



CONCORDIA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 11194 / PORTLAND, OR 97211

CONCORDIA NEWS

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

March 2014

Oil Trains in Concordia: Are we at risk?

So many trains pass through northeast Portland that we hardly pay attention. There are serious questions, however, about cargo and accidents. Concordia Neighborhood Association is concerned because the tracks alongside Lombard Street are in proximity to homes, schools and businesses.

Last summer, a similarly situated town in Quebec suffered an explosion that killed 47 people and flattened buildings within a one kilometer blast area. If, for example, a similar explosion were to occur at the train crossing on 33rd Avenue, the blast area could extend all the way to Killingsworth.

At our March 4 general meeting (7:00pm, Kennedy School Community Room), CNA will host a panel/forum on oil trains. Participants will range from politicians to firemen to environmentalists.

Rail transportation of fuel and oil through Concordia is a recent phenomenon. From almost none in 2008, at least 110 mile-and-a-half long trains of tanker rail cars filled with crude oil passed through Portland last year. Most crude oil shipped through Portland is from the Bakken Formation in North Dakota, Wyoming and Canada. The crude oil is extracted from oil shale formations by hydraulic fracturing. It is lighter than other crude and much more volatile. The train that blew up in Canada was carrying Bakken crude.



Oil is shipped through Portland to Port Westward near Clatskanie and then on to refineries west of there. According to the Oregonian, there is an emerging plan to utilize and develop other terminals in southern Washington. A proposed terminal in Vancouver, Washington could handle as much oil in two days as currently passes through Port Westward each month. As many as four oil trains a day could pass through the Columbia River Gorge.

Oil coming through Portland is often shipped in tank cars that have been determined unsafe. Railroads have said they're in the process of

upgrading cars.

Most of the trains transporting oil through the gorge are operated by BNSF Railway, which operates in Washington. Union Pacific runs the tracks along Lombard Street north of Concordia. It's not clear who carries what. Railroads currently don't disclose details about shipments citing security procedures adopted after September 11, 2001. Jurisdiction over the railroads is with the federal government.

Interested in learning more and contributing to this important dialogue? Join us on March 4th.

This Issue

1. Oil Tank Cars: