center, to help them transition into a life of self-sufficiency and self-confidence."

Among those skills are how to apply for and land a job. Others are basic living, from meal preparation, parenting, using leisure time in a positive way and building strong friendships.

"We also need volunteers with office and organizing skills, including processing donations, building up a library, processing donated clothing and helping to prepare and

(continued on page 6)



BYBEE LAKES HOPE CENTER'S RECENT REMODEL AND EXPANSION ADDED A COMMERCIAL KITCHEN AND DINING FACILITY (L.). A PLAYGROUND IS ALSO PART OF THE COMPLEX, WHICH SERVES HOMELESS MEN, WOMEN, AND FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN.



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..... Shining a Spotlight on Alberta

Alberta is experiencing a renewed energy this spring! Thanks to the efforts of the nonprofit community organization, Alberta Main Street, and a diverse group of small business owners, there's a renaissance happening in this vibrant, multicultural neighborhood just to the north of us.

Alberta Street stretches from NE Martin Luther King Boulevard to NE 33rd Avenue, and nearly 100 restaurants, shops, and galleries line its sidewalks. Through a partnership between the Alameda Neighborhood Association and Alberta Main Street, we want to introduce you to some of these business owners – many who are trailblazing women of color – and tell you their stories, in their own words.

We asked each of them to answer the following questions:

- How did you get started in your business?
- What's the biggest challenge you've faced as a business owner?
- What would you like our readers to know about you/your business?
- What advice would you give others looking to open a business on Alberta?

Here are their replies:

GENESIS DUNCAN, Graphic Anthology



I wish I had an epic story about how intentional I was in starting my business, but in reality, Graphic Anthology began in 2010 as a hobby with some art prints and an Etsy shop. It was simply a creative

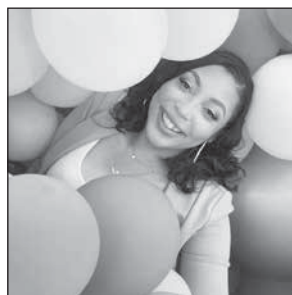
outlet to keep me sane while taking care of a terminally ill family member. It was an isolating and sad experience, and I just needed something to help process all the heavy feelings. That I could make a little money on the side was a bonus.

For me, the perception about being a business owner was my biggest challenge. Since I didn't start intentionally as a business, it took me so long to see myself as something other than a maker who happened to earn a little money from my work. I wasted a lot of time not committing and believing in myself.

At its core, Graphic Anthology is a greeting card business, and our store is our HQ shop/studio combo. So when you come in, the front is full of greeting cards and gifts for your shopping pleasure, but if you look over the counter, you'll see our wall of card inventory and us designing new products or packing orders to ship all over!

As far as advice, I'd say get to know your neighbors! So far I've found a friendly community ready to collaborate with each other. Get to know the Alberta Main Street Association; they've been really helpful, and organized some great events last fall and winter that drove traffic along the street.

DAMALA BADON, DB Desserts



I was in the kitchen from a young age, cooking and baking with my grandmother and aunts, so my skill was developed early. It wasn't until I became a mother that I started designing sculpted cakes for my kids and friends and family.

After the overwhelming interest in my cakes grew, I decided to start selling my treats at local markets and street fairs and

that is where DB Dessert Company was officially born.

As a business owner there are always challenges, and it seems that they all are critical. Over the last few years, the biggest struggle has been the decline in sales from Covid. When people stop celebrating and having parties, we take a hit. Staffing is also a struggle. Everyone in the city is hiring, and that makes it even more challenging for small businesses to be able to compete for those actively looking for work.

As an owner, I want my community to know that at DB Dessert Company we put lots of love and time into everything we do, from our daily retail operations to planning of community activities and events. We want to make sure our city knows we want to keep a smile on everyone's face and a dessert in their hand! We make life's celebrations sweet!

My advice to others is, Join Us. As a woman of color, owning a business in an area where I grew up means so much to me, and to the legacy of my family. Alberta has lots of history and so much brightness ahead, and I want everyone to enjoy a piece of it. We welcome you!

