



CONCORDIA NEWS

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

October 2026

Some Local History (pg. 8)



Events This Month

Woodlawn Farmers Market at U of O
Saturday 10/3
Neighborhood Clean-up
Saturday 10/10
Pop-up Phantom Market
Saturday 10/10
CNA General Meeting
Wednesday 10/14
Covering What Matters: A Conversation with the Oregonian
Tuesday 10/20
Tree Walk
Saturday 10/24

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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Special Spaces

City Council Votes to Initiate Foreclosure on Troubled Alberta Property

By Leo Newman
Contributing Writer

On September 16th, the Portland City Council voted unanimously to initiate foreclosure on 2734-2738 NE Alberta, colloquially known as the ‘Alberta Pit.’ The site on the corner of NE 28th and Alberta, inundated by a mound of untouched rubble of the historic Cowley Building, has accrued \$105,627.81 in delinquent city liens since its demolition in December 2024. The vote possibly brings a close to a years-long battle between the city and its proprietor, Erzsebet Eppley, over the troubled property which stood dilapidated and vacant for several years prior to its demolition.

“Neighbors are beyond ready to say goodbye to what has been, for a while now, a hazardous property,” Councilor Elana Pirtle-Guiney (D2) said in a statement to *Concordia News*.

The property returned to the public’s attention after the Housing and Permitting Committee referred the matter of foreclosure to the City Council in early August. A couple weeks later, a satirical advertisement for the “Pittman Apartments” appeared on the property’s surrounding fencing. The sign featured an AI-generated image of a luxury apartment complex engulfed in debris and tennis shoes. A QR code next to the building linked to the city government’s webpage for reporting property code violations.

The stunt drew the attention of



The Alberta Pit has been in disrepair since its demolition in December 2024.

Photo by Leo Newman.

local residents and business owners, several of whom submitted written testimony in favor of foreclosing the property ahead of the council’s vote. Several testimonies pointed to dangers posed to pedestrians by the blocked off sidewalk in front of the property on Alberta Street.

“Portland talks constantly about revitalization, housing, economic development, and bringing life back to our commercial corridors,” wrote Brad Trost. “Meanwhile, a highly visible piece of property in the middle of one of our most successful neighborhoods has been allowed to remain a fenced-off symbol of dysfunction.”

Eppley does not necessarily disagree. The proprietor had challenged the penalty liens that encumbered the property, claiming

that the city never explained its cause. In an 11-page affidavit submitted as public testimony to the council, Eppley requested that the council forgive the liens, which she claimed made the property unattractive to buyers. The affidavit also argued that the city’s move to initiate foreclosure negates Eppley’s continued effort to remain compliant with city audits.

Background

Eppley serves as proprietor for a relative, a minor who inherited the property from Eppley’s father after his death. Eppley’s father, Joseph Bozcki, fled Hungary during the 1956 Revolution and settled in Portland, whose surrounding hillsides

Story continued on Page 6

CNA General Meeting

Board Business • Ranked
Choice Voting Refresher
from the League of
Women Voters • Mayor
Wilson Remarks + Q&A

Wednesday, October 14th at 6 pm
Kennedy School Gym
All neighbors welcome

For more info, email
vicechair@concordiapdx.org

COVERING WHAT MATTERS:

A Conversation with The Oregonian on Local Journalism, Free Press, and Northeast Portland Civic Life

Join us for a conversation with members of The Oregonian staff about the first amendment, midterm elections, Northeast Portland, and the future of local journalism.

Tuesday, OCT. 20

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Conversation 6-8 p.m.

UO Portland Library & Learning Center
2800 NE Liberty St.

Panel:

- Laura Gunderson, Editor and VP of Content, The Oregonian
- Helen Jung, Opinion Editor, The Oregonian
- Shane Dixon Kavanaugh, Reporter, Portland City Hall, The Oregonian
- Lillian Mongeau Hughes, Reporter, Homelessness, The Oregonian
- Facilitator: Andrew DeVigal, Director, UO Agora Journalism Center
- Moderator: Keith Daellenbach, Concordia Resident

Hosted by University of Oregon Portland
Sponsored by Concordia Neighborhood Association

Meet the Board By Dina Sage, Concordia News Managing Editor

Meet Our Treasurer, Brian Schutte

The Concordia Neighborhood Association board is a group of 13 volunteers who all live in, work in or own property in Concordia. They are dedicated to helping the community and meet once a month to discuss neighborhood issues and plan events.

Tell me about your work with CNA.
I have an MBA from the University of Oregon and I have a consulting business. For 20 years, I worked in and managed custom fabrication shops (mostly woodworking and metal work) so now I help small business owners manage their manufacturing and construction companies. I have 3 ongoing long-term clients though I do take short-term projects as well. At times, I play an advisory role and other times I directly manage aspects or projects of the business.

I first got involved with CNA in 2023. We always read the paper and I answered an ad in the paper for the treasurer position.

Where do you live?
My wife Elsbeth and I have lived in our home on NE 27th and Alberta for 20 years. Elsbeth is a radiation therapist at OHSU and mostly treats cancer patients.

Our house was built in 1913. It was a 2 bedroom 1 bath and it was in pretty bad shape when we moved into it. We had two kids and so we added a dormer with a second bathroom upstairs. I did all the work myself except for the electrical and plumbing. I enjoy the work but I'm glad to see it come to a close. Our last project will be the floors, and putting in air conditioning.

What do you do in your free time?
My family and I enjoy camping, hiking and



Brian and his kids on their electric cargo bike they call, "Big Daddy".

paddleboarding.
I love spending time with my 12-year old daughter, Ramona and my seven-year old son, Arlo. Ramona and I are both learning to play piano from an app. Sometimes we get in to music theory. Arlo loves Legos and building projects of any kind. We have a little workshop in our basement and are building a treehouse together. Both kids love rock climbing, swimming and we are avid bike commuters.

What do you like about living in Concordia?
We enjoy how walkable the neighborhood is. We love Salt and Straw, Alberta Park, and we're members of the food coop.
We enjoy spending time with our neighbors. Marcia Cole, a retired hairdresser, who has lived in the house next door to us for 50 years is good friends with my son, Arlo. It's very sweet. I play guitar and have lately been playing a lot of old time music with my other neighbor Boris who plays the banjo and the fiddle.

