

CONCORDIA NEWS

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

February 2024

Meet a Kennedy School historian, pg. 3



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.

Find us online at:

ConcordiaPDX.org, Instagram @CNAPDX and Facebook.com/groups/ConcordiaPDX

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Concordia Neighborhood Association P.O. Box 11194 Portland, OR 97211

Local Brings Surviving Trees from Hiroshima to Oregon

By Dina Sage Managing Editor

n August 6th, 1945, the U.S. dropped the atom bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, hoping to end World War II. The city was destroyed, all the trees were blackened and scorched, and locals were told that nothing could grow there for 75 years.

But the next spring, about 170 trees started leafing out. They came to be known as *hibakujumoku*; "survivor trees," and the city of Hiroshima appointed arborist Chikara Horiguchi to care for them.

"About 15 years ago, a group of Hiroshima residents began to collect seeds

To date, 49 entities in more than 3 dozen Oregon communities have planted peace trees.

from these aging trees," Jim Gersbach, Public Affairs Specialist for the Oregon Department of Forestry, tells the story. "The seeds were sorted, cleaned and packaged at the Hiroshima Botanical Garden by volunteers and then distributed to some 40 countries." Gersbach lives in Concordia and helped facilitate the Hiroshima Peace Trees project with Green Legacy Hiroshima, the nonprofit that was created for the cause.

Gersbach also serves as a board member for Oregon Community Trees (OCT), a non-profit aimed at promoting healthy urban forests. OCT took on the project of distributing the Hiroshima Peace Trees and Gersbach suggested offering the trees to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II. The trees were first offered to official Tree City USA communities, cities that met stringent criteria to be considered tree-friendly. There are about 70 in Oregon, and close to half of them wanted a peace tree. Today the state of Oregon has the densest concentration of Hiroshima Peace Trees outside of Japan.

53 gingko and persimmon saplings were successfully germinated by fellow OCT board member Mike Oxendine. The



Dina Sage is the Managing Editor for CNews and enjoys engaging in the arts and outdoor activities. She lives with her husband, daughter and their pets



During their November 2023 visit to Hiroshima, Jim Gersbach (center) and Mike Oxendine (right) listen to Japanese arborist Chikara Horiguchi discuss the Hiroshima Peace Tree project. Photo by Chris John.

saplings were given at no cost but recipients were required to plant the trees in public places and hold public ceremonies. Most ceremonies were postponed during the pandemic and when they could finally take place, took on many different forms. Sometimes city mayors or school superintendents gave speeches, poets read works, *taiko* drummers drummed or traditional *koto* musicians played, or local school children gave presentations.

By last year, Gersbach, some of his fellow OCT board members, and Kristin Ramstad at the Oregon Dept. of Forestry had found homes for all of the trees. To date, 49 entities in more than 3 dozen Oregon communities have planted peace trees. They are located at city parks, schools, botanical gardens, arboretums, cemeteries, and churches. Portland has three; two at Hoyt Arboretum, and one at Portland State University.

And the trees mean different things to different communities. Umpqua Community College in Roseburg planted one on the site of the 2015 school shooting there. The city of Talent held its tree ceremony shortly after the September 2020 Almeda fire. Many Japanese-American families in Oregon trace their ancestry to emigrants from Hiroshima, so there were also plantings by Japanese-Americans in Hood River, Ontario and Klamath Falls.

"These trees are venerated because they are resilient survivors," says Gersbach. "Each of these trees is an ambassador of peace. No one in the wake of the war and tragedy of Hiroshima expected Japan and the U.S. to become friends. But even bitter enemies can work to become friends."

In November, Gersbach visited Hiroshima to thank Green Legacy Hiroshima staff for sending their seeds to Oregon and to visit the two survivor trees that were parents of the ones now growing in Oregon. A filmmaker named David Hedberg joined Gersbach on the trip and is hoping to create a documentary about this project called "Seeds of Peace". It should be completed in time for the 80th anniversary of the Hiroshima bombing in 2025. Stay posted for information on a viewing in Concordia.

Business changes, pg. 8



Name the plaza, pg. 6



From the Board

By John Fitzgerald, CNA Board Chair

Happy New Year from CNA's New Board Chair



reetings and welcome to 2024! For those of you who do not know me, my name is John Fitzgerald, and I have recently been elected Chair of the Concordia Neighborhood Association (CNA) board. My wife Michelle is also a CNA board member. We moved back to Concordia about 10 minutes before the Covid lockdowns; March 23,

For 2024, our board is set up with some great leadership.

2020, to be precise. We were looking for how to get involved in the neighborhood. I served on the CNA board for two years, and then Michelle joined the board after my term ended. Now, we both serve on the CNA board and look forward to a great year.

A bit of background on me: I grew up across the moat in Vancouver, WA and served as the student body president at Washington State University Vancouver. I graduated with a Masters in Education and a Bachelors in English Literature. Michelle and I met at a McMenamin's in NW Portland, and in just over a year were married and headed to Tarsus, Turkey to begin my teaching career! After about three minutes of being a housewife, Michelle began volunteering at the school library and became the university placement counselor. Over the next couple of years, Michelle earned her Masters in Library Science and we began our power couple education careers at the International School of Lusaka in Zambia. 10 years later after living and working in China, Japan, the

UAE, and Lithuania; we came home to be nearer to family during Covid.