SHALIMAR WILLIAMS, Holy Beanz Coffee



During Covid I decided that I wanted to make a difference in the world, so I started thinking about the things I love, and how I could incorporate them to do that. I love Jesus and coffee. I wanted to create a business where I could give second chances to people who have been incarcerated or are in recovery, and that's how I came up with the idea of Holy Beanz Coffee. I reached out to David Ferguson who is a pillar in the Portland community (and who is also now the owner

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(Shining a Spotlight on Alberta continued from Page 5)

of the building) and he took a chance on me and my vision. As far as challenges go, opening a business in the middle of a pandemic has definitely been a process.

I want people in need to know that Holy Beanz is a safe space where they can come and feel loved and be vulnerable, and maybe find a resource to help them along their journey.

To others who would like to open a business, I say "Do it!" The neighboring businesses and residents are all so welcoming, and it has been a great transition.

ROGER PORTER, Planty McPlanterface



When I was a kid, my mom and I had a huge cactus and succulent garden; I was also the only teen (among mostly elderly members) in the local cactus club. But as I grew up, I put plants on the back burner.

Fast forward half a lifetime later, and I rediscovered plants as my first pandemic hobby. My house was quickly overrun with greenery, and at the same time I was miserable at my corporate job. I had a hunch I could make a shop of my own work out, so I decided the time was right for a career change.

My biggest challenge has been to not jump into new ideas too fast. When I opened, I had hundreds of amazing ideas for the shop. I realized quickly the business needed to grow organically and at its own pace. I'm very much an instant gratification person, and I wanted the shop to magically achieve my vision immediately.

I've realized now that listening to what my customers want and growing into a wholesome, healthy community of people who care about plants as much as I do is far more valuable than my preconceived notions of what hot, trendy plant might be best to match your couch.

I'd love your readers to know that I am here not just to sell you a plant, but to teach folks how to care for them as well. I'm always more than happy to discuss house conditions and care tips. I don't have any "hidden knowledge" that the general public is forbidden to know about plant care. Everyone is able to learn to have a green thumb - it's a learned skill, not an inherited one.

One of the best parts about being on Alberta Street is the community. For anyone looking to open a business in any neighborhood, it's essential to listen to the community's needs. These are your neighbors, not just customers. Get to know what your neighbors need from you and then figure

out how you can enrich their lives not just by selling them a product, but by offering them your value as a fellow human. Only by establishing relationships with the people around you can you really have an impact in growing not only your business, but your community.

LASHEERA CHAMBERS, Queendom Cuts



I saw that there was a need in the community to offer more than one service at a time. I began to do braid fades. I do more than what the normal barber offers.

The biggest challenge I've faced is not having anyone to look up to who's come from where I'm from; who's doing what I'm doing, with as many kids as I have. I was adopted, but not into great families. I was raised by drug addicts, gang members, and pimps. I'm a single mother of seven, and when you support me you support a vision, a calling, a purpose.

As far as advice, I would say as long as you can see it, you can achieve it. The only person stopping you is YOU. See what you want, apply what you've learned, go get what you want! You're born to win!

(Bybee Lakes continued from Page 4)

serve daily meals," Richelle said. "And with Spring coming, we need volunteers to join with residents in planting and cultivating a vegetable garden and other outdoor activities, including planting fruit trees and setting up a new greenhouse."

Last year, Alameda resident Dave Albertine organized volunteers from Madeleine Parish and other church and community groups to prepare and deliver daily lunches to the Hope Center while the new commercial kitchen was being built.

"It was a wonderful experience for all of us to see first-hand what the Hope Center's unique, highly focused program means to its residents, and how important volunteers are in supporting its mission," said Albertine. "I urge any interested person to schedule a tour and see for themselves what a difference they can make as a volunteer. It is truly life-changing."

There is another element in the importance of volunteer support for the Hope Center. Because it is a non-profit organization, it receives no government funds and relies

entirely on community support.

