



CONCORDIA NEWS

A free publication of the Concordia Neighborhood Association | ConcordiaPDX.org

September 2023

New Neighborhood Skate Park (page 3)



Gardens are Growing in Concordia (pages 8 and 9)



CNA Mission Statement

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

Concordia News

is a free monthly publication of the Concordia Neighborhood Association. Newspapers are delivered to all residences and many community locations in the Concordia neighborhood.

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

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Concordia Resident Publishes Flash Fiction Book

By Kathy Crabtree
Contributing Writer

Readers of flash fiction will be intrigued by the publishing of Concordia resident Steve Dodge's recent book, *Short Orders – Short Stories Flash Fiction*. Flash fiction is a literary genre consisting of brief fictional stories that include character and plot development and that suggest or hint at a larger story. Flash fiction is

Dodge's lean fifty-five-page book contains an eclectic mix of twenty-one short stories, some humorous and satirical and some one-page or shorter.

defined by the length of its stories and length is determined by the number of words. Flash fiction stories can be as short as six words and as long as 1,000 words.

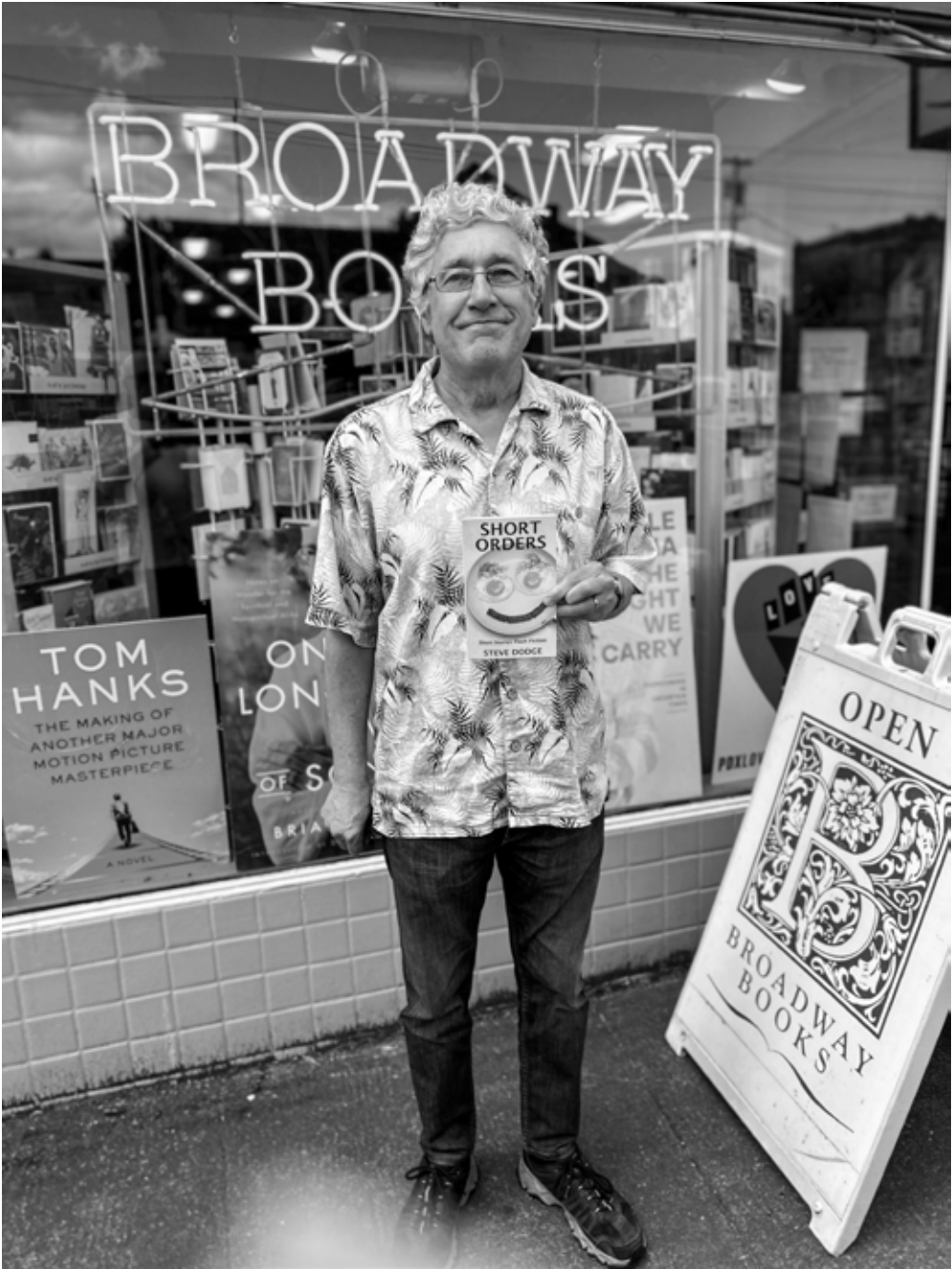
Dodge's lean fifty-five-page book contains an eclectic mix of twenty-one short stories; some humorous and satirical, and some one-page or shorter. The back cover provides teasers for a few of them, mentioning "no-body" neighbors, a bionic headless man, and a shape-shifting boss. Dodge says his goal in writing the book was not only to make the reader smile but also to provide food for thought.

A University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communication graduate, Dodge has been writing professionally for over forty years as a journalist, copywriter, and staff writer for numerous colleges and nonprofits. Past publications include articles in *The Oregonian*, *The Oregon Journal*, and *Oregon Business Magazine*. Dodge shares his Concordia home with his wife, cat, and according to him, "too many plants."

Flash fiction stories were written



Kathy is a recent transplant from the Midwest and, as she reports in *CNews*, things are a lot different here.



Local author Steve Dodge with his newly published book of short stories

as early as the late 1800's. Ernest Hemingway's first short story collection, published in 1925, contained 18 pieces of flash fiction. Weird fiction, a sub-genre of flash fiction, also embraces brevity but its short stories are related to ghosts, vampires, and supernatural horror. Dodge cites *The Twilight Zone* and *Outer Limits* television shows as inspirations

for *Short Orders*. Ray Bradbury's imagination and Richard Brautigan's zany humor, Dodge says, have also influenced his move into flash fiction and interest in weird fiction. Other influences include the imagery of poet Mary Oliver. You can pick up Dodge's book on Amazon or at Broadway Books, located at 1714 NE Broadway in Portland.

The Accident

from *Short Orders–Short Stories Flash Fiction* by Steve Dodge

Before the accident he had been cruising along on the freeway, not thinking about anything in particular. Outside it was raining. Inside warm and dry. When a favorite song came on the radio, he smiled as his mind drifted back to high school.

He was walking down the hall with a pretty girl. They were at the beach now, playing Frisbee with her dog, laughing, running, throwing sand, getting wet.

Back in the car, he leaned in dreamily and turned the volume up. It

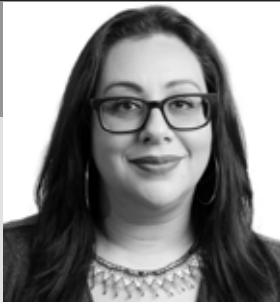
was just a moment, a tick of the clock. He turned back to look out the windshield as his car plowed full force into the car ahead. The radio still played the song from long ago, and as his car launched up the back of the other vehicle and into the air, time froze.

"This might be it," he thought, but felt strangely serene. As the car continued its arc, at first impossibly high, then nose down headed hard to earth, he flashed again to that summer.

Of the dog, the beach, and the girl.

From the Board

By Astrid Furstner, CNA Board Chair



Social Events Coming Soon

As I write this article, I’m reminded that for many of us, life is changing again. Kids are going back to school, we are all adjusting to new schedules and routines, the weather is going to start changing, and we will soon be into the holiday season. I hope everyone had time to enjoy our Portland summer and took advantage of the various events around town such as last Thursdays on Alberta Street, first Thursdays at art galleries, concerts at the park, the Waterfront Blues festival, Sunday parkways, and various farmers markets.

September is National Indigenous Peoples Day and a time to reflect on what that means. We have great neighbors at the Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA) and Portland Indigenous Marketplace vendors. Let’s keep in mind that we have neighbors and friends whose family lines go back generations to the indigenous peoples of this land.

As we move forward, we have several plans in the works. Our social committee team is working on planning the neighborhood yard sale, which will be September 16th–17th. We hope many of you participate—as they say, one person’s unwanted items are another person’s treasure.

Our board meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month. Elections are in November. We are looking for a recording secretary and a treasurer to help the association continue to run. We have a good team and we welcome assistance. We need your help to implement several ideas

that have been submitted. One of those is to start a gardening club. It’s a great idea, but we need someone to lead it. Will that be you? Let us know!

For now, I am thankful for the team of volunteers and for my neighbors. Concordia is a great place to live. I hope you feel the same way too. Blessings.

We need your help to implement several ideas that have been submitted. One of those is to start a gardening club. It’s a great idea, but we need someone to lead it. Will that be you? Let us know!

Astrid Furstner is a mother, a wife, an immigrant, a local artist and a woodworker. She lives with her luthier husband, Brent, and her artist-in-the-making daughter, Luciana. Together, they call Concordia their home.

Concordia Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting
1st Tuesday of the month, Tuesday, September 5, 6 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room with call in option, see box below, contact Astrid Furstner, Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org

General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, September 5, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room with call in option, see box below, contact Astrid Furstner, Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org

Social Committee
Third Tuesday of the month, Tuesday, September 19, 6 p.m., Via Chicago Pizza, contact Social@ConcordiaPDX.org for more details.

Media Team Meeting
Last Tuesday of the month, Tuesday, September 26, 6 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room with call in option, see box below, contact Dina Sage, MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org

Land Use & Transportation Committee Meeting
3rd Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, September 20, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room with call in option, see box below, contact Rich Burton, LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org

Finance Committee Meeting
Last Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, September 27, 7 p.m., venue: contact Heather Pashley, Treasurer@ConcordiaPDX.org

Community Room Rental
For info and scheduling, visit ConcordiaPDX.org/community-room-rental or contact Megan Gobble at CNARoomKennedy@gmail.com

CONTACTS
CNA Chair
Astrid Furstner, Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org

CNA Vice Chair
Brittany van der Salm, AL6@ConcordiaPDX.org

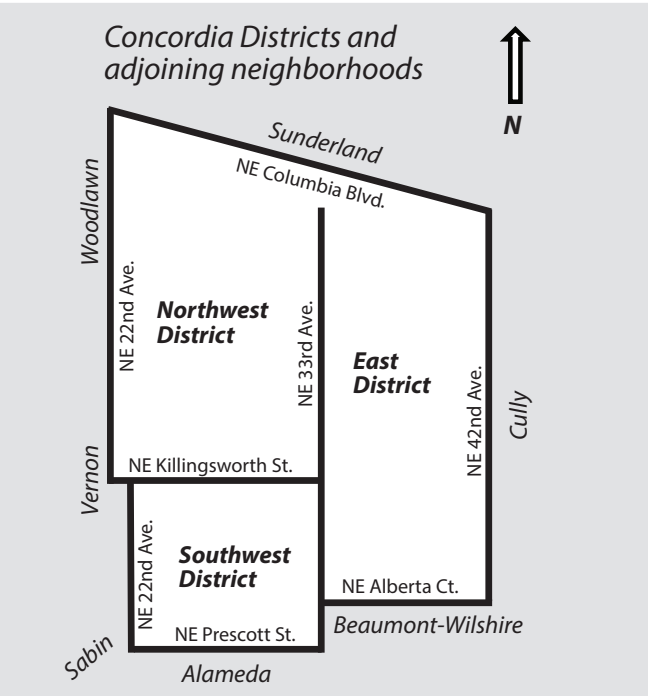
CNA Secretary
Matt Roberts, NW2@ConcordiaPDX.org

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: Leigh Shelton, CNewsBusiness@ConcordiaPDX.org, 503.875.8410

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CNA Board of Directors
Chair | Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org Astrid Furstner
East 1 | East1@ConcordiaPDX.org Heather Pashley
East 2 | East2@ConcordiaPDX.org <open position>
Northwest 1 | NW1@ConcordiaPDX.org Isham “Ike” Harris
Northwest 2 | NW2@ConcordiaPDX.org Matt Roberts
Southwest 1 | SW1@ConcordiaPDX.org <open position>
Southwest 2 | SW2@ConcordiaPDX.org Megan Gobble
At Large 1 | AL1@ConcordiaPDX.org Robert Bowles
At Large 2 | AL2@ConcordiaPDX.org Patricia McMahan
At Large 3 | AL3@ConcordiaPDX.org John McSherry
At Large 4 | AL4@ConcordiaPDX.org Rich Burton
At Large 5 | AL5@ConcordiaPDX.org Michelle Fitzgerald
At Large 6 | AL6@ConcordiaPDX.org Brittany van der Salm

CNA meeting venues, how to attend
To learn how to attend CNA meetings in-person (when available) or remotely, visit:
• ConcordiaPDX.org/CNAMeetings
• Facebook.com/groups/ConcordiaPDX

We really need a TREASURER!



Join the CNA Board as Treasurer. Be a critical part of helping your neighborhood association run smoothly while building your credentials as a nonprofit board member.