Concordia Neighborhood Association

- Board Meeting**
2nd Wednesday of the month (except August and December), Wednesday, October 14th at 6 pm, McMenamins Kennedy School Gym with call in option, see box below, contact Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org
- Social Committee Meeting**
Monday, October 19th at 6 pm
Please contact Cathy McCarthy for details at social@concordiapdx.org
- Media Team Meeting**
Thursday, October 29th, Contact Dina Sage for location, MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org.
- Land Use & Transportation Committee Meeting**
Tuesday, October 13th, 6-7:30 pm
Contact Amanda Krzyzanowski for details at LandUse@concordiapdx.org.
- Friends of the Commons Committee Meeting**
Monday, October 5th
Contact Lucy Morrow for details at SW2@concordiapdx.org.
- Finance Committee Meeting**
For more info, contact the treasurer at Treasurer@ConcordiaPDX.org.
- Community Room Rental**
For info and scheduling, visit concordiapdx.org/community-room-rental or contact Cynthia Coburn at CNARoomKennedy@gmail.com.
- CONTACTS**
- CNA Chair**
Matt Roberts, Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org
- CNA Vice Chair**
Cathy McCarthy, ViceChair@ConcordiaPDX.org
- CNA Secretary**
Autumn Voirol, Secretary@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: Courtney Burns, CNewsBusiness@ConcordiaPDX.org

CONTRIBUTORS IN THIS ISSUE
CNA Board Liaison: John McSherry
Managing Editor: Dina Sage, MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org, 541.306.8006
CNews Graphic Designer: Doug Burns, CNewsDesigner@ConcordiaPDX.org
Media Team:
Greg Bishop, Courtney Burns, Doug Burns, Brodie Cass Talbott, David Corby, Sam Cordes, Keith K. Daellenbach, Venus Edlin, Christina Gomez, Caprice Lawless, Leo Newman, Peggy Pfenniger, Javier Puga-Phillips, Dina Sage

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

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At Large 6 | AL6@ConcordiaPDX.org Autumn Voirol

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

HELP SHAPE CONCORDIA'S FUTURE

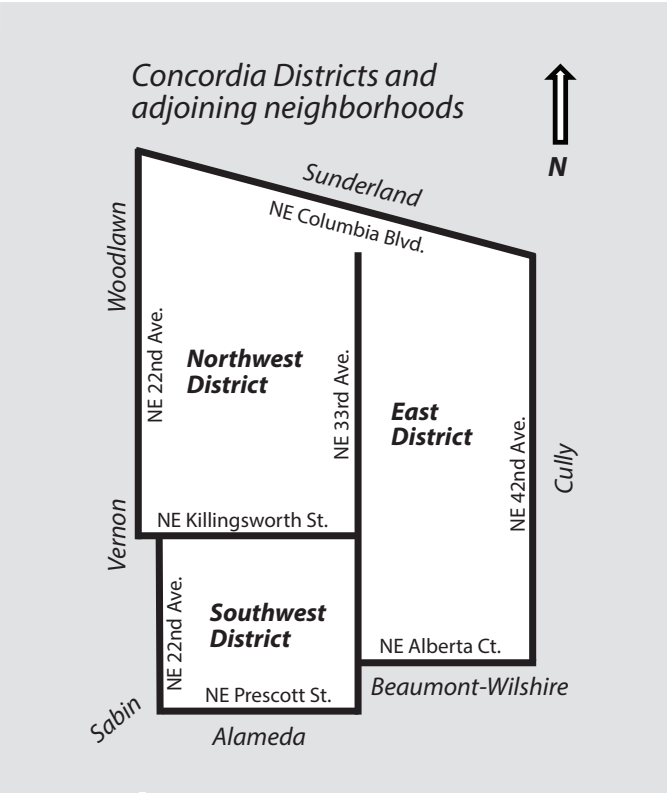
CNA BOARD ELECTIONS

Consider running for the board, or attend to cast your vote. Your participation matters!

Join us at our annual meeting
Wednesday, November 11
6:00 - 8:00 pm

Kennedy School Community Room

Contact vicechair@concordiapdx.org for more info.



Join us!

Concordia litter pick up event

All ages & abilities welcome! Advance registration appreciated. Kids welcome with adult supervision. Thank you.

Saturday October 10th | 10am - 12pm
UO parking lot at NE 29th and Dekum

Questions: al6@concordiapdx.org

 Register here bit.ly/3UDW0u3

 We'll provide the supplies and snacks

Faubion Students Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month



Faubion teachers and administrators celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month in September. Photo by Christina Gomez.

By Christina Gomez
Contributing Writer

As Community School Coordinator at Faubion since 2022, my job is to support students and families, connect them with resources and services, and build programs and partnerships that strengthen our school community.

This fall, Faubion school celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month by honoring the rich cultures, histories, languages and traditions represented in our community.

We kicked off the month with a small celebration of traditional breads, *café de olla* (Mexican coffee), and *champurrado* (a warm, sweet thick beverage) at our main entrance

during our morning arrival. This year, we were especially proud to highlight the indigenous cultures and languages of Guatemala, an important part of the heritage of many Faubion families.

Our celebration brought students, families and staff together to share culture, food and traditions and to celebrate the diversity that makes Faubion such a special community.



Christina Gomez is a lover of pies, Puerto Rican food, snowboarding season, ocean days and family hikes.

Poetry Corner

Incoherencias
Por Humberto Ak'abal

*Este espacio me sofoca,
me ahoga,
me molesta...*

*Pero todo este espacio me hace falta,
aquí están mis libros,
aquí volví a nacer,
aquí está la razón de mi vida,
aquí está el aliento que necesito para vivir...*

¿A quién explicarle estas incoherencias?

Incoherencias is by Humberto Ak'abal, the Guatemalan K'iche' Maya poet. It appears in his 2009 bilingual collection *Las Palabras Crecen*.



Ode to Concordia
By David Corby

*Two walks a day for three years.
We know the corner where he wants to cross the street.
The trees that introduced him to the neighbors.
We know the coffee shop he'll get closest to.
The alleyway where we play rock-paper-scissors to see who waits.*

He never wants to wait.

*We know the house with the front yard where we slow down.
The flowers we each lean in to sniff.
We know where the toy horse sits on the curb.
It turns out that the past can be a hard place to leave.
Two walks a day for three years.
Concordia, you made Portland our home.*



David Corby is a poet, essayist, and professional over-communicator. He recently moved out of Concordia and will miss it. You can find him spending time with his wife and their dog.

CONCORDIA

HALLOWEEN
TREAT MAP

Add your home to the map or use it to find homes handing out treats on Halloween night.

Add your address by October 29.

Register or view the map



tinyurl.com/TreatMap2026

Questions? AL4@concordiapdx.org



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New Restaurant Brings Coastal Spanish Inspiration to Concordia



Marée opened in the former Dame location this summer. Photo from mareeportland.com.

By Javier Puga-Phillips
Contributing Writer

On the corner of Northeast Killingsworth Street and 30th Avenue, a familiar restaurant space has entered a new chapter. Marée, which opened July 31st in the former Dame location, brings coastal French and Spanish inspiration to Concordia while keeping its focus close to home.

Owner and sommelier Garrett McAleese grew up in Portland's restaurant world. His parents, Lucy and Gerard McAleese, founded Kells Irish Pub, and he has operated Kells Brewery in Northwest Portland since 2012. He later opened the intimate Italian restaurant Coltiva in the Seattle area, an experience that helped inspire Fantino on SE Division Street. Marée is his newest project, with the kitchen led by chef Jarrott Moonitz.

The restaurant's name carries both family meaning and a connection to the sea. Marée—pronounced “mah-ray”—means “tide” in French and is also a nod to McAleese's mother's middle name, Marie. The concept draws inspiration from southwestern France, the Basque Country and coastal towns such as Saint-Jean-de-Luz and Biarritz, where the food reflects both the ocean and the countryside.

