



CONCORDIA NEWS

A free publication of the Concordia Neighborhood Association

December 2021

Celebrate with CNA

There are a few reservations remaining for the Dec. 15 Holiday Party.

See Pages 7 & 8 for details.

CNews takes a break

The CNA newspaper volunteers and staff are taking the month off, so don't look for a CNews in your mailbox in January.

If there's any news to share before February, it will be posted on Facebook.com/groups/ConcordiaPDX.

CNA Mission Statement

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

Concordia News

This free, monthly publication of CNA will abstain from publishing anything that could be construed as libel.

Copies are delivered to all residences and many community and business locations in the Concordia neighborhood.

Concordia News is printed on 40% post-consumer or better paper, manufactured at a local mill.

Find us online at:

ConcordiaPDX.org and Facebook.com/groups/ConcordiaPDX

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Neighbors pick up Concordia litter

By Steve Elder
CNA Media Team

Saturday, Dec. 4, is the next Concordia Neighborhood Litter Pick Up.

It's from 9 a.m. to noon, beginning in Alberta Park at Ainsworth Street and 22nd Avenue. Sign up at [SolveOregon.org/opportunity/a0C8W00000V8Mq0](https://solveoregon.org/opportunity/a0C8W00000V8Mq0) or contact Concordian Gina Levine with questions. She's at CNewsBusiness@ConcordiaPDX.org and 503.891.7178.

An estimated 1,000 pounds of trash were removed from the neighborhood in early October. That's when 55 volunteers spent three hours picking up litter in the northeastern portion of Concordia. It was the first of what's planned for regular events.

"We filled 60 trash bags and four truckloads of items that had been thrown away," she said. "It felt so great on the way home to see our litter-free neighborhood."

The pick-up events are sponsored by Concordia Neighborhood Association. Leaders are Gina and board member Javier Puga-Phillips. Their efforts are supported by SOLVE, the statewide orga-



Neighbors are invited to tackle the litter in Concordia Saturday, Dec. 4. Volunteers in the October event teamed up to pick up an estimated 1,000 pounds of litter from the northeastern area of Concordia. Directly above are Gina Levine and Javier Puga-Phillips, planners of the Concordia Neighborhood Association event.

*An estimated
1,000 pounds
of trash were
removed from the
neighborhood in
early October.*

nization working to restore and preserve the environment by mobilizing the power of volunteers.

SOLVE was founded in 1969 by Oregon Gov. Tom McCall to reduce and clean up litter and vandalism throughout the state. The first volunteer beach clean up in the nation was organized by SOLVE in 1984. Since then, the concept has spread across the U.S. and to more than 100 countries.

Fresh air and social distancing are part of the CNA litter pick-up efforts.

"Participating in a litter pick up is COVID-friendly," Gina pointed out.

"A few hours every few months will make a huge difference in how the neighborhood looks and feels," she added. "We really hope you can join us for the next event."



Steve Elder, elder.monaville@gmail.com, is an inactive lawyer, a developer, activist and old grouch.

Want to get rid of trash more often?

The city of Portland offers support and information about cleaning up Concordia and other neighborhoods. Details are at Portland.gov/public-trash-cans/community-cleanup-resources.

Among the many resources listed there are:

- Adopt One Block: featured in CNews, ConcordiaPDX.org/2021/06/its-more-than-trash-talk-for-sarah-bowell
- The city's hotline to report overflowing local public trash cans: WasteInfo@portlandoregon.gov and 503.823.7202
- A hotline to report abandoned shopping carts in your neighborhood: 888-55-CARTS.
- SOLVE's volunteer events statewide: SOLVEOregon.org

Locals are in Give!Guide

Fourteen of the 202 nonprofits in this year's Give!Guide are based in Concordia and bordering neighborhoods. Willamette Week's fundraising event went live Dec. 1 and accepts donations until midnight New Year's Eve. Again this year, the fundraising is sponsored by Cully's Morel Ink, and Concordia's New Seasons is one of nearly a dozen sponsors. This year's goal is to raise \$6.5 million from 15,000 donors. Hunger and housing join the 18th annual Give!Guide's categories, for a total of 11.