For a full description of the duties and requirements of this important volunteer position, and to apply, visit:

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Local Chiropractor Opens New Skate Park

By Marsha Sandman
Contributing Writer

The first skateboards in the U.S. were started in the late 1940s using wooden boxes, or boards, with roller skate wheels attached to the bottom. Crate scooters preceded skateboards, having a wooden crate attached to the front of the board which was formed with rudimentary handlebars. Soon the boxes turned into planks, similar to the skateboard decks of today.

And now our neighborhood has a new skatepark located near NE Killingsworth and 30th St and adjacent to Jet Black Coffee (5308 NE 30th Ave). Curated and designed lovingly by property owner Thomas Grace and his family, the park design follows the waves and curves influenced by water and their love of nature.

Grace’s friends at Collective Concrete helped him design and create a half pipe four years ago on his 50’ x 100’ vacant lot. After selling his house in 2022, he had the funds to add a wave inspired sculpture to the space. The park and the sculpture will be lovingly dedicated to Grace’s deceased wife, Rachel. She unfortunately passed in 2022 during a recreational water incident. After the dedication, the park will be called the “Rachel Grace Memorial

Skate Plaza”. Her memory will live on.

Grace remembers that, “There was nothing that Rachel embarked on that she did not master. She cherished her family above all else and made everyone around her feel they were a part of hers. Rachel brought joy and light to everyone who knew her. She was the embodiment of unconditional love.”

Though the park is on private property, Grace allows the public to respectfully use the park. He lives next door to the park and above the coffee shop which he and Rachel once owned. Grace is a local chiropractor and owner of Natural Pain Solutions, adjacent to the building at 3007 NE Emerson St.

The park can be enjoyed by people aged 5 to 65, including Grace’s four sons and stepsons who are 15 to 21 years old. Enjoy your skating but please; no later than 10PM. Have fun!



After living east, south, north and west, Marsha Sandman is home at last. And she wants to hear your story. Contact her at MarshaJSandman@gmail.com.



New skatepark on NE 30th and Killingsworth is open now. Photos by Leigh Shelton



Editor’s Note

Correction: In the story *Vernon School Student Leads Bike Shelter Building Project* in the August edition of Concordia News, 11th grader Will Hambuchen is not a current Vernon school student, but a Vernon school alumnus. He currently attends La Salle College Prep. Concordia News regrets any confusion this error may have caused.

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Social Column

Fall Happenings in Concordia Neighborhood

By Michelle Fitzgerald
Social Committee Member

Welcome to the very teeny tiny beginning of fall! Just because the seasons aren't changing doesn't mean the social committee isn't hard at work planning events to bring our community together.

Our next exciting event is an opportunity to meet your neighbors, check out their cool wares and pick up a few treasures at the Annual Yard Sale. This event will run for two days, on Saturday September 16th and Sunday, September 17th from 8am-3pm each day. Maps of participating houses will be made and posted to the CNA website (ConcordiaPDX.org) and will also be available at each participating house.

In October, we are working on two cool things for you! First, we are looking for new ways to enjoy the decorations, haunted houses, and events celebrating Halloween in our neighborhood. Stay tuned for more information and please reach out to the Social Committee at Social@ConcordiaPDX.org if you have ideas. Second, we will also host our Candy & Goodies Giveaway at the lovely Bar Cala. Details will be announced as we get closer.

And remember, the Community Room at McMenamins Kennedy School is available to rent for your own social gatherings. The money supports CNA social activities, all of which are open

Our next exciting event is an opportunity to meet your neighbors, check out their cool wares and pick up a few treasures at the CNA Annual Yard Sale.



to our neighbors. Book the space at ConcordiaPDX.org/community-room-rental.

These events run on team spirit and dedicated volunteers are still needed. If you have a particular interest or would like to volunteer, please let us know. Our social committee meetings are on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at various locations. Drop in, come for sweet treats or just say hello. We will change locations monthly and post reminders on our social media pages and our website.



Michelle, alongside her husband John, loves connecting with neighbors and creating opportunities to build deeper connections in our community. She is an avid quilter and loves antiques.



Check out the neighborhood yard sale at homes across Concordia on September 16th-17th.

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Want to help plan events for your neighborhood?

Join us for a Social Committee meeting. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, September 19 from 6-7 p.m. at Via Chicago (2013 NE Alberta St).

All are welcome!

For more information, contact the Social Committee at Social@ConcordiaPDX.org

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Last Thursday, Summer 2023

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Photos by Jordana Leeb





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Land Use and Transportation

Leaders Push for Equity in City Planning

By Rich Burton
LUTC Chair

In November 2024, Portlanders will vote for three representatives in each district, expanding the City Commission to 12 members. The districts are North / Northeast, East, Southeast, and West. There are three proposed maps for district boundaries and the Concordia neighborhood designation is in the North / Northeast district in all three proposals.

This is a result of Ballot Measure 26-228, which was approved in November 2022. Ballot Measure 26-228 directed the City of Portland to implement these three changes by January 1st, 2025:

- Establish four geographic districts, with three city council members elected to represent each district, expanding the city council to a total of 12 members
- Allow voters to rank candidates in order of preference, using ranked-choice voting
- Establish a city council that focuses on setting policy and engaging with community, transitioning day-to-day oversight of bureaus to a mayor elected citywide and a professional city administrator

The Independent District Commission (IDC); tasked with implementing these changes, has been conducting in-person meetings and collecting feedback on the district proposals.

A meeting was held on July 13th in

the North / Northeast district at Self Enhancement Inc., a nonprofit aimed at serving underserved youth. At the meeting, North / Northeast Portland community leaders urged to boost engagement efforts and hear all voices to improve equity. Community leaders testified on how the districting process might impact Black Portlanders. Speakers mentioned communities of color and renters as key voices that should be heard when determining the four geographic voting districts. Renters, they said, have traditionally not had a voice on the City Commission and urged the IDC to consider access issues so engagement is truly inclusive. Here's a link to a YouTube video of their testimony: bit.ly/lutc-0923-youtube

Feedback gleaned from these community engagements will be used in development of the district plan. Learn more at Portland.gov/transition/districtcommission.



Rich Burton is the Chair of the Land Use and Transportation committee and serves as Member at Large #4 for the Concordia Neighborhood Association board. He is interested in building community.

33rd / Lombard Bridge Open and Paving In Progress

Good news: the repairs to the bridge at NE 33rd and Lombard are complete and the bridge is open to traffic in all directions. Additionally, NE 33rd is undergoing repaving from NE Knott to NE Columbia and is expected to be completed by October. Expect closures during this time period. More details can be found at the Portland Bureau of Transportation project site: bit.ly/lutc-0923-update.



Interested in Land Use and Transportation issues in your neighborhood?