McAleese describes the cooking as “rustic, seasonal and approachable” and says he uses “just lovely ingredients that are handled really well.” McAleese says that Oregon is a natural fit for the cuisine— the state offers abundant summer produce, a nearby coast and strong relationships with farmers and fishing crews.

Fresh produce comes in from local farmers markets and partner farms several times a week.

The restaurant also works with small Oregon fishing operations, some built around a single boat. That direct connection allows the kitchen to learn what will be caught next and plan the menu around it. Preserved products that travel well—including Spanish olives, *boquerones* (Spanish-style marinated anchovies), spices and dry goods—bring another layer of authenticity.

The menu is designed to change with the seasons without losing its basic shape. Diners can expect seafood with carefully prepared sauces, meat from the Basque countryside tradition and small starters inspired by appetizers from Basque Country called *pintxos*. The fried Gordal olives with Ossau-Iraty cheese, for example, are salty, warm and just the kind of dish that makes you want to order another round.

One dish McAleese is especially proud of is the line-caught Kinki rockfish with *sauce verte*, a classic French green herb that gives food a citrusy brine flavor. The kitchen uses the entire fish: fillets become an entrée, the bones add depth to the broth used in the bomba rice with clams, and the collars may appear as a weekend special. For McAleese, using every part of a sustainably caught fish is as important as the final plate.

When fall arrived, the menu moved with it. Summer tomatoes disappeared and richer dishes, such as mussels in a cider broth, took their place. That continuing change gives neighbors a reason to return and see what Oregon's next season brings.

The drinks receive the same attention. McAleese's background as a sommelier shapes a thoughtful

Story continued on Page 7

Is *your neighbor* a musician?

Are *you* a working musician?

SoundPass! is a pilot program of MusicOregon and the City of Portland to grant **working musicians** an exception to the standard Title 18 Noise Code limits for bookended practice and rehearsal hours.

If you are a working musician or a neighbor to a musician, **we want to hear from you!** For more info on the program and to make your voice heard, please scan the QR codes below.

MUSICIAN SURVEY

COMMUNITY SURVEY



WOODLAWN FARMERS MARKET @ UO PORTLAND

For one special day, the Woodlawn Farmers Market is moving to the UO Portland campus. Come celebrate this partnership with the University of Oregon! Shop your favorite vendors, listen to live music, and enjoy community.

SATURDAY, OCT. 3

9 a.m.- 1 p.m.

UO Portland Campus Green
2800 NE Liberty St.



Slough Stew: Stories on the Columbia

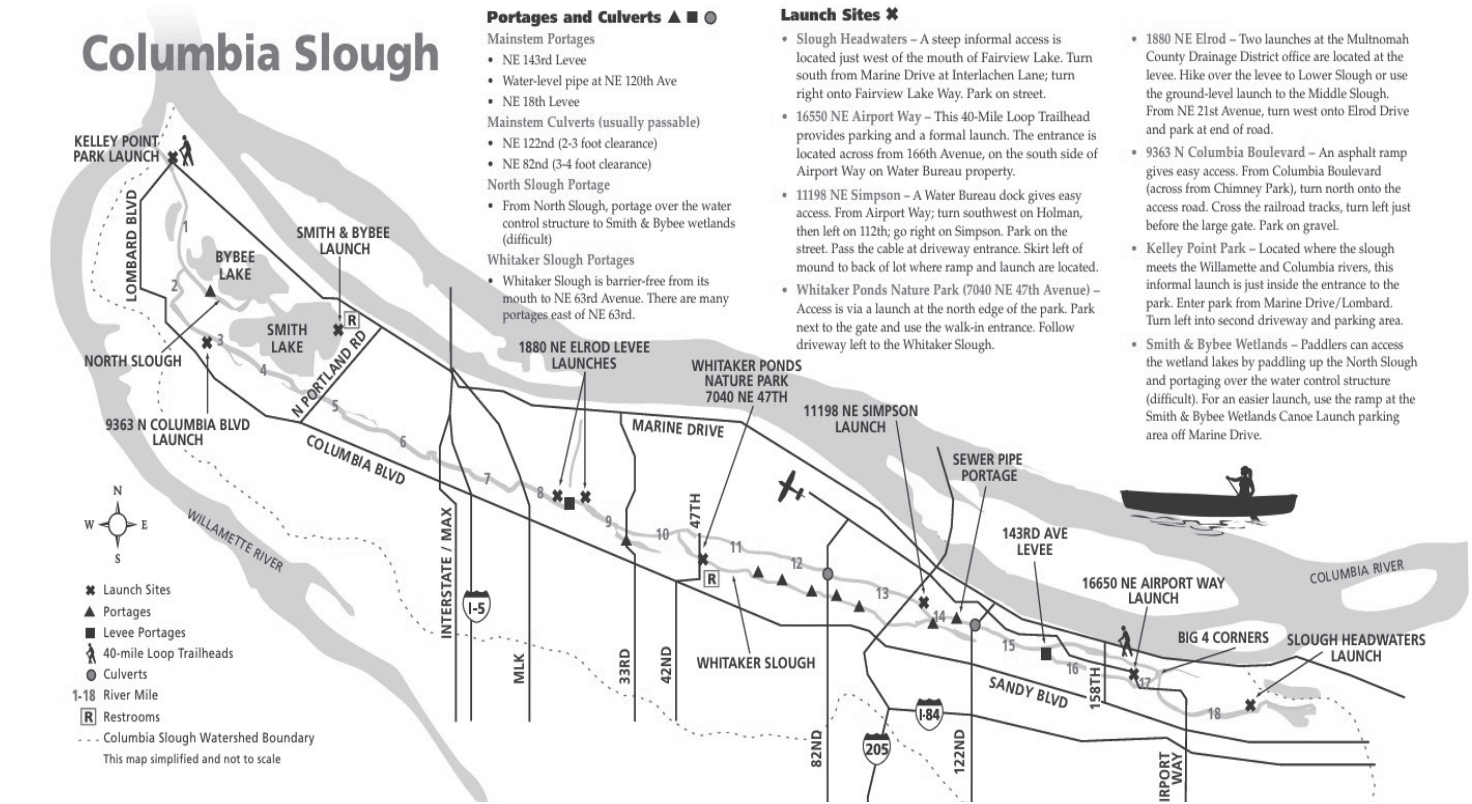
Paddling the Slough

By Keith Daellenbach
Contributing Writer

In April, my wife, Amy, and I made a one-day, 20.6 mile, 10 hour voyage down the entire length of the Columbia Slough in our 14-foot Old Town polyethylene canoe. We launched at quarter past eight on a Saturday morning from Lakeshore Park at the east end of the shallow 110-acre Fairview Lake and ended at Kelley Point on the Columbia River. After paddling one mile, we portaged across NE Fairview Lake Way above the lake's discharge above a 2.5-foot impoundment dam and started down the 19-miles slough itself.

