

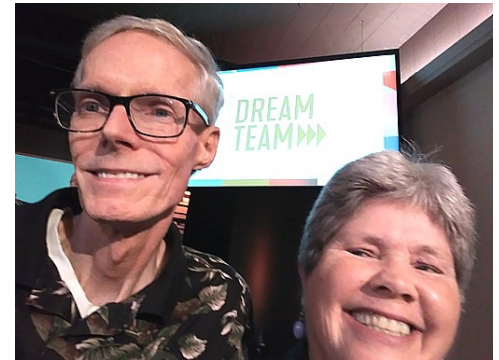


Gary & Sandra Hughes 12148 SW 125th Ave., Tigard, Oregon 97223 (503) 590-6925

gary@garyindofor.com
sandra@garyindofor.com

Hughes

December, 2018



Dear

It's that time again! Chilly toes and scraping ice; short, dark days; and Christmas! Kind of funny how all that goes together but life does come bundled that way. We hit the longest day of the year: Summer begins, and the days start getting shorter. We hit the shortest day: winter begins, and right away we notice the days getting longer. Adversity comes bundled with hope and joy and life renews itself, although when we were younger we never realized it all happened so fast!



Sandra's big event was the Public Library Association's bi-yearly convention. This time it landed in Philadelphia. She'd always wanted to go but the scheduling hadn't worked when they came to Portland. So this year she loaded up and headed for Philly. Not many pictures but if you get her off by herself she'll talk your ear off. She did get a nice selfie with the Liberty Bell.

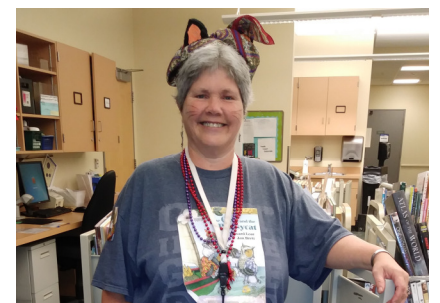
I'm kind of getting used to a new schedule. Taking in repairs but it's a challenge to keep the workflow going. Home is filled with interruptions and I'm not moving as fast as I used to. So even though the workload is light I have to scramble to keep it moving. I guess that's what being semi-retired is all about. Trying to make up the slack with some volunteer work, though.

Monday mornings I load up and head for the Hollywood Theatre. Working with a crew that's installing a Wurlitzer pipe organ in the original chambers. The movie-palace started life with all the trimmings but the organ was removed sometime during the 1930s. But the theatre's been reworked as a non-profit venue and now shows vintage and specialty films including silent movies from a way back. The organ started out digitally synthesized but in the last few months the sound of real live pipes has been rattling the walls and November's *Nosferatu* sold out two performances, which is very good for a picture that's been off the charts for almost a century.



Worked with the Washington County Republicans to establish a permanent office and marched in a few parades last summer. That and climbing up ladders to the pipe chambers in the theatre helps keep my blood circulating. The election was a bit disappointing, though. None of the issues or candidates I was stumping for actually got in. Politics is at best a bittersweet enterprise.

Sandra still works at the library. While the job can be challenging she has her fun too. Good times and good people.





Actually doing a bit of empty-nesting. Shayne graduated from the Bible college in May. Chris had a very close friend move to town and the two have taken an apartment together. So we wish them all well on their respective paths.



And of course there are the usual get-togethers, reunions, and plain old partying. Sandra meets up with her college buddies every year. My brother got himself a place on Hood Canal up in Washington that's almost a vacation resort to go visiting. And we try to keep in touch with everyone for no other reason than that friends are friends. That's worth celebrating!