For more information, contact the CNA Land Use and Transportation Committee (LUTC) at LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org. Or come share your thoughts at a LUTC meeting held the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 7–8:30PM at the McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room. See Page 2 for more information about attending meetings.



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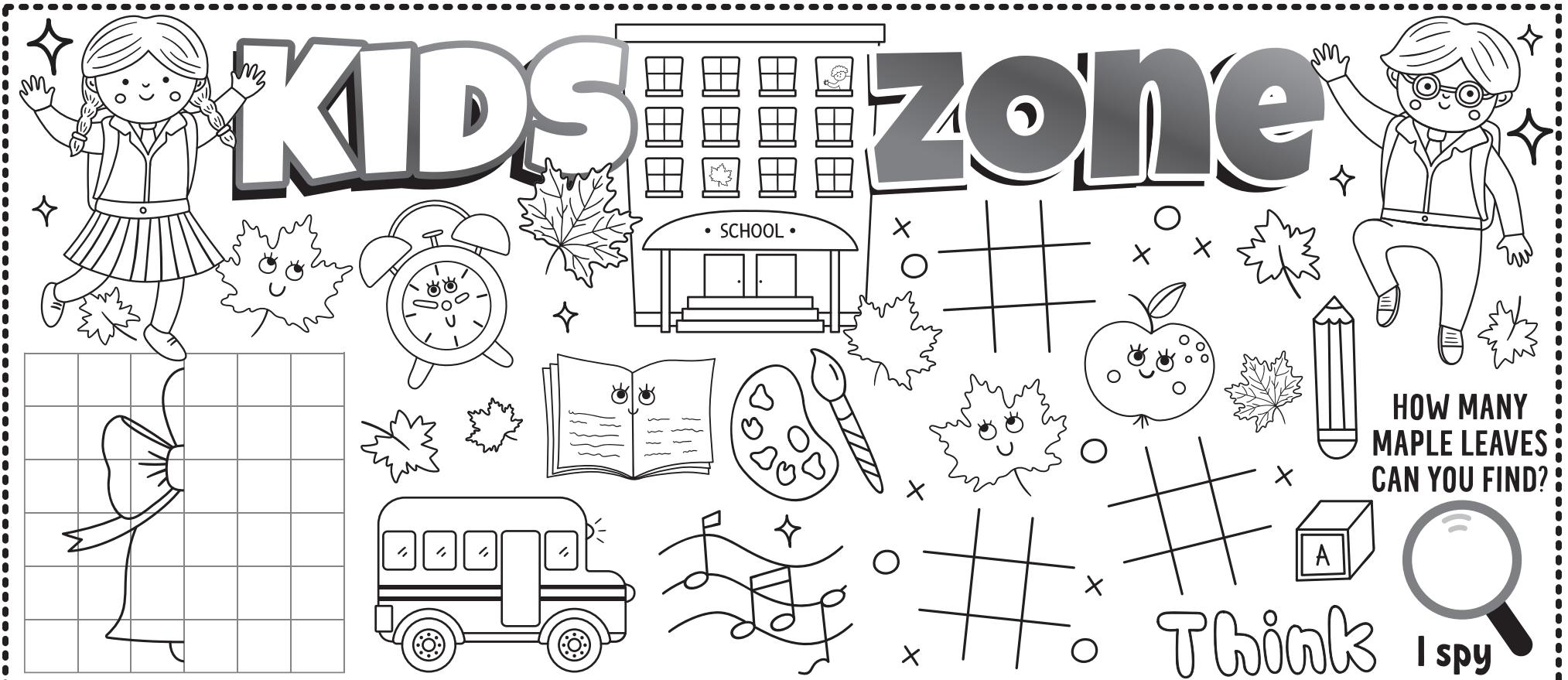
Sponsorships start at \$50/month. Contact Leigh at cnewsbusiness@concordiapdx.org to get started.

Many thanks,

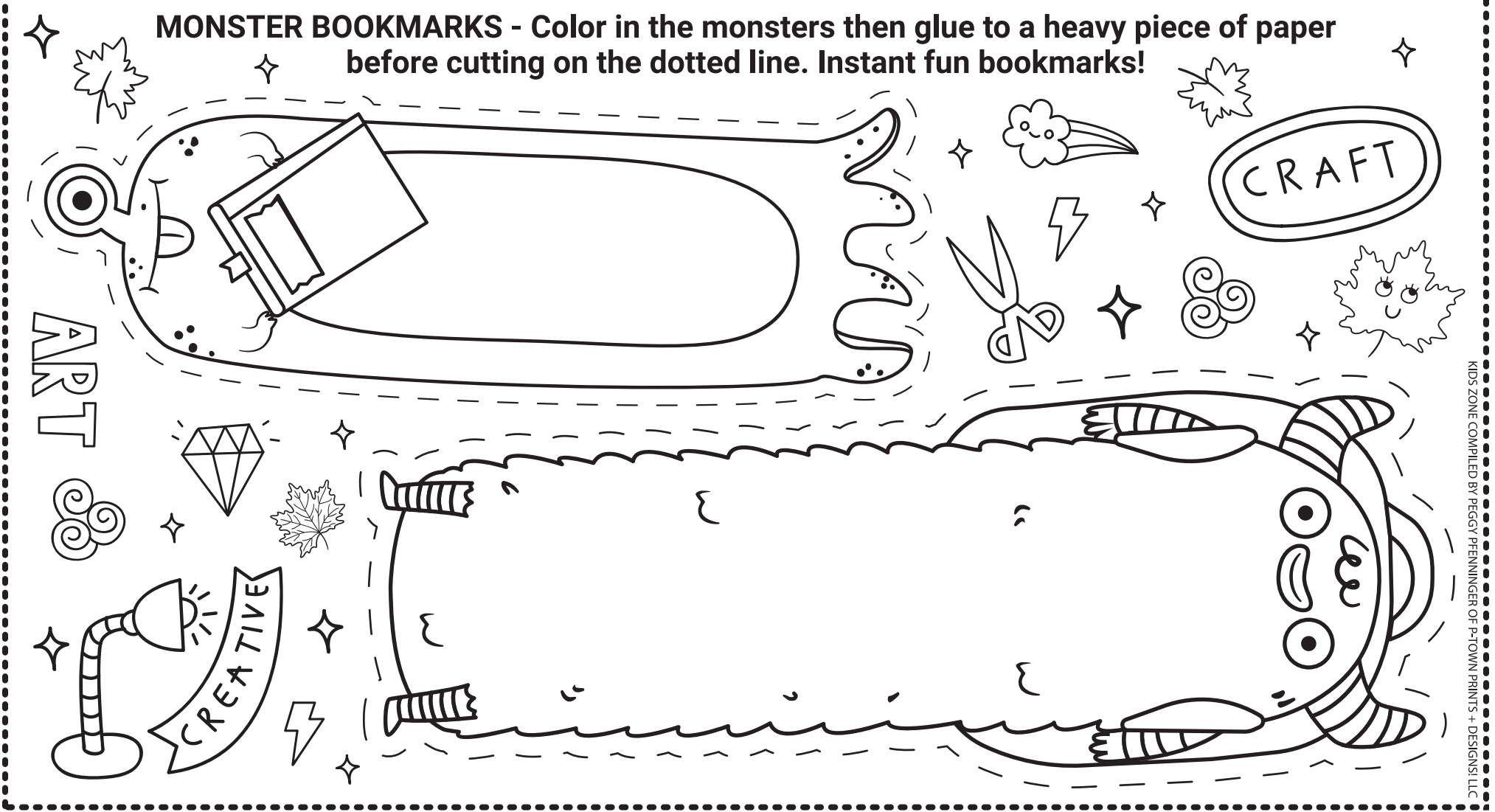
Leigh Shelton & the
Concordia News Media Team



