



CONCORDIA NEWS

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

December 2023

CNA Annual Holiday Party has been postponed!

Stay tuned for more about the CNA Winter Celebration.

See Page 11 for details.

A look back on 2023, pg. 4



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.

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Albina Sports Program Wins School Board Vote

By Kathy Crabtree
Contributing Writer

A recent 4-2 vote by the Portland Public School Board went to Albina Sports Program to move forward with their plan to build a

The new sports complex would provide multiple amenities to improve athletic skills.

new sports complex. The sports complex would be located on the former Whitaker Middle school site in Fernhill Park's southern border, off of NE 42nd and Killingsworth. Several other proposals had been discussed including a community center, featured in both February and March issues of Concordia News.

Albina Sports Program, a local nonprofit, was established in 1965 by Phil Walden, a coach and teacher who worked to support diversity in sports and the athletic endeavors of the community.

Among the 3000-plus alumni involved in Albina Sports' programs are 225 All-Americans; a title given to outstanding U.S. athletes competing at the collegiate and secondary school levels. The new sports complex would support the organization's mission by providing multiple amenities to improve athletic skills including an indoor running track, a soccer field, basketball and volleyball courts, four baseball



Whitaker Field is located just south of Fernhill Park, off of NE 42nd Ave. Photo by Nancy Varekamp.

fields, a 400-meter track, and a one-mile cross-country running path.

Gary Hollands is the current executive director of Albina Sports Program. Though Hollands abstained from the vote, he also sits on the school board. Critics of the decision are concerned about this conflict of interest and the fact that the plan is estimated at costing \$175 million.

The three-level plan includes a lower parking garage, retail spaces for new businesses and a walkable streetscape along NE 42nd Avenue. It focuses on the southside main entrance to the complex accessed through a one-way road – Phil Walden Lane, honoring Walden's leadership and mentorship. Skylights would provide natural light and a green roof

would collect and filter rainwater for the use of the building's plumbing system. Solar panels would produce a portion of electrical needs.

Architect John Carhart states the goal is to "create a place for kids to become immersed in sports so that they can learn the things that will benefit them later in life: teamwork, cooperation, and leadership."



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

Land Use and Transportation

NE 33rd Bike Lane Update

By Rich Burton
LUTC Committee Chair

As part of the repaving project of NE 33rd Street, bike lanes were installed early last month between NE Holman and the NE 33rd Bridge/Over Change. Impacted residents along this four block stretch had not been notified that parking spots would be removed and were surprised by the changes. PBOT sent a letter to affected community members detailing how they had dropped the ball and are now working to correct their actions. As explained in the letter below, the bike lanes are "in limbo" and traffic enforcement is on hold while PBOT and impacted Concordia community members discuss the issues.

PBOT Letter to NE 33rd Residents

Good afternoon, my name is Demetri

and I am the Constituents Services Coordinator for the Portland Bureau of Transportation responding to your email on behalf of Director Williams. I would like to thank you for sharing your concerns around the four blocks of bike lane we prematurely striped on NE 33rd Avenue. We have postponed our work to grind it out for now. However, we want to share some helpful background on what happened here as well as next steps.

Background

After the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) completed the Columbia-Lombard Mobility Plan and council adopted it in 2021, PBOT staff were supposed to do a parking study, look at the impacts and tradeoffs, and do proper outreach to the community about certain elements of the plan, including

the removal of parking for the proposed bike lanes on NE 33rd Avenue from Holman to the over change. These steps are supposed to be routine as our planners hand off to our project managers who then continue to do outreach as projects move through phases of design and pre-construction.

We clearly skipped these steps around this portion of the bike lane. Staff included this striping in the design but had never spoken to affected neighbors or told them when these changes would be coming. This went straight into work orders and our crews striped it without knowing we skipped these steps. We realized the error too late to stop it or properly notify neighbors outside routine notification we do whenever we do paving work.

Story continued on Page 6

From the Board

By Astrid Furstner, CNA Board Chair



New Chair and Board Members Elected

The holidays are here! We made it to December (insert Taylor Swift’s ”Back to December”; because who else has been following the Travis Kelce and Taylor Swift romance?); seriously, we made it through to the end of the year. It has been a whirlwind of activity for our neighborhood. Let me begin by congratulating the 2024 elected representatives for CNA:

- Chair: John Fitzgerald
- Southwest 1: Brian Schutte
- Northwest 1: Ike Harris
- At Large 1: Robert Bowles
- At Large 3: John McSherry
- At Large 4: Lauren Falkner
- At Large 5: Michelle Fitzgerald

During the odd-numbered years, we elect the odd-numbered representative positions and during the even-numbered years, we elect the even-numbered representative positions. Each position serves for two years, except for the Chair, which is elected each year. We had several people in attendance and that was great to see. Thank you to everyone for your participation – it helps!

