



# CONCORDIA NEWS

A free publication of the Concordia Neighborhood Association

February 2010



Be a part of what's happening  
in the neighborhood.

Meetings held in the  
Community Room  
at McMennamin's  
Kennedy School

**General Membership**

February 2 at Concordia University  
1st Tuesday of each month at 7 P.M.

**Land Use & Livability Meeting**

February 4  
1st Thursday of each month at 7 P.M.

**Board Meeting**

February 9  
2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 P.M.

**Green Team**

February 23  
4th Tuesday of each month at 7 P.M.

**Media Committee**

February 10 at New Seasons  
2nd Wednesday of each month  
at 6:30 P.M.

## Who cares what you think?

Join us – Feb 2, 2010 7:00PM

at McMennamin's Kennedy School, Community Room

A representative from the mayor's office and Deborah Stein from the City of Portland's Bureau of Planning and Sustainability will present information and lead a discussion about the Portland Plan, the City's strategic plan for the next 25 years.

Building on the visionPDX process that helped create a vision and a shared set of values for our community, the Portland Plan will identify long-term objectives and short-term actions. As part of this process, Portlanders will consider how to leverage change, make trade-offs and prioritize investments to ensure Portland is a thriving and sustainable city, with opportunity for all.

The Portland Plan is taking a new approach to city planning by considering a variety of issues such as education, human health and civic engagement in addition to the typical housing, transportation and environmental issues that get addressed in a long-range plan. The City is also partnering with a wide range

of public agencies to create shared goals and ensure alignment of actions and investments.

The Portland Plan will be developed over the next 12 months. The current phase of the process is looking at baseline conditions – where are we now? To view the work plan for the Portland Plan and the other phases of the project, please visit [www.pdxplan.com](http://www.pdxplan.com). You can also review the draft Portland Plan Handbook and background reports as well as take a survey online.

The City will be accepting public testimony on the background reports at three upcoming Planning Commission hearings on January 26, February 9 and March 9. However, comments on the background reports will be accepted until late 2010. The public is welcome to submit comments by mail, FAX, e-mail or online. Please visit [www.pdxplan.com](http://www.pdxplan.com) for more information and to complete the survey.

## Happy Birthday Dr. Duncan

Dr. David Duncan, who has lived in the Concordia Neighborhood for over half his lifetime, will turn one hundred years old on February 1.

We have admired his impeccable yard and its long-blooming flowers, which he generously shares with neighbors and visitors alike during the summer months. Many longtime residents were brought into the world and received all their medical care at his office during his forty-plus years of practice at NE Alberta Street and 24th Avenue.

Dr. Duncan attended University of Minnesota for his undergrad and went to medical school at Creighton in Omaha, Nebraska. Originally, he had intended to become a dentist; Creighton offered medical and dental degrees. The cost of the instruments for the dental school was too expensive however, so he crossed the street and signed up for medical school. He moved to Portland for his internship at Emanuel Hospital in 1936. It was at Emanuel that he met his future wife, a nurse named Miriam Piispanen. His residency ended during the Depression, and initially he wasn't able to find work as a doctor. He

joined the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) until he was offered a job with Union Pacific. He set up his first practice for the railroad in Huntington, Oregon in a hotel room with a sheet as a partition.

Soon after, he enlisted in the army. They sent him to the Philippines where he was in a fifty bed ward serving as a medic. During that time they heard on the radio the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor and they were in a war. Dr. Duncan ended up at Guadalcanal where he assisted in removing shrapnel from soldiers' brains. That was Dr. Duncan's only foray into brain surgery, but he would go on to deliver a broad spectrum of medical care as a family doctor.



Dr. Duncan at Fort Lewis in 1941. This picture is also a mural on NE Alberta and 28th.

After more than three years of army service, he returned home to his wife Miriam and sons Douglas and Donald. They were living in Concordia at NE 28th and Ainsworth with her sister.

He heard that a former colleague, Dr. Vernon Brown was quitting his practice and selling his house and office. Dr. Brown had built it in 1922 at NE Alberta and 24th and still had all the plans. Miriam had taken her nursing exam at Dr. Brown's and knew him as well. With the Rexall pharmacy across the street and a street-car line running along Alberta, it was a prime location for a busy family practice. Dr. Duncan approached him and explained that



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# Chair's Corner

By Anne Rothert, Chair

Trying to decide on a topic for this Chair's Corner is sometimes a challenge. As I write this, it is just a few days into the crisis in Haiti. I feel like I have to write about it. It is simply overwhelming. I find I can watch or listen to only so much update and then it is just more than I can process. The loss, the desperate situations, the outpouring of help from around the world simply overwhelms me. With the communication world being what it is, we have new images hourly of the rescues and the misses. As aid makes it into the country, we are shown the images of the desperate maneuvers to get food and water. It makes me wonder about the will to survive, what people are moved to do in order to survive

There are moments when I try to picture myself in a similar situation. I can't. I'm in my nice little house in Concordia and I can turn the news on and off when it suits me. We are such a small world now. I was surprised how many people here in Portland are directly connected with Haiti. The outpouring of help is amazing. Just as amazing is how quickly things are in place to make it easy to contribute. If I knew how to twitter, I could donate that way. Unfortunately included and just as quick are ways some use a catastrophe to scam and steal donations.