Each donor who contributes \$10 or more will receive a gift. Other incentives are offered by some of the participating nonprofits. Big Give Days offer larger

prizes like getaways and shopping sprees. This year those days are Nov. 30, and Dec. 8, 16, 22 and 30.

Nonprofits participating in Concordia and nearby neighborhoods are: Black United Fund, Community Cycling Center, Farmers Market Fund, Feed'em Freedom Foundation, Friends of Noise, Habitat for Humanity Portland Region, Hacienda Community Development Corporation, Native American Youth and Family Center, Oregon Food Bank, Portland Fruit Tree Project, Taking Ownership PDX, Verde and Wisdom of the Elders Inc.

For details and/or to donate, visit GiveGuide.org.

From the Board

By Peter Keller, CNA Chair



Ch-ch-ch-changes

With our November election behind us we're looking forward to 2022, which will bring some changes both at the CNA Board of Directors and our Media Team staff.

First, I'm sad to break the news that Nancy Varekamp has decided to step down from her role as CNews editor. Nancy was instrumental in the revamp of CNews in 2016 and has played a key role as CNews editor.

Month after month she has ensured that we have

(LUTC). He led the LUTC for many years, was a key member of the board and served as its vice chair.

We'll really miss him, and we wish him well. His Southwest 1 board position remains available and we plan to appoint a new person to that seat.

At Large 3, currently held by John McSherry, was not filled during the election. He intended to nominate himself but was unable to attend the meeting.

At Large 5, formerly held by Truls Neil, is also available.

In sum, we are planning to fill the three CNA Board positions with appointments as soon as possible. In addition, we will appoint one of the board members to the LUTC.

a well-planned and expertly-edited newspaper – often writing many of the stories herself! Nancy, we'll miss you and wish you the best wherever your path leads next. She will continue in her position for a few months while the board identifies a new editor.

Now on to the CNA election results. I decided to run again for the CNA chair position and will continue in my post through next year. I'm excited for 2022 and look forward to continuing the good work I became a part of nearly one year ago.

Thankfully Heather Pashley, Ike Harris and Robert Bowles were re-elected to their posts and will continue their volunteer service on the board. We thank each of them for their continued service and look forward to working with them in 2022.

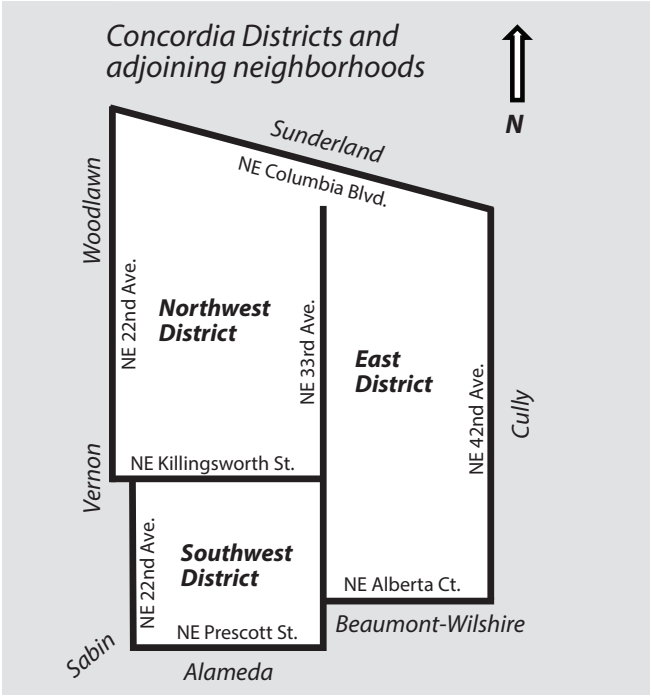
Garlynn Woodsong did not run for re-election for the Southwest 1 post, and he is resigning as chair of our Land Use and Transportation Committee

In sum, we are planning to fill the three CNA Board positions with appointments as soon as possible. In addition, we will appoint one of the board members to the LUTC.

The LUTC is the forum for neighbors to come together, discuss and take action on issues related to land use and/or transportation in the neighborhood. Find details at ConcordiaPDX.org/lutc.

If you have any interest in the paid CNews editor position or any of the available volunteer CNA board positions, please email me directly at Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org.