During the meeting, Rich Burton, our Land Use Transportation Committee Chair provided us with a few updates regarding residential in-fill, the various notices we receive from the City of Portland’s Bureau of Development Services, PBOT and the bike lane issue, as well as a presentation from Clarence Larkin regarding an alternative proposal for use of the Whitaker site. For more specific information, please contact the LUTC team or attend their meetings.

During our general and/or board meetings, we try to get through a lot of business, which is why we delegate longer discussions regarding land use items

to the LUTC team. They have their meetings every third Wednesday of the month. There is a virtual option as well, if you can’t be there in person.

If you want to see change, if you want to have your wishes and voices heard, please consider attending our meetings. You don’t have to give a ton of time, but for the association to adequately represent YOU, we need to hear from YOU. We are a group of volunteers just trying to look out for one another. We volunteer to stay informed and be in a position to speak up when something affects us. We are still looking for a representative for East 1. If you live on Concordia’s East side (between NE 33rd and 42nd), and you are interested in serving on the board, please email me at Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org.

A quote from Constance Wu: Public service is about serving all the people, including the ones who are not like you.

As we end this year, I hope that we all take a moment to reflect on where we live, our neighborhood, and our blessings. I realize that we face our challenges, in Concordia, in Portland, in Oregon, in the United States, and abroad. We have differences in opinions and interests, but I hope that as we enter the new year, that we can take a moment and be thankful for what we have now and who we have now. Lives can change in a moment. I wish you all many blessings and thank you for the opportunity to have been the Chair once again.

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
Wednesday, January 10, 6 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room with call in option, see box below, contact Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org

General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, March 6, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room with call in option, see box below, contact Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org

Social Committee Meeting
3rd Tuesday of the month, Tuesday, December 19, 6 p.m., Via Chicago Pizza, contact Social@ConcordiaPDX.org for more details.

Media Team Meeting
Tuesday, December 19, 6 p.m., Contact Dina Sage for location, MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org

Land Use & Transportation Committee Meeting
3rd Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, December 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, December 27, 7 p.m., venue: contact Brian Schutte, 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

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Brittany van der Salm, AL6@ConcordiaPDX.org

CNA Secretary
Matt Roberts, NW2@ConcordiaPDX.org

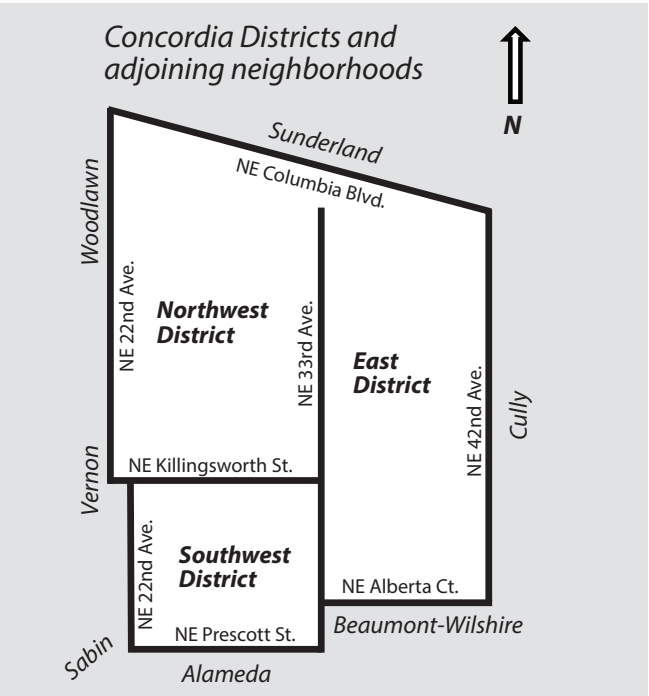
CNA Treasurer
Brian Schutte, Treasurer@ConcordiaPDX.org

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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The CNA newspaper can be accessed online at: ConcordiaPDX.org/CNews-issues.



CNA Board of Directors

- Chair | Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org Astrid Furstner
- East 1 | East1@ConcordiaPDX.org Heather Pashley
- East 2 | East2@ConcordiaPDX.org Rich Burton
- Northwest 1 | NW1@ConcordiaPDX.org Isham ”Ike” Harris
- Northwest 2 | NW2@ConcordiaPDX.org Matt Roberts
- Southwest 1 | SW1@ConcordiaPDX.org Brian Schutte
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- At Large 4 | AL4@ConcordiaPDX.org Lauren Falkner
- 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

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Want to get involved locally?
Want to get to know your neighbors?

Join us at the next Concordia Neighborhood Association Board Meeting on Wednesday, January 10, 6 p.m
Attend in the McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room. To attend remotely, go to ConcordiaPDX.org/CNAMeetings.

No meeting in December.

For more information, contact the board chair at Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org.



All are welcome!