I don't want to focus on that. A disaster such as this is a time we get to see what we as fellow human beings are made of. There is an individual pride and a national pride as the United States steps up with help. Also overwhelming to me is the road ahead for Haiti. To look at pictures now, how do you even begin to envision a normal life again?

I think one of the thoughts that prompted me to write about the tragedy in Haiti is remembering how after Katrina one of the unintended consequences of donating to that cause was that donations to our own local food bank and other social service agencies decreased. I knew as I started this writing I was not going to explicitly encourage people to give or do anything. I believe we all do what we can do.

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Rebecca Wetherby 975-3198 rebecca@happypredicament.com
- Concordia News Manager Co-Editors**  
Jessica Dunham  
Rebecca Wetherby 975-3198 rebecca@happypredicament.com
- Concordia News Business Manager**  
Matt Redhead 341-0130 cnabusinessmanager@gmail.com
- Webmaster**  
Bob Pallesen bob@section314.com
- Community Room Scheduler**  
Anne Rothert 493-1938 arothert@gmail.com
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Ken Forcier 503-522-7660 ken@gracewooddesign.com
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Donna Carrier (Paul) 288-9826 donna.carrier58@gmail.com
- Tree Team**  
Dove Hotz missdove@alumni.reed.edu
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### CONCORDIA NEWS

Concordia News is a free monthly publication of the Concordia Neighborhood Association (CNA). 5,693 newspapers are mailed to its members and surrounding neighbors. 1,000 are delivered to community locations.

The deadline for articles and advertisements is the 15th of the month prior to the next issue.

Please send advertising inquiries and artwork to:  
**cnabusinessmanager@gmail.com**

Submit articles, letters to the editor and calendar events to:  
**concordianews@yahoo.com**

The Concordia News welcomes your letters to the editor. We consider letters individually for publication. We accept requests to withhold author's names only in special circumstances. Please note, Concordia News may reject or edit for form and length any material, including letters to the editor, submitted for publication.

If you would like to participate in the Concordia News, please contact:  
**concordianews@yahoo.com**  
or  
**PO Box 11194  
Portland, OR 97211**

#### MISSION STATEMENT

To connect Concordia residents and businesses — inform, educate, and report on activities, issues, and opportunities of the neighborhood.

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Jessica Dunham  
Rebecca Wetherby

#### Copy Editor

Joe Clinkenbeard

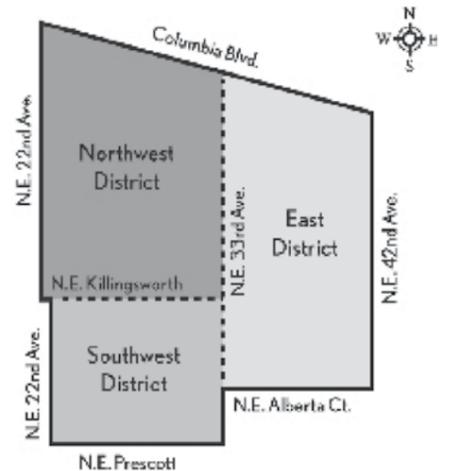
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#### Journalists

George Bruender  
Rebecca Wetherby, Calendar

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## Open Position

The Concordia News is looking for a Managing Editor. Along with good judgment regarding our neighborhood's voice, we need someone with team management skills and an ability to commit for at least a year. This is a volunteer position.

# Vernon School Kindergarten Round-up

By Jennifer Kerns

It seems like a lifetime ago when last winter and spring my friends from a parent-group were attending numerous "Kindergarten Round-Ups" at Portland's public and charter schools. One of my friends had a three-ring binder with a calendar attached to the front, detailing which schools were having their round-ups and when. Night after night and morning after morning she went to round-up after round-up, taking assiduous notes about each school, detailing the pros and cons of the school's curriculum, campus, and friendliness of the teachers.

While her approach looked exhausting, I do not begrudge my friend's process. How we each provide and plan for our children's education is a very personal decision and it can be quite complicated and difficult. I did, however, have a slightly different approach than my friend as I began to think about enrolling my daughter in public schools.

As a member of the Concordia neighborhood for almost 10 years, I have made some great connections with my neighbors and community members. I have been lucky enough to raise my two children on a block that has many other small



Photo by Tim Acock.

children their age, and there are lots of other kids in the neighboring blocks as well. I have become good friends with many of their parents after years of conversations on the sidewalks, at parks, during spontaneous sprinkler parties, and at casual neighborhood barbeques. And as I imagined my daughter and son going to school, I wanted them to go to school with the children of these families. I did not want all of us to attend far-flung schools and only see one another as we were all scrambling back from our various



Photo by Tim Acock.

commutes to different schools. Going to our neighborhood school seemed like an excellent option for our family.

In fact, the possible outcomes of this decision seemed great to me. Carpools, easy-to-arrange play dates, and walking or riding our bicycles to school. And, I am happy to say that this has been our experience after half of a year at Vernon School.

I must admit that I did attend two Kindergarten Round-Ups, but in my heart I knew that we would be attending Vernon. Of course, I did attend Vernon's Kindergarten Round-Up, which only cemented my decision to send my daughter there. We met with an enthusiastic principal, Ms. Tina Acker, and some of the teachers at Vernon. We were told about the school's International Baccalaureate program and got to watch a cute performance of a kindergarten classroom singing a song. After our initial meeting with the faculty, parents were able to visit the kindergarten classrooms in action and had the opportunity to talk directly with the teachers and observe a bit of the children's daily experiences.

