



Taste of Beaumont Treats Community, Revitalizes BWNA

By Al Ellis

There was considerable uncertainty coming into the Taste of Beaumont/BWNA Elections General Meeting in early April. First, the change of venue from Bethany Lutheran Church to Beaumont Middle School cafeteria. Would the cafeteria feel overly spacious and impersonal? Would the change of location catch some residents by surprise? Second, the NCAA National Championship basketball game between Louisville and Michigan that would be simultaneously airing on TV. How might this affect attendance? Third, given the shortage of food at last year's Taste of Beaumont, would there be enough to go around this year? Fourth, the event's agenda had been restructured. How would it work out to have the musical concert split into two performances? What would be the reaction to holding elections earlier in the evening when people might still be dining? Fifth, due to illness, moves outside the neighborhood, and increased personal commitments, BWNA would limp into this year's elections with six Board vacancies to fill, including the office of Treasurer. Given last year's dismal showing of new volunteers to fill vacant positions, had Taste of Beaumont run its course as a recruitment vehicle?

One factor that was never in doubt—the quality of entertainment provided by the 19-member-strong

Taste of Beaumont 2013



Beaumont Middle School Jazz Ambassadors. Directed by the effervescent Cynthia Plank, the gifted young musicians charmed the audience with their multifaceted repertoire, ranging from a melodic ballad to funky blues. The band kicked off the evening by performing a ten-minute set, followed by a 45-minute break to dine on their favorite pizzas, specially prepared by Papa Murphy's and timed to arrive just after the end of the first set. Music resumed after elections, with a belted out toe-tapper grand finale featuring several impressive solos on a variety of instruments. Ms. Plank recorded the performance, explaining that Taste of Beaumont had doubled as a dress rehearsal for an upcoming competition.

The concern about splitting the concert into two parts turned out to be unfounded, as would most of our other worries. Food and drink were in plentiful supply. Responding big time to BWNA's requests, local merchants provided generous amounts of cuisine samples, beverages, ice, and an assortment of prizes for the two free raffle drawings. And fearing

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President's Message Neighborhood As Extended Family

By Al Ellis

"What a nice neighborhood!" It's a compliment we hear frequently directed toward Beaumont-Wilshire. But what does it really mean? The fact is, "nice" means different things to different people depending on personal preferences in aesthetics, lifestyle, and ideology. Taken to the extreme, these differences involving taste, habit, and attitude can translate into acrimony within a neighborhood: i.e., one person's paradigm of livability can become another's living nightmare. Thankfully, people can and often do choose a more conciliatory path, agreeing to disagree on some issues, while collaborating to find common ground through rational discourse and creative compromise—an approach wholeheartedly endorsed and promoted by BWNA.

This theme of competing differences within a neighborhood was at the core of a Center Stage production that my wife and I attended recently. Part fictional satire, part historical drama, *Clybourne Park* tells the story of a suburban Chicago neighborhood over a 60-year period. Through a clever juxtaposition of dueling perspectives it begins within the home of 1950s residents and continues at a neighborhood meeting of modern-day residents with ties to the 1950s characters in the first act. Notwithstanding the rough language and exaggeratedly dysfunctional neighbors, the play effectively illustrates how difficult if not impossible communication can be when people talk past each other; absorbed in their own mindsets to the point of obliviousness to the concerns and interests of others. Walking out of the theater, it struck me how fortunate I am to live in the B-W neighborhood. And also how much a neighborhood can resemble an extended family in terms of proximity to each other, shared experiences, complexity of relationships, interdependence, and the never-ending process of learning to live together.

I think President Obama hit the nail on the head in his Jerusalem speech earlier this year when he urged Israelis and Palestinians to metaphorically walk in each other's shoes—develop empathy for the other guy's situation—a tactic that can be applied in neighborhood disputes as well. Take for example the issue of dogs on and off leashes. Local law requires that dogs should be leashed if they are not in an authorized dog run area (like the one in Wilshire Park). But any number of dog owners ignore the ordinance, and enforcement is rare. On the one side are dog owners contending that their dogs are obedient and can walk responsibly without a leash. On the other are residents who see their yards trampled through and pooped on and/or have their own leashed dogs accosted by unleashed ones. Most neighbors appear to be OK with the status quo, or at least reluctant to risk a feud over such a relatively minor issue in the big scheme of things. But letting resentment build up over a period of time is a recipe for bigger bones of contention (no pun intended) later on. And that's where mutual understanding and dialogue factor in as important first steps in effecting beneficial change, with BWNA available to assist as facilitator.