Service is important to us. In switching careers from education to real estate, we are enjoying the opportunities for service to our clients, family, and the community. Michelle and I both volunteer for the NE Village PDX, CNA, and organize activities on our block. I am also a Freemason and a Shriner, and enjoy the work we do for our community and the children in our hospital up on Pill Hill.

For 2024, our board is set up with some great leadership. Brian is our ever-eager treasurer, Megan is our super secretary, tenacious Rich is the chair of the Land Use committee, our social committee is a group of awesomeness, and of course the stellar media team is headed by Dina. John McSherry has offered to be the Vice Chair. I think we can continue to build on our successes after coming out of Covid, and show our worth as a positive force for our beloved neighborhood. We have activities planned for nearly every month, and are working to entice Concordia businesses to sponsor events to keep our budget in balance. Please feel free to approach me with any questions or concerns, and I hope to work with everyone in our great neighborhood to move the needle forward in our progress!

Cheers!
John Fitzgerald

After a 16 year run as a high school English teacher on the International School circuit in six different countries, I am excited to be back home in PDX. My wife Michelle and I are back getting enmeshed into the community and developing our real estate careers.

Concordia Districts and adjoining neighborhoods Sunderland NE Columbia Blvd. NE Hillingsworth St. NE Alberta Ct. NE Alberta Ct. Beaumont-Wilshire

CNA Board of Directors

Chair | Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org John Fitzgerald
East 1 | East1@ConcordiaPDX.org < open position>
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
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 Lauren Falkner
At Large 5 | AL5@ConcordiaPDX.org Michelle Fitzgerald

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

At Large 6 | AL6@ConcordiaPDX.org Lucy Morrow

Concordia Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting

2nd Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, February 14, 6 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room with call in option, see box below, contact *Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org*

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 13, 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, February 20, 6 p.m., Via Chicago Pizza, contact *Social@ConcordiaPDX.org* for more details.

Media Team Meeting

Last Tuesday of the month, Tuesday, February 27, 6 p.m., Contact Dina Sage for location, *MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org*

Land Use & Transportation Committee Meeting

3rd Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, February 21, 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, February 28, 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

John Fitzgerald, Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org

CNA Vice Chair

John McSherry, AL3@ConcordiaPDX.org

CNA Secretary

Megan Gobble, 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: *CNewsBusiness@ConcordiaPDX.org*

MEDIA TEAM

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Tami Fung, Jordana Leeb, Kunal Mehra, Kepper Petzing,
Peggy Pfenninger, Nedra Rezinas, Gordon Riggs, Dina

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

Sage, Marsha Sandman, Micha Wolf

CNA seeks qualified candidates for Advertising Sales Representative

Do you have marketing savvy and a customer-focused approach to advertising sales? Join the CNA Media Team as the Advertising Sales Representative. Earn commission while helping advertisers reach our 10,000 very loyal readers.

Skills Required: Advertising and/or sales experience with track record of success, excellent communication and interpersonal skills. Minimum qualifications in addition to prior sales experience are MS Excel (or Google Sheets) competency, availability to work during standard business hours, computer and internet access for emailing and billing, and ability to travel to and from advertiser appointments and to attend monthly Concordia Neighborhood Association Media Team meetings.

Compensation: 20% of all ads (historically about \$400-500 a month)

Hours: Remote at home with periodic face-to-face meetings as necessary in Concordia neighborhood 10 hours / week total.

For a full description of the duties & requirements of this important contractor position, visit *Concordiapdx.org/get-involved/ad-sales/* To apply, contact John Fitzgerald at: *Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org*.



Historian's Stand to Save Kennedy School

Contributing Writer

oncordian Melissa Darby might be considered a time traveler. 'As an anthropologist, archaeologist, historian and author, she has gone back in time and brought history to the present.

"You know, someone really ought to do something about that school, it's lovely."

- Agnes Kennedy White

What better place for her to live than in the 1800's home that was once inhabited by the Kennedy family (the namesake for McMenamins Kennedy School.) Agnes Kennedy White moved on to a nursing home in her eighties and the Darby family took possession of the home. It was 1979. Except for an updated kitchen, bathroom and a few repairs, not much has changed since then.

White shared newspaper clippings and photographs of the Kennedy School, which had opened in 1915 and eventually closed in 1975 due to decline and low attendance.

"You know, someone really ought to do something about that school, it's lovely," White told Darby. Before Kennedy School was abandoned in the 1990's, White told



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.

By Marsha Sandman Darby that it was her turn to save the building.

> And so, she did. But not without a struggle.

"So I called up the school district and said, 'Hey, I think I'm going to nominate it to the National Register of Historic Places, and it'll help bring in developers.' They were not interested, they would not return my calls. I asked the school board, 'Hey, can we talk about this? Can we get this on the agenda?' I would send letters, but I got nothing back! I sent flowers to the superintendent with a little note saying, 'If you receive this, would you let me know?' I got nothing! Finally, I had nominated the building, and it got some attention from the Oregonian and from the school board. Since [the school district] was going to be represented at a public meeting, they eventually had to do something."