Concordia’s Christmas House

By Kepper Petzig
Contributing Writer

It started with a string of lights. Jack and Georgene Wallis had no idea of the Christmas obsession that would descend upon them. They were high school sweethearts from Puyallup, Washington. After they got married, Jack joined the army and Georgene followed him to Germany. As Jack was finishing his 15-year military service in 1990, Georgene and their new baby Jordann moved into their Concordia house off of Ainsworth. There were no decorations that first Christmas.

Jack joined Georgene and Jordann the next year. That Christmas they did a simple outline of their house in lights. Over the years they added second daughter Justene—and a whole lot of Christmas decorations. They hunt through Goodwill and look for sales. A new piece or two each year for 32 years really adds up.

Today their Christmas decorations draw onlookers from across the city. They get lots of outdoor visitors, including at times a tour bus and a limousine. Sometimes they get thank you cards and



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

once, a little girl brought them cookies. One family hosts their annual family Christmas picture in front of the display. “I think you can see it from the air when the planes come to land at PDX,” jokes Jack. Neighbors call it Peacock Lane (Portland’s festive “Christmas street” between SE Stark and Belmont) in one house. The Wallis’ have a strict rule – Christmas decorations are turned on

They hunt through Goodwill and look for sales. A new piece or two each year for 32 years really adds up.

December 1st and have their last night December 31st. Jack admits that the motivation to begin set-up gets harder each year. His bones are aging. But, once he starts, the joy kicks in. Jack is the master artist, rearranging things each year to keep it fresh. Jordann and Justene critique the final display. Last year his kids banned Jack from the highly sloped roof. It hurts his heart because “that is where Santa and Rudolph truly belong.” The inside is not neglected. They always have a big Christmas tree, visible



Visit Concordia’s Christmas house on NE 32nd Ave. between NE Jarrett and Ainsworth. Photo by Jack Wallis.


through the window, and every room is decorated. Over the years they added an audiovisual display. To be respectful of the surrounding houses, Jack keeps the sound low and turns everything off at 10 pm. It’s not just an artistic puzzle to fit everything in, but a practical one as well. To keep the breakers from tripping, each display is on a timer because the system can’t handle all of them at once. Georgene handles the invisible parts, such as

changing the light bulbs. It takes about 24 hours, spread over several days, to set it up and 8 hours or less to take it down and store it away for next year. How big is the electric bill? “We don’t look.” Like proud parents, Jack and Georgene decline picking a favorite decoration. All are loved. Jack says they just want to spread the joy and help to create memories. Stop by and see Concordia’s Christmas house at 5840 NE 32nd Avenue (not Place) this holiday season.

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Looking Back on 2023

Egg Hunt



Veterans Day Parade



NE Sunday Parkways



Portland Open Studios



CNA Yard Sale



Last Thursday



Concordia Tree Team Walk



Makers Market



Thanks for a great year.

Community Connections

Alberta Main Street Active Again and Seeking Volunteers

Elise has lived in NE Portland neighborhood since 1979 and was one of several original organizers of the Alberta Street Fair. From 2003-2006, she owned Tribe of the Winds Gallery at NE 22nd and Alberta. She served on the Alberta Streetscape Committee, on the Board of Art on Alberta and was a member of the Alberta Street Business Association, the precursor to Alberta Main Street. Aside from a break between 2021 and 2023, Elise has been on the Board of Alberta Main Street since 2016 and is currently serving as Interim Board Vice President.



By Elise Scolnick
AMS Volunteer

What is Alberta Main Street?

Alberta Main Street (AMS) is a non-profit aimed at “advancing efforts to develop Alberta Street as a vibrant, creative, equitable and sustainable commercial district serving residents, businesses and visitors of our community.” AMS has supported local businesses and community builders for the past 13 plus years through business help, community events, clean-ups, design and art projects. As a volunteer-led nonprofit, AMS has always relied on its residents, artists, business owners/employees, and other partners to successfully achieve its goals. Following a period of inactivity, AMS is becoming active again and recruiting volunteers. A social mixer was held at Baerlic Brewing on October 18th to reach out and reintroduce AMS to new and seasoned businesses.

History of AMS

Alberta Main Street became a non-profit in 2010. Prosper Portland, an organization that partners with non-profits to build a more equitable economy, chose four Main Street Programs, including AMS. The founding Executive Director of AMS was Sara Wittenberg, who built the organization into a volunteer-led community and business support network. Wittenberg passed away in 2018, deeply affecting the community and the board.

In 2019, primarily in honor of Wittenberg’s, volunteers’ and the board’s work, AMS received a National Main Street Award, a prestigious recognition of all the work done over previous years to improve and revitalize the Alberta Street business district and community.