BWNA's bi-monthly meetings can serve as a forum for airing opinions and brainstorming strategies to mitigate problems. Another conduit for discussion of local topics is the writing of "Letters to the Board" for publication in this Newsletter. This occurred last year concerning the dog leashing controversy just alluded to. Positive or negative, we want to hear your concerns, because just as in an extended family, resolution of misunderstandings begins with open give & take.

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City, SOLVE offer to work with neighborhood on public stairways

By Dave Anderson

Publicity about concerns with the three public stairways in Beaumont-Wilshire has prompted the city and SOLVE to offer help that could include grants to make improvements.

Dave Whitaker, a city employee and neighborhood resident, read about problems with overgrown vegetation, graffiti and litter at the stairways leading up to NE Alameda Street at 38th Avenue, 42nd Avenue and near the intersection of Stanton and Wistaria Drive. He organized city employees from the Bureau of Environmental Services and SOLVE, the nonprofit that restores natural areas, to see what could be done.

Officials from the two agencies met with neighborhood representatives in March at the two stairwells that lead up from Wistaria Drive. The city and SOLVE would like to see the removal of invasive species such as ivy, bamboo and laurel, and replace them with native evergreen covers: salal, sword fern and Oregon grape. That would improve the "ecological function" of the area and prevent weeds from spreading, city

staff said. It would also make it easier to see the stairs from the street level and reduce potential criminal activity. That would have to be balanced against a possible loss of privacy for the adjacent residents' backyards.

The neighborhood association plans to contact neighbors to let them know that the city and SOLVE might be able to find grants from their own agencies and the East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District to help pay for the improvements. SOLVE could provide a work party to help with some of the vegetation removal, said Quintin Bauer, program coordinator. The ivy could be removed by volunteers, but the laurel and bamboo would require contractors, city staff said.

In addition, the city wants to remind residents that city code requires them to maintain the landscaping along the stairs, not just on their side, but on the public right-of-way side as well.

Boy Scout Troop 107 will be out on May 21st to pick up litter, sweep and do some light vegetation trimming. They plan to do a second clean-up in late summer or early fall.

The Portland Police have also said they will pay more attention to security issues in the stairways, especially as the weather begins to get warmer. Neighbors have complained about public drinking and pot smoking by teenagers in the stairways.

Write a Letter to the Board

The Board of Directors welcomes letters concerning local neighborhood issues. Writers are asked to limit letters to 150 words. Letters may be edited for length and clarity and will be published as space allows, including on our website/blog (www.bwna.us).

BWNA Calendar

Saturday, May 4th • 10:00AM - 4:00PM

Wilshire United Methodist
Native American Fellowship Women
Annual Plant and Garden Sale
3917 NE Shaver
page eleven

Monday, May 13th • 7:00PM

BWNA Board Meeting
Bethany Lutheran Church, Conference Room
NE 37th Entrance

Tuesday, May 14th • 5:00PM - closing

Wilshire Park Fundraiser
McMenamin's Kennedy School
736 NE 33rd
page nine

Monday, June 10th • 7:00PM

"BWNA Elections General Meeting
Bethany Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall
NE Skidmore Entrance
page four