According to Darby, "a group of neighbors, alumni, the mayor's office, community members and others got together to save Kennedy School from the wrecking ball."

Her efforts paid off — the property was preserved and McMenamins took stewardship in 1997.

If not for the efforts of Darby and her cohorts, we would not have this neighborhood treasure today nor would we be able to appreciate its remarkable architecture, history, and community events. Darby truly helped to preserve Portland history. One of the guest rooms is even named after her.

There's also a painting hung at Kennedy School by artist Myrna Yoder depicting Darby and other McMenamins pioneers.

Since the opening of McMenamins Kennedy School, Darby has worked on archaeology and history projects throughout Oregon and Washington. For 6 years, she investigated Sir Francis Drake and the Golden Hind's 1579 landing near Depoe Bay and in 2019, she published a book about it. The book is called Thunder Go North and is available at Amazon and on Audible.

She is still looking into the past and bringing it to the present.



Darby in her home with her 2019 book Thunder Go North, about Sir Francis Drake's famous voyage to the Oregon coast in 1579. Photo by Marsha Sandman.

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University of Oregon's New Gym, Lounge and Learning Spaces

By Kathy Crabtree Contributing Writer

alking past the University of Oregon (U of O) Campus on NE 27th Avenue involves careful maneuvering around various construction sites; none of which are part of the extensive renovation of several U of O campus projects. Both Highland Hall and the Portland Campus Center are completing the final finishing touches to incorporate innovative changes and technology needs of enrolled students. The ability to maintain and honor the history of those who inhabited these spaces previous to the U of O purchase has been a strong focus.

Highland Hall was once a gymnasium, eventually converted to an auditorium and finally returned to its original state. By opening its ceiling to provide exposure to hidden windows and support arches, students and faculty will be able to enjoy the curved roof and open space. 36 repurposed plywood panels will provide entrances to vestibules, seminar rooms and freestanding partitions.

The Portland Campus Center at U of



Kathy is a 65-yearold Nancy Drew wannabe, retired lawyer, and judge.



Highland Hall (left),
Portland Campus
Center (right) and the
Innovation Building
(below) are all currently
being remodeled at the
University of Oregon.
Photos submitted by
Heidi Hiaasen.



O will provide students with a lounge, printing services, and IT services. The Office of Student Life and Belonging staff offices will be located in this area. Solo and group seating will be available for study and collaborative opportunities. A dining area provides access to open green space outside as well as a stone hearth inside. Upstairs plans include an event space, too.

The final fall and spring 2024 transformation of the Concordia campus buildings includes the Innovation Building. Once the dropped ceilings and multiple walls are removed, a vaulted ceiling and tall windows will reveal a multipurpose space for presentations and small events. The area will provide

a home to innovative programs of study including Sports Product Management, Sport Product Design, Product Design, Multimedia Journalism, Immersive Media Communication, Strategic Communication, and the Oregon Reality Lab.

According to Heidi Hiaasen, Assistant Director of Communications, the area "was designed by TVA architects to provide a space where research, collaboration and technology would thrive." She adds, "From maker spaces to technology labs, students will have all the tools needed to design, experiment, create and explore in ways that prepare them for the careers of the future."



KENNEDY SCHOOL

Friday, February 2

NATIONAL TOT DAY

Happy hour pricing on Cajun tots all day

Tuesday, February 6

PORTLAND FILM FESTIVAL MONTHLY INDIE FILM NIGHT: BLACK VOICES

7pm · \$8 · Q&A to follow

Advance tickets recommended

Sunday, February 11

THE BIG GAME

3:30pm kickoff · Free · Theater Food and drink specials

Wednesday, February 14

DRAG QUEEN BINGO W/ POISON WATERS

7pm · \$20 adv, \$25 at door · 21 & over Advance tickets recommended

Sunday, February 18

A BINDING TRUTH FILM SCREENING

2pm film · 3:30pm Q&A · \$14 Advance tickets recommended

Sunday, February 18

LOOSEWIG JAZZ SERIES hosted by BRENT FOLLIS ft. DAN FAEHNLE QTET

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7pm · Free · Gymnasium Suggested donations: \$20 adults, \$10 students

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A New Beginning

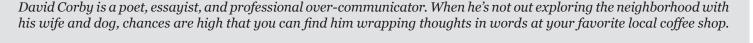
Poetry By David Corby

We moved here in the fall, trusting the rain to nurture a new adventure. Concordia, what a beautiful bloom.

To walk down Killingsworth during the month of October is to fall into a corridor of color.

We held hands under trees on fire, marveling at the beauty of nature's palette.
We smiled at strangers on the sidewalk, finding community in the simple gesture.
We explored new streets admired old homes and fell in love again and again.

We explored new streets, admired old homes, and fell in love again and again with the decision of coming here.







A LOVE LETTER TO OUR NEIGHBORS

We love you for being regulars at the dog park during snow, sleet or hail; for sneaking Truman a treat, and for the lively conversations we have while watching the dogs play.

We love you for feeding the birds in the middle of a cold snap.

We love that you or your children offer to shovel the neighbor's sidewalks.

We love you for helping those less fortunate during their time of need.

Lastly, we love you for trusting us to help you buy or sell your home in these ever-changing market conditions. We love our neighborhood!

XO, Melissa & Truman



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About 100 people enjoyed the winter celebration holiday party at the Alberta House on January 11th.

Special thanks to event volunteers, participating businesses (Chilango PDX, Mae Ploy, Podnah's BBQ, Bonne Chance, Autumn Roasting, Flour Market and DB Dessert Company) and the Lonesome Dewey and Coyote band.







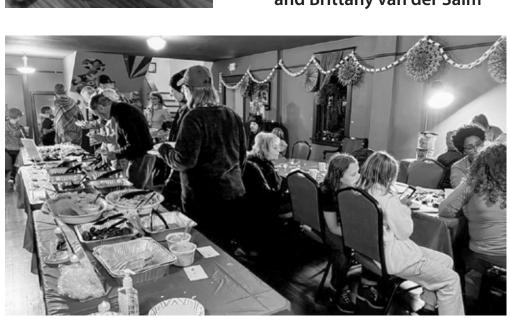
















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New Plaza Has Potential for Fun and Community Engagement

By Kepper Petzing Contributing Writer

What is a Public Street Plaza?

In response to Covid, the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) allowed businesses to close off certain streets to create spaces for outdoor dining. As of late, PBOT has been transitioning some of these spaces into public street plazas where people can sit and read, friends and neighbors can gather, and communities can host events. Plazas help build community, increase pedestrian traffic near local shops, and make space for public events.

Concordia has its very own public street plaza at NE 30th and Killingsworth. Learn more about other plazas in town at: bit.ly/PDXPlazaDirectory.

Name the Plaza

Our plaza needs a name. You can enter the "Name Our Plaza" contest. (See box below.)



Kepper Petzing has lived in Concordia for 42 years. They are nonbinary. They love community and the public spaces where we can be together.



The plaza at NE Killingsworth and 30th is a neighborhood asset. Photo by Gordon Riggs.

Design the Street Painting

After naming the plaza, keep your eyes open for our upcoming "Design the Street Painting" contest, as a mural will be painted on the street sometime between late May and mid-June. Help design the mural and the overall look of the plaza and suggest events we can hold there. The contest begins on March 15th.

Join Activities in the Plaza

The Concordia Neighborhood Association is working to plan two events each month at the plaza, beginning in March. Check the CNA website at *ConcordiaPDX. org* and find us on Facebook and Instagram to find out what is happening at the plaza. We hope to see you there.

Host Your Own Event at the Plaza

Think the Plaza is the perfect place for your knitting circle, book exchange, dance party, or doggy fashion show? PBOT makes it easy for you to put on free public events here in your neighborhood. Find out more information and fill out the application at *Bit.ly/PDXPlazas*.

Get Involved

The Concordia Neighborhood Association has a "Friends of the Plaza" committee focused on bringing community input to this space. If you have suggestions for plaza design or activities, or if you want to join our committee, contact Megan Gobble, CNA Board Member at SW2@ConcordiaPDX.org.

Name Our Plaza Contest

The Name Our Plaza Contest starts NOW! Send us your ideas!

Name suggestions can be submitted online at bit.ly/CNAPlazaContest or by mailing your answers to the questions below to Concordia Neighborhood Association, PO Box 11194, Portland, OR 97211.

Only entries received by February 20th will be considered.



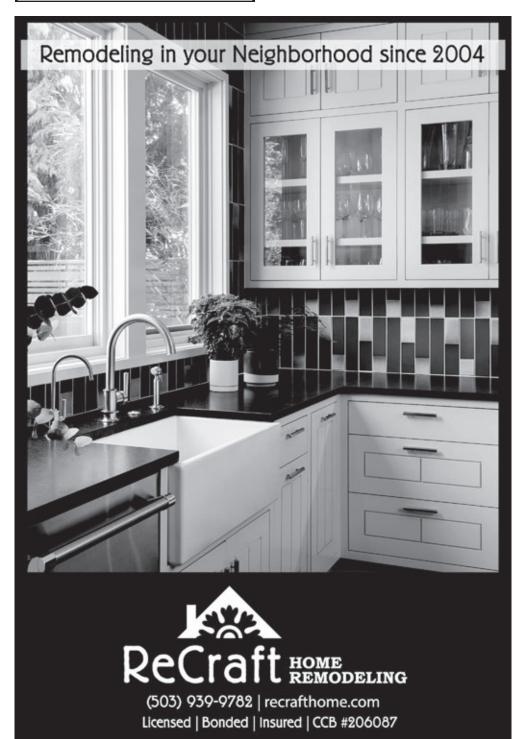
The *Friends of the Plaza* committee will select five finalists from the suggested names. Vote for your favorite between March 1st and March 10th via the same website. Ballots must be received by March 10th in order to be counted.

The winning name will be announced on March 15th on *ConcordiaPDX.org* and *Facebook.com/groups/ConcordiaPDX*.

What name do you suggest for our plaza?

Your name (optional)

Your contact information (optional - if you want to be notified if your name is chosen.)