Native Portlander Peter Keller has lived in Concordia since 1997. He runs a small marketing agency with partner Max, out of their home studio. He loves exploring outdoors with and without his dogs.



CNA Board of Directors
Chair | Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org Peter Keller
East 1 | East1@ConcordiaPDX.org Heather Pashley
East 2 | East2@ConcordiaPDX.org Joseph Fraley
Northwest 1 | NW1@ConcordiaPDX.org Isham "Ike" Harris
Northwest 2 | NW2@ConcordiaPDX.org Amelie Marian
Southwest 1 | SW1@ConcordiaPDX.org Garlynn Woodsong
Southwest 2 | SW2@ConcordiaPDX.org Matt Boyd
At Large 1 | AL1@ConcordiaPDX.org Robert Bowles
At Large 2 | AL2@ConcordiaPDX.org John Fitzgerald
At Large 3 | AL3@ConcordiaPDX.org John McSherry
At Large 4 | AL4@ConcordiaPDX.org Javier Puga-Phillips
At Large 5 | AL5@ConcordiaPDX.org Available
At Large 6 | AL6@ConcordiaPDX.org Brittany van der Salm

CNA meeting venues
Phone numbers and/or URLs to attend virtual CNA meetings:
• Facebook.com/groups/ConcordiaPDX
• ConcordiaPDX.org/CNAMeetings

Concordia Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting
1st Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, Jan. 5, 7 p.m., venue: see box below, contact Peter Keller, Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org
General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, March 2, 7 p.m., venue: see box below
Social Committee
If you'd like to volunteer to help plan fun, community building events, contact Javier Puga-Phillips at Social@ConcordiaPDX.org.
Media Team
1st Tuesday of the month, Tuesday, Dec. 7, 6 p.m., venue: see box below, contact Gordon Riggs, MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org
Land Use & Transportation Committee
Meetings for 2022 are TBD, contact Garlynn Woodsong, LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org
Finance Committee
Last Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m., venue: see box below, contact Heather Pashley, Treasurer@ConcordiaPDX.org
Community Room Rental
For info and scheduling, visit ConcordiaPDX.org/community-room-rental or contact Javier Puga-Phillips at CNARoomKennedy@gmail.com.

CONTACTS
CNA Chair
Peter Keller, Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org
CNA Vice Chair
Garlynn Woodsong, SW1@ConcordiaPDX.org
CNA Secretary
John Fitzgerald, Secretary@ConcordiaPDX.org
CNA Treasurer
Heather Pashley, Treasurer@ConcordiaPDX.org
North Community Safety Team
Jacob Brostoff & Daniel Franco-Nunez, north.pdxteam@PortlandOregon.gov, 503.823.4064

SUBMISSIONS & ADVERTISING
Submissions to Concordia News: Deadline is the 10th of the month preceding the upcoming monthly publication. Contact CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org
Submissions to CNA Website: Submit nonprofit news & events to MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org
Advertising: Gina Levine, CNewsBusiness@ConcordiaPDX.org, 503.891.7178
MEDIA TEAM
CNA Board Liaisons: Heather Pashley, John McSherry
Media Team Lead: Gordon Riggs, MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org, 503.515.8209
CNews Editor: Nancy Varekamp, CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org, 503.740.5245
CNews Graphic Designer: Gordon Riggs
Media Team: Chris Baker, Erin Cooper, Kathy Crabtree, Keith Daellenbach, Steve Elder, Tamara Anne Fowler, Tami Fung, Gina Levine, Vanessa Miali, Gordon Riggs, Rob Rogers, Marsha Sandman, Nancy Varekamp, Karen Wells, Carrie Wenninger, Tara Williams



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To apply, contact Peter Keller at: Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org



Concordia Art Works

Local mask designer’s ware transforms actors

By Maquette Reeverts
Alberta Art Works

Living as a street mime in Paris, Bruce Marrs was influenced by the use of masks in theater productions. A year later he tried his hand at creating masks while working with the Oregon Dance Theatre.

Although the show was not a success, it inspired him to want to learn more about the art form.

Bruce took an intensive class in commedia del’arte – a form of theater using masks that is both scripted and improvised – at Del’Arte International School of Physical Theatre.

He was hired to teach dance, mime and mask making. He worked at the school for the next 25 years.

During the summers Bruce worked

“They are magic. The same mask on a different actor will be a different personage.”