As I entered the school and participated in the Kindergarten Round-Up, I began to imagine my daughter in the school that Vernon is, which is one that has a lot to offer. I also began to imagine what I could do for the school. Since our daughter began attending Vernon, I have joined the PTA and various committees, including one that is working on transforming our outdoor space into one that will promote more active play during the rainy days and also provide educational opportunities with an outdoor classroom. I have really enjoyed working with other parents and faculty on this project. Indeed, a school can

## Vernon School Community Calendar

Vernon School (Pre-K thru 8th grade)  
2044 NE Killingsworth St.  
www.vernon.pps.k12.or.us  
Portland, Oregon 97211  
Phone: (503) 916-6415

**Principal Coffee Friday, January 29 at 9 a.m.**

**Kindergarten and Pre-K Round-Up**  
Wednesday, February 10 at 9:30 a.m.

**General Meetings**—Food served at 5:45 p.m., meeting at 6:00

Tuesday, February 2

Tuesday, March 2

Wednesday, April 7 (Potluck)

Tuesday, May 4

Tuesday, June 8

**Multi-Cultural Night Friday, February 23**

**Recess Night Friday, May 21**

Adult exercise classes are available for the community at the school from 6 to 7 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Zumba and kickboxing are offered along with free childcare.

thrive and excel when more parents are involved. Great things are happening.

So, if you have a little one (or even a big one) and are looking for schools for your pre-kindergartner or kindergartner, I urge you to attend your neighborhood school's Kindergarten Round-Up at Vernon, 2044 NE Killingsworth St.

Kindergarten and Pre-K Round-Up for the 2010-2011 school year at Vernon will be held on Wednesday, February 10 from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

PTA meetings are also a great way to get to know the school. The next ones are Tuesdays February 2 and March 2 at 6 p.m. and food is served.

Come and see what Vernon is all about!

For more information, contact the office at (503) 916-6415 and take a look at our website: <http://www.vernon.pps.k12.or.us/docs/pg/10037>

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## Dr. Duncan cont. from page 1



he had three sons, a wife and not a lot of money, but was interested in the building and practice. Dr. Brown told him that he could pay as he saw fit and the deal was done. The Duncans moved into the home, much as it is today, in January 1946.

For almost fifty years, Dr. Duncan saw as many as thirty or forty patients a day in his office. Many paid only what they could and some still have bills "outstanding." In the

evening, he would load his medical bag in the car (eventually a 1967 Cougar that he still has today) and make house calls.

After his "retirement" he volunteered with Meals on Wheels and made calls to retirement homes. Miriam and he still go to the Finnish Hall, now known as Town Hall, once a month for Scandinavian get-togethers. Their active lifestyle has kept them healthy and they both have all their own teeth.

Dr. Duncan can often be found working in his garden, even on hot days, where he tends his vegetables, flowers and beautiful landscaping. He often takes a break to chat with passing neighbors, including many former patients. Duncan's sons, Douglas and Dean, live in Beaverton and visit often.

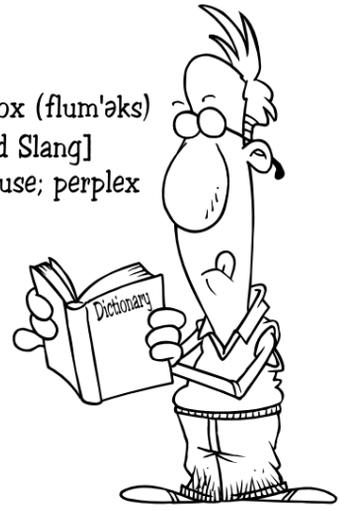
Concordia raises a glass to you, sir! Congratulations on one century!

## So, You Think You Know How to Spell?

The Concordia Neighborhood Association, Englewood Christian Church and Trinity Lutheran School will be sponsoring a spelling bee for adults, ages 18 and above! This event will be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2010 from 7-8 p.m. at Englewood Christian Church (3515 NE Killingsworth St.), and it's FREE! Registration will take place from 6:30 p.m.-6:55 p.m., so be on time if you want to be a 'speller'!

The spelling bee will be completely oral and have the format of a regular spelling bee. Spellers will be given a word, the word will be used in a sentence and then the word will be pronounced again. The speller can ask questions about the word's origin, other pronunciations, etc. before they will be required to spell the word. Besides the pronouncer, there will also be a panel of judges. No contestants will be eliminated in the first round, allowing everybody an opportunity to warm-up, relax and get their brain waves rolling. The competition will begin in the

flummox (flum'əks)  
vt. [Old Slang]  
to confuse; perplex



second round. There will not be any separate categories of contestants (e.g. male, female, age categories, etc.).

So, start studying the dictionary, play Scramble on Facebook, do the daily spelling on the Scripps National Spelling Bee website, challenge a friend to play Scrabble, dust off that Thesaurus and open the dictionary! Come and have a great time challenging your brain by participating, observing or silently cheering a contestant on!

Visit us online at [concordiapdx.org](http://concordiapdx.org)

## Concordia U's Expansion Slows Down

By George Bruender

After dedicating a large state-of-the-art library and four new apartment style dorms late this summer, Concordia University (CU) has slowed down its new projects, given the state of the depressed economy. But neighbors will still notice some signs of progress.