Evans recognizes that people have many places for their generosity, and there are many opportunities for giving. He observes that people usually donate to causes they know and want to support.

"We believe that after hearing about our work and our special approach for helping the homeless, individuals and organizations will be more inclined to support us," Evans explained. "And the best way for anyone to learn more is to come for a tour. We think that after seeing our program, and seeing where their money goes, people will become emotionally invested in our mission and will be even more generous in their giving."

The Hope Center is currently working with several dozen registered community partners — primarily local hospitals, fire and police departments, non-profit community helping organizations, and local government agencies — who refer homeless adults and children to them.

Evans says these private and public community partners are essential, and he recognizes that others may be willing to help by providing much needed funding through contributions.

"If leaders of any company will take time to come out and see what we do, and how we use the donations we receive, I believe they will join others in supporting us."

Asked about adding more centers in the future, Evans said there are no plans to expand.

"Our energies are focused on developing best practices, based on our experience over 20 years, so that others can emulate a program that has successfully helped so many who are suffering from homelessness and despair, and offer them a path to an independent, productive and meaningful life."

As he reflected on the issue of homelessness and efforts by so many private and public organizations to do something about it, Evans said, "We must look at homelessness and all the issues that go with it - not from the top down, but from the bottom up - and create the programs and opportunities that will be effective and successful."



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Exploring Alameda's Hidden Maps – A History Series by Doug Decker

Today, we think of the Alameda neighborhood as one contiguous area with well-recognized boundaries: The city's Office of Neighborhood Involvement maps Alameda from Prescott on the north to Knott on the south; from NE 21st on the west to NE 33rd on the east.

One single-named neighborhood today, containing about 2,400 dwellings and more than 5,000 people.

But underneath today's one single map is a treasure of 23 old maps—subdivision plats—all drawn at different times by different people as they transformed this landscape one