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



News from the NET

Looking Back on 2023: Neighborhood Emergency Teams' Activities

By Micha Wolf Contributing Writer

uring Neighborhood Emerency Teams' (NETs) regular meetings, the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management (PBEM) shared a few 2023 NET events.

Community Outreach Event (Burlingame)

NET member Merilee Karr gave a talk on how to organize and stage a tabling event in your neighborhood. Most neighborhood organizations are more than

If you are interested to find out more about NET ... or are interested in becoming a Neighborhood Emergency Team member, navigate to Portland.gov/pbem.

willing to let NET members put up a table at their farmer's markets or other events. There, NETs can either inform the public about the program or educate the public about a specific topic such as emergency water and food storage, disaster recovery or water filtration. Interested neighbors also have an opportunity to sign up to become NET members themselves.

Dinner for the Fire Department (SW Hills)

Research suggesting that firemen need a large amount of calories inspired the SW Hills NET team to organize a dinner for their neighborhood fire department. Both groups shared the



Frockboutique.com

scope of their missions and their relationships to community partners with each other and discussed their respective communication nodes during emergency situations.

NET-Themed Bicycle Tour (NE Portland)

As reported in the November 2023 issue of Concordia News, NE and Overlook NETs enjoyed a bike ride along a Basic Earthquake Emergency Communication Node (BEECN) site and a number of earthquake-resistant bridges around Portland. Following this ride, Michelle Thompson of Overlook NET organized another bike tour of the Overlook neighborhood to introduce community members to their BEECN sites and staging areas to be used in the event of a natural disaster. Thompson plans to make this a regular event.

Halloween NET Knock (Buckman)

Although Buckman resident Cara Rozell does not have a neighborhood NET, she decided to venture out on her own on Halloween night to educate her immediate neighbors about disaster preparedness using some of PBEM's materials. She distributed 'Weekly Steps for Emergency Preparedness', a sheet on how to get involved with NET as well as a little personal note encouraging those interested to reach out to her with questions. (See *Bit.ly/NETSteps.*)



SW Hills' NET Team served an Italian dinner to local firemen. Photo submitted by Mike Lynch.

As you can see, it does not take much to get involved in NET and involvement makes us a stronger community! If you are interested to find out more about NET, want to explore how you can become a BEECN volunteer or are interested in becoming a Neighborhood Emergency Team member, navigate to *Portland.gov/pbem*. We are eager to welcome you!



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





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Changes and Additions to the Concordia Business Landscape

By Nedra Rezinas Contributing Writer

However, it is opening a location called **Teote the Tavern** at 5513 NE 30th Avenue.

Teote isn't the only thing different; driving and walking around our neighborhood, I've noticed a lot of changes to storefronts and businesses. Here's a summary of the recent changes I've seen.

Alberta Street

Alberta Alley (3003 NE Alberta St.) has a new addition; **Kaya**, a cocktail bar that features 80s & 90s R&B music and elevated bar food. Kaya was inspired by the YouTube series "Kicks and Cocktails" which pairs cocktail drink recipes with specific sneakers.

Assembly Brewing will open its second location this winter on 2934 NE Alberta Street. Unlike the SE Foster location which only serves ages 21+, their Alberta location will serve all ages



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.

and offer five by-the-slice pizza options, whole pies, and more.

Vivienne, currently located on NE Sandy Boulevard, will be moving to 2724 NE Alberta Street and opening in the next couple of months. Vivienne is an

Let's celebrate these new additions to our community and support these local businesses.

independent, woman-owned cookbook store that carries kitchenware and linens. It also offers a daily wine bar, cookbook classes, and private parties.

Community Cycle Center (1700 NE Alberta St.) recently remodeled its storefront. Now it offers a new membership-based DIY workspace with thirteen stands, a smaller retail storefront with new and used items, and a bike repair classroom.

Bolt moved from NE 42nd to its new location on 2904 NE Alberta Street on November 9th. A fabric store with a focus on natural fabrics and sewing supplies,

Bolt has been in Concordia for over 18 years.

Killingsworth Street

Autumn Coffee Cafe (3286 NE Killingsworth) is a new coffee spot providing fresh roasted, handcrafted coffee by the cup or beans you can take home and brew yourself.

The 1600 block on Killingsworth is devoted to folks who enjoy plant-based and vegan products. **Upper Moon Tattoo** (5470 NE 16th Ave.), is a safe inclusive tattoo shop dedicated to using vegan and cruelty-free products. **Orange & Blossom** opened next door and is a modern, farm-focused, plant-based patisserie using seasonal, local and organic ingredients. **Feral** (1614 NE Killingsworth St.) opened in November with a focus on craft cocktails, natural wine, local beer and vegan cuisine.



Queer Plants Cafe just opened in the former Miss Zumstein storefront on 5027 NE 42nd Avenue. Queer Plants Cafe is one part unique plant sale and one part cozy cafe, serving Coava Coffee, breakfast sandwiches, pastries, and bagels.

Misplaced Print Shop recently moved from Slabtown to 4831 NE 42nd Avenue. Misplaced offers custom screen printing for musicians, bars, restaurants, and nonprofits. It also has a retail selection of original printed-on accessories such as t-shirts, hats, and bags.