The next project to be funded and completed will be improved streets and over 270 new parking spaces along Liberty Street and NE 29th Avenue. A joint CNA and CU committee has made this additional parking its major goal in order to get pressure off nearby residents who often find it difficult to park in front of or near their homes. CU had promised the City of Portland that this improvement would be in place by the fall of 2009. Some of the delay was caused by City officials putting up new obstacles and red tape; some has been caused by the almost \$1 million price tag (instead of the cost once anticipated to be one third of that); and some by the need for

the college to refinance the whole project.

Even a simple project like getting driveways and alleyways yellow striped as no parking areas has been delayed almost a year now because of the lack of City Bureau of Transportation response. CU will pay for the work but PBOT has to do the work. PBOT has also not read or responded to CU's annual report on traffic and parking around the college, a report that CNA took to arbitration a year ago. (On an unrelated issue, PBOT has not put in a pedestrian-activated crosswalk light at NE 30th Avenue and Killingsworth Street, a project that CNA and others have already received City funds for.) PBOT may have lost jobs in the current cutbacks, but obviously their lack of any response is a glaring negative. Mayor Adams is in charge of that department.

The new maintenance/utility building at NE 29th Avenue and Rosa Parks Way has been tabled for now by the college.

Initial work has begun for the soccer field to be located on 4 blocks between NE 27th and 29th Avenues and Liberty and Dekum Streets (behind the new library) in the form of moving some of the houses and deconstructing ones that can't move. Several homes have been moved to new lots located around NE 31st Avenue and Rosa Parks Way. Other homes are up on moveable

platforms awaiting the move. The tear-down houses have been recycled via a reconstruction parts company. The old college temporary classrooms may have to be torn down also unless someone can come up with a use for them. They are flimsy structures and quite large to move.

The other homes will be relocated in one or two major moves to a new development in outer southeast Portland. The roofs will be removed to get under wires. On their new lots, many will be remodeled with new vaulted ceilings or second stories since they will be temporarily roofless. Then they will be sold as affordable homes. The slowness of the banks to finally give the developer the go-ahead has delayed the timing of this move a number of times. And the federal government (HUD) has been very slow in approving the relocation of the Good Shepherd Convalescent Home even though a new building has been completed and equipped on SE Stark Street and stands empty.

With the slowdown of the economy, it seems that the university's expansion has slowed down for a time also. In the meanwhile, neighbors (everyone in CNA with proof of address) can take advantage of the new library's facilities. Just show some identification at the library's front desk and get your card.

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## The Chips at the Bottom

By Larry Light, Concordia Neighbor and Owner of Treehappy Tree Service

I remember once hearing somewhere that from a nutritional standpoint, the potato chips at the bottom of the bag were worse for you than those nicely shaped, full and crisp ones nearer the top. This was due to the settling of oil and salt causing a high concentration of bad elements in those zesty little crumbs.

However, when it comes to chips of the wood variety, as in those used for mulching purposes, the opposite may be true. There is some debate on the subject, and in case you haven't heard, I'll explain. The idea behind the belief that aged mulch is better suited as a form of nourishment to your plantings results from the idea that unless mulch is at least partially decomposed, the process of its breakdown will "tie up" needed nitrogen in the soil as soil organisms work to digest the fresh mulch. The belief that this would only occur if one were to amend or actually mix wood chips into the soil used in the planting area exists as well.

I find this to be an intriguing debate which causes me to often find myself, when visiting my local bulk mulch retailer, to yearn longingly for "the chips at the bottom of the pile." I know what you're thinking, and before you slip the loader operator a \$20 bill to dig out the mulch at the bottom, it's good for you to remember that a layer of nitrogen-containing organic fertilizer applied at the properly recommended rate just below the layer of fresh mulch would likely undo any evil, should there be any.

As a Certified Arborist, I will go on ahead and say that the potato chips at the bottom of the bag are definitely worse for ya.



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## Concordia Tree News

By Barbara Wharton

### Ainsworth Arboretum Activities

An umbrella pine (*Sciadopitys verticillata*) was planted this month in the median in front of Alberta Park to replace a tree that had recently died. This is an ancient form of evergreen conifer from Japan that is uncommon in Portland but does well here. It has a long lifespan and eventually forms a large, attractive tree. This will add an additional species to the Ainsworth Linear Arboretum. In the coming weeks Urban Forestry will be assisting in the removal of four or five other dying Raywood ash from the Ainsworth median and will replace them with an assortment of trees being introduced to the Portland public as street trees.

The new plantings are a reminder of the need for community involvement in maintaining our trees. Local economic difficulties are placing a strain on the resources needed for proper care of the arboretum, especially in light of our hot dry summers. Discussions between city representatives and arboretum stakeholders have led to the realization that for the sake of the health and beauty of the arboretum, volunteers are needed for 2010, most importantly for watering but also for additional maintenance activities. If you are interested and able to get involved please contact Karl Dawson by email at [kdawson@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:kdawson@ci.portland.or.us), or the Concordia Neighborhood Tree Team at [concordiatreeteam@yahoo.com](mailto:concordiatreeteam@yahoo.com).