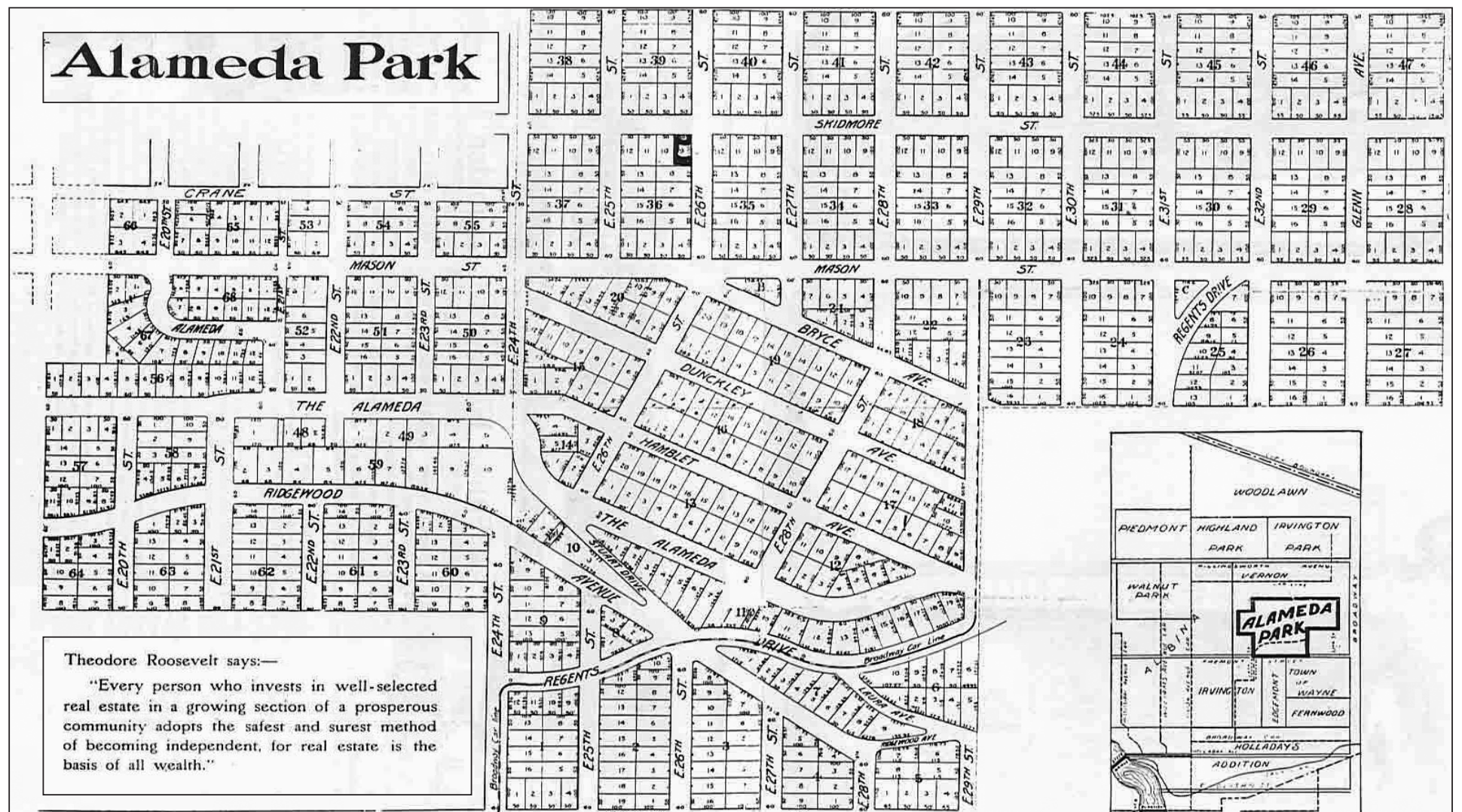
Here's the full list of plats inside our current boundaries: Alameda Park, Homedale, Olmsted Park, Irvington, Edgemont, Pearson's Addition, Town of Wayne, Town of Wayne Replat, Waynewood, Irvingwood, Meadow Park, Dunsmeade, Irvindale, Hillside, George Place, Gile Addition, Bowering Donation Land Claim Tract, Norton's Subdivision, Stanton Street Addition, Gleneurie, Hudson's Addition, and Meadow Park.

And just to make life a little more confusing, many of these plats actually exist in multiple neighborhoods, like the Alameda Park Plat (which exists in Alameda and in Sabin). Here it is:

law. Some sources say Bryce Street was named for John, but members of the Ferguson family believe the street was actually named for Josephine Bryce, E.Z.'s wife and John's daughter.

Albion L. Gile—partner in the Gile Investment Company—and his wife Katherine, financed and platted a 1921 addition on the west side of the neighborhood straddling the ridgeline, near the street that bears their name today. The Gile family were another prominent Astoria family.

William H. Dunckley, was an English immigrant to New York City, where he lived briefly and met his wife-



DETAIL OF THE ALAMEDA PARK PLAT, FROM A 1910 MARKETING BROCHURE PRODUCED BY THE ALAMEDA LAND COMPANY. NOTE THAT LARGE CHUNKS OF THE AREA INCLUDED IN TODAY'S NEIGHBORHOOD BOUNDARY ARE NOT SHOWN IN THIS HISTORIC PLAT MAP BOUNDARY. ALSO, LOOK CAREFULLY AND YOU'LL SEE THIS MAP PRE-DATES CONSTRUCTION OF GILE TERRACE AND SHOWS CRANE STREET GOING THROUGH TO NE 24TH.

small piece at a time, from forests and fields to the grid of streets we know today. Layers of history that reveal stories about how this place has changed over time. More than 900 plats make up today's City of Portland, most of them filed during the early years by developers trying to make a favorable impression by choosing an attractive-sounding name.

With this edition of *AlamedaPDX*, we begin a series exploring the almost two dozen names, places and plats that make up the neighborhood today, starting with our namesake, Alameda Park (1909).