– Bruce Marrs

at county fairs as a stilt character, dancer, clown or whatever was needed. Rather than changing makeup for each character, he decided to create a set of papier-mache masks from brown grocery bags.

The Pickle Family Circus and Jeff Raz of the Clown Conservatory in San Francisco commissioned a set of masks and, through word of mouth, there became a demand for his handmade character masks.

Bruce’s mask set of 10 characters became popular with universities, high schools and guest teachers all over the U.S., Canada, Scandinavia, India, England and Australia. Touring compa-



An interest in theater masks led Concordian Bruce Marrs to study the form of commedia del’arte. And he’s been making them ever since. Photo by Maquette Reeverts

nies asked for custom sets for their shows. He made and sold thousands of masks to sustain his family through the summers when school was not in session. The masks are transformative for the actor, according to Bruce. “They are magic. The same mask on a different actor will be a different personage. “For teachers, it’s always new and surprising. For students, they are, at first, invited to be other than themselves. Then they become responsible to discover and serve that new life.”

Neighbors re-elect 4 to board of directors



Peter Keller
Chair



Heather Pashley
East 1



Isham "Ike" Harris
Northwest 1



Robert Bowles At
Large 1

Concordians re-elected four members to the neighborhood association board of directors at the November annual meeting.

Peter Keller begins a second one-year term in January as Concordia Neighborhood Association chair. Elected for another two-years were Heather Pashley, East 1; Isham “Ike” Harris, Northwest 1; and Robert

Bowles, At Large 1. Another three board positions were not filled at the election. Those are Southwest 1, At Large 3 and At Large 5. Boundaries for the Southwest 1 district are on a map to the left. The board plans to appoint applicants to those positions soon.

If you are interested in applying, contact Peter at Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org.

CNA’s next neighborhood litter pick up will be held on Saturday, December 4th. See Pages 1 & 8 or for more details.



JESUS IS BORN

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Renewed energy engages Alberta Main Street

By Nancy Varekamp
CNews Editor

Alberta Main Street surges with new vitality and a renewed effort to develop Alberta Street as a successful and equitable commercial district.

That mission has always been core to the 11-year-old nonprofit. However, the 2018 passing of its dynamic founding executive director, Sara Wittenberg, was a shock. That, and the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic left the organization with unsure footing.

Shortly before she died, the organization had been honored with a 2019 Great American Main Street Award.

Alberta Main Street is back on track to build opportunities for local businesses and organize events to celebrate the street’s diversity and vigor.

Today there’s a revived energy among the board of directors. Alberta Main Street is back on track to build opportunities for local businesses and organize events to celebrate the street’s diversity and vigor.

Renewal on the street is in progress with new businesses opening, the return of Halloween day trick or treating and plans for the future.

“Alberta Main Street is a nonprofit, but it should still be run as a business,” said new chair Devon Horace, whose career is in business leadership.

Devon moved to Oregon five years ago from New York state to join Nike as technical operations manager. Last year, he earned one of the

last Concordia University master’s degrees in business leadership and management. He also directs Horace Consulting Agency to support Black, Indigenous and people of color who start mid-level companies.

He joined the Alberta Main Street board in June.

“My thought process is ‘How can I make a difference as a young African American male in Portland?’”

Devon believes his identity and experience are a good fit for Alberta Street with its history as a predominately Black neighborhood.

Celebrating the area’s rich heritage and diversity remains a large focus. Plans for this month’s holiday event Dec. 5 include a Black Santa Claus in a pandemic-safe giant snow globe at the Alberta Main Street office.

“He’s not only for Black kids,” Devon advised. “This is more about representation and expanding upon imagination. Perhaps next year’s Santa will be Asian.”

Devon reported an increase in staff and volunteers is in the works, and the board’s priorities for the next three years are:

- Collaborating and outreach
- Increasing partnerships
- Supporting area businesses.

Woven into those priorities is continuing the strong relationships already established with the Portland Bureau of Transportation, Venture Portland and Micro Enterprise Services of Oregon.

For more information about Alberta Main Street’s mission, volunteer opportunities and more visit AlbertaMainSt.org.