The Columbia River at Vancouver gauge level was 7.5 feet. That early in the year, the water level is adequately high and there is less aquatic vegetation and floating macrophytes and algae mats than exist July through early fall, which can slow progress considerably. It reached mid 70-degree Fahrenheit, was mostly sunny, and, for the most part, we had a light east wind at our backs.

Up to the NE 17th Ave. levee, the upper and middle slough is narrower and typically tree-lined with lots of natural habitat and wildlife. Along the three-mile stretch between the second levee and North Portland Road, the north shore of the waterway



"A Paddler's Access Guide Columbia Slough", Bureau of Environmental Services, City of Portland (2015)

astride the levee lacks trees and riparian habitat; however, the five-mile stretch below North Portland Road to its confluence with the Willamette River has a rural, serene feel. It's a beautiful, wide waterway lined with black cottonwood and Oregon ash.

Planning Your Trip

Before you go, you must obtain a waterway access permit from

the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. A permit is required for all non-motorized watercrafts regardless of watercraft length. This permit funds waterway access improvement and aquatic invasive species prevention efforts.

Getting a watercraft can be a challenge but there are local options to rent a canoe or kayak from Alder Creek Kayak & Canoe (Jantzen Beach), Oregon River

Rentals (Happy Valley), or eNRG Kayaking (Oregon City). Notably, the Columbia Slough Watershed Council (CSWC) offers multiple free outings each year including in bimarans which are two canoes strapped together for maximum stability.

Navigation Tips and Resources

The Bureau of Environmental

Story continued on Page 7



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Special Spaces

City Council Votes to Initiate Foreclosure on Troubled Alberta Property (Cont)



The property is located on the corner of NE 28th and Alberta. Photo by Leo Newman.

reminded him of Budapest. By 1964, he had acquired the historic Cowley Building, where he lived and operated an appliance shop. The two-story brick structure had a colorful history: it once boasted a maple dance floor spanning the entire second story and, according to Eppley, a secret basement speakeasy advertised as a series of revivalist churches. Bozcki and his wife Erzsebet would go on to acquire a portfolio of about twenty properties in the Portland area. When he died in 2010, he left his first property to his grandson, and Eppley oversees it.

By then, the Cowley Building had fallen into considerable disrepair.

Its apartments upstairs were reportedly prone to leaks. Its anchor tenant, Stephen Ferruzza, owner of Al Forno Ferruzza, a Sicilian-style pizzeria and music venue on the ground floor, told *Willamette Week* that he vacated the building in 2014 after the owners failed to react to a burst pipe in time, which led to an unsafe mold build-up. Ferruzza also rented his home on NE Tillamook Street from Eppley, who evicted him in June 2014, according to court records.

After Ferruzza’s departure, the Cowley building stood vacant. Eppley came under fire in October 2022 when several unreinforced bricks from the building’s east face fell onto the sidewalk. In response, the Portland Bureau of Development Services opened a “dangerous building case,” the first of a long series of public inquiries into the structural integrity of the building and its unreinforced masonry, and erected fencing around the property.

In the affidavit submitted to the City Council ahead of Thursday’s meeting, Eppley claimed that she reacted promptly to the failing bricks in compliance with city orders. The affidavit also reports that Eppley retained a forensic engineer to audit the building around this time. The audit found that the bricks up to the ground floor were compromised from

water damage, possibly stemming from severe flooding after a water main break down the street that flooded Alberta Street for several blocks.

In the two years that followed, Eppley incurred upwards of \$60,000 in code violations Eppley says she consulted with multiple architects to renovate the property while honoring its historical significance. In 2023, she applied for a permit to demolish the second story. However, the city would only grant a permit to demolish the entire structure, Eppley says.

She is also the proprietor of the boarded-up house behind the property as well as the Cruz Room on NE 23rd, another Alberta business that stood vacant for several years. A new tenant has leased the former bar since April and is making renovations, Eppley says.

Demolition on the Cowley Building began in December 2024. Eppley says that the minor owner’s trust was effectively drained after spending half a million dollars financing the demolition, including asbestos removal and lead abatement, not to mention mounting zoning violations, and attorney fees. She says the trust did not have enough remaining money to clear the mound of debris, which has tormented Alberta residents for nearly two years.

Next Steps

Now that the council has voted to initiate foreclosure, the city will be able to take the property, zoned for mixed-commercial use, to foreclosure sale. A representative of Councilor Sameer Kanai (D2) told *Concordia News* that the councilor expressed interest in purchasing the property for the city in the event of foreclosure.

“This was expected but it is still unfortunate” Eppley said of the decision. She says she is currently looking into ways to best respond to the Council’s vote. Eppley is now more than ever interested in preserving the legacy of the Cowley building, and has plans to write a book on the history of the Cowley Building.

“Tonight’s move to initiate the foreclosure of 2734-2738 NE Alberta Street is a concrete step toward remedying this long-blighted property along one of the most vibrant commercial corridors in District 2”, wrote Councilor Dan Ryan (D2) in a statement to *Concordia News*.



Leo Newman is a freelance reporter and paralegal based in NE Portland. He covers housing and development, immigration policy and the environment.

CAMP NAMANU

Sandy, OR



SUMMER CAMP 2027 Registration opens 10/25! Join us for our 104th summer on the Sandy River! Serving 2nd-12th graders: experience the outdoors, new activities, & make memories that will last a lifetime!	MUSHROOM CAMP November 13-15, 2026 Explore Namanu at our first ever mushroom camp! Learn foraging, cooking, and hear from fungi experts. \$285/person	SERVICE WEEKEND December 4-6, 2026 Help us shut down camp for the winter by stocking inventory, cleaning cabins and getting organized! \$50 suggested donation
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Bird of the Month



By Brodie Cass Talbott
Contributing Writer

For our first bird of the month, there's none better to start with than the humble Song Sparrow. These little brown birds are found in our area year round, and are common in neighborhoods. While they may not be flashy looking, they are amazing songsters, with each male containing a repertoire of 10-12 sweet, whistled songs, which usually start with a couple flat notes - a "mic check."

They sing most in spring, but also in fall, as they establish their winter territories.

Learn more about Song Sparrows at our website (birdallianceoregon.org/go-outside/song-sparrow/), and learn how you can create habitat for them in your yard at backyardhabitats.org.



Brodie Cass Talbott works for Bird Alliance of Oregon, leading birding and natural history trips. He lives in NE Portland.

New Restaurant Brings Coastal Spanish Inspiration to Concordia (Cont)

wine list, while the cocktail menu includes playful details and strong nonalcoholic choices. He described the pineapple fizz as tasting like "being a kid out on the beach," with the spirit of a very good piña colada but without the alcohol.

The location was not chosen by accident. McAleese once lived nearby with his wife, who loved Dame, and the couple remained connected to the restaurant through its wine program during the pandemic. He was drawn to the large windows, natural light and century-old fir floors. When the space became available, he moved quickly. "You just don't see that anymore," he said. "We feel spoiled."