Plats are essentially subdivision plans for lots and streets, filed with the Multnomah County Surveyor. Sometimes called additions, plat boundaries are different from neighborhoods. Today's neighborhood names are essentially social-political boundaries; plats are engineering plans.

Within the confines of what the city thinks of as today's Alameda neighborhood are 23 subdivision plats of all sizes, from the Town of Wayne plat (1882), to the Alameda Park plat (1909), to the Homedale plat (1922). Probably the only one that will ring a bell for most residents is Alameda Park, which lends its name to today's larger Alameda neighborhood.

In 1909, the Alameda Land Company filed its plat for our neighborhood, showing an orderly district above and below a prominent ridgeline, where streets and lots would be carved from an existing context of fields, orchards and forests.

One of Astoria's leading businessmen of the period, Edward Zest (E.Z.) Ferguson, was the president of this company (the Astoria connection is worth noting here in Alameda, on several points). Ferguson and his partners incorporated as the Alameda Land Company in Astoria in 1908 and developed residential and commercial properties here in Portland and in Roseburg. In 1909, they purchased 123 acres of the former Buckman estate for \$20,000 and made plans to divide it into 700-plus lots.

The corporate officers and major stockholders of the company were names you'll recognize:

Harry L. Hamblet was vice president of the Alameda Land Company and a colleague of Ferguson's on other business ventures with his own connections to Astoria. Hamblet was involved in the first real estate purchase, buying the property from Sarah L. Buckman, daughter of Abraham Buckman, one of Portland's earliest settlers.

John Bryce was the company's accountant and assistant secretary, and not incidentally E.Z. Ferguson's father-in-

to-be Fannie Oehme before coming to Oregon in 1886. Dunckley was a career banker for the Ladd and Tilton Bank, retiring in 1919.

Lot sales in the Alameda Park plat were slow in the first 10 years—averaging just 20 lots per year. The Alameda Land Company partners eventually sold out to others with more patient capital and Ferguson died in July 1917. But by 1919, Portland's economy picked up and home construction was on the upswing, peaking in 1922. That year, new farm pastures and forests just below the ridge were platted and converted to subdivisions to make room for more lots and homes.

In the next edition of *AlamedaPDX*, we'll explore the history of other nearby plats whose names are no longer in common use or memory.



Neighborhood historian Doug Decker prepares history studies of homes, leads history walks, and makes presentations to groups interested in learning about local history. Visit Doug's website www.alamedahistory.org, or email him at doug@alamedahistory.org.

Nico's Brings New Zealand-Style Ice Cream to Portland by Blythe Knott

If you're a fan of ice cream, and, really, who isn't, you now have a fun new way of satisfying your craving right here in the neighborhood!

Nico Vergara grew up in Northeast Portland and attended Grant High School. Several years ago, he was traveling in New Zealand when he tried something new: A mix of fruit and ice cream blended together to make a lighter, fruitier dessert. In order to create its unique taste, both ingredients are fed together into a New Zealand-made machine that combines them into a blended mix with the consistency of soft serve ice cream. As someone without a major sweet tooth, Vergara was surprised how much he enjoyed the combination.

In fact, he liked it so much that he decided to make it his business. Thanks to Vergara, we now have "New Zealand real fruit ice cream" right here in Northeast Portland. After running a food cart at the Prost Marketplace on N. Mississippi Avenue for a couple of years, Vergara recently opened a brick-and-mortar shop, Nico's Ice Cream, on NE 57th and Fremont, near Fire on the Mountain restaurant.

Vergara notes that one thing New Zealand and Oregon have in common is an appreciation for local businesses and locally sourced food. In a nod to this connection, he uses Oregon berries together with Tillamook ice cream. The standard flavors are blueberry, marionberry, strawberry and raspberry. If you're looking to make it a celebration, just add rainbow sprinkles or graham cracker dust. Each order is custom-made and can be served in a cup or a cone.



NICO VERGARA HOLDS ONE OF HIS NEW ZEALAND-STYLE ICE CREAM CONES. HIS SHOP ON NE FREMONT FEATURES LOCALLY SOURCED BLENDED FRUITS AND ICE CREAM.