All these changes are exciting and invigorating to watch but it has been challenging for many businesses to keep their doors open since the beginning of the Covid outbreak. Let's celebrate these new additions to our community and support these local businesses.

All photos by Nedra Rezinas.



Vegan pastries and cookies at Orange & Blossom on NE Killingsworth Street

Want to get involved?



Join us at the next Concordia Neighborhood Association Board Meeting on Wednesday, February 14, 6-8 p.m. in the McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room.

For more information, visit: ConcordiaPDX.org/CNAMeetings



Outside of Queer Plants Cafe on NE 42nd
Avenue



Assembly Brewing Pizza Annex on NE Alberta Street



Misplaced Screen Printing on NE 42nd Avenue



Teote the Tavern on NE 30th Avenue

STAY CONNECTED

We are excited to welcome **KISS Coffee** to campus! Stop by their new location on the first floor of the Library and Learning Center.

UO Portland Library, located on the second floor, is open to the community. The **children's library** has more than 4,000 books, space for reading, and a workspace for student parents.

Learn more about campus renovations and construction updates:

pdx.uoregon.edu/renovations

Questions: pdxinfo@uoregon.edu



PORTLAND

EO/AA/ADA institution committed to cultural diversity.

Community Connections

Meet The Old Crows

By Kathy Crabtree **Contributing Writer**

t a house and raised patio on NE Ainsworth Boulevard, the side yard attracts a flock of crows. On further investigation, they seem to be enjoying pecking at food set out near a water basin where a few of the birds are drinking and splashing. Kathy Donohoe, standing on the porch, explains that she feeds them every morning. She is aware that a lot of people dislike crows.

to having a special place in her heart for the birds.

"After Ron found Hopper lifeless on the boulevard, the other crows still expected to be fed, but they left me a gift." One morning, Donohoe found a rusted heart-shaped ornament on the Crow's Nest table. The ornament now sits on the porch in a place of honor. "It's a gift from the crows not only in gratitude for the food, but in honor of Hopper and my care for him."

"I called him Hopper and started feeding him... the other crows seemed to know I was taking care of the injured one."

- Kathy Donohe, Concordia resident and crow enthusiast

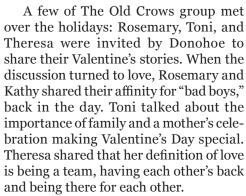
"Mostly because of their loud screeching, especially when [they're] together as a flock in trees near the homes of sleeping residents," she explains.

After her dog died, Donohoe found herself caring for an injured crow. "He had a hurt leg and hung out around the patio, waiting for scraps; I called him Hopper and started feeding him, and his friends joined him. It wasn't long before I got into a routine of feeding them all every morning. But he hung around after the other crows went about their business. My mailman at the time, Ron, would watch for him, too. He said the other crows seemed to know I was taking care of the injured one."

She and a few of her neighbors would gather on her patio to visit while enjoying the crows in the yard. "We started calling the patio The Crow's Nest, and eventually, we acquired a collection of crow memorabilia, so we called our group The Old Crows." When questioned about her continued fondness, Donohoe admitted



Kathy is a 65-yearold Nancy Drew wannabe, retired lawyer, and judge.



The Old Crows agreed, "It's about finding a best friend."



Donohoe on her patio where she feeds the



The neighbors gather at Donohe's home and call themselves The Old Crows. Photos by Kathy Crabtree.

Your News, Your Neighborhood: **Understanding Local Information Flows**

Please help the University of Oregon's School of Journalism and Communications assess our community's information ecosystem.

They are researching how people discover and share what's happening in our neighborhood.

Please fill out the survey here:

Bit.ly/infosurvey24 or use this QR code to access the survey.

Thank you!



YOLY'S **Cleaning** SERVICE

Our reliable crews will have your home sparkling in no time! Interiors, exterior power washing, offices, short-term rentals & more

4 503-804-2345 **4**



Save the Date!



CNA Annual Spring Egg Hunt Saturday, March 30

Location: Fernhill Park

Volunteers are needed:

- Saturday, March 23rd to stuff 6,000 plastic eggs with candy
- Early Saturday, March 30th to hide eggs



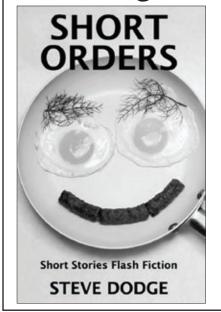
Contact Megan Gobble at Social@ConcordiaPDX.org

Watch for details in your March CNews!

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The Neighbors Have No Bodies!



But they do have heads! Check out this compilation of short stories and flash fiction, ranging from the silly to the strange to the satirical.

Food for thought and fun from Concordia writer Steve Dodge.Story samples at Stevedodgewriter.com

Print edition: Broadway Books Broadwaybooks.net Ebook: Apple, Barnes & Noble, Smashwords, Amazon





NE Community Center and NE Village Support Concordia Seniors

By Kunal Mehra Contributing Writer

he Northeast Community Center (NECC) is a nonprofit organization with over 40 full and part-time staff. It is primarily a fitness center, helping members meet their wellness and recreation goals, while also serving as a place to connect and build community.