### East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District Annual Plant Sale

EMSWCD is offering a selection of 13 trees in this year's annual plant sale. Quantities are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Pre-orders end on Sunday, February 7 at 11 p.m. Pick-up will be at their new office located at 5211 N Williams Ave., on Saturday, February 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. More info is available at <http://www.emswcd.org/>



Rebecca Wetherby of the Concordia tree team and Jim Gersbach of Friends of Trees adding an umbrella pine - *Sciadopitys verticillata* to the Ainsworth linear arboretum. Photo courtesy of Karl Dawson.

### Friends of Trees Annual Tree Planting

Residents can receive a 15% discount on the cost of a street or yard tree by signing up online at Friends of Trees by the February 8 Concordia Neighborhood sign-up deadline. Lock in this great deal! You don't need to buy a tree when you sign up, but to receive the discount if you decide to buy one, simply click on "Order Street & Yard Trees" at [www.FriendsofTrees.org](http://www.FriendsofTrees.org) and enter the discount code "SNEWS15" on your sign-up form.

By working in partnership with Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services on the city's Grey to Green Initiative, Friends of Trees is able to offer great prices for quality trees. Species selections are tailored to individual planting strip widths



Karl Dawson with the Urban Forestry Outreach with the newly planted umbrella pine. Photo courtesy of Karl Dawson.

and growth space available under any overhead wires. For only \$25 to \$75, homeowners receive a quality 8 to 12' tall tree, delivery, hole-digging, assistance in planting, mulch and stakes, and follow-up maintenance checks. The cost is even lower with the additional 15% discount!

The planting in Concordia is scheduled for March 27, and is sponsored by NW Natural. All of the plantings start at 9 a.m. For staging areas and other details, visit [www.FriendsofTrees.org/Calendar](http://www.FriendsofTrees.org/Calendar).

Friends of Trees brings people in the Portland-Vancouver area together to plant and care for city trees and green spaces. Between November 2009 and March 2010, they will plant trees in more than 80 neighborhoods in Portland, Gresham, Beaverton and Vancouver. In addition, the Green Space Initiative will restore natural areas throughout the metro area and green the I-205 Multi-Use Path from North Portland south to Gladstone. Learn more at [www.FriendsofTrees.org](http://www.FriendsofTrees.org).

### 2010 Hands-On Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop

There will be a free workshop put on by Portland Parks and Recreation on February 20 from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. at East Columbia Children's Arboretum, 10040 NE 6th Dr. (just east of Jubitz Truck Stop). The focus will be pruning to increase fruit production, train young trees and restore neglected trees. The "hands-on" part means that you help prune the trees at the arboretum. Bring pruning tools and gloves if you have them (they will also be provided). Please send an email to [trees@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:trees@ci.portland.or.us) or leave a message at (503) 823-1650 if you plan to attend.

### Photographing Your Urban Forest Workshop

Concordia Neighborhood will host a workshop on February 27 sponsored by Portland Parks and Recreation City Nature and the Urban Forestry Commission. The instructor, a certified arborist and professional photographer, will share digital photography basics and instruct how to best capture subject matter. Using Concordia Neighborhood as an example, the class will photograph themes aligned with our Tree Team, critique photos and learn how to set up an art show portraying local urban forest issues. There is a \$25 course fee payable at the workshop. To register, contact Autumn Montegna, Urban Forestry Outreach Specialist at 503-701-7622 or [autumn.montegna@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:autumn.montegna@ci.portland.or.us).

### Plant a Tree for Clean Rivers - and Get a Rebate

Purchase an eligible yard tree to receive a credit on your utility bill (50% of purchase price up to \$50). Conditions apply. To learn more and get a rebate form, go to [www.portlandonline.com/bes/trees](http://www.portlandonline.com/bes/trees).

## Exhale Yoga Studio

By Ginny Kauffman

Exhale is Portland's "green" yoga studio, located in the heart of the Alberta Arts District. In this charming, environmentally sustainable studio, those who care about the future can focus on the present. Exhale offers a range of yoga classes and styles to suit different needs and levels. All of the classes are run on a sliding scale basis, so you pay what you can afford. In addition, massage therapy, craniosacral therapy and private yoga therapy sessions are offered. A variety of workshops are held monthly.

The term "Green Yoga" indicates the conscious intention to honor and care for the earth as part of yoga. An important part of yoga is to develop not only a higher awareness of how we live in our bodies, but how we live as guests on the earth. Green yoga asks us to bring yoga into the world and live harmoniously with nature. Exhale is a green yoga studio where students and instructors actively engage in and promote eco-living practices in our community.

Yoga is inherently green, but quite often, modern day yoga is anything but green. The average yoga mat is made of PVC, a toxic chemical that does not biodegrade in landfills. At Exhale, students are provided with eco-friendly jute yoga mats, cork yoga blocks and hemp yoga straps. The floors are cork and the walls are painted with non-VOC paint. Schedules and brochures are



all printed on recycled paper. Only natural, chemical-free cleaning supplies are used, and the web site uses carbon neutral web hosting.

Yoga is a practice that acknowledges that all life is interconnected and we must treat all living things with love and respect. Our work is to integrate this lesson into our lives, and to share it with the world.

This is a neighborhood studio for those who want to live by the principles of yoga on and off the mat; a space to rejuvenate the body and mind while building and participating in a sense of community.

