



# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS Richmond

SUMMER ISSUE 2023 | THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RICHMOND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
OPEN BOARD MEETINGS THE SECOND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH – RICHMONDPDX.ORG; RICHMOND.PDX.CHAIR@GMAIL.COM

## HIDDEN FIGURES -- Free Movie in Sewallcrest Park August 19

*Allen Field*

Hidden Figures will be shown for free in Sewallcrest Park, SE Market and 32nd Ave, on Saturday, August 19. The movie is part of Portland Parks & Recreation Summer Free For All Cultural Events program and presented by the Richmond Neighborhood Association and Hosford-Abernethy Neighborhood District.

The event starts at 7:30 with music provided by Friends of Noise Teen Showcase. The film begins at dusk, approximately 8:30. Popcorn is FREE and Dairy Hill ice cream will be available for purchase. The Junior League of Portland ([jlpdx.org](http://jlpdx.org)) and Saturday Academy GET program (Girls Engage Technology, [saturdayacademy.org/get](http://saturdayacademy.org/get)) will table at the event to provide literature on their organizations and programs.

Bring your blanket, low back chairs, warm clothes if it gets chilly, and snacks to enjoy the movie under the stars.

The movie and concert schedule by Portland Parks & Rec is at [www.portland.gov/parks/arts-culture/summer-free-all/documents/cultural-events-schedule-2023/download](http://www.portland.gov/parks/arts-culture/summer-free-all/documents/cultural-events-schedule-2023/download).



## Abernethy Elementary School Grows Champions and Fosters the Love of Reading

*Minh Nguyen*

This spring Abernethy Elementary School sent their school's winning Oregon Battle of the Books team, The Reading Rascals, to the state championship after they bested 19 other school teams. What is OBOB? It's a statewide reading and comprehension program sponsored by the Oregon Association of School Libraries, run primarily by volunteers. In its simplest terms, teams of kids read the same books and then compete against each other answering questions about the books' plots.

The Reading Rascals is a special team, first coming together during the pandemic when the kids were in 3rd grade and first eligible to participate. School was remote and team meetings happened via Zoom. But there was no denying their connection - a love of both books and competition. So Celia Sternberg-Darin, Mason Koehler, Mikiaiah Shakya, Sully Harris, and Warren Nguyen Carroll have stuck together on this team for the past 3 years and graduate from Abernethy in June. After winning the school title in February, they went on to win the regional title in March by beating out 23 other local teams in a grueling 6 hour tournament, qualifying them for state. Richmond Elementary came in second. While the Reading Rascals did not win the state title in April, they certainly walked away proudly with one heck of an experience.

"I'm not sure most people understand how much work it is to be as good as [this] team is this year. Or the elite puzzle solving skills involved in being that good." Alex Bassos said of the Rascals. Alex volunteer-moderated at both the school and regional competition this year. More significantly, he coached last year's Abernethy team (The Thunderbolts) that won regionals in 2022.

So what gives? What's the secret sauce for this little school under the elms? Teachers who prioritize literacy? Yes. Parent and community support? For sure. But at its core is an incredible school librarian: Quinn Sanford. Her love of books is contagious. Her dedication to her students is undeniable. Victories like these are only possible because of her long term commitment and the program she built. At a time when school funding is on everyone's minds, the Reading Rascals' success is a reminder of the important role that school librarians play in our community.

# Richmond Spring Cleanup Breaks Last Year's Record

*Allen Field*

The Richmond Spring Cleanup, held on May 20 at Central Christian Church, was a huge success this year. We had 295 vehicles pass through the Cleanup, over 100 more than last year's record number of vehicles. This was possible by having twice as many volunteers as last year, with 78 people helping to put on this event, including 11 students from Central Catholic High School.

We collected 50% more bulky waste than last year, at 12.57 tons. The recycling numbers were just as impressive: 40% more metal was recycled that last year and we took a large truckload of block Styrofoam to Agylix for recycling. We also took 3 pickup truckloads of household items to Community Warehouse to be distributed to families and individuals in need.