Dormancy During Covid

During the height of the Covid pandemic, Alberta Main Street, like many other organizations, encountered challenges that it is still recovering from. In 2020, AMS pivoted to focus on helping businesses navigate federal relief funds and hosted community events online,

including a virtual Alberta Street Fair. By 2021, the Board had to step back from organizing events and focused instead on developing new goals in line with diversity, equity and inclusion. Funding had dried up, and in May of 2021, AMS experienced severe budget cuts and several staff had to be let go. Since 2021, AMS has been working on:

- Support for businesses
- Maintenance of Black Heritage Markers, signs along Alberta Street depicting the stories of 10 African Americans from NE Portland
- Virtual and live events such as BIPOC markets, cleanups
- The installation of new trash cans through collaboration with the city

Current Status

Fast forward to 2023 and Alberta Main Street is at a critical juncture. Board members have stepped down or their terms are ending and there is an urgent need for new direction. We are reaching out now to provide an important update and to ask for your critical input. As a community nonprofit, AMS needs dedicated folks to step up and help navigate the road ahead. Special skills we’re looking for include legal support, financ, web design, volunteer coordination, grant writing, fundraising,

Alberta Main Street volunteers clean up NE Alberta Street for the SOLV clean-up project. Photo by Elise Scolnick.



nonprofit administration, organizational development, marketing and event planning fields. We ask board members for a commitment of 5-10 hours per month. Usually the board meets once a month. If you have any of the skills above or you would like to volunteer for specific events such as street cleanups, holidays, sidewalk sales or the annual street fair, contact James Armstrong, Board President at: james@albertamainst.org. Check out the AMS Facebook page at Facebook.com/albertamainstreet

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Land Use and Transportation

NE 33rd Bike Lane Update (continued from pg. 1)

Continued from Page 1

Community concerns

If we had done the parking study and outreach like we should have, we would have learned months ago how some adjacent residents don't have off-street parking and that others live in multi-generational households who need safe access to their homes. These are concerns we are hearing now after this mistake. We commit to doing further outreach to learn how we can find a solution.

To be clear, our bike and walk maps have long identified this stretch of NE 33rd Avenue as a difficult connection for biking. Putting a bike lane here has been part of the Columbia-Lombard Mobility Plan as well as the 2030 Portland Bicycle Plan and the Transportation System Plan. However, adopted plans are exactly that: plans. They are not final. It's not only customary but a sign of good governance that we talk to community members and affected neighbors throughout a project's life, sharing designs, talking through access issues, and using community feedback to make projects work better.

Next steps

Fast forward to today. Regardless of how they might feel about the new bike lane, neighbors were rightfully surprised, even upset, we gave them no notice. Likewise, biking advocates are rightfully upset we planned to grind out this much-needed bike lane at a spot noted to be difficult for biking.

Until we can do the outreach we should have done before anything got to this point, we're going to be in limbo. We'll be out talking to the community and deciding a path forward. Whatever happens, we recognize this is a painful, costly mistake at a time when PBOT's budget crisis is forefront on our minds.

Again, we appreciate you taking the time to contact us regarding your concerns. We hope this background has been helpful.

All the best,
Demetri Finch-Brown

Demetri Finch-Brown (She/her)
Constituent Services & Public Records Coordinator
Communications & Public Involvement

Collectively, we have navigated a pandemic together; (city/neighborhood organizations included,) and these kinds of "continuity of process" issues are to be expected. A bit of empathy, understanding and collaboration would help us improve our community.



Rich Burton is the Chair of the Land Use and Transportation committee and serves as Member East 2 for the Concordia Neighborhood Association board. He is interested in building community.



On October 25th, bikers protested the removal of bike lines at NE 33rd Avenue and NE Holman. Current bike lanes are indicated by dotted lines. Map data ©2023 Google.

If you would like to learn more about this occurrence, view the links below:

- City of Portland:
 - Columbia Lombard Mobility Plan:
Portland.gov/transportation/planning/columbia-lombard-mobility-corridor-plan
- Columbia Lombard Mapped Project List:
Portland.gov/transportation/planning/documents/columbia-lombard-mapped-project-list/download
- Greenways:
Portland.gov/transportation/what-are-neighborhood-greenways
- TV Coverage:
 - KPTV: Youtu.be/bRiAepFfRYY?si=6GmZyabYC7dfubzq
 - KGW: Youtu.be/S9CPoQiB_Hc?si=0rVm7B0xmHYqX7AX
 - KOIN: Youtu.be/p9GuLsmDS8Y?si=bsGvYA18iMNLbqc3
- Visit the *Current Events* section on the LUTC page (see box below) to access the above links.

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To visit the Land Use and Transportation page on the CNA website, use this QR code or visit ConcordiaPDX.org/lutc/.





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Winter Fun

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Christmas Traditions

Every year, my family and I drive to Mt. Hood to pick our very own Christmas _____. This year, we found a beautiful snowy spot and even spotted a _____ on the way there! Then, we went sledding down a big hill with our favorite _____. My little sister built a snowman with a _____ for a nose. When we got home, my father made our favorite holiday dish, _____ and we all sat around the _____ and played _____.

Hannukah Party

Hannukah is my favorite holiday because it lasts for _____ nights! Each night, we light a new candle in our menorah and place it in the _____. We have a party every year and my brother and I decorate the house with _____. My grandmother spends all day making the very best _____ and we eat them with _____ and applesauce. Then, we tell stories, sing songs, and spin our _____.