Friday, June 14th

Deadline and Payment for ads and articles
for the July - August 2013 newsletter

Monday, July 8th • 7:00PM

BWNA Board Meeting
Bethany Lutheran Church, Conference Room
NE 37th Entrance

Saturday, July 13th • TBA

Movie in the Park
"ParaNorman"
Wilshire Park
page four

Saturday, August 3rd • TBA

Fremont Fest
page four

Tuesday, August 6th • TBA

National Night Out Picnic
Wilshire Park
page four

Saturday, August 31st • TBA

42nd Avenue Street Fair
page four

BWNA's calendar is on the web!
Go to www.bwna.us and select BWNA Calendar



June General Meeting to Focus on BWNA Ties to Business Community

By Al Ellis

This is the time of the year that e-mails and phone calls come in from vendors asking how to sign up with BWNA for Fremont Fest, which takes place the first Saturday of August. The problem is, BWNA is not in charge of Fremont Fest, the Beaumont Business Association is. (For you vendors out there who are interested in reserving a spot at Fremont Fest, make your request at vendor@businessonfremont.com) Likewise, the 42nd Avenue Street Fair, held on the last Sunday of August, is also not a BWNA-run event. (Contact the N.E. 42nd Avenue Business Association at website www.42ndba.com to participate in this festival.) That said, BWNA works closely with both business associations, collaborating and supporting each other's activities and events. This reciprocal relationship between BWNA and our neighborhood business communities provides the main theme for the upcoming general meeting that will take place on the evening of Monday, June 10th, beginning at 7:00 PM at Bethany Lutheran Church. Representatives from both business communities will be invited to update residents on the current business environment, business association activities, and collaboration with BWNA on summer events. A

question and answer session will follow the presentations.

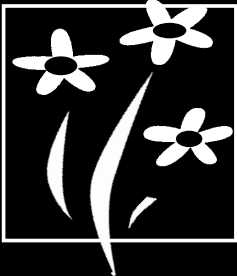
Also on the meeting agenda will be a neighborhood crime report from a local officer and details about Wilshire Park's July 13th Movie in the Park event (co-sponsored with the Alameda Neighborhood Association), featuring live music, food vendors, free popcorn, and "ParaNorman" as the evening's movie. Additionally, organization will begin for the August 6th National Night Out Picnic in Wilshire Park, along with updates on issues of interest, such as construction of the Beaumont Village Apartments, the Wilshire Park Mural Preservation Project, the Stairwell Cleanup Initiative, and traffic calming efforts. General meetings are held on even-numbered months, except for August, when the National Night Picnic substitutes for the general meeting. This means that the June general meeting is the last one until October—in effect, the last summer opportunity for residents to voice suggestions and concerns at an all-neighborhood community forum. As always, snacks and refreshments will be available for noshing.

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a repeat of last year, BWNA purchased additional amounts of food and beverages. The result was an all-you-can-eat feast.

Thanks to white table cloths on loan from the Beaumont Middle School PTA and gorgeous floral arrangements (that doubled as raffle prizes) courtesy of Beaumont Florist, the cafeteria looked terrific. And though the turnout was less than expected, elections resulted in five of the six vacant Board positions being filled, including Treasurer! The new at-large Board members are Sally Baker, Kathy Campbell, Leslie Schommer, and Grant Sprick, with Karla Lenox becoming Treasurer. Reelected were Bill Markwart (VP), Jim Karlock (Secretary), Serah Breakstone, and Aaron Good. Extolled for their service were departing members Dave Anderson and Bob McKibben.

Lastly, a rousing round of applause for our participating merchants: Alameda Brewhouse, Amalfi's, Beaumont Florist, Beaumont Market, Delphina's Bakery, Fire on the Mountain, Grand Central Bakery, Green Dog Pet Supply, Hattie's Sweet Shop, Noho's, Papa Murphy's Pizza, Pizzicato Pizza, and Stanich's.



Taste of Beaumont 2013



Thank You!

This year's participants for The Taste of Beaumont

- Alameda Brewhouse
- Amalfi's
- Beaumont Florist
- Beaumont Market
- Delphina's Bakery
- Fire on the Mountain
- Grand Central Bakery
- Green Dog Pet Supply
- Hattie's Sweet Shop
- Noho Hawaiian Café
- Papa Murphy's Pizza
- Pizzicato Pizza
- Stanich's

*It was a job well done and a special evening
to remember for the neighborhood!*

Special thanks go out to Cynthia Plank and
The Beaumont Middle School Jazz Ambassadors



ONI, GA, CNN, RACC, PP & R and BWNA Team Up With Residents to Save Mural

By Al Ellis

Welcome to the alphabet soup of city departments and community service nonprofits. Only one of the abbreviations above is an acronym. Can you guess which? The one that is most commonly pronounced as a word (as opposed to letter-by-letter recitation) is R.A.C.C. But expounding on organizational jargon is far from the purpose of this article rather, it's to explain the roles that each of these organizations has played and continues to play in collaboration with community volunteers to restore and preserve the neighborhood mural in Wilshire Park.