Marée currently welcomes walk-ins rather than filling the dining room with reservations. The idea is simple: neighbors should be able to walk over and have a reasonable chance of getting a table that evening. A reservation option for larger groups may come later, but keeping the restaurant accessible to the neighborhood remains central to the plan.

Only a few weeks after opening, nearby residents were already

Slough Stew: Stories on the Columbia Paddling the Slough (Cont)

Services' "A Paddler's Access Guide, Columbia Slough" (2015) is an excellent overview to navigate the slough. It contains a map showing nine formal launch sites, like Whitaker Ponds Nature Park (26-acres, 7040 NE 47th Ave.) near Concordia, locations of two levee portages, the first at NE 143rd Ave. and the second at the northern extension of NE 17th Ave. at 1880 NE Elrod Drive, and one water-level sewer pipe portage just below NE 122nd Ave. There are five other above-ground pipe crossings but they are well above the water surface and require no portage, two under-road culverts, (one at NE 122nd Ave. and the other at NE 82nd Ave.) We paddled through both while remaining in our canoe.

Additional informal launch points can be viewed from the 32 bridges that cross the slough. Five rail tracks also cross the slough (two MAX light rail and three railroad). One strategy for a point-to-point transect through the slough is to place a locked bicycle at a takeout location and drive to the "top" with a watercraft, park, and put in for a bike return later (the locked watercraft remains at "bottom" for pickup later).

Do not miss the tremendous paddling opportunity in Smith and Bybee Lakes, one of the country's largest urban freshwater

wetlands (2,000-acres), which can also link, with a portage at the outlet of Bybee Lake, to the lower slough and Kelley Point Park, across the Willamette River from Sauvie Island. Kelley Point Park is a 90-acre, free-parking scenic wonderland that is culturally and spiritually significant to local indigenous tribes but do not swim here as it is at the confluence of two powerful rivers.

Safety Considerations

With your watercraft, wear a life jacket and carry an emergency whistle and headlamp as well as a bow and stern rope. A lightweight, two-wheeled canoe or kayak cart with ratchet strap is very helpful for portages as is a map, compass, and GPS with route waypoints to navigate the many waterway confluences in the slough. Leave a float plan that includes the route, vehicle description, participant contact information, and expected time duration with someone at home.

Check the weather and predictive tide chart at the Columbia at Vancouver gauge (USGS 14144700) on the slough as downstream speed slows, below the second levee at NE 17th Ave., for the final 8.5 miles to the Willamette River during two flood tides each day. While a second gauge (Columbia Slough at Portland,

USGS 14211820) does not provide a prediction of slough levels, it does show current, past ebb and flood of tidal flow patterns, and current gauge height in the Smith and Bybee Lakes wetland.

Final Thoughts

Another excellent resource is the Columbia Slough Watershed Council's (CSWC) "Nature in the City Columbia Slough" (ca. 2023) which offers an excellent informative map with over three dozen natural history and geographic references.

Years ago, following a bimiran outing with CSWC with our then very young son, Micah, we found and purchased our used canoe (which he named "The Spy") from a family no longer needing it for a low price off Craigslist. That started nearly twenty years of exploring over 25 waterways and lakes throughout Oregon and southwest Washington. I hope the slough will inspire you too.



Keith Daellenbach is a mechanical engineer and outdoor enthusiast who loves mountain climbing, skiing, biking, canoeing, and beekeeping with his wife Amy and son Micah.

Remodeling in your Neighborhood since 2004

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coming back. McAleese called that "probably the biggest compliment in the world"—not only did guests enjoy their first meal, but they wanted to return, explore the changing menu and make Marée part of their neighborhood routine.

That may be the best way to understand Marée. It is polished, but not stiff; inspired by faraway coasts, but rooted in Oregon; and special enough for a celebration while still hoping to become the place down the street where neighbors recognize one another.

Marée is at 2930 NE Killingsworth St. and is open Wednesday through Saturday, 5-10 p.m. Learn more at mareeportland.com.



Javier Puga-Phillips is a bilingual real estate broker with Cascade Hasson Sotheby's International Realty and a proud Concordia neighbor who is passionate about helping people find home, build community, and put down roots in Portland. He can be reached at Javier@JavierPDX.com.

Who Were Wygant and Ainsworth?

By Venus Edlin
Contributing Writer

Exploring Concordia, neighbors or visitors often come across juxtapositions of new and old fixtures of the community. Wygant Street is the epitome of this contrast, named after an important figure in founding Portland's railroads and featuring Happy Alley, an attraction started in the summer of 2025.

Initially, Wygant Street was, like many Portland neighborhoods and streets, named in the mid to late 1800s, though it is difficult to pinpoint the exact date. The oldest record in the Portland City Records for Wygant Street dates back to March 9th, 1894 and establishes the grade of the then unimproved street.

The street's namesake comes from Theodore Wygant (1831-1905), who emigrated from New York to Oregon City to start his steamboat empire in 1850. Wygant was on the board of directors of the Oregon Steam Navigation Company (OSNC), which incorporated the Cascade Portage Railway Co. on June 28th, 1873. Eventually, the company was incorporated again into the more well known Oregon Railway & Navigation Company (ORNC) on June 13th, 1879 by financier Henry Villard.



An aerial photo of Zone 38 from Dec. 31, 1925 depicts the Concordia neighborhood prior to changes that came from displaced Portlanders and Albina residents relocating here and the redlining that followed. Around this time, many connecting streets in the area started to be paved. Photo from portlandoregon.gov.

These railways helped establish key infrastructure of Portland that last today, so it is not surprising many local names commemorate those who were prominent at the company. This also includes

nearby NE Ainsworth St, named after Captain John C. Ainsworth (pictured on the cover) who served on the OSNC board at the same time as Wygant. In fact, both of their wives worked together to

provide destitute women and children temporary shelter through a First Presbyterian Church women's society.

Wygant died in 1905 from appendicitis and received prominent obituaries in The Oregonian, Oregon City Courier and Portland Oregon Daily Journal. Wygant's daughter, Nellie, married Martin Winch (1858-1915), who also worked for ORNC.

Wygant's name was also used for a state park, and "land for Wygant State Natural Area was acquired between 1933 and 1978 by purchase and gift," according to Oregon State Parks. "The original 251.50 acres were given by Simeon Reed Winch and his wife, Olivia, and mother, Nellie, in 1933 in honor of Winch's grandparents, Theodore and Margaret Wygant."

Wygant's legacy is also represented through Reed College, after his daughter and her husband helped establish Reed College, at the will of Amanda W. Reed, Winch's Aunt.



Venus Edlin is a local writer and dancer that has lived in Portland for six years. They love gardening, horror movies and their cat Banshee.

Speaking of...

When the Path to Halloween was Rocky

By Caprice Lawless
Contributing Writer

By early October 2009, I had lost two siblings in 11 months. I had buried my younger sister and younger brother and sorted through all their belongings. My parents, who lived in a nearby city, were both terminally ill and frequently in the hospital. My only child was living on the other side of the country, enrolled in college. The economic crash of 2008 was just a year old. In it I had lost a good-paying job, along with my life savings in stocks. I could find work only as a part-time, lowly paid, adjunct English professor. My home offered me little sanctuary or privacy, as I had to rent out the spare bedrooms to strangers to make ends meet. To see Halloween candy at the store and to watch my neighbors put up outdoor decorations only underscored my grief. Halloween pumpkins were out of the question, as I was broke, lonely, and overwhelmingly sad.