One of NECC's programs is Northeast Village (NEV) PDX. NEV serves 17 neighborhoods in NE Portland, including Concordia. It has one full-time employee – Teri McKenzie – who, along with over 100 volunteers, provides member services, programming and organizational support for the Village.

NEV's mission is to provide support, access to resources and opportunities that help seniors maintain active and purposeful lives.

The U.S Surgeon General has called loneliness an epidemic, citing scientific evidence that the health effects of being socially disconnected is akin to smoking

Kunal Mocomputer and a martist was photograp making, and hiki Kunal Meh

Kunal Mehra is a computer engineer and a multimedia artist who likes photography, filmmaking, writing and hiking. Visit Kunal Mehra.com.

15 cigarettes a day. Given the profound impact that isolation and the ensuing loneliness can have on health, NEV's services – which range from hosting book groups, support groups for caregivers, cooking groups, providing rides

15 cigarettes a day. Given the profound formulate a merger which took effect on impact that isolation and the ensuing January 1st. 2023.

NECC and NEV must collaborate efficiently across both centers and ensure that their missions are in sync. With the help of a steering committee, NEV's

NEV's mission is to provide support, access to resources and opportunities that help seniors maintain active and purposeful lives.

to members who live in their own homes, providing tech support, helping with yard work, etc. – are vital and timely.

NEV and the NECC started as two separate organizations. In 2022, talks began on how best to leverage their strengths and better serve the community. The two groups worked together to guiding principles are reevaluated on an ongoing basis to ensure that business operations are consistent with NECC's requirements and NEV's mission.

McKenzie, who serves as the manager, is excited and hopeful about the merger. "It's a positive step in the right direction. It provides long-term sustainability

for NEV and opportunities for both the Village and the NECC while building and enhancing member resources and programs."

If you're interested in becoming a member or volunteering, visit *NEVillagePDX.org*, click on the 'Events' tab and choose 'Calendar' for a list of upcoming introductory sessions. You can also sign up for the mailing list to get updates on upcoming programs.

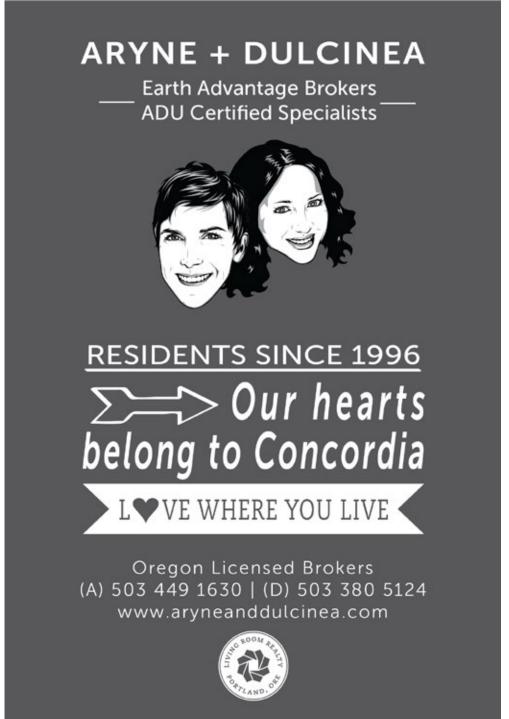


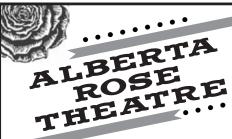
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Find us online at:

ConcordiaPDX.org, Instagram @CNAPDX and Facebook.com/groups/ConcordiaPDX







FEBRUARY 2024

a tribute to Ritchie Valens,
Buddy Holly, & The Big Bopper

CHERYL WHEELER
+ KENNY WHITE

3X WINTERFOLK

4 PUZZLE

Oregon Symphony presentsOPEN MUSIC with Timo Andres

6 IT'S NOT YOU IT'S ME stories from the dark side of dating

DAVID WILCOX + Jean Rohe

8 KIKI'S DELIVERY
SERVICE of love songs
and heartbreak

9X BOYEURISM

10 MORTIFIED

II WINDBORNE

Valentine

a night of circus,
music, & love

LIVE WIRE RADIO
WITH LUKE BURBANK

16 BOOKLOVER'S BURLESQUE erotica edition

17 EVERYONE ORCHESTRA

JARROD LAWSON

21 SCIENCE ON TAP
Amazing Adaptations: How
Birds Cope with Hardships

22X DAPPERLESQUE

23 RIZO: HOME

GREAT COMEDY a night of stand-up

THE ROSETTA PROJECT

Night Flight presents

3.1 Sea of Dreams

3.2 an underwater circus

albertarosetheatre.com 3000 NE Alberta 503.764.4131

Concordia Community Events Calendar

ONE-TIME EVENTS

Friday, February 2nd, All Day **NATIONAL TOT DAY**

MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave.
Tater tot deals all day long

Friday, February 2nd, 8 pm

PAKT ALBERTA ABBEY

Location: 126 NE Alberta St. Genre-defying live progressive music

Saturday, February 3rd, 9:30–11 pm **DROPPED NOTES**

CURIOUS COMEDY THEATER **Location:** 5225 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Outrageous improvised musical revue

Sunday, February 4th, 4-5:30 pm **DISTRICT 2 CANDIDATE FORUM**LEAVEN COMMUNITY CENTER

Location: 5431 NE 20th Ave.
Hear candidates speak about the issues and be part of the conversation that helps shape the future of Portland.