Image courtesy of Harryarts on Freepik



BACK TO SCHOOL



KIDS ZONE COMPILED BY PEGGY PENNINGER OF P-TOWN PRINTS + DESIGNS, LLC

Concordia Neighborhood
Annual Yard Sale

Saturday – Sunday, Sept. 16 – 17
8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Join in the fun! Get a map of participating houses by visiting the CNA website at: ConcordiaPDX.org. Maps will also be available at participating houses.

Questions? Contact Michelle Fitzgerald at Social@ConcordiaPDX.org



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Concordia Abloom with Dahlias this Month

By Dina Sage
CNews Managing Editor

Did you know that there are no blue dahlias? Dahlias, those eye-catching voluminous flowers that can be as big as dinner plates, lack delphinidin, the pigment necessary to make flowers blue. Dahlias come in a variety of other colors (even black) and September is the best month in Concordia to see them.

Early Practical Uses

During its growing season, a dahlia produces a clump of tubers just below the ground that stores energy. Native to Mexico, dahlias’ tubers were cultivated by early people for food. Aztecs used them to treat epilepsy and even used the strong hollow stem of one variety for water pipes and irrigation. They’re also food for some butterfly and moth larvae.

Growth in Popularity

The dahlia was named after Andrew Dahl, a Swedish botanist, in 1791. Dahlia is the plant’s genus name and was chosen by the director of the Royal Gardens of Madrid, who was sent specimens from Mexico. Within a few years after their

naming, word about the beauty of dahlias (and seeds to grow them) began to spread through the aristocracy.

It is said that Napoleon’s empress Josephine loved the flowers so much that she required all her gardeners to keep their existence a secret. The story goes that a Polish prince hired someone to steal the flowers and by 1806, dahlias were growing in gardens all over Europe.

Today, dahlias grow in forests in South and Central America and many more are cultivated by professional gardeners around the world. Sources vary on how many species there are.

Dahlias in Portland

The holyhill dahlia and all its varieties were created right here in Portland. The Portland Dahlia Society (PDS) operates a trial garden to create new varieties. The organization was founded in 1928, has over 400 members and ships dahlia bulbs to growers throughout North America.

“The Pacific Northwest is a hot bed for hybridization and new dahlias,” says Gary Murphy, dahlia enthusiast and PDS member. Murphy says dahlias are easy to grow and recommends picking a spot with full sun, putting the bulbs 4-6 inches deep, and staking them so they don’t blow over.

Dahlias can be seen in gardens around Concordia through the summer and early fall. Take a walk around the neighborhood to see how many of these gorgeous blooms you can spot. Show us your dahlias by posting a picture on the CNA Facebook page!



A holyhill dahlia, created in Portland. Picture from The Portland Dahlia Society.



Dina Sage is the Managing Editor for CNews and enjoys engaging in the arts and outdoor activities.

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Concordia Neighborhood Litter Pickup

Care about your neighborhood? Want to help?



What: Join SOLVE and your neighbors for a litter pick up in the Concordia Neighborhood.

When: Saturday, September 9, 9:00 a.m. – noon

Where: Meet in Alberta Park, NE Ainsworth & 22nd

Registration: Pre-registration is recommended! Please sign up ahead of time and fill out the volunteer waiver form:

SOLVEoregon.org/opportunity/a0C8W00000wL88XUAS

Questions? Contact Gina Levine at GinaMLevine@gmail.com or call 503.891.7178.

More info: ConcordiaPDX.org/NeighborhoodLitterPickUp



BACK TO SCHOOL

Fall is my favorite season: the cool, sunny days, vibrant colors and the excitement and promise of back-to-school. I'm happy to be in a profession where I'm always learning something new. So if you'd like the latest on interest rates, housing trends, or have any questions about the market I'd love to share what I know. And if you see Truman and me kicking up leaves on our walk stop and say hello!

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REALTY

The Benefits of Community Gardening

By Kepper Petzig
Contributing Writer

Have Your Own Garden

Have you ever thought that tomatoes and strawberries from the store don't have the flavor you crave? Do you love making flower arrangements for family and friends? If you dream about having fresh home-grown vegetables and fruits and you enjoy getting your hands in the dirt, all this can be yours with a garden.

What? Not enough sun? Not enough space? You'd rather have roses in your yard than potatoes? A Portland Park District Community Garden may be for you.

Community Gardens

Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) operates 60 community gardens located throughout Portland. The only community garden that falls within the Concordia Neighborhood is the Kennedy Community Garden. Located on 35th Street behind McMenamins Kennedy School, the Kennedy Community Garden has .36 acres and was acquired by the city in 1999. Maps of the Kennedy Community Garden and the other Portland community gardens can be found on the PP&R website.

People interested in joining a community garden must submit a plot request form and are added to a waitlist. Since most gardens have a one or two year waiting list, it is possible to be on two garden waitlists at a time. Garden plots are assigned as they become available.

Costs and Labor Involved

There are different sized garden plots and fees are based on the size. Fees and sizes vary from \$5 a year for a single ADA-accessible raised bed to \$220 a year for an 800 square foot plot. 100 square foot plots are popular and cost \$9 to \$36 a year. There are scholarships available based on income.



Kepper Petzig has lived in Concordia for 40 years where, with their partner Lowen, they raised two children. They are nonbinary. They love gardening and fresh food and are grateful for the community gardens.

In addition to the plot itself, tools and gardening materials must be purchased but gardening can be done fairly inexpensively. Many gardens provide donated compost and/or bark chips. Garden starts and seeds may be obtained from neighbors. Water is provided at no additional charge. However, most gardeners spend money on their garden for soil amendments, tools, seeds and plants.

As plants grow, weeds grow, too and gardening is work. The garden's community plantings need care and each gardener is required to contribute 6 hours per year on community upkeep.