My solace during that dark time was to take long, contemplative walks on the dusty plains east of my home. It seemed odd to prefer bleak fields when familiar, forested mountain trails were so close by, yet the emptiness drew me to it. The challenge before me was to help my parents toward the ends of their lives while somehow rebuilding my own. With the lonely



My festive jack-o-lantern rock collection cheers me up when it starts getting cold. Photo by Caprice Lawless.

walks, I was taking steps, literally and figuratively, to heal. On each one, my only companions were my thoughts and the sun.

Slowly, the age-old tonic of bright light, time, space, solitude, and nature began to work its power. Imperceptibly, the light began crawling toward me. On an impulse, I began collecting small, rounded stones on each walk. One by one, they found

their way from trail, to pocket, then to my bedroom windowsill. I was unaware, though, of how the expansiveness of wide, treeless space had begun collecting me, as well.

The week before Halloween, from my broken heart came the idea of turning my round-rock collection into jack-o-lanterns. As unhurriedly as I had collected them, I painted them a few coats

each day, using an old box of acrylics. First, I covered them in shades of orange. A few days later I added yellow stripes to signify ridges. Finally, I gave each a crown of green leaves where stems would have been, were they autumn pumpkins instead of ancient rubble.

At week's end, as I dipped my thin brush into black paint to add faces, though, I stopped. It felt wrong to conjure happiness, to paint smiles. The next day, however, as I tried again, I felt hope blinking back at me from time spent in welcoming fields and warm sun. Cheery faces emerged from memories of my dear siblings, disguised as toothy grins for the season. They got me through that Halloween, and in each, ever-more-happy Halloween since that lonely and dark one. It was a project that cost nothing, while its value was – and remains – priceless.

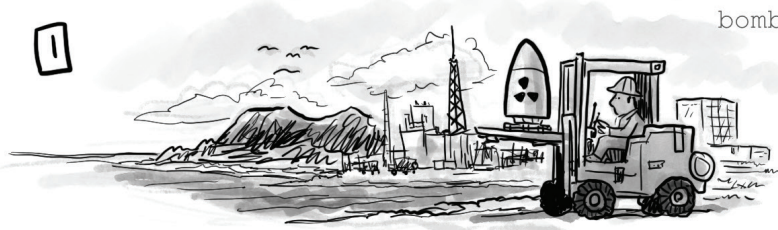
Caprice Lawless has written extensively on higher education, homesharing, technology, construction, and engineering. She moved to Oregon from Colorado in 2023, shortly after retiring from teaching college English and Journalism.



Atomic Otters

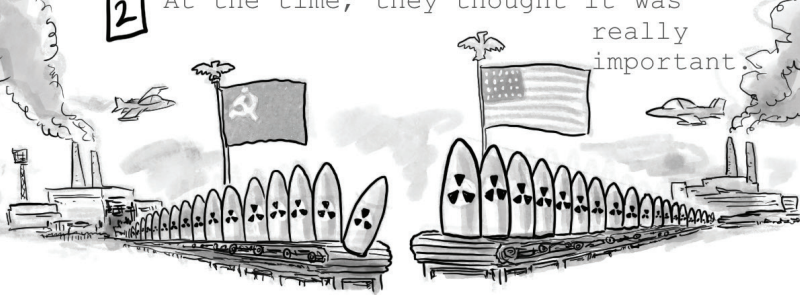
By Greg Bishop

1



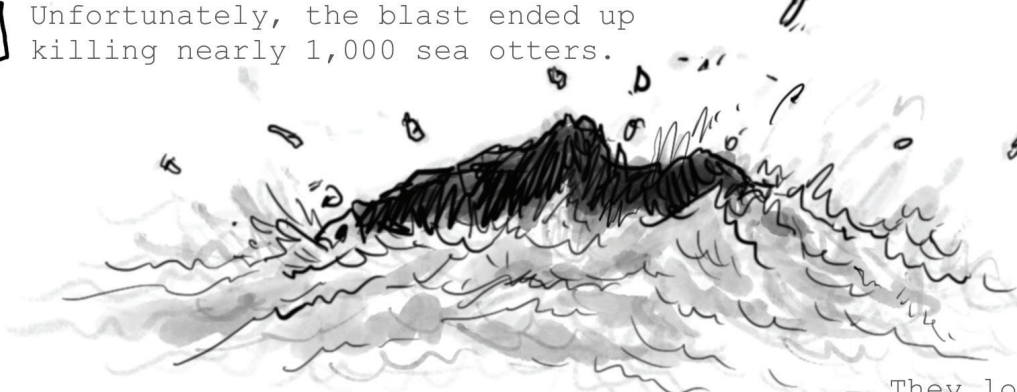
In 1971, the US government sent its largest nuclear bomb to an island in Alaska. They dug a 6,000 ft. tunnel and planned to test it underground, for safety.

2



At the time, they thought it was really important.

3



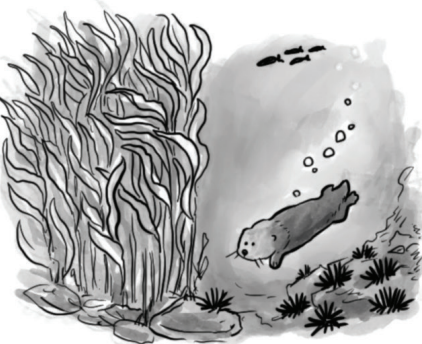
Unfortunately, the blast ended up killing nearly 1,000 sea otters.

4



People had been worried already. Even before the test they were arguments about what was more important: national security, or cute marine mammals?

5



They were just starting to realize how interconnected ecosystems are.

6



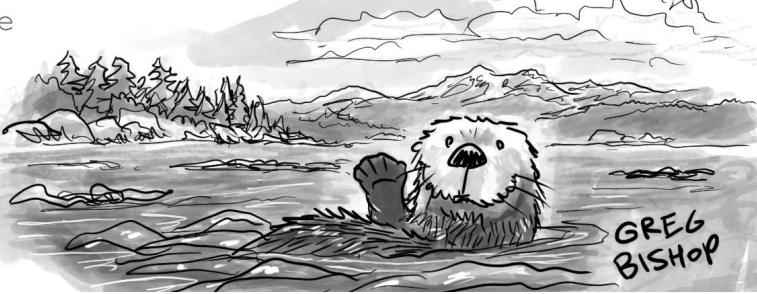
So the very same people in charge of the bomb decided they would use their powers in a different way.

7



They loaded hundreds of otters onto airplanes and brought them to safer places.

8



And today, there are nearly 40,000 of their great, great, great, great grandchildren swimming in the Pacific Ocean.