To learn more, please visit the studio's web site at [www.exhalepdx.com](http://www.exhalepdx.com), or call (503) 545-8312. Exhale is located at 4940 NE 16th Ave., just south of Alberta Street.

## Solarize Northeast Kicks Off

By David Sweet

Would you like to save money, save energy, and help save the planet? An exciting new initiative can help you and your Northeast Portland neighbors do all that and make your home more comfortable at the same time.

Solarize Northeast is a volunteer-driven community effort of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN) to bring solar electric technology and the benefits of weatherization to Northeast Portland homes. Modeled on a project developed by Southeast Uplift, interested neighbors will join forces to enjoy significant savings through the bulk purchase of solar electric (photovoltaic) panels. One or more contractors selected through a competitive proposal process will perform site assessments and install panels on participating homes this spring.

The project will also offer to help residents find resources to make their homes more energy efficient, increasing comfort and reducing utility costs. Residents may choose to participate in the solar option, the weatherization option, or both.

In addition, a series of workshops will be offered covering the basics of going solar, tax credits and other financial incentives, the details of connecting to the power grid, how to finance the purchase of solar panels, and the basics of weatherization. There is no fee associated with the Solarize Northeast project, and all the workshops are free.

You can sign up for the program at the Solarize Northeast website, <http://solarize.necoalition.org/>. There you can also learn more about the project and view the workshop schedule. You must sign up by April 15, 2010 in order to participate. Questions can be directed to the program manager, Kelly Rodgers, [solarize@necoalition.org](mailto:solarize@necoalition.org), (503) 823-9134.

## Concordia LUBA Case Update

By Ken Forcier, CNA Land Use Committee  
Chief Petitioner – LUBA Case 2009-105

The Concordia Neighborhood Association (CNA) has a case pending with the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) of the state of Oregon. It should be heard in February, so stay tuned for the outcome in the March edition of the Concordia News. There was an earlier article in January's edition outlining the case, which you may want to reference online at [concordiapdx.org](http://concordiapdx.org). To summarize, a home has been constructed in our neighborhood that exceeds the height limits provided for in the City's Title 33 Building Code. When the Bureau of Development Services (BDS) was asked to remedy the situation in accordance with the code, a senior staff official denied our request that the builder apply for an "Adjustment." Instead that inspector allowed a raised planter to be erected in front of the home and then used that planter's top as the base point ("ground surface") for his measurement of the new home's official height.

Normally, when a developer desires to exceed any limitation prescribed by the Building Code, he or she must apply to BDS for a "Variance." Through this process, neighbors who own property within 150 feet of the construction site are notified of the intended variation and given an opportunity to write and speak in favor or against the proposal to an Adjustment Committee comprised of seven qualified, city residents. The committee must include three persons representing the public at large, two members in either urban design, architecture, or landscape architecture, and two members experienced in either engineering, financing construction, management of buildings, or land development. The members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. The Committee's decision dictates the outcome.

If a development takes place that does not adhere to Code and has not employed this "Variance" request process, then the Code prescribes another solution, to apply for an "Adjustment." An Adjustment is the same process as a Variance except it takes place after the fact. The neighbors within 150 feet are notified by mail and they may appear before the Committee as to whether the

code violation should be accepted or corrected. It is exactly this opportunity to speak that was denied our group of neighbors of which I am one.

Concordia initiated the LUBA case (2009-105) based on this apparent indifference from BDS for our neighborhood's right to involvement and to city code. Meanwhile, the same builder who constructed the too-tall house challenged in the LUBA case has gone on to purchase a second property at 3036 NE 30th Avenue and has constructed a second home which is a twin of the first. BDS has seamlessly granted the permits for this second home as well. We asked BDS to demonstrate to us that this second home complies with code height limits and we were denied so much as a meeting to review their interpretation of the submitted plans. BDS has indicated that they will discuss it no further. Earlier I tried to bring this impasse with BDS to the attention of Randy Leonard's office through a community liaison that the city sent to our neighborhood association but was told that it was declined to be heard owing to the challenge through LUBA. Now we must wait for LUBA to decide the fate of our rights under the law.

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## Changes at PDX

Sometimes changes at Portland International Airport are barely noticeable: new carpet, for example, or more energy-efficient light bulbs. Other times, projects are large enough to affect how aircraft arrive and depart, and changes in the air are almost always noticed by citizens who live near the airport. Such is the case with the North Runway Extension Project (NREX). The first phase of this three-year construction project began May 1, 2009 and ended this past October.

The purpose of the construction is to extend the north runway so it can accommodate large jets — flying either cross-country or internationally — when the south runway closes in 2011 for required rehabilitation. The Port's Project Manager, Andy Priebe explained the reason for closing the runways for 6 months at a time: "By completely closing the runways, we can finish each phase of the project in 6-month intervals, versus having to complete each phase over many more summers if construction was done only at night. This would extend the project from its current 3 summers to 6 or more. This approach will also result in a stronger runway surface that will last much longer."

PDX has three runways; two parallel runways which are oriented in an east-west direction and a crosswind runway oriented in a north-south direction. With the north runway closed to all traffic during the summer construction, increased use of the crosswind runway by the Federal Aviation Administration was necessary to keep the flow of aircraft at normal levels and prevent significant delays that can ripple through the national air transportation system. During this time, several neighborhoods noticed an increase in airplanes overhead. For the Concordia neighborhood specifically, many neighbors noticed the significant increase in aircraft using the crosswind runway.