Learn and Share from Other Gardeners

A community garden is a chance to meet neighbors and share seeds, starts and information. Maria Cummings began gardening at Kennedy Community Garden in 2007. She loves the garden so much that last year she moved across the street.

"In case I grow too old to drive, I can still walk to my garden," says Cummings. In addition to onions, potatoes, tomatoes, and shishito peppers, Cummings grows beans from seeds she brought from her native Brazil. She is especially proud of the dahlias she tends in the community plot. Cummings is well-known at Kennedy for helping other gardeners. If you want to know how to grow tomatoes or how to grow and braid garlic, ask Cummings.

Another Concordia resident, Will Goubert, gardens at Sumner Street Community Garden. Goubert loves community gardening.

The community garden "lets us have trees around our house and have a vegetable garden, too. I enjoy the community and the chance to interact with other gardeners," says Goubert.

Good for the Community

Community gardens do more than just provide food for their plot owners. Some of the community gardens support a Produce for People program which provides fresh produce to food banks and pantries. Goubert describes his garden plot as "a refuge, a sanctuary for all the stress in my life." Fall is a good time to get on a waitlist for a community garden. To learn more, visit the Portland Park District Community Garden website at Portland.gov/parks/community-gardens.



Maria Cummings tending her tomatoes, Photo by Kepper Petzing.

McMENAMINS

KENNEDY SCHOOL

7th Annual

Oktoberfest

Brewfest

Saturday,

October 7

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21 & over

RACE TALKS

TUESDAY, SEPT 12 • 7PM

Minor w/ parent or guardian

DRAG QUEEN BINGO w/ POISON WATERS

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 13 • 7PM

21 & over • Adv tix recommended

OMSI SCIENCE PUB: POOP: THE EVOLUTIONARY WONDER

TUESDAY, SEPT 19 • 7PM

All ages • Adv tix recommended

Need a place for your group to meet?

The **Community Room** at McMenamins Kennedy School is available for meetings, birthdays, baby showers, or other special gatherings.

- Capacity to 49 people
- Tables, chairs & cleaning supplies in room

Pricing: \$40/hr (\$25/hr non-profit)
Money funds public activities.

Learn more and reserve at: ConcordiaPDX.org/community-room-rental

This Fall, let's finally clean those baseboards.

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Gloria Parra, owner & operator

News from the NET

September is National Preparedness Month

By Micha Wolf
Contributing Writer

For the month of September, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will focus its efforts on older adults from communities that are disproportionately impacted by all-hazard events.

“We know older adults can face greater risks when it comes to the multitude of extreme weather events and emergencies we now face, especially if they are living alone, are low-income, have a disability, or live in rural areas,” says FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell.

According to the American Red Cross, there are several factors that make older adults more vulnerable after disasters, including:

- A greater likelihood to suffer from chronic conditions and the need for associated medications
- A greater reliance on assistive devices such as walkers or glasses, as well as support from caregivers and others
- An increased likelihood of social isolation

In Portland there are about 2200

FEMA will focus its efforts on older adults from communities that are disproportionately impacted by all-hazard events.

active Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) members spread out through many neighborhoods. While NETs are trained by the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management (PBEM) and are encouraged to undergo continuous education and special training, we find that some neighborhoods are more actively involved in disaster preparation, assessment and assistance than others.

That’s where you as a concerned community member come in!

We as NETs encourage you to reach out to your immediate neighbors in order to find out about their special skills or needs.

- Introduce yourself to your immediate neighbors (about 4-5 houses down in either direction of your home)

- Compile a list of their specific skills (nurse, plumber, mechanic, foreign language speaker...) and find out if they are willing to share and assist in case of an emergency
- determine whether there are people with special needs in your neighborhood that may need extra help evacuating or being cared for (wheel-chair-bound, blind person, etc.)
- If willing, establish a method of connecting (phone tree, short wave radios if available or a gathering place)
- Host informal get-togethers / movie nights / street fairs to find out more about your neighbors and form a connection

The more we know about our neighbors, the faster we will be able to help in case of an emergency or disaster. The closer we get, the more likely we will feel safe and cared for in our own little neighborhood. If you are interested in learning more about PBEM and/or would like to train to become a NET team member, please visit Portland.gov/pbem.



Micha Wolf has retired from teaching primary school, loves being in nature and believes in building community through engagement.



NET member checking on elderly neighbor. Photo by Micha Wolf.

STAY CONNECTED

The Library & Learning Center will open this month with public hours for the library. Some of our UO Portland students, faculty and staff have started to move into the building ahead of fall term.

We are excited to have KISS on Campus open in the coffee space in a few months. Make sure to stop by and support our neighborhood business.

Questions?
pdxinfo@uoregon.edu



pdx.uoregon.edu/northeast-pdx-campus



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LCB# 9161

Community Connections

Meeting Strangers through Graphic Novels

By Nedra Rezinas
Contributing Writer

I’ve been reflecting on connecting with new people and the benefits it can bring. As someone who works from home, I have to seek out opportunities to get out of my house and connect with people in real life (not on Zoom).

In the book *The Power of Strangers*

Once you take the first step in connecting with someone, anything can happen.

by Joe Keohane, the author embarks on a journey; riding a train across the country and conducting interviews with leaders and community members who help facilitate engagement with new people. Keohane shares a number of psychological studies on interactions



Nedra Rezinas lives near U of O in Concordia. She does marketing strategy for small businesses, is a mom, drinks tea, is a birder, and is passionate to build community.

with new people. Each outcome ends up the same; when someone (whether they are introverted or extroverted) engages in conversation with a stranger, they end up feeling better than before the interaction. Keohan’s message is even though we are wired to mistrust and fear strangers, we’ve evolved to benefit from connecting to strangers.

Here’s how connecting with strangers has paid off for me: around 2005, I stumbled into the world of graphic novels. I noticed they were at bookstores, libraries, movies and TV shows. I was eager to seek out stories told by women and minorities; not just superheroes and men, but I didn’t know where to start.

Around this time, a new comic book store had opened on North Mississippi. One day I was talking to the owner of the store, Michael, and I shared with him how overwhelmed I felt about trying to find graphic novels to read by myself. Michael revealed that I wasn’t the only one who felt that way and a few months later, Michael helped organize the first official Graphic Novel Reading Club. Word got out, I shared the reading club with some friends and the club grew. We had great conversations and read many different types of genres of graphic novels. I was thrilled to be exposed to new people and new ideas.

A few years later, I had a baby and was running a web design business so I dropped out of the club. As a busy new parent, I was looking for someone to help me with my work. Jefferson, a fellow Graphic Novel Reading Club member, reached out to see if I needed help in my business. Because of our existing connec-

tion, it was easier to bring Jefferson on board. Little did I know that we would work together for 8 years and successfully build websites for companies and nonprofits all over the country. I would have never met Jefferson if I hadn’t been willing to hang out with some strangers and talk about graphic novels.