Sunday, February 4th, 4:15 pm **REMEMBERING ROSA PARKS** ALBERTA ABBEY

Location: 126 NE Alberta St. Free community event honoring families from historic Albina / Elliot neighborhood and featuring live choral music

Sunday, February 4th, 7-9 pm SUNDAY SCHOOL: INDIE

SUNDAY SCHOOL: INDIE SHOWCASE

CURIOUS COMEDY THEATER Location: 5225 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Tuesday, February 6th, 7 pm INDIE FILM NIGHT

MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave.
Watch 7 short films featuring Black voices.

Saturday, February 10th, 7–9 pm **OPERA ON TAP**

MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL **Location:** 5736 NE 33rd Ave. Opera featuring rotating cast

Sunday, February 11th, 7–9 pm **THE BIG GAME**

MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL **Location:** 5736 NE 33rd Ave. Watch the Superbowl on the big screen.

Wednesday, February 14th, 7 pm **DRAG QUEEN BINGO** MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL

MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave.

Sunday, February 18th, 2 pm
FILM SCREENING: A BINDING
TRUTH

MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL **Location:** 5736 NE 33rd Ave. Film about Civil Rights football case with Q&A session

Sunday, February 18th, 7 pm LOOSEWIG JAZZ SERIES

MCMENAMINS KENNEDY SCHOOL Location: 5736 NE 33rd Ave.
Night of jazz featuring Brent Follis Quartet

Wednesday, February 21st, 5:30–6:30 pm, 7:30–8:30 pm

CURIOUS COMEDY STUDENT SHOWCASE

CURIOUS COMEDY THEATER
Location: 5225 NE Martin Luther King Jr.
Blvd.

Watch improv students show off their new skills.

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.

Friday, February 23rd-Sunday, February

ROSE CITY BLUES DANCE SUMMIT

ALBERTA ABBEY Location: 126 NE Alberta St.

Live music and dance lessons in the ball-room

Thursday, February 29th, 6–9 pm **5TH ANNUAL 6x6x6 COMMUNITY ART SHOW**

ALBERTA STREET GALLERY
Location: 1829 NE Alberta St., Unit B
Works by Jeweler Mandy Allen and Paper
Artist Kim Nickens

ONGOING EVENTS

Friday, February 2nd–Saturday, February

ANNUAL PORTLAND WINTER LIGHT FESTIVAL

VARIOUS LOCATIONS
Free illuminated performance / visual art

by over 125 artists
Concordia exhibits: Pachinko, Wastetopia, and Dream Theater
Website: pdxwlf.com

February 13th and all second Tuesdays, 5–7 pm

FREE CRAFT NIGHT

COLLAGE PDX Location: 1639 NE Alberta St.
Craft materials and instruction provided

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, 3–4:30 pm

SOCIAL SAMPLERS
MATT DISHMAN COMMUNITY CENTER

MATT DISHMAN COMMUNITY CENTER Location: 77 NE Knott St.

Make friends through PP&R-sponsored program that includes games, food and

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

Sunday

February 4, 2024

Location: 1036 NE Alberta St. Monday-Thursday, 12:30-3 pm

FAMILY SWIM
MATT DISHMAN COMMUNITY CENTER

POOL Location: 77 NE Knott St.

Monday-Friday, 9:30 am

NEIGHBORHOOD WALK
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON-LIBRARY
Location: 2800 NE Liberty St.
Meet neighbors for a daily walk.

Every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, 2–4 pm

ADULT BASKETBALL

MATT DISHMAN COMMUNITY CENTER Location: 77 NE Knott St.

Every Wednesday, 7 pm KARAOKE!

THE WAYPOST

Location: 3120 N Williams Ave.

Every Wednesday and Friday, 8–10 pm **OPEN GYM**

NAYA FAMILY CENTER Location: 5135 NE Colombia Blvd.

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 Friday and Saturday, 7:30–9:15 pm CURIOUS COMEDY SHOWDOWN

CURIOUS COMEDY SHOWDOW CURIOUS COMEDY THEATER Location: 5225 NE Martin Luther King Jr.

Blvd.
Six improv artists battle to see who has the auickest wit.

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, 10-11:30 am

UPPER ROOM MINISTRY BIBLE TALK

VIRTUAL Contact lke at (503) 901-0623 for more info.

Every Sunday, 7 pm

OPEN MIC

THE WAYPOST Location: 3120 N Williams Ave. Weekly open mic at intimate venue

Every Sunday, 9–11 pm

SOULFUL SUNDAYS
ALBERTA STREET PUB
Location: 1036 NE Alberta St.

Location: 1036 NE Alberta St.
The Love Train band with Special Guest DJ

Leaven Community Center 5431 NE 20th Ave





5:30 pm