CNBSeen.org set up a vehicle tail light bulb repair station again this year. Their mission is to prevent pretext stops by the police by replacing burnt or broken tail lights. Almost 4x the number of vehicles used that service compared to last year.

We also started this year a new Seniors and Disabled pickup service where a 2-person crew picked up bulky waste, furniture, recyclable material, and reusable items from those who are not able to bring items to the church.

Our U-Price-It Rummage Sale and Plant Sale grows every year, with the proceeds going toward the RNA's community events, such as the free summer movie in Sewallcrest Park.

The day before, on May 19, we provided a dumpster for the residents of Peaceful Villa, the low-income housing complex operated by Home Forward at SE 47th and Clinton. Combined with that event was a Metro Household Hazardous Waste event, where expired medications (82 lbs), batteries (403 lbs), compact fluorescent bulbs (77 lbs) and sharps (64 lbs) were collected.

This annual community event is greatly assisted by the sponsorship we get from Metro's Regional Refresh Fund and fiscal sponsorship by SE Uplift. The many generous businesses who donate for this event are: Fred Meyer Hawthorne, New Seasons Hawthorne store, Safeway Starbucks on Hawthorne, St. Honoré Boulangerie Division store, Petite Provence Division Store, Portland Nursery, Voodoo Donuts, Salt & Straw Division store, and Rovente Pizza Hawthorne who gives us a great discount for the pizza that feeds the volunteers.

We are already starting to plan next year's Cleanup on Saturday May 18 (always the Saturday after Mother's Day) – mark your calendars. If you want to join in and volunteer for next year's event, contact richmondcleanup@gmail.com.

## Overheard in Richmond:

"I need you to go get four heirloom tomatoes and please... Choose with love."

– Mother speaking to teenager at New Seasons

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# A "Whole Community" Health Survey

*Mae Holsapple*

At Cascadia Health, we envision a community where everyone benefits from "whole health" care. This includes opportunities to experience well-being, live self-directed and connected lives, and pursue recovery. As a community health and housing safety net, Cascadia Health provides integrated services for mental health, addiction treatment, primary care, crisis intervention, wellness support, permanent supportive housing—and more—for adults, children, families, and seniors.

**Cascadia Health In Your Neighborhood:** Cascadia's Plaza Health Center is located in the Richmond Neighborhood. Plaza is one of four of Cascadia's outpatient Federally Qualified Health Center locations that offer mental health and addictions services, primary care, wellness, and mental health crisis services in our Urgent Walk-in Center.

**Community Feedback and Survey:** Cascadia Health values feedback from the community, partners, and individuals receiving services. This summer, Cascadia is conducting a community needs assessment, to gather a more diverse perspective from the communities in which we provide services. Our "whole community" approach to care wouldn't be complete without working with our neighbors to help us understand your needs when it comes to health and wellness. As we strive to continuously improve our services and care, we are engaging with community members to learn more about unmet health needs and barriers to care, with a focus on reducing existing health disparities.

We are asking our neighbors to complete a Community Health survey, so we can learn more about the diverse voice, needs, and experiences for person-centered and culturally responsive services. In addition to community members, Cascadia will present the survey to current Cascadia service users, community partner organizations, and healthcare providers. We are also engaging in community meetings, listening sessions, and focus groups as a part of the Community Needs Assessment.

Cascadia will use your feedback to inform decisions about our services, including creating new services and improving our existing services. When this project is completed, we will work with the Richmond Neighborhood Association to share the results with the

community. We all play a role in creating healthy communities for ourselves, our families, and our neighbors. We appreciate your insights and participation as we look to build on our successes and improve the health of everyone. To take the survey, please scan the QR Code.