Concordia Crossword

By Sam Cordes

			1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		
			9				10					11	
12	13					14						15	
16					17						18		19
20				21				22	23	24			
25				26				27				28	
29			30				31				32		
33					34	35					36	37	38
			39							40			
41	42	43		44				45	46			47	
48			49				50					51	
52							53				54		
	55			56	57	58				59			
			60							61			
										63			
			62										

Sam Cordes is a Concordia resident, software developer, and freelance crossword constructor. When he's not struggling to perfect at-home latte art, he can be found running around Alberta Park.

SEPTEMBER'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS

- ACROSS

1 Samosa veggie

4 Carpentry fastener

9 Seven ____

10 Gabbiano's salad

12 1998 film starring Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman

16 Some holiday entrees

17 Lion's lair

18 Bela Lugosi's role in "Son of Frankenstein"

20 "___ Witches" (1990 film starring Anjelica Huston)

21 1988 film starring Michael Keaton

25 Pitching stat

26 ___ Enterprise

27 Name hidden in "Shania"

28 Homer, to Lisa

29 "Cosmos" author Carl

31 Remote location?

33 1991 film starring Anjelica Huston

39 Icy precipitation

40 "Aquaman" star Jason

41 College-level H.S. courses

44 Poetic contraction

45 Goat's bleat

47 Little rascal

48 1993 film starring Bette Midler, Sarah Jessica Parker, and Kathy Najimy

51 Teachers' org.

52 Shofar, e.g.

53 Female bear, in Spanish

54 Worm on a hook, say

55 1998 film starring Debbie Reynolds and Kimberly J. Brown

60 Baker's container

61 Top-notch

62 Rips

63 Roll of grass

DOWN

1 Chest muscles, for short

2 Enjoy brunch at Memoire Ca Phe, say

3 Remarks to the audience

4 Minimal

5 Berkeley school, familiarly

6 "Shiny Happy People" band

7 That, in Spanish

8 Pricey Japanese beef

9 Like Natalie Portman vis-a-vis Pitbull

11 Unwilling to change

12 Pool water evaluation

13 Like a fan who has school spirit

14 Middling marks

15 ___Cola

19 Morgan Freeman role and film

21 Loads

22 Neighbor of Vietnam

23 Plenty, informally

24 Vegetable also known as a Mexican turnip

30 Small batteries

31 Channel with offices in Nashville

32 Med. plan option

34 ___dish pizza

35 Spanish prefix to "puerto"

36 "Mind. Blown."

37 Chinese noodle dish

38 Talk to incessantly

41 "That's the spot!"

42 Bear who says "Oh, bother"

43 Leftover piece of food

45 Artist's inspiration

46 Some poses at The People's Yoga

49 Like seven candles on the first night of Hanukkah

50 "Fargo" brothers

54 007

56 Levi's competitor

57 Shout at a Greek wedding

58 "This Is How You Lose the Time ___" (2019 novel)

59 "___ soon?"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
M	S	T	N	P	R			S	T
11	A	T		A	L	E	S	13	
15	H	O		T	O	M	E	17	
19	A	P	P	L	E	P	I	C	K
22	L	I	E	U		23	S	T	A
27	O	N	E	S	I	E	S	T	O
			32	A	N	G		33	L
							34	A	R
			35	O	K	T	O	B	E
38	C	O	L	A	T	I	E		
42	B	R	A		S	I	C		
48	S	E	V	E	N	S	E	A	S
			52	P	U	M	P	K	I
55	C	A	L	E	B		S	I	D
60	A	N	T	E	S		61	N	E
63	B	Y	E	S			64	S	S
							65	T	R



Greg Bishop is a life-long animal lover, veterinarian, and part time cartoonist. He works at various veterinary practices in the Portland area, teaches, writes and illustrates things, too. He lives near Wilshire Park with his family, but mostly he stares at the squirrels and wonders what they're thinking.

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Opportunities abound to help support your community through Concordia Neighborhood Association programs. From executive leadership to social activities to land use to digital and print media, CNA needs you.

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CONCORDIA HOROSCOPES

OCTOBER 2026

It takes a little bit of nerve to be floating each day on a tiny orb in the vast universe. October may take us for a bit of a ride. Let the playful spirit of Halloween be present in you throughout the month. Breathe through the shifts that feel challenging, and show up for those around you. We are, after all, in this together.

Horoscopes are a look into the stars, the sun, planets, moon and us. Sun sign dates are listed below, and if you know your moon and rising signs check those out too! We hope the special “C-Tips” help you discover things that make our neighborhood and neighbors unique.

♎ Libra (September 23rd - October 23rd) Wishing a beautiful birthday to you, Libra! The word concord means peaceful coexistence, and Libras, you are the true Concordians. Let all the harmonious energy you put into the world come back to you x10 this month. Even if the outer world’s sphere is pushing for discord, follow the thread of what you know is true in your heart. *C-Tip: Celebrate your birthday season with friends around a warm fire. Whether in a back yard, or at one of Concordia’s outdoor venues (like Binks’ covered patio with fireplace and heated seats), the amber glow of firelight will warm everyone’s spirit.*

♏ Scorpio (October 24th - November 21st) Sweet Scorpio, open the windows and let the cooler night air in. Your soft belly is sensing something brewing, and try as you may to fight it, the winds are in fact shifting. Drop your protective shell, feel the feels and put that energy into something creative. You might be surprised at what arises. October Scorpions, wishing you a birthday filled with expressive moments. *C-Tip: Check the skies for the Swan (Cygne) constellation prominent over Concordia this October. Like birds flying south, you are reminded to let autumn change you, if you simply open yourself to the journey.*

♐ Sagittarius (November 22nd - December 21st) The earth slowly tilts deeper towards your autumn season, Sagittarius. This October may feel heavier than most and your adventurous spirit is feeling cagey. Lean into the death of it, the decomposition, the skeleton laughing on your neighbor’s porch. Perhaps letting go is the greatest adventure of all. *C-Tip: Adventure over to Bardo Tea near 30th and Killingsworth. A “bardo” is said to be a dream state the dead enter upon transitioning. Maybe*

the tea high will pique something in your own journey of transition.

♑ Capricorn (December 22nd - January 19th) Take a leap of faith this October, Capricorns. Change has been the theme of your year, and the way that we have collectively been doing things doesn’t seem to be working so well. While you like steadiness, you also know when it’s time to make big, creative changes, and you know that change starts with each of us. *C-Tip: Take an actual leap of faith on the zipline at the Fabion School playground to remind yourself that change can be freeing and fun. The playground is open to the public after school hours.*

♒ Aquarius (January 20th - February 18th) October 19th - 21st are especially potent days for Aquarians as the moon grows in your sign. Whether from internal or external forces, you’ve been called to action on some big life tasks lately. As the moon is in your sign, allow a break from action to let your mind wander and wonder again. *C-Tip: Enjoy a day of nothingness. Concordia is really an excellent place to just chill.*

♓ Pisces (February 19th - March 20th) Invite some joy in this October, Pisces. Laughter and tears are connected in our bodies. This Libra season invites us all to find more balance. While you might want to curl up and cry this October, make sure you intentionally take time to unfurl as well. *C-Tip: No better place to invite the joyful spirit than at Drag Brunch at Bar Cala. Get tickets early, their weekly shows often sell out.*

♈ Aries (March 21st - April 19th) You, fiery Aries, sit directly opposite from balanced Libras on the wheel of the year, and are sibling signs. This month’s energy offers you a chance to try on a new hat, a new look, to be something you never thought you would be. You can always go back to your solid persona, but maybe, just maybe, you’ll like it for keeps. *C-Tip: It’s vintage time! Go out on a limb at Take It or Leave It on NE 42nd. Try on something completely new to you. You don’t have to buy it, but at least see how it feels.*

♉ Taurus (April 20th - May 20th) Feeling tight these days? You gotta stretch it out, Taurus. Your strong, steady bull energy could use a good flow. Maybe this October you don’t need to push forward as much as find the space between. *C-Tip: Take a drop-in class at A People’s Yoga on Killingsworth and 30th. The stretch makes you stronger.*

♊ Gemini (May 21st - June 21st) The past 18 months have been a time of structural shift for you, Gemini. You have been the liquefied caterpillar transforming, and in no way is that easy. You’ve changed deeply on the inside; so this fall, consider ways you can mark this transition for yourself outwardly. *C-Tip: October is the perfect time for a tiny tattoo. Scope out the various artists in and around Concordia.*

♋ Cancer (June 22nd - July 22nd) Cancer, you teach us all that giving and receiving at the same time is mind blowing! This October, lean into this tango of give and receive. Find the harmony, the high note, the quiet spaces and the ecstatic moments. *C-Tip: Maybe the best thing we can give and receive is genuine connection. Join neighbors every Friday at 9:30 am at Concordia Commons (NE 30th and Killingsworth) for Coffee and Convo. Be generous in sharing yourself, and listen to others as they do the same.*

♌ Leo (July 23rd - August 22nd) Overdo it in the spending department this summer, Leo? That’s okay, Concordia is full of fantastic things to do at no cost. See this as a time to get creative and utilize what you’ve already got. You just might discover what it is that matters most to you. *C-Tip: Hop on the Concordia Buy Nothing Group (on Facebook) or if you’re off the socials, trade or borrow things with your neighbors and friends. The planet will thank you for it.*

♍ Virgo (August 23rd - September 22nd) Did you know that Concordia is the name of a large asteroid orbiting between Mars and Jupiter? Don’t worry; the Asteroid Concordia isn’t on Earth’s path. While your sweet Virgo self may veer towards impending doom this fall, channel those nerves into actions that bring peace and otherworldliness. *C-Tip: At the beginning and end of each day this October, turn on a song and for five minutes feel the music, shake it out and dance.*



The stars are better when they carry a little bit of mystery. Know that I am a fellow neighbor, and just one of the many stars in our little bit of the sky. I am happy to be circling the sun with you.

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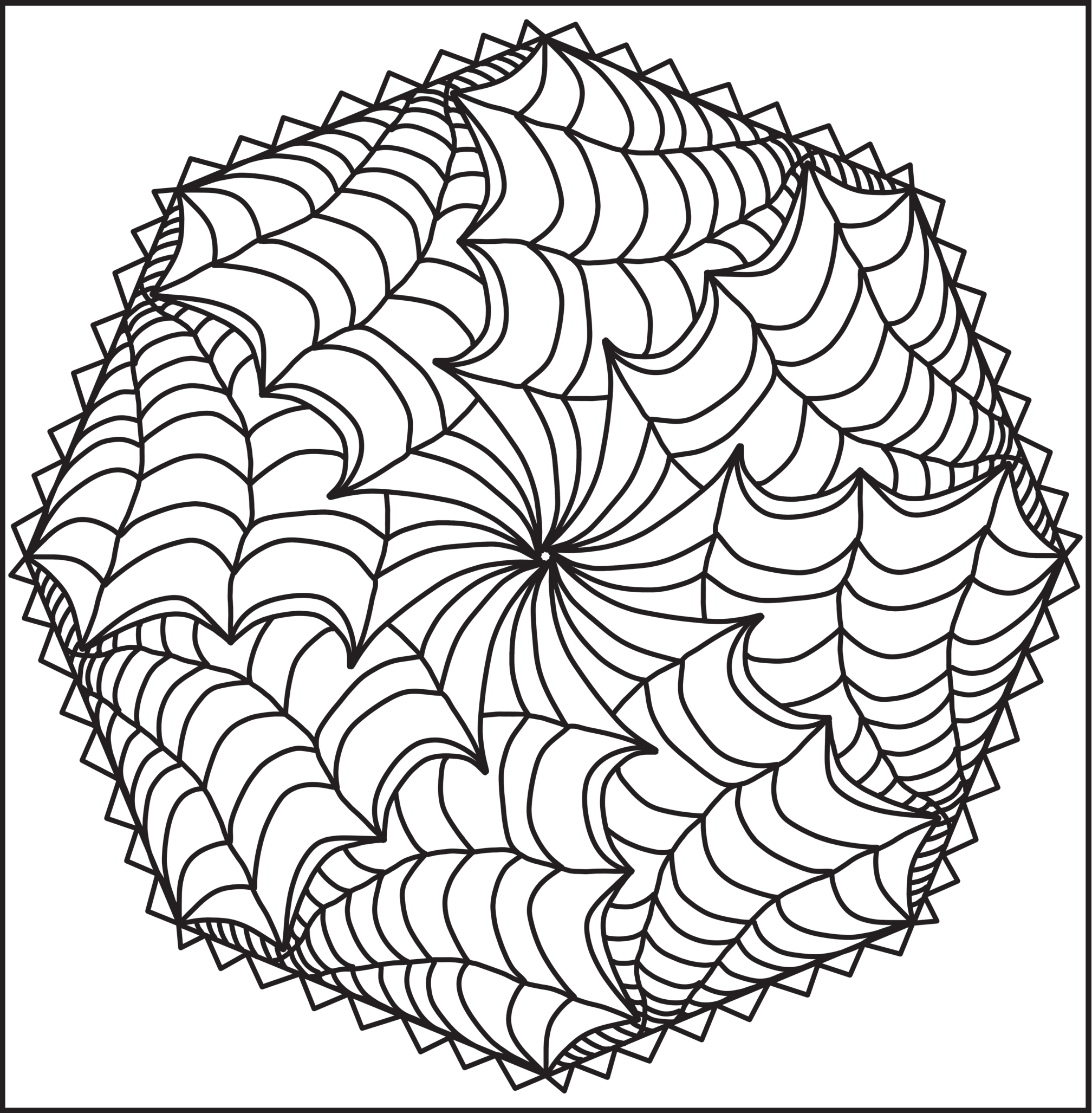
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Your feedback is needed about our street plaza!

At Concordia Commons at NE 30th & Killingsworth we have enjoyed free concerts, kids’ games, art and garden shows, coffee with neighbors, and more. Help us keep Concordia Commons growing by filling out the PBOT survey below!



Survey link here
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/plazas>