But first some history about the mural: In 2008 BWNA contacted Peggy Kendellen, Public Art Manager for the Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC), to look into the possibility of securing a matching grant to fund the painting of a community mural on a 10' x 15' wall in the enclosed area of the Wilshire Park pavilion. BWNA was awarded the grant on the condition that it commit itself to a "MOU" (Memo of Understanding) with RACC and Portland Parks & Recreation (PP & R), pledging to maintain the mural for the next 5 years. The commitment made, neighborhood artist Anna Garibay (who now lives in SE Portland) was hired to design and paint the mural, which depicts "a mother and child in a natural environment reflecting the adjacent play area of the park, as well as their relationship with the watershed and adjacent city." The mural became an instant neighborhood favorite among kids and adults alike; but in subsequent years, it drew attention from graffiti vandals as well. Community volunteers did their best to remove the tagging and touch up the mural from time to time, but the task eventually proved too challenging for amateurs, and PP & R and Portland City Graffiti Abatement (GA) professionals had to

be called on to get the job done. Finally last spring, PP & R informed BWNA that it would no longer have funding available to rid the mural of future graffiti tagging, and that's when the current Wilshire Park Mural Preservation Project was launched.



The plan that emerged was based on input by representatives from the BWNA Board, B-W residents, volunteer artists, GA, RACC, PP & R, and Central Northeast Neighbors (CNN). The mural would be refurbished by volunteer artists (led by original mural artist Anna Garibay), then professionally coated with a quality permanent protection product that would enable neighborhood volunteers to wipe off graffiti tagging by hand with the use of a solvent, thus bypassing the need for expensive professional intervention. But where would the funding come from? The permanent protective coating and application by a GA contractor was estimated to cost well over \$1000, which BWNA's budget could not accommodate. That's when CNN Director Alison Stoll came up with a funding solution. Knowing that CNN's coalition of neighborhood associations had not used up graffiti abatement grant funds provided by the

Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI), Director Stoll simply proposed to the CNN Board that the remaining money be transferred to Beaumont-Wilshire for completion of its mural preservation project, and all agreed. Additionally, GA contributed a motion-activated monitoring camera for the site.

As a result, BWNA has entered into a new 5-year MOU with RACC and PP & R. If you'd like to help out with implementation, contact president@bwna.us (ASAP).

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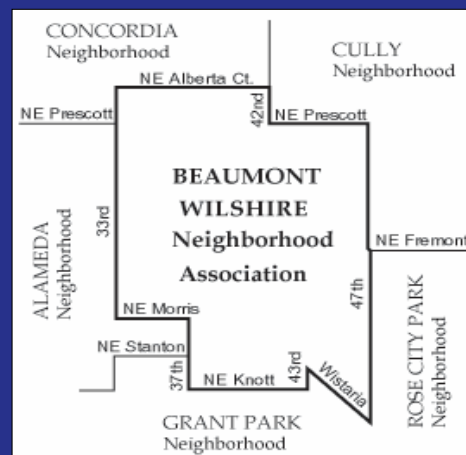
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All residents, property owners, government agencies, business licensees, and non-profit organizations located within the boundaries of the Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association may consider themselves members of BWNA. Membership is free. Members are welcome to attend any BWNA business meeting.



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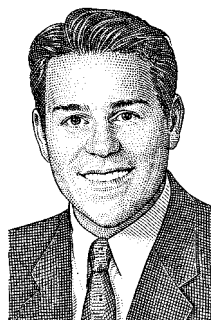


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Alameda Tuesday Club Celebrates 100-year Anniversary with Wilshire Park Benefit

By El Sheldon Lawrence

This May the Alameda Tuesday Club will celebrate its 100th anniversary by supporting a project that will benefit the neighborhood and overall community. In addition to installing a new park bench in Portland Parks & Recreation's Wilshire Park, The Club hopes to raise funds for future improvements to this key neighborhood centerpiece.