Vergara is glad to be back in the neighborhood and makes a point of supporting younger, would-be entrepreneurs, with a special focus on those in the BIPOC community. He is expanding his business by selling half pints at Taco Pedaler and several other locations in North and Northeast Portland.

The next time you're heading out for dessert and you don't want to fly all the way to New Zealand for your fruit and ice cream fix, head on over to Nico's! It's 7,000 miles closer and you'll benefit the local community in more ways than one.



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Stepping In and Out of the Pool at NECC by Claire Rischiotto

We've all had to get a little creative since March 2020. Some of us have cultivated a stash of backup masks, gone to school and connected with loved ones via Zoom, or used a jug of milk for arm day. But how many of us took our water fitness classes to land?

Here at the Northeast Community Center, our aptly named water aerobics instructor, Otter Annason, took his class out of the pool and into the parking lot at the start of the pandemic.

It all began with his version of an out-of-water class hosted via Zoom, where participants worked out for nearly an hour and then checked in with one another.

As Covid precautions adjusted, Annason - using his extensive background in aquatics and choreography - adapted his class for the NECC parking lot. As he explained, "I just subtracted all the jumping lower body exercises."

Titled AquaLand, this class that originated out of creative necessity was so well received that it continues today,

even as NECC aqua aerobics students have happily been able to return to their classes in the pool.

From the Zoom classes to AquaLand to returning back to in-person water classes, Annason has not missed a single day. And his dedicated students could not be more grateful.

For Annason, the reason he provides these different fitness classes is pretty simple.

"At the end of the day," he says, "I just like to see people in good shape. I like to see people happy and have some kind of benefit from the time they spent with me."

Annason's aqua class provides many older NECC members not only daily exercise but also something just as essential to these classes—socializing. For many members in water aerobics—especially for those who are retired and/or live alone—this is their daily social anchor.

After she retired from teaching, Justine Sutton needed a consistent routine—particularly one to motivate her in

the morning. So three years ago she returned to NECC, where she learned to swim as a child back when it was a YMCA. For Sutton, the aerobics class is not just about fitness, it's about connecting with others.

"People have been so supportive. It's a sounding board to keep me sane and it's a group that really, really cares about one another. We worry about one another and want to be able to take care of each other, and I couldn't have fallen into a better group of people," Sutton said.

Looking out for one another takes different forms. On birthdays, the group meticulously selects and signs a decorative card—and does the same for those members who are ill or unable to come to the facility.

As NECC Board Member and aqua aerobics regular Linda Rasmussen puts it, "We make a point of checking on one another. We're a family. A family takes care of its people, and that's what we do."

Claire Rischiotto works as Program Support/Front Desk at the NE Community Center.



DEDICATED MORNING WATER AEROBICS PARTICIPANTS GATHER IN THE NECC LOBBY.



OTTER ANNASON LEADS HIS MORNING CLASS IN AN ENERGETIC AEROBICS ROUTINE.



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Remove Beautiful Yard Invader Now *by Judy Roupf*

You may have admired the perky little yellow flowers blooming recently in some Alameda parking strips and yards. Unfortunately, this pretty plant with heart-shaped leaves is a problematic, invasive species. Like many undesirable plants, early removal is key to success.

Lesser celandine shows itself in winter and spring, at a time when many other plants are dormant and without flowers. It rapidly spreads by seeds and underground tubers, choking out other plants. When it seasonally dies back, it leaves soil exposed for erosion. In level gardens, this may not be as problematic as its propensity to take over, but seeds or bulblets can transfer to natural areas where erosion is an additional concern.

How to identify

Lesser celandine's flowers grow on single stems no longer than six inches. The symmetrical flowers can have from six to 26 petals. Clumps of plants have dense leaves that are about an inch in diameter. Another distinguishing feature of lesser celandine is three green sepals (tiny leaf-like structures) on the underside base of the flower. Plants that might look like lesser celandine either do not grow in Portland or have white blooms.