Don’t be afraid to lean into your curiosity about people and the world around you. Once you take the first step in

connecting with someone, anything can happen.

Community Connections is where community members share their stories of finding and connecting with others in the neighborhood. If you have a story about making a connection with a Concordia neighborhood resident, send an email to the editor at MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org.



Jefferson Power and Nedra Rezinas met in a Graphic Novel Reading Club and later worked together for 8 years.

CNA Seeks Recording Secretary

The Concordia Neighborhood Association is hiring a recording secretary to record and transcribe minutes of board and general meetings held at McMenamins Kennedy School.

The contract position pays \$35/hour for meetings and time spent preparing and publishing minutes online. Hours are about 5-7 per month.

- Board meetings: monthly, usually 6:30 p.m. 1st Tuesday each month
- General meetings: quarterly, 7 p.m. 1st Tuesday of the month

The position requires good writing, transcription and document preparation skills. Availability and dependability are a must! Must be able to attend meetings in person.

Interested? Contact the Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org with a resume, references and writing sample.

CNA website: ConcordiaPDX.org



Open positions on CNA Board

The Concordia Neighborhood Association Board of Directors has two vacant positions. Anyone interested must be a resident, property owner, business licensee, from an educational institution, from a governmental agency, or from a nonprofit organization located within the boundaries of the Concordia neighborhood (a map can be found on Page 2), and must be at least 14 years of age.

Nominations will be heard and a vote for each position will be held at the CNA Board Meeting on September 5, 2023 at 6 p.m. See Page 2 for ways to attend this meeting.

Powers and duties of board members can be found in the CNA bylaws, Article VII, Section F: ConcordiaPDX.org/about-cna/bylaws/

For more information or questions, please contact Astrid Furstner, Chair, at Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org or Brittany van der Salm, Vice-Chair at AL6@ConcordiaPDX.org.



Cascade
Hasson

Sotheby’s

INTERNATIONAL REALTY

Join Our Exciting Raffle Event
TO WIN \$50 FRED MEYER GROCERY CARD!

- » DATE: OCTOBER 1ST
- » TIME: 10:00 AM (PST)
- » PLATFORM: INSTAGRAM LIVE @JAVIER.PUGAPHILLIPS



SCAN HERE TO ENTER!

See you on October 1st at 10:00 AM on Instagram Live @Javier.PugaPhillips for the raffle draw that could change your grocery game for good!

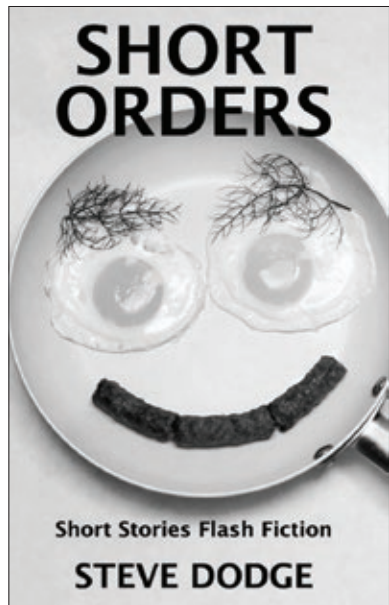


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New Book from Concordia Writer



A man loses his bionic head. The new neighbors appear to have no bodies. A shape-shifting boss. Vast herds of cats. This eclectic mix of short stories, flash fiction, humor, and satire is designed to tickle the funny bone and provide a bit of food for thought. From Concordia writer Steve Dodge.

Available now at **Broadway Books** or Broadwaybooks.net



ALBERTA ROSE THEATRE

SEPTEMBER 2023

1

NINA SIMONE TRIBUTE
I PUT A SPELL ON YOU
with LaRhonda Steele and the Adrian Martin Sextet

2

10th annual
MONTAVILLA JAZZ FESTVAL

4

THE DEAD DAISIES
THE BLACK MOODS

6

The Arcadian Wild

7

DAPPERLESQUE

8

ROSE CITY
CIRCUS presents
CIRCLES & LINES
with **THREE FOR SILVER**

10

CANDLELIGHT
VIVALDI'S FOUR SEASONS

11

TAIMANE

12

NOSFERATU
classic horror movie w/ live soudtrack
from **INVINCIBLE CZARS**

13

CANDLELIGHT
TAYLOR SWIFT TRIBUTE

15

DREAMS
FLEETWOOD MAC + STEVIE
feat. **GLITTERFOX** and
ACOUSTIC MINDS

17

TONY STARLIGHT SHOW
URNS 30!

19

SCIENCE ON TAP
seeing the big picture : how the
brain manipulates our visual world

21

LOUIS MICHOT

22

OREGON BURLESQUE
FESTIVAL

24

TRACY GRAMMER

25

PRINCE AGAIN
a tribute to PRINCE

26

MASTERS OF HAWAIIAN MUSIC
George Kahumoku Jr
Led Kaapana • Jeff Peterson

29

THE SALTY SIBLINGS
the HARVEST HOOTENANNY

30

LED ZEPPELIN tribute
FOOL IN THE RAIN
featuring LOVE GIGANTIC

albertarosetheatre.com

3000 NE Alberta

503.764.4131

Concordia Community Events Calendar

Saturday, September 2nd, 7:30 pm
SUMER FREE FOR ALL MOVIE IN THE PARK
K^HUNAMOKWST PARK
Location: 5200 NE Alberta St.
Watch family movie, Te Ata.

Saturday, September 2nd, 8 - 11 pm
HERITAGE SOUL FEST 2023
ALBERTA ABBEY
Location: 126 NE Alberta St.
Soul music festival featuring Soul Alliance

Sunday, September 3rd, 4 - 6 pm
LINN STREET DIN
ALBERTA STREET PUB
Location: 1036 NE Alberta St.
Swing, blues, country and gypsy jazz

Sunday, September 3rd, 8 - 11 pm
JOHN PRIMER
ALBERTA ABBEY
Location: 126 NE Alberta St.
Benefit concert headlined by legendary blues musician

Friday, September 8th, 6:30 - 8:30 pm
SPIRITUAL ABUSE RECOVERY SUPPORT MEETING
CNA COMMUNITY ROOM, KENNEDY SCHOOL
Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave.
Support and education for survivors of abuse related to religion

Friday, September 8th, 7 - 11 pm
INNASTATE
ALBERTA ABBEY
Location: 126 NE Alberta St.
Benefit concert presented by The Jim Pepper Native Arts Council

Saturday, September 9th, 9 am - 12 pm
CONCORDIA NEIGHBORHOOD LITTER PICK UP
ALBERTA PARK
Location: 1905 NE Killingsworth St.
Sign up here to help clean up the neighborhood and meet new people: solveoregon.org/opportunity/a0C8W00000wL88hUAC/concordia-neighborhood-litter-pick-up

Saturday, September 9th, 10 am - 2 pm
PANDEMIC PURGE: NAMING THE TRAUMA, MOVING THE GRIEF
LEAVEN COMMUNITY CENTER
Location: 5431 NE 20th Ave.
Trauma recovery led by experienced chaplain

Saturday, September 9th, 10 am - 2 pm
CATIO TOUR
ALBERTA ABBEY
Location: 126 NE Alberta St.
11th annual walking tour of Concordia homes that have cat patios

Sunday, September 10th, 2 pm
GRAPHIC NOVEL RELEASE PARTY
GREEN BEAN BOOKS
Location: 1600 NE Alberta St.
Author Breena Bard hosts release party for new graphic novel *Wildfire*.