Which two rows below have the same group of pictures?

Icons by Createvill

HO HO HO

Wishing you the happiest of holidays filled with warmth, laughter, and joy! Truman and I are thrilled to be part of this incredible community, and we are here for all your real estate needs in the coming year. Whether you're looking for your dream home, considering a change, or just want to chat about the local market, we're always just a bark away! May your holidays be merry and your New Year full of exciting possibilities.



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Portland
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New Indian Restaurant Offers Classics, Fun Twists and Vegetarian Options

By Nedra Rezinaz
Contributing Writer

As someone who enjoys trying new and different types of foods, I was excited to see a new Indian restaurant pop up recently on 42nd Ave. off of Killingsworth.

Daawat A Ishq (5427 NE 42nd Ave.), means “food is love” in Hindi. It looks pretty quiet on the outside, but once you walk inside, you experience the restaurant’s smells and casual inviting atmosphere. Fennel, curry, and other spices float in the air and festive Bollywood music can be heard. The outdoor seating area is enclosed, keeping guests dry on the rainiest days. The restaurant can accommodate about seven small groups of people with a heater to help on colder days.

Feeling adventurous? The menu has a street food section with chili paneer, gobi manchurian with fried cauliflower and tandoori shrimp. Daawat A Ishq also has chicken and veggie wraps for smaller appetites that come with two different

chutneys and lots of vegetarian options with flavors inspired from different regions of India.

My family and friends ordered our favorites: tandoori chicken and palak paneer as well as veggie biryani, butter

Once you walk inside, you experience the restaurant’s smells and casual inviting atmosphere.



Nedra Rezinaz 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.

chicken, and papadum (a fun cracker-like snack). One item we loved was the assorted bread basket filled with an arrangement of naans including chili cheese and butter. We started eyeballing each other to make sure everyone had tried all the naan!

Be sure to say you want mild; we ordered ‘medium’ and wow, did I need



Daawat A Ishq opened on NE 42nd Ave. and Killingsworth early this fall. Photo by Nedra Rezinaz.

yogurt and milk to help with the heat! And we can’t forget the drinks! Daawat A Ishq has classics like mango lassi with hints of cardamom and rose water and masala chai, a comforting tea on a cold day. It also has salty lassis which can be

a fun twist.

Dawaat a Ishq is a flavorful experience you’ll want to share with friends and family. It has dine-in and takeout options and is open 10am-2:30pm and 4pm-10pm everyday, closed on Tuesdays.



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Vernon IB World School’s 8th Annual



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Vernon IB World School
2044 NE Killingsworth St.
www.vernonpta.org

The Maker Fair is organized by the Vernon PTA. A percentage of the proceeds will support enhancements at Vernon such as field trips, art, music, STEAM, garden education and facility improvements.

Gallery Owner’s Son Paints New Mural

By Marsha Sandman
Contributing Writer

Two creative minds collaborated, and another colorful mural was birthed on Alberta Street. Owners Donna Guardino of Guardino Gallery (2939 NE Alberta St) and Manya Wubbold of Side Door Ceramic Gallery had agreed that it was time to update the mural outside of Wubbold’s gallery at 5001 NE 30th Ave.

Guardino first purchased the building in 1966 and has maintained and updated it since then. When the time came to refresh the wall, the task was completed by Nicholas D’Avria, a professional muralist who was born in Portland and happens to be Wubbold’s son.

D’Avria currently lives and works in Philadelphia.



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.

When D’Avria was a child, “I would turn his high chair towards the wall so he could paint.”

– Manya Wubbold.

“By combining surrealism, comic humor and real life observations, [D’Avroia] seeks to shine light on the human condition while at the same time making his audience laugh,” says the artist’s website. Although his background is in printmaking and illustration, D’Avria is mostly known for his street art, murals and large-scale public works.

Guardino commissioned the mural and initially drew a rough sketch of what she was hoping for. The design was first painted on parachute cloth in D’Avria’s Philadelphia studio. His father prepared



New mural near the corner of NE 30th and Alberta is inspired by gallery co-owner / artist’s mother, Manya Wubbold. Photo by Marsha Sandman.



Manya Wubbold and her son Nicholas D’Avria in front of the new mural. Photo by Rionna Bolanthe.

the wall in Portland and it was installed in October.

The once faded wall is now popping with radiant colors. The floral design was inspired by D’Avria’s mother. In the mural, Wubbold’s love for flowers is depicted by an image of her hands watering flowers.

When D’Avria was a child, “I would turn his high chair towards the wall so he could paint,” says Wubbold. And it became a lifelong passion.

Stop by Side Door Ceramic Gallery to see the new mural. You can see pictures of D’Avria’s work on his website, ndastreetart.com.