How to remove it

To eradicate these plants, their bulblets/tubers and all surrounding soil must be dug up. It's very important to bag all of these materials and put them in the garbage bin.

Do not compost them nor put them in the green roll cart. Wash tools and shoes afterwards (this task is easier when the number of plants is small). It's important to act now and repeat in future years until you outwit this aggressor. If you already have too many plants taking over, herbicide use in February and March might be effective, according to the City of Portland, but manual removal is still essential. Persistence is important!

Resources

Mitch Bixby, an invasive plant species specialist for the City of Portland, urges neighbors to also become familiar with four other species on the city "Watch List" – goutweed, Italian arum, pokeweed and yellow archangel. These are "Watch" species because the city doesn't have enough resources to tackle them. Additional information on these as well as the species the City is working to treat and contain can be found at www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/edrr (early detection, rapid response). East Multnomah County Soil and Water Conservation District also publishes helpful information at www.emswcd.org/in-your-yard/urban-weeds.

Finally, if you'd like some fresh ideas for planting in your yard while also resisting invasive species, check out Garden Smart Oregon: A Guide to Non-Invasive Plants at www.nature.org/media/oregon/gardensmart-rev-2010.pdf. For each of 24 invasive species, the guide offers extensive suggestions for native and ornamental alternatives.



LESSER CELANDINE IS A VIGOROUS INVASIVE SPECIES.

Judy Roupf has been an Alameda neighbor for more than 30 years. She notes that like others the past few years, she's gained new appreciation for gardening and living in our beautiful community.

New Monarch Habitat at Pittock *by Dan LaGrande*

Ida Galash, our neighborhood champion for saving the endangered Monarch butterflies, is helping create an important new habitat at the Pittock Mansion.

With a KGW-TV news crew on hand, Galash and a team of dedicated volunteers went to work in February clearing out blackberries, ivy, scotch broom, and other vegetation to make room for milkweed and other pollinator plants that attract and sustain Monarchs. The butterflies arrive in Portland in early spring from their winter habitat in California. Milkweed is the only plant Monarchs can lay their eggs on, and that their caterpillars can eat until they turn into the next generation of butterflies.

The U.S. Forest Service provided a \$2,000 grant to help support the planting project. Galash explained that with the grant - and the help of volunteers - the Pittock Mansion grounds will become a trial waystation for the migrating butterflies. If it's successful, she hopes to expand it.

There is already a Monarch waystation in Alameda, along NE 24th Avenue near Garden Fever. Galash urges neighbors to stop by and pick up some of the free milkweed seeds she has placed in boxes there, and to plant them in their own gardens this spring along with other pollinators that attract Monarchs. And for folks without a garden, or for small businesses, flower pots are fine for raising plants to support the beautiful and important Monarch butterflies.



KGW-TV FILMS VOLUNTEERS AT NEW MONARCH HABITAT.

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Picture Windows: Leaf Blowers *by Gail Jeidy*

Put on your sound-canceling headphones
 Try to block out the whine
 Reread the paragraph you just read but didn't process
 Note how the droning seeps through your skin
 Refill your cup of coffee
 Peek out your window
 Write a couple lines

 Ponder how thin windowpanes are in Alameda houses

Locate the decibel reader on your phone
 Head out to the porch
 Note the reading of 76
 Shake your head accordingly
 Grrrrrrr
 Give a death glare to workers who can't see you
 Go back inside

Adjust your headphones
 Ignore the reverberation
 Allow the flooding of negative sound memories
 Condemn annoying cartoon voices
 Censure honking drivers
 Pox blaring bass
 Denounce how aspirin makes your ears ring

Take three cleansing breaths

Clear your head
 Read another line
 Scribble a phrase
 Doodle sharp, angular lines
 Refresh your cup of coffee
 Drain the last of the one percent
 Ask your husband to add milk to his shopping list

Move to the living room
 Plump the pillows
 Ponder the particulates in the dust you're breathing
 Hear the thrum penetrate your headset

Pick at fuzz on the couch
 Jump up and peer outside
 Guess how much longer they'll be blowing

 Ask the 'why' of a sanitized, leafless property?