Prior to construction of the north runway extension, there were many meetings involving the FAA, Port, Citizen Noise Advisory Committee, and others, to discuss the project, runway use, and potential community impacts. All were committed to minimizing the community impacts to the extent possible while recognizing the primary goal of the FAA is to ensure safety and limit flight delays.

Now that the first construction season is over, the north runway has been reopened to aircraft,

and use of the crosswind runway has decreased. The Port and FAA are currently reviewing runway use, community impacts, aircraft delay and exploring ways to manage air traffic during the second construction phase which begins in May 2010. The experience and community feedback obtained during the first construction phase gives the Port and FAA opportunities to explore strategies to manage air traffic efficiently while reducing community impacts and over-flights to the extent possible. For example, we will be asking FAA to limit the flights using the crosswind runway during nighttime hours when traffic levels are low enough to use the one available parallel runway.

During the next two construction phases the FAA will again rely on the crosswind runway to help manage aircraft traffic and minimize delays at the airport. When determining how to route traffic during construction periods, noise and traffic impacts are considered along with safety, delay, taxi times, etc. The FAA's goal is to minimize impacts on the community while promoting safe and efficient movement of aircraft.

As we enter the next two years of construction starting in the spring of 2010, the Port is open to your feedback regarding how we can improve our communication with residents. Our outreach efforts during Phase I included visits to communities surrounding the airport. Representatives from the Port and from the Citizen Noise Advisory Committee (CNAC) made multiple visits to neighborhoods including Concordia during the 2009 construction phase. The purpose of these visits was to share information with the impacted community, hear their concerns, and collect suggestions for solutions that might reduce noise impacts. The Port is committed to ensuring the community has the opportunity for input, that the input is considered, and when possible, incorporated. The Port and the FAA are exploring any and all opportunities to manage the runway use during airfield construction in a way that is safe, efficient and lessens the impact on neighboring communities.

If you have ideas for ways the Port can improve outreach to airport neighbors, please contact Brooke Berglund at (503) 944-7532. Concerns and questions are also welcome. For more information about the NREX project or aircraft noise in general, please contact the Noise Management Department at (503) 460-4100 or (800) 938-6647 or email: PDXNoise@portofportland.com. Information is also available on the Port's web site at [www.flypdx.com](http://www.flypdx.com) (click on "PDX North Runway Extension").

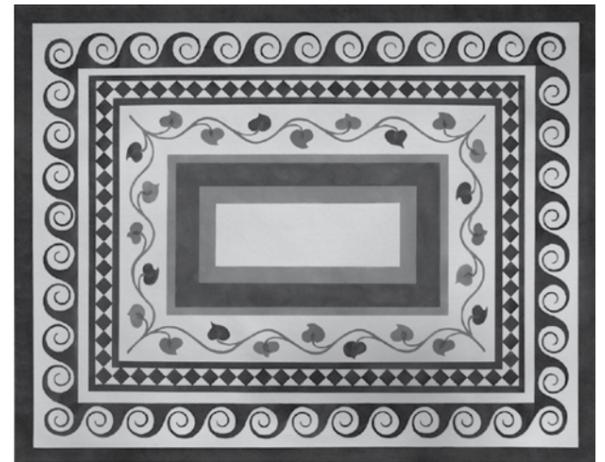
## Gracewood Designs at Architectural Heritage Center

Neighbor and board member Ken Forcier will be exhibiting his floorcloths at the Architectural Heritage Center at 701 SE Grand Avenue.

The opening is on February 5 from 6 to 8 p.m., and the show runs until the end of the month.

Floorcloths are handmade, painted canvas rugs that provide a beautiful, durable and practical alternative to area rugs. Gracewood Design specializes in custom floorcloths made to perfectly compliment their environment in terms of size, palette and style.

To see over two hundred and fifty examples of Gracewood's work spanning a variety of styles including Early American, Victorian, Arts & Crafts, Deco, Batik and contemporary, go to [gracewooddesign.com](http://gracewooddesign.com). For more information about the Architectural Heritage Center go to [visitahc.org](http://visitahc.org).



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### Want to write for the Concordia News?

Send your articles, poems, letters to the editor, love letters, etc. to: [ConcordiaNews@yahoo.com](mailto:ConcordiaNews@yahoo.com)

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# concordia CULTURE

## January 28

### Last Thursday Quilting

**WHAT:** For all quilters and all people who want to learn how to quilt.

The Women in Christian Service at Englewood Christian Church are having a meeting at the church to make quilts for the Community Warehouse.

The Community Warehouse collects household items which they give to needy families in the community. Plans are to meet the last Thursday of the month to carry forth with this effort. For more information, please contact Evelyn Carrier at (503) 282-2103.

**WHEN:** 9 a.m.

**WHERE:** 3515 NE Killingsworth St.

## February 1

### Open String Ensemble Rehearsals

**WHAT:** Concordia University has recently added a music major and a variety of performance ensembles. Individuals who live in the Concordia Neighborhood are invited to participate in an ensemble that combines students from the university with community members. Contact Kathy Follett, director, for more information at (503) 201-3408 or kfollett@cu-portland.edu.