“We’re back,” Devon said. “We’re here



The renewed Alberta Main Street trick or treating appealed to all ages. Above, Katie Leaper and children Juniper and Alder scored treats from merchants. Directly above are costume-clad adult sisters: Callie Nipper and Katie, MacKenzie and Wendie Leaper.

to stay, and we’re here to make things better.”



Nancy Varekamp is semiretired from her career in journalism, public relations and – her favorite work engagement – writing and editing targeted newsletters.

Sojourn Church – A Neighborhood Church

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Bonne Chance foretells good luck for owners

By Javier Puga-Phillips
CNA Board Member, AL4
CNA Social Committee Chair

Bonne Chance, the newest addition to the wine scene in Concordia, is in the former location of Ciao Vitto at 2203 N.E. Alberta St.

Brothers Mark and James Ehrman opened their lounge and wine bar in August. They transformed the location

They plan to invite several chefs to participate in Bonne Chance pop-up dinners.

to focus on being a place for building community.

“I love seeing people meeting at our bar and at another time dining together,” Mark said.

The experienced mixologist teamed with James, a sommelier with over two decades of experience in wine scene cities like San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York City. They aim to provide unique beverage experiences tailored to their customers’ individual tastes.

“Bonne chance” is French for “good luck.” James explained, “I am a firm believer in luck.”

The business opportunity came when

COVID-19 put both brothers out of work, and it was time to reinvent themselves. Mark had worked at Ciao Vitto. “After six years of working in this location – and remembering how welcoming everyone was from the get go – I decided to stay.”

The menu is inspired by bar cuisine. James recommends the new savory waffle. “The waffle has the egg, cheese and meats inside and topped with burrata,” he pointed out. The chef’s burger is also a popular menu item.

Another innovating concept from Bonne Chance is – instead of creating a restaurant around a particular chef or cuisine – the brothers are taking advantage of their open kitchen concept.

They plan to invite several chefs and restaurants to participate in Bonne Chance pop-up dinners. The guest chefs will offer their unique views on cuisine. This concept is expected to allow customers to taste meals that are changing constantly.

Mark described the approach as less pretentious and without judgment. He also announced the wine classes coming soon to Bonne Chance, when attendees can learn facts while listening to great stories.

“My favorite wine tasting is when the client tells me what they like, and I can find something they love” James said.

The wine selection at Bonne Chance is also changing rapidly with biodynamic wines, organic wines and a variety of local and international small wineries from all over the globe.

Mark, who lives in Concordia, takes pride in working and living here, and




Brothers Mark (left) and James Ehrman opened Bonne Chance at 2203 N.E. Alberta St. recently to reinvent the former space of Ciao Vitto and to practice innovation with their food and drink. Photo courtesy of Bonne Chance

the approach the neighborhood offers. Customers are known by name and become part of the Bonne Chance family.

BonneChancePDX.com offers information about the new venue, its menu and owners, and the opportunity provided on the home page to subscribe to its mailing list.

Nota del editor: Artículo disponible en Español, visita ConcordiaPDX.org/BonneChance

 Javier Puga-Phillips holds the At Large 4 position on the Concordia Neighborhood Association (CNA) Board of Directors, manages rentals of the McMenemy Kennedy School Community Room and chairs the CNA Social Committee. He is a real estate professional locally, and he is a published author and motivational speaker in Latin America and Spain.



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Urbanism

It's been quite a ride on the board, LUTC

By Garlynn Woodsong
CNA Board Member, SW1
CNA LUTC Chair

It was in spring 2014 when I became chair of the Land Use and Transportation Committee (LUTC) for Concordia Neighborhood Association (CNA).

Since then, the LUTC has worked with neighbors and the board of directors on a variety of issues, some of which resulted in something that could be called victories. Many others resulted in no changes to the status quo, or problems not solved, or what could be called the opposite of successes.

In this, my final CNews column as the LUTC chair and as a CNA board member, I'd like to focus on the high points.

Over the winter of 2014-2015, CNA worked to identify neighbor priorities for the city's comprehensive plan, to review these priorities and to submit clear comments. One priority we advocated for

Concordia is a very walkable, mixed-use, mixed-income, diverse neighborhood – one that is more livable than most other neighborhoods anywhere on the West Coast.

was middle housing, which we supported with our requests to legalize duplexes, triplexes and fourplexes within single-family-zoned areas.