Visualize calming imagery
 Watch the small brown fox jump over the lazy dog
 Pinpoint what makes squirrels scatter
 Think about underpinnings of echoes
 Ponder displaced leaves and decaying debris
 Pity the number of nematodes denied dinner
 Grieve the songbirds who've lost their nesting materials

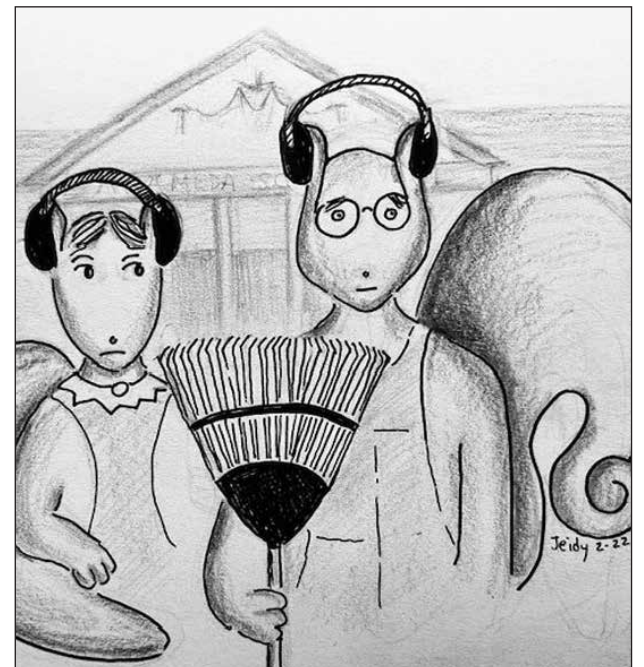
Hop up and put your nose to the cool of the window

Pity those with attention deficits
 Pity youngsters driven to distraction
 Pity us oldsters who never knew why we were distracted
 Pity the vast numbers who have attention challenges in one form or another
 Pity Walt Disney who some say had ADHD
 Wonder whether he was surrounded by leaf blowers
 Acknowledge the blessing and curse of the creative mind

Curse intrusions
 Curse interruptions
 Curse noise pollution
 Curse air pollution
 Calculate how many hours the workers have been blowing
 Contemplate if they are getting paid more than minimum wage
 Go back to the kitchen

Come back to the couch because you forgot why

Count the days since your cat died
 Listen to your husband come home
 Meet him in the kitchen
 Tell him you need help brainstorming
 Admire how dashing he looks



Move on to another topic while putting away groceries
 Look up as he asks what you needed to brainstorm

 Realize you can't remember

 Think about the tasteful sex scene in last night's movie
 Think about the couple you saw at the bus stop all over each other
 Chuckle and visualize them as characters
 Whisper 'get a room' silently
 Look outside at the dance of men with leaf blowers
 Adjust headphones to block out the moan
 Close your eyes

 Scream inside your head:
 'Get a rake!'

Author's Note: Leaf blowers may provide the occasional worthy creative prompt, but three-hour marathon sessions are unbearable. I am thankful for the planned cancellation of gas-powered leaf blowers at Multnomah County facilities (Resolution 2021-094). I am hopeful neighbors will follow suit on their personal properties, and advocate for cleaner and quieter equipment on all school grounds. I believe rakes are a good alternative. I encourage readers to check out Quiet Clean PDX for advocacy updates.

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Holy Thursday, April 14

6:30 p.m.—Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday, April 15

6:30 p.m.—Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 16

8:30 p.m.—Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter,
celebrated in The Old Church.

A reception will follow.

Easter Sunday, April 17

8:00 a.m.—Mass: The Resurrection of the Lord

10:00 a.m.— Mass: The Resurrection of the
Lord.

Following Mass there will be an Easter
Egg hunt for children, plus pastries and
Champagne for the adults!

All Masses are in the Main Church, except as
noted. Certain Masses may be livestreamed.
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