**WHEN:** Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:00 – 4:20 p.m.

**WHERE:** Concordia's Fine Arts Building

## February 2 and 3

### Open House

**WHAT:** Trinity Lutheran School serves children ages 3 years to the 8th Grade.

**WHEN:** Tuesday 7 – 8 p.m., Wednesday, 8:30 – 11 a.m.

**WHERE:** 5520 NE Killingsworth St.

## February 5

### Lyceum Series Lecture

**WHAT:** As part of Concordia's Lyceum Series, John Nunes, president of Lutheran World Relief, will discuss the organization's creative collaboration to eradicate malaria in Africa.

**WHEN:** 1 p.m.

**WHERE:** Luther Hall, Room 121

## Karma Yoga

**WHAT:** Exhale offers this free weekly class to the community. All levels and abilities welcome.

**WHEN:** 11:00 a.m. – noon

**WHERE:** Exhale Yoga Studio, 4940 NE 16th Ave.

## February 12

### Stumptown Jug Thumpers

**WHAT:** Old and new time jugband Americana. [www.myspace.com/stumptownjugthumpers](http://www.myspace.com/stumptownjugthumpers)

**WHEN:** 7 p.m.

**WHERE:** Star E Rose, 2403 NE Alberta St.

## February 17

### Art on Alberta Annual Meeting

**WHAT:** This meeting is the kick-off to the annual Art Hop which will be held on May 15th. Muralists will discuss their recent projects and three teen artists will be presented with Art on Alberta youth scholarships. The Annual Community Service Award will go to Portland Mural Defense this year. This uplifting evening is open to all.

**WHEN:** 6:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Acadian Ballroom, 1829 NE Alberta St.

### Nursing Program Accreditation

**WHAT:** The Concordia nursing program is now four years old and has graduated three classes of nurses with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. The program will soon be reviewed by an accrediting team from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission. Therefore people from the Concordia Neighborhood who wish to submit public comments are invited to a public meeting. Additionally, public comments can be sent to the NLNAC, 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 500, Atlanta, GA 30326

Learn more about the program by contacting University Admissions (503) 280-8501

**WHEN:** 4 – 5 p.m.

**WHERE:** Room 310 of the George R. White Library

## February 20

### Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop

**WHAT:** Do you have fruit trees? Is pruning them a random act of violence? There will be a free workshop put on by Portland Parks and Recreation at the Columbia Children's Arboretum on pruning to increase fruit production, train young trees and restore neglected trees. The "hands-on" part means that you help prune the trees at the arboretum (planted by school kids in the 70s).

Bring pruning tools and gloves if you have them (they will also be provided).

**WHEN:** 9 – 11:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** East Columbia Children's Arboretum, 10040 NE 6th Dr.

### Bea Rocks the Flock

**WHAT:** Writer and Illustrator, Victoria Jamieson will read her picture book, *Bea Rocks the Flock*, answer questions about her book, and sign copies.

**WHEN:** 4 p.m.

**WHERE:** 1600 NE Alberta St.

## February 23

### Spelling Bee

**WHAT:** A free event hosted by the CNA, Englewood Christian Church and Trinity Lutheran School for adults.

**WHEN:** 7 – 8 p.m.

**WHERE:** 3515 NE Killingsworth St.

## February 27

### Naturescaping

**WHAT:** Learn to Naturescape! Explores the core concepts of naturescaping, pollution prevention, and introduces attendees to watershed connections, native plant identification and site planning principals in this introductory workshop. Attend this workshop & get an admission pass (\$10 value) to enjoy the Portland Home & Garden Show that same day.

Find more free workshops to help you care for your land at [emswcd.org](http://emswcd.org)

**WHEN:** 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**WHERE:** Portland Expo Center

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Wednesday, February 3  
**KING PERKOFF BAND**  
The legendary "Honker & Shouter"  
7 p.m. · Free · All ages welcome

Thursday, February 4  
**NORTHWEST BEER & CRAB DINNER**  
A traditional crab boil with Caesar salad, linguini with marinara, whole Dungeness crab and more along with pints o' McMenamins ales  
7 p.m. · \$50; reservations required  
21 & over

Thursday, February 11  
**BRAD CREEL & THE REEL DEEL**  
Dark music with a happy sound  
6 p.m. · Free · All ages welcome

Thursday, February 18  
**LEX BROWNING BAND**  
Alt country · Hilltop rock  
7 p.m. · Free · All ages welcome

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Sunday, February 21  
**Benefit for the MS Society of Oregon**  
JESUS PRESLEY · FLOATING POINTE  
Pale Blue Sky  
David Byron Wilson & The Wild Frontier  
Adam + Kris, Panhandle Pete & Cookie  
Uncle B & Auntie E & J-Dog  
2 p.m. to 7 p.m.  
Donations accepted · All ages welcome

Monday, February 22  
**History Pub Monday**  
"Urban Renewal and Urban Removal in Northeast Portland"  
7 p.m. · Free · All ages welcome

Thursday, February 25  
McMenamins & [opbmusic.org](http://opbmusic.org)  
**GREAT NORTHWEST MUSIC TOUR**  
**Blue Turtle Seduction**  
ROCK, BLUEGRASS, REGGAE & HIP-HOP  
7 p.m. · Free · All ages welcome

Wednesday, March 3  
**IRISH WHISKEY TASTING**  
featuring Jamesons and hearty appetizers  
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Reservations required · 21 & over

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