This comprehensive plan change was followed by the Portland Residential Infill Project (RIP), and I became a member of a citywide stakeholder advisory committee. I represented the LUTCs of both CNA and Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN).

The Oregon Legislature then passed HB 2001, and the city was required to implement the RIP in at least the manner recommended by the stakeholder committee. The question remains whether RIP will help build the newly-legalized buildings types as profit-seeking activities.

In January 2016, the CNA LUTC began making repeated requests until Portland Bureau of Transportation lowered speed limits on Ainsworth, Killingsworth, Alberta and Prescott streets. More effort is needed to:

Further reduce speed limits to 20 mph on Killingsworth at 33rd and 30th

avenues

Install physical speed-reducing technology, such as raised crosswalks where pedestrians are most likely to try to cross

Beginning in 2013, CNA worked to spread awareness of and provide support for neighbor-led alley improvement efforts. Partners included Alley Allies, NECN and neighborhoods elsewhere in the city. Interns assigned from the Portland Institute for Sustainable Solutions at Portland State University worked with us two summers. That resulted in multiple alley improvement projects throughout

the neighborhood.

Concordia is a very walkable, mixed-use, mixed-income, diverse neighborhood – one that is more livable than most other neighborhoods anywhere on the West Coast.

Yet, it is built on a backbone of historical injustices and continuing to the present day. The work to build a better world goes through building a better neighborhood.

We still have much work to do. Let's get to it!



Garlynn Woodsong lives on 29th Avenue, serves on the CNA board and is an avid bicyclist. He also is a dad who is passionate about the city his son will inherit. He is the

planning + development partner with Cascadia Partners LLC, a local urban planning firm. Contact him at LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org.

Visit ConcordiaPDX.org/lutc or use this QR code to learn more about the Land Use and Transportation Committee.



News from the NET

Portland's bridges are critical infrastructure

By Erin E. Cooper
Concordia/Vernon/Woodlawn
Neighborhood Emergency Team

With a river running through the middle of the city, Portland relies on its bridges to move people and goods throughout the day and night. However, after a major earthquake, Portland's bridges will likely sustain significant damage.

They all have different designs and were built at different times, so it's hard to predict exactly how each bridge will be affected. Even so, expect that most of the river crossings will be unsafe for transportation, if not completely collapsed into the Willamette.

Portland's two newest bridges, the Tilikum Crossing and the rebuilt Sellwood Bridge, were designed to withstand a major earthquake. However, access to the Tilikum Crossing may be restricted due to collapsed overpasses, and the approaches were not designed to be stable enough for vehicles after an earthquake.

Similarly, the Sellwood Bridge is at the south end of the city, and landslides and other impassable roads may make it out of range for downtown, northeastern and northern Portland.

Neither will suffice to provide a route for first responders, supplies, and people across Portland after an earthquake.

Multnomah County is developing a

plan to replace the Burnside Bridge with an earthquake-ready lifeline route that would not collapse after an earthquake, and it would be safe for immediate use.

Although vehicles would likely be restricted to first responders for some time, pedestrians and cyclists could use the Burnside Bridge to return home or reunite with family members. Additionally, Burnside Street is more accessible to the entire Portland region than the Tilikum Crossing or Sellwood Bridge.

An earthquake-ready Burnside Bridge will help Portland recover more quickly after a major earthquake. For more information, visit MultCo.us/earthquake-ready-burnside-bridge.

For the time being, if you regularly commute across the Willamette River, make sure your disaster plan incorporates the extra challenges of unpassable bridges.



Erin E. Cooper is a marine biologist living in Woodlawn. She spends a lot of time thinking about disasters and has been a NET member for many years.

Contact her at OceanListener@gmail.com.



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Resilience sees Binks through two decades

By Mac Larsen
CNA Media Team

Even during the hardest part of the COVID-19 pandemic, Binks Bar still found a way to make things a little bit more beautiful. After 20 years, the little bar near the corner of 27th Avenue and Alberta Street is still truckin’ and its response to the hardships of COVID-19 reflect the sense of community and resilience of owners Bianca and Justin Youngers.

Even with Portland restaurants and bars in disarray, the couple invested in their future and made their space even more appealing to the residents of Concordia and Alberta Street.