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CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS



7 PM on December 24th

St Michael’s Lutheran Church

6700 NE 29th Ave

All are welcome!

Coexisting with Urban Coyotes

By Jordana Leeb
Contributing Writer

“Neighbors, coyote sighting, NE 33rd at Going at 7:42am today, October 24. Heading confidently south on 33rd...absolutely unphased by passing traffic. Please keep your pets inside!”

Being Neighborly – Concordia Facebook post, October 24th

Reactions to social media posts like this one range from enthusiasm, to fear, to curiosity. Some people share a link to portland-coyote.com, the website for Portland Urban Coyote Project.

Portland Urban Coyote Project

Portland Urban Coyote Project (PUCP) is a citizen-science initiative started in reaction to an “eruption of coyote sightings in the NE Alameda neighborhood in 2010,” according to one of the project’s founders and current Project Advisor, Barbara Brower. PUCP,

currently led by Zuriel Van Belle, is made up of researchers affiliated with Portland State University and Oregon State University who work in cooperation with the Portland Audubon and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The three major goals of PUCP are to provide up-to-date information about living with coyotes, collect and map coyote sightings in the Portland metropolitan area, and conduct in-depth analyses of coyote sighting data and report on its findings.

More specifically, the project aims

“Coyotes are here, were here and will stay here living amongst us.”

– Barbara Brower, Advisor to Portland Urban Coyote Project

to “help people be better informed, less afraid, and more appreciative,” says Brower.

Brower has lived in the Alameda neighborhood since 1994 and was a Portland State University geography professor for 25 years before retiring recently. She said that although “people have been trying to kill off coyotes for 200 years, they are here, were here, and will stay here” living amongst us and that we need to “figure out how to coexist.”



A photo taken in 2010 that led to the start of Portland Urban Coyote Project. Photo by Sarah Chung.

What does co-existing with coyotes mean in an urban environment, such as the Concordia neighborhood, where sightings are frequent?

How to Identify a Coyote

First, it’s important to accurately identify a coyote. According to the interactive tutorial on the PUCP website, a coyote (versus a fox or dog) can be identified by:

- A tail that doesn’t touch the ground and that looks like a paintbrush with a tip dipped in black ink
- Ears that are large and triangular

- A weight of 25–40 pounds

Coyotes mate for life and typically have one litter every year or every other year. They often travel in packs in a family unit with their growing offspring.

Although urban coyotes can kill backyard chickens and unsupervised small pets, there have been only two known fatalities of humans ever reported in North America.

Tips for Coyote Safety

- A few key points to remember if you see a coyote:
- Never feed a coyote, even by accident; make sure to secure garbage and compost.
 - Don’t approach coyotes, instead haze them (make loud noises) if they come too close.
 - Supervise your pets when they are outside.

Due to budget constraints, PUCP has yet to conduct research on whether the Portland coyote population is increasing (most likely; yes), their lifespan (most likely; about 10 years), or their main food source (most likely; rats). These projects may be done in the future if PUCP is able to secure additional funding.

If you are interested in learning more, reporting a coyote sighting, sharing a coyote photo or donating to Portland Urban Coyote Project, please visit PortlandCoyote.com.



Jordana Leeb is a longtime Concordia resident who is passionate about the neighborhood, its residents and trees. She lives with her partner and dog on a street she calls home. You can see a film about her street and Concordia at Tinyurl.com/Diaryofastreet.



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Hours Change at U of O Temporary Library Branch



The Multnomah County temporary library branch in Room 120 of the University of Oregon main library is now open Monday through Saturday from 10 am - 6 pm. The UO main library is located at 2800 NE Liberty St.

News from the NET

Fire Safety During the Holidays

By Micha Wolf
Contributing Writer

‘Tis the season to be jolly: decorating your home at this time of year is a long-standing tradition in our neighborhood. Unfortunately, these decorations also increase the chance of a home fire. According to the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA), almost one third of home fires during the holiday season are caused by electrical problems. Although Christmas tree fires are not common; when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.

Most families have at least one Christmas tree decorating their home during the month of December. Read below for some useful tips for a safe holiday.

Safety Guidelines for Christmas Trees

- When picking a tree, choose a tree with fresh green needles that do not fall to the ground when touched.
- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut at least two inches from the base of the trunk.
- Place your tree at least three feet away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles and heat vents. Also, make sure that your tree does not block exits.
- Water your Christmas tree every day. A dry Christmas tree can burn very hot and very fast.
- Get rid of your tree after Christmas or when it is dry.



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

Water your Christmas tree every day. A dry Christmas tree can burn very hot and very fast.

Safety Guidelines for Lights and Candles

In many homes, trees are just one part of the decoration. Many families string electric lights on the outside of their home and light stairwells or furniture with lights. Candles are used for Christmas, Hanukkah, and other winter festivities.

- Before you put up holiday lights, inspect them thoroughly. Throw away any strands with frayed or pinched wires.
- Read manufacturer’s instructions for the number of light strands to connect.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns. Make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they cannot be knocked down easily.
- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles, which can look, smell and feel like real candles.