History of Alameda Tuesday Club

By 1913, Portland's Alameda neighborhood was becoming one of the city's prominent residential addresses. Often referred to as "the Portland Heights of the East Side", Alameda featured view lots and street car service to downtown Portland. Small women's neighborhood groups were popular, and provided a way for women to meet and socialize. In 1913, 29 female residents of Alameda formed Alameda Tuesday Club for the purpose of getting to know each other, to do good works and to have social functions. In 1914 the Club had grown to 31 members. In addition to having Virginia Arnold, a nationally known women's suffrage leader as a speaker, the Club focused on community charitable activities. Working in hospitals and making children's clothing for less fortunate families were important activities.

"I think The Club really took a step forward by befriending a family living in the woods in what is now PP&R's Wilshire Park," said Club Historian Carol Day. "For many years they provided this family with food baskets, coal, clothing and milk for the children."

Over the past ten decades The Club has supported organizations such as the Red Cross, Albertina Kerr Home and Nursery, Doernbecher Hospital, Alameda School, the West Women's Hotel and Portland Public Schools' PTA Closet. In addition, The Club had floats in several early Rose Festival Parades. "While doing good works, there was always time for some fun," said Day. Today The Club of 36 members meets monthly September through May. Speakers from organizations around the City provide educational programs and Club members provide needed essentials for our City's nonprofits.

Wilshire Park Fundraiser at Kennedy School

What: Alameda Tuesday Club's Dine-Out Fundraiser for Wilshire Park

Where: McMenamin's Kennedy School, 736 NE 33rd Ave. Portland, 503.249.3983

When: Tuesday, May 14, 5:00PM to closing

Note: The McMenamin brothers grew up in the neighborhood and enthusiastically agreed to donate a full 50% of all sales from the evening's profits to benefit Alameda Tuesday Club's efforts.

"The proceeds of the fundraiser will go to improvements for Portland Parks & Recreation's Wilshire Park," said Sarah Chung, Alameda Tuesday Club President. "We are partnering with the Portland Parks Foundation and PP&R for the betterment of the park, one of the neighborhood's most valued and used assets."

Representatives from The Portland Parks Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax deductible organization, will be in attendance at the centennial event with information about the planned Wilshire Park improvement. "The Foundation has a wonderful partnership and giving incentive with Columbia Sportswear this year. We are offering a 30% discount off a full store visit to Columbia to anyone who gives \$10 or more to the Wilshire Park project," said Jessie Bond, Foundation spokeswoman.

Brian and Mike McMenamin also have a special interest in this project. "Our mother, Pat, was a member of The Club for over 40 years. She loved and missed all of her lifelong friends she made at The Club when she moved away from the area," said Brian McMenamin.

"As a legacy for Alameda Tuesday Club and its 100 years of community outreach, we are really hoping to kick start a long term development program for Wilshire Park. We hope everyone will join us on Tuesday, May 14 for a great cause, a great community event and a great evening," said Chung.

For additional information about the May 14 event, please send an email to: alatues2013@hotmail.com.



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Pip's Original

By Michael Gray

Since Pip's Original opened a couple of months ago, I had heard from multiple people about how incredible the mini-doughnuts were and how I had to get in there to try them. With so many new options popping up on the NE Portland food scene, it was hard to wrap my head around what could be so different about a place with good, fresh baked goods and a nice cup of coffee. When it came time to write an article for the next Beaumont-Wilshire newsletter I knew exactly where I wanted to go; what I wasn't prepared for was how impressed I would be with everything about Pip's. Not only are the drinks and doughnuts as advertised (better, actually), but the vibe and character of the place somehow manages to be cool and unique while still feeling friendly and approachable. Sitting down to learn more about the business with Nate Snell impressed me even further. In a competitive market where many businesses are looking to gain an edge with gimmicks or overly-complicated plans, Nate and his wife Jamie's plan is a simple one. "We want to provide a place where people want to hang out, can go for great food and drinks, and where people are treated really well." On the morning I was in to visit this was all on display; mothers grabbing coffee with their kids, young people enjoying lattes and chai while working and studying on computers, and a lively staff that was very friendly and clearly having a good time working there. "We

want to provide a nice, fun environment for our employees and give them an example of how you can run a business by being good to people and doing things the right way."