## Community Health Survey



# RNA Chair's Report

*Debby Hochhalter, Richmond Neighborhood Association Chair*

Greetings Richmond Neighbors and Friends,

The RNA's monthly meetings are now hybrid: we meet in-person 7-9pm the 2nd Monday of the month (except January) at Central Christian Church, 1844 SE Cesar Chavez Blvd, and people can also attend via Zoom. The Zoom registration link is on our agendas, which are on our website ([richmond.pdx.org](http://richmond.pdx.org)) and emailed monthly to the RNA Announce listserv (contact [richmondnasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:richmondnasecretary@gmail.com) to be added to the listserv).

We are hosting a new Fall event this year, so mark your calendars!

On Saturday, October 21, 2023, 9 am-12 noon at Central Christian Church, we will have:

## METRO HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

They will ONLY accept the following items:

- **BATTERIES** (lithium-ion, rechargeable and small tool batteries); NO car batteries or other large batteries.
- **COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHTBULBS (CFL)**; NO LED bulbs, NO broken bulbs, NO fluorescent tubes.
- **PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES & PET MEDICINES:** Please put meds in a Ziplock bag; Metro does not want the pill bottles.
- **SHARPS & EPI-PENS:** Sharps containers will be available for free, while supplies last.

**NO cleaning products, chemicals or paint.**

## FOOD PANTRY REFUNDABLE BOTTLE COLLECTION

Please bring your clean Oregon refundable cans and bottles to help support C3 Food Pantry. C3 is located at NE 58th and Lombard and provides weekly food pickup to over 500 families per month. For more information, see [C3foodpantry.com](http://C3foodpantry.com). Please start saving your refundable cans and bottles now!

## CNB SEEN Taillight Bulb Replacement

They will be joining us once again to provide tail light bulb replacement to help people avoid pretext stops by the police, especially BIPOC individuals. For more information, see [CNB-SEEN.org](http://CNB-SEEN.org).

We will have a table at our August 19 movie in Sewallcrest Park and the Hawthorne Street Fair (Sunday, August 27, 11 am-5 pm); please drop by and say hello!

# Southeast Portland All Stars Go to State Championship Series

*Christina Wolfe Nochisaki*

Congratulations are in order for our Minors, mid-Majors, Majors and Juniors All Stars teams who each took #1 in the district championships and have gone on to compete at state (currently in session as we go to print).

"This picture represents everything we have ever tried to do with SE Portland Little League. Kids, moms, dads, brothers and sisters. Celebrating each other. Winning 4 banners this year means the world to me, but the 'We Are Southeast' community means much more."

— Peter Neal, President, Southeast Portland Little League



Photo credit: Kristin Hiatt

## Contribute to the Richmond Community Newsletter

Do you have something to say and would like to see it printed in an upcoming issue? We are always eager to receive our neighbors' contributions, be it points of interest, news and events, or maybe your kid just won the local hula hoop contest and the world needs to know about it. Whatever the case, we're here for you! (editor's note: why don't we have a neighborhood hula hoop contest?!)

If you'd like to submit an article for publication please email it to [rnnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rnnewsletter@gmail.com). If you would like, you may include a photo or graphic to accompany your article. It will be the Editor's discretion whether to include it, depending on space limitations. Article deadlines are January, April, July, and October 1st. Please note that the Newsletter will not be distributed until a month after your article has been submitted, so please time your article accordingly. Please note: we do not publish opinion pieces. The article deadline calendar and guidelines are also at [www.richmond.pdx.org/richmond-newsletter-calendar-guidelines](http://www.richmond.pdx.org/richmond-newsletter-calendar-guidelines).





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**NEWSLETTER  
DELIVERY  
PEOPLE NEEDED**

Contact:  
RichmondNAsecretary@gmail.com

**FREE movie in Sewallcrest Park  
SE 31st Ave & Market**

**Hidden Figures**

Saturday August 19  
7:30 pre-movie entertainment  
Movie starts at dusk (about 8:30/8:45)