Source: USFA.FEMA.gov

From all of us at Portland Bureau of Emergency Management and your local Neighborhood Emergency Team, wishing you very Happy and Safe Holidays!



Electrical Holiday Lights. Source: National Fire Protection Agency.

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The CNA Annual Holiday party has been postponed.



The Social Committee is now planning a

CNA Winter Celebration,

to be held in late January or early February.

Watch for updates on CNA's social media accounts and website:

Instagram @CNAPDX

Facebook.com/groups/ConcordiaPDX

ConcordiaPDX.org





Interested in getting involved with the Social Committee?

The next committee meeting is Tuesday, December 19, 6 p.m. at Via Chicago Pizza. All are welcome!



For more details, contact Social@ConcordiaPDX.org.

STAY CONNECTED

The UO Portland Library is now open on campus and members of the community are welcome.

Visit the second floor to sign up for an Oregon Card, browse the collection or check out the Family Study & Children’s Library located in room 201.

Multnomah County Library has a temporary space on the first floor to offer services while nearby branches are under construction.

Library & Learning Center: 2800 NE Liberty St.

More Info: library.uoregon.edu/portland



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DECEMBER 2023

1-3

7-10

13-16

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+ **Rose City Circus**

12

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MASIH ALINEJAD

THE WIND IN MY HAIR: THE FIGHT FOR
WOMEN, LIFE, FREEDOM IN IRAN

17

It's a Tony
Starlight
Christmas

19

PHAME presents

RING-A-DING-DING RADIO
WINTER CONCERT

20

A BURLY CAROL

A Burlesque Tale

22

3 Leg Torso presents

THE ELVISES
OF FROSTLAND

28

QUEER EYE
FOR THE MAGI

a Holigay Cabaret

30

ELTON DAN &
THE ROCKET BAND

a tribute to Elton John

31

New Year's Eve

The Saloon Ensemble w/
Cat's Meow Burlesque
+ Kris Deelane & the Hurt
Rage at the Rose

2024 SNEAK PEEK

1.10

ON A WINTER'S
NIGHT

with Patty Larkin
John Gorka, Lucy Kaplansky,
and Cliff Eberhardt

1.17

NELLIE MCKAY

1.19

1.20

1.21

DARK SIDE

a night of
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1.25

1.26

Judy Blue Eyes
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1.17

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Concordia Community Events Calendar

ONE-TIME EVENTS	ONGOING EVENTS
<p>Saturday, December 2nd, 12 - 2 pm THE DRUTHERS ALBERTA STREET PUB Location: 1036 NE Alberta St. Folk pop with his/her harmony</p> <p>Monday, December 4th, 7 pm PARADISE BLUE BY DOMINIQUE MORISEAU PASSINART Location: 16 NE Killingsworth St. Monthly play reading</p> <p>Saturday, December 9th, 1 - 5 pm VERNON IB WORLD SCHOOL MAKER FAIR VERNON IB WORLD SCHOOL Location: 2044 NE Killingsworth St. Jewelry, ceramics, food and more handmade gifts by Vernon students, families, staff, and alumni</p> <p>Saturday, December 9th, 7 - 9 pm OPERA ON TAP MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave. Opera featuring rotating cast</p> <p>Saturday, December 16th, 9 am - 2 pm MAKERS MARKET KENNEDY SCHOOL CNA COMMUNITY ROOM Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave. Atrium Arte presents a Concordia neighborhood makers market.</p> <p>Wednesday, December 20th, 5:30-6:30, 7:30-8:30 STUDENT SHOWCASE CURIOUS COMEDY THEATER Location: 5225 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.</p> <p>Monday, December 25th, all day CHRISTMAS FUN MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave. Holiday movies, bingo, and ugly sweater dance party</p> <p>Tuesday, December 26th, 6 pm TONY SMILEY MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave Live one-man music looping show</p> <p>Wednesday, December 27th, 11:30, 2:30 AMAZING BUBBLE MAN ALBERTA ABBEY Location: 126 NE Alberta St. Family friendly bubble show</p> <p>Wednesday, December 27th, 6 - 8 pm SON DE CUBA MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave. Salsa quartet</p> <p>Friday, December 29th, 6 - 8 pm ASHLEY FLYNN AND THE RIVETERS MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave. All female rock/Americana band</p> <p>Sunday, December 31st, 8 pm - 2 am THE GRAND EXHALE ALBERTA ABBEY Location: 126 NE Alberta St. New Years Eve gala featuring Nik West, Funk Priestess Extraordinaire</p> <p>Sunday, December 31st, 9 pm NEW YEARS EVE PARTY MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave.</p> <p>Saturday, January 6th, 8 - 10 pm FREEDOM OF SPEECH ALBERTA ABBEY Location: 126 NE Alberta St. One-woman show starring voice actress Eliza Jane Schneider</p> <p>Thursday, January 25th, 11 am RECEPTION FOR VERNON STUDENTS ART SHOW ALBERTA STREET GALLERY Location: 1829 NE Alberta St. Unit B</p>	<p>Friday December 1st - Saturday, December 9th, various days and times THE EMPIRE STRIPS BACK ALBERTA ABBEY Location: 126 NE Alberta St. Star Wars themed burlesque parody show</p> <p>Saturday, December 2nd - Sunday December 3rd, 9:00 am / 12 pm BREAKFAST WITH SANTA MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave.</p> <p>December 2nd and every first Saturday of the month, 9:30 - 11:30 pm DROPPED NOTES CURIOUS COMEDY THEATER Location: 5225 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Improvised musical revue</p> <p>December 12th and all second Tuesdays, 5 - 7 pm FREE CRAFT NIGHT COLLAGE PDX Location: 1639 NE Alberta St. Craft materials and instruction provided</p> <p>Tuesdays December 13th and January 10th, 7 pm DRAG QUEEN BINGO MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave</p> <p>Weeknights through Friday December 15th TEEN FORCE PP&R PROGRAMS MATT DISHMAN COMMUNITY CENTER Location: 77 NE Knott St. Yoga and meditation, archery, creative art and poetry classes for teens</p> <p>Friday, December 15th - Saturday, December 23rd, various days and times THE MIDWINTER REVELS: EMERALD ODYSSEY ALBERTA ABBEY Location: 126 NE Alberta St. Irish song, poetry and dance show celebrating solstice</p> <p>Wednesday, January 10th - Thursday January 25th, daily VERNON STUDENTS ART SHOW ALBERTA STREET GALLERY Location: 1829 NE Alberta St. Unit B View art by Vernon School students.</p> <p>Tuesday, January 23rd, 7 pm OMSI SCIENCE PUB MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave Learn about a science topic and enjoy a beer.</p> <p>January 28th and all fourth Sundays, 3:30 - 4:30 CURIOUS PLAYGROUND FAMILY SHOW THE ANNEX THEATRE Location: 5229 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Improv comedy show for kids every fourth Sunday</p> <p>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</p> <p>Every Monday, 3 - 4:30 pm SOCIAL SAMPLERS MATT DISHMAN COMMUNITY CENTER Location: 77 NE Knott St. Make friends through PP&R-sponsored program that includes games, food and activities.</p> <p>Every Monday, 5:30 - 7 pm DRUMMERS AWARENESS CLASS NAYA FAMILY CENTER Location: 5135 NE Colombia Blvd. Drum with community and find your voice.</p> <p>Every Monday, 7 - 10 pm BRIDGETOWN TRIVIA ALBERTA STREET PUB Location: 1036 NE Alberta St.</p> <p>Every Tuesday, 11 am STORY TIME GREEN BEAN BOOKS Location: 1600 NE Alberta St.</p> <p>Every Wednesday, 7 pm KARAOKE! THE WAYPOST Location: 4212 NE Prescott St.</p> <p>Every Thursday, 10 - 2 BIPOC FOOD PANTRY DROP-IN ALDER COMMONS Location: 4212 NE Prescott St. Free food for BIPOC community members</p> <p>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</p> <p>Every Friday, 9:30 - 11 pm FRIDAY NIGHT FIGHTS CURIOUS COMEDY THEATER Location: 5225 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Two teams battle, improv-style.</p> <p>Every Friday and Saturday, 7:30 - 9:15 pm CURIOUS COMEDY SHOWDOWN CURIOUS COMEDY THEATER Location: 5225 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Six improv artists battle to see who has the quickest wit.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Every Sunday, 10 - 11:30 am UPPER ROOM MINISTRY BIBLE TALK VIRTUAL Contact Ike at (503) 901-0623 for more info.</p> <p>Every Sunday, 7 pm OPEN MIC THE WAYPOST Location: 4212 NE Prescott St. Weekly open mic at intimate venue</p> <p>Every Sunday, 9 - 11 pm SOULFUL SUNDAYS ALBERTA STREET PUB Location: 1036 NE Alberta St. The Love Train band with Special Guest DJ Renz</p> <p>Every Wednesday and Friday, 8 - 10 pm OPEN GYM NAYA FAMILY CENTER Location: 5135 NE Colombia Blvd.</p> <p>Monday - Thursday, 12:30 - 3 pm FAMILY SWIM MATT DISHMAN COMMUNITY CENTER POOL Location: 77 NE Knott St.</p> <p>Monday - Friday, 9:30 am NEIGHBORHOOD WALK UNIVERSITY OF OREGON - LIBRARY Location: 2800 NE Liberty Street Meet neighbors for a daily walk.</p> <p>Every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 2 - 4 pm ADULT BASKETBALL MATT DISHMAN COMMUNITY CENTER Location: 77 NE Knott St.</p>

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.