Getting the business up and running wasn't an easy feat. Jamie was looking for a good location to prepare the food for her catering business (Lamb's Table) when Nate found their space on Fremont while out for his morning run. The building owners liked the idea but

wanted to ensure the space maintained a retail presence in front, so they began to throw around ideas. Nate had always liked the idea of mini doughnuts after having them in Seattle at Pike's Place, so they decided to open Pip's (named after the protagonist in Charles Dickens' famed "Great Expectations") while also utilizing the space for catering. As always, projects cost more than expected and they reached a point where they had only \$30 left in their account. "We couldn't have done it without friends and family," says Nate. "We really were able to band together and complete the work ourselves, from the framing to the decorations. Most of the decorations you see in here were actually from our house!"

The key to the doughnuts themselves is in the fresh, locally-sourced ingredients and the process. Using soy shortening and higher temperatures allows for a crispy outside without the heavy, greasy inside that most doughnuts have. The doughnuts have only 9 total ingredients and are truly the best I have had. They also have a great list of coffee and chai drinks that are truly unique – I had the "Bootstrap" and it was fantastic.

I highly recommend you take the time to visit Pip's, our neighborhood is fortunate to have a fantastic new place with good people running it. I'm certain you won't be disappointed.

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Fight Continues for Adherence to Responsible Growth and Density Standards

By John Golden

The Beaumont-Wilshire Neighbors for Responsible Growth (BWNRG) gave notice on April 11th of its intent to file an appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) regarding the development of the 4-story, 50-unit apartment building at 4425 NE Fremont Street. This project by developer Wally Remmers, includes no parking for residents of the building.

While construction had only just begun in late March, within 30 days this building would be out of compliance with the new zoning code amendments approved by Portland City Council on April 10th. The new rules will require developers to provide parking in residential developments with more than 30 units. Thus, if Mr. Remmers were to apply for a permit today, his current design for the "Beaumont Village Apartments" would not be allowed. The site would

be required to include one parking stall per four units, with buy-downs allowed for bicycle, motorcycle or transportation services.

BWNRG has retained the counsel of Ty Wyman, who represented the Richmond neighbors in a successful LUBA appeal with a similarly controversial construction project on Division. The neighbors continue to hope for a meaningful dialogue with the developer about the scale and size of his project and to encourage responsible growth and density for our neighborhood.

For more information, including ways to donate to the cause, go to <http://bwnrg.blogspot.com/>



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Don't forget...

BWNA Board Meeting
Monday, May 13th, 7:00pm

BWNA General Meeting
Monday, June 10th, 7:00pm



SCRUMPTIOUS!

OPEN DAILY NOON - 9PM

YoChoice
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Papa Murphy's
TAKE 'N' BAKE PIZZA

7121 NE Fremont St. 503-287-5520
Sandy blvd and Fremont st. intersection

4010 NE Fremont St. 503-281-6833
Across from Beaumont Middle School

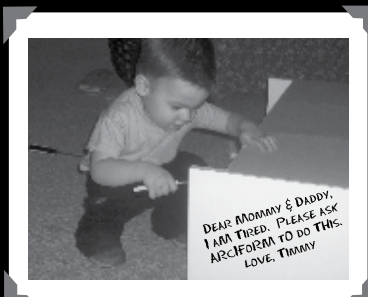
3523 NE 15th 503-249-1666
Next to Hollywood Video / 15th & Fremont

Love at **425°**

.....

May Large Taco Grande
your choice Beef or Chicken
..... **\$ 11.00**

June Large deLite Herb *your choice*
Chicken Mediterranean or
Chicken Bacon Artichoke
..... **\$ 9.00**



Yes Timmy was a bit slow on the job, but they figured that if they had him start on in on the project in July, he'd surely be done by the holidays.

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