Tuesday, September 12th and 19th, 11 am
Wednesday, September 27th, 6 pm
STORY TIME
GREEN BEAN BOOKS
Location: 1600 NE Alberta St.
Hear books read by their authors.

Tuesday, September 12th, 5 - 6 pm
MEDICARE 101
CNA COMMUNITY ROOM, KENNEDY SCHOOL
Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave.
Call (503) 313-4160 for more information.

Community calendar items

Priority is afforded to local events sponsored by—or which benefit—local nonprofit organizations. Submit information to CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org by the 10th of the month preceding the event.

Wednesday, September 13th, 6 pm
DRAG QUEEN BINGO
MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL
Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave.

Thursday, September 14th, 8 - 11 pm
BENEFIT SHOW FOR LGBTQI+ YOUTH
ALBERTA ABBEY
Location: 126 NE Alberta St.
Live music and drag show

Saturday and Sunday, September 16th - 17th, 8 am - 3 pm
CNA NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE
VARIOUS HOMES THROUGHOUT CONCORDIA
Learn more at concordiapdx.org.

Saturday September 16th, Kickoff Celebration, 9 am - 6 pm
Sunday, September 17th, Race Day, 8 am - 12 pm
MLK DREAM RUN BENEFIT
PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE - CASCADE CAMPUS
Location: 705 N Killingsworth St.
Register to run 5K, 10K or 15K at MLKDreamRun.org.

Saturday, September 16th, 10 am - 12 pm
A TOWN HALL
ALBERTA ABBEY
Location: 126 NE Alberta St.
Q&A with Senator Frederick and Representatives Nelson and Sanchez

Tuesday, September 19th - Friday, September 22nd, 8 am - 4 pm
DARE TO LEAD WORKSHOP
CNA COMMUNITY ROOM, KENNEDY SCHOOL
Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave.
4-day courage-building program; contact angelalehr1@gmail.com to register

Tuesday, September 19th, 7 pm
OMSI SCIENCE PUB
MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL
Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave.
Enjoy food, drinks and knowledge.

Wednesday, September 20th, 7:30 - 10 pm
SETH WALKER
ALBERTA ABBEY
Location: 126 NE Alberta St.
Americana concert

Thursday, September 21st, 4 - 5 pm
GRAPHIC NOVEL BOOK CLUB
HOLLYWOOD LIBRARY
Location: 4040 NE Tillamook St.
2nd and 3rd graders read and discuss a graphic novel monthly.

Sunday, September 24th, 1 - 4 pm
TRAVEL TALK AND SLIDESHOW
CNA COMMUNITY ROOM, KENNEDY SCHOOL
Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave.
Stories and photos from local tour guide couple, RSVP to joan.strong@cruiseplanners.com

Thursday, September 28th, 6:30 - 9:30 pm
BIPOC COMMUNITY SING-A-LONG
CNA COMMUNITY ROOM, KENNEDY SCHOOL
Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave.
Song circle for BIPOC community members benefitting NAYA

Saturday, September 30th, 12 pm
READ TO A THERAPY DOG
GREEN BEAN BOOKS
Location: 1600 NE Alberta St.
Sign up for a 15-minute slot to read to Buddy the therapy dog.

Saturday, September 30th, 7 - 10:30 pm
ART ABRAMS PRESENTS THE KING MACHINE
ALBERTA ABBEY
Location: 126 NE Alberta St.
Big band featuring singer LaRhonda Steele plays Elvis songs

Every Monday and Friday, 9 - 9:45 am
FITNESS IN THE PARK
ALBERTA PARK
Location: 1905 NE Killingsworth St.
Instructor-led exercise classes provided by Portland Parks and Recreation

Every Monday, 5:30 - 7 pm
DRUMMERS AWARENESS CLASS
NAYA FAMILY CENTER
Location: 5135 NE Colombia Blvd.
Drum with community and find your voice.

Every Monday, 7 - 10 pm
BRIDGETOWN TRIVIA
ALBERTA STREET PUB
Location: 1036 NE Alberta St.

Every Wednesday, 7 pm
KARAOKE!
THE WAYPOST
Location: 4212 NE Prescott St.

Every Thursday, 10 - 2
BIPOC FOOD PANTRY DROP-IN
ALDER COMMONS
Location: 4212 NE Prescott St.
Free food for BIPOC community members

Every Friday, 12:30 - 2:30 pm
TECH HELP DROP-IN
KENTON LIBRARY MEETING ROOM
Location: 8226 N Denver Ave.
Free tech help for mobile devices, websites, getting started and more

Every Sunday, 10 am – 12 pm
LIVE MUSIC – VARIOUS ARTISTS
JUST BOB
Location: 2403 NE Alberta St.
Watch various live artists every Sunday at this café.

Every Sunday, 7 pm
OPEN MIC
THE WAYPOST
Location: 4212 NE Prescott St.
Weekly open mic at intimate venue

Every Sunday, 9 - 11 pm
SOULFUL SUNDAYS
ALBERTA STREET PUB
Location: 1036 NE Alberta St.
The Love Train band with Special Guest DJ Renz

Every Wednesday and Friday, 8 - 10 pm
OPEN GYM
NAYA FAMILY CENTER
Location: 5135 NE Colombia Blvd.

Monday - Friday, 9:30 am
NEIGHBORHOOD WALK
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON - LIBRARY
Location: 2800 NE Liberty Street
Meet neighbors for a daily walk.

Every Monday and Saturday, 10 am - 1 pm
COMMUNITY GARDEN VOLUNTEER DAY
NAYA FAMILY CENTER
Location: 5135 NE Colombia Blvd.
Volunteer at the NAYA Community garden.

Do you like walking in your neighborhood?

We need volunteers to help deliver monthly Concordia News to businesses in the Concordia neighborhood.



Interested? Please email Dina at MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org or call 541.306.8006.