“I think that at the beginning, when we were shut down, my husband and I had a lot of nervous energy. It was pretty horrible,” Bianca said. “We took that time to take everything out of here and redo the floors, and we painted the whole thing ourselves.

“We just came down and just kind of tried to beautify it.

“We had mural artist Plastic Birdie come in, and he did a mural in our little room back here that we lovingly call the make-out room, because people make

When COVID-19 closed down eateries across the state, the couple changed their bar business model and focused on delivery.

out back there.” Bianca laughed at the intimacy a neighborhood bar can provide.

In the early years, Justin and Bianca had worked Binks themselves, from open to close.

It was the groovy and gritty atmosphere of the Alberta Arts District that really stood out to Bianca. She remembered the MarchFourth Marching Band, a Last Thursday standby, on stilts and in costume that threw parties in Binks’ back room.

When COVID-19 closed down eateries across the state, the couple changed their bar business model and focused on delivery.

Dubbed “Binkster,” the delivery service offered meals and drinks to individual households. If a customer wanted to host a videoconference party, Binkster delivered the provisions to each guest’s home. Items ranged from entrees, snacks, growlers, cocktails to selections from Binks’ bottle shop to flowers, gifts and CBD.

“We actually had to bring on more staff because it was so labor intensive,” Bianca said.

For the Binks owners, change and resilience is par for the course.

“If you imagine we’ve been here for 20 years,



Jason and Bianca Youngers are completing the most difficult two years of their two decades in business at Binks Bar. Resilience and a sense of community is seeing them through. Photo by Nancy Varekamp

that’s a lot of changes you see, and each one is so significant,” Bianca said. “You mourn them when they happen because they really happen fast.

“And then, the next thing is just like a whole rebirth and a whole new thing. It’s pretty cool, owning a bar that way.”



Mac Larsen is a graduate student at the University of Oregon, pursuing a master’s degree in journalism. He grew up in Concordia neighborhood and can be found frequently on Alberta Street, complaining about all the construction.

Concordia Neighborhood Holiday Party

When: *Wednesday, December 15th
from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.*

Where: *Teote Alberta
2700 NE Alberta Street
Portland, OR 97211*


Details: *Due to current restrictions, space is limited.
Please RSVP now to reserve your spot by
contacting Javier Puga-Phillips at
Social@ConcordiaPDX.org or 323.573.1516.
Dinner will be provided.
Proof of vaccination is required.*



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.....
**ALBERTA
ROSE
THEATRE**
.....

DECEMBER 2021

1

Beatles/circus mashup

2

3

**WHITE
ALBUM
X-MAS**

8

9

10

11

The NowHere Band
+ Rose City Circus

12

one day, two shows!

it's a
**TONY
STARLIGHT
Christmas**

15

music, storytelling
+ Irish step-dancing

**MAGICAL STRING
CELTIC YULETIDE**

17

presented by
Cassandra Lewis

**GRAMMY FOXX'S
OLDE TIMEY
BUMP N' GRINDEY
HOLIDAY SPECIAL**

featuring
Christopher Worth
Lo Steele • Glitterfox
David Jacobs-Strain + more!

18

3 Leg Torso

19

presents

**THE ELVES OF
FROSTLÄND**

Liberté Par La Musique

29

holiday cabaret

**QUEER EYE FOR
THE MAGI**

31

New Year's Eve
party!

**THE LOVE
BALL**

with
Saloon Ensemble
+ Pink Lady's
"Cat's Meow" Burlesque

.....

albertarosetheatre.com
3000 NE Alberta
503.764.4131

Community events calendar

Saturday, Nov. 27, time TBD
**CULLY FARMERS MARKET
HOLIDAY TREE SALE**
Location: 4223 NE Alberta
The trees are expected to arrive & the sale to begin Nov. 27. Noble firs were burned by the summer heat wave; however, Douglas firs are aplenty. Sales continue Fridays-Sundays as long as supplies last. Prices are \$30-45 & proceeds benefit Cully Farmers Market.
Details: Text 503.729.3508

Saturday, Dec. 4, 9am-noon
**CONCORDIA NEIGHBORHOOD
PICK UP**
Location: Meet at Alberta Park
Join CNA, Solve and your neighbors to pick up litter in Concordia.
Pre-registration required: SolveOregon.org/opportunity/a0C8W00000V8Mq0
Details: ConcordiaPDX.org/
NeighborhoodLitterPickUp,
CNewsBusiness@ConcordiaPDX.org,
503.891.7178

Saturdays, Dec. 4, 11, 18, 10am-noon
Mondays, Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27, 4-6pm
ST. CHARLES FOOD PANTRY
Location: 5310 NE 42nd
"Shop" at the food pantry Mondays & Saturdays this month, or request contactless delivery of food boxes. The 9.53-square-mile service area is 28th to 82nd & the Columbia River to Mason, including Dignity Village.
Details: stcharlespdx.org/food-help.html, svdpdxsc@outlook.com

Sunday, Dec. 5, 3-5 p.m.
**TREE LIGHTING ON ALBERTA
STREET**
Location: Between 17th & 18th
Black Santa will be on hand in a giant snow globe at the Alberta Main Street office, 1722 N.E. Alberta, & the holiday tree will be lighted in the square across the street.
Details: albertamainst.org/contact, admin@albertamainst.org

Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 11-12, 10am-4pm
WINTER MARKET
Location: Alder Commons parking lot, 4212 NE Prescott
Plans are in the making for Winter Market, with NAYA & Indigenous Marketplace vendors.
Details: hartmana@nayapdx.org

Sundays, Dec. 12, 26, 4pm
SACRED HARP SINGING
Location: McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room
This is not a choir, & there are no auditions & no performances. Each session is composed of whomever attends, including every possible level of musical experience & ability – even those who were asked not to sing in their church choirs.
Details: portlandsacredharp.org, 503.539.7373

Tuesday, Dec. 14
OMSI SCIENCE PUB
Location: McMenamins Kennedy School
The topic for this installment of the monthly event is TBD. It's open to everyone, no scientific background is required & OMSI invites you to bring your curiosity, sense of humor & appetite for food, drinks & knowledge. Suggested \$5 donation goes to OMSI.
Details: sciencepub@omsi.edu

Wednesday, Dec. 15, 5-9pm
CNA HOLIDAY PARTY
Location: Teote, 2700 NE Alberta
As of CNews press time, a few reservations were still available. Due to current restrictions, space is limited. Dinner is provided and proof of vaccination is required.
RSVP: Javier, Social@ConcordiaPDX.org, 323.573.1516

Saturday, Dec. 18, 2-4pm
FOOD PANTRY
Location: 5209 NE 22nd
Sharon Seventh Day Adventist Church hosts the Food Pantry the last two Saturdays each month with restrictions & strict adherence to physical distancing procedures.
Details: sharon7sda.net, office@SharonChurch.comcastbiz.net

Friday, Dec. 31, 9pm-midnight
NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION
Location: McMenamins Kennedy School
Live music is in 2 locations: Sonny Hess, free in the gym; Big Bad Beat, \$25 in the theater. Sparkling wine toast & balloon drop at midnight. Ages 21 and older
Details/tickets: mcmenamins.com/events/228294-new-years-eve-celebration




Let your neighborhood realtor help you make the most of your real estate investment.

Javier is an award-winning agent, living in Concordia, with over 15 years of experience helping buyers and sellers meet their real estate goals. Licensed in OR and CA, with the global reach of Engel & Völkers, he can help with a move across town, a relocation out of state, or a move to 32 countries around the world. The same network allows him to market your home to buyers globally.

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Small grants apps are due Jan. 15

The time approaches to apply if your neighborhood-based organization seeks funding of as much as \$3,000 from the City of Portland Community & Civic Engagement Small Grants Program. Applications are accepted between Dec. 15 and Jan 15.

Accepting and awarding grants to organizations in 12 northeast and north neighborhoods is the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN).

Funding cycles are annual, and grants are awarded based on a project's potential to:

- Involve and benefit a diverse group of people
- Build leadership skills, relationships and partnerships – especially with and among underrepresented groups
- Increase community capacity to influence public decisions and shape the future of inner northeast and north Portland
- Create unique projects with the potential to make an impact in communities large and small

For details, visit NECoalition.org/grants or contact the NECN grants coordinator at Grants@NECoalition.org or 503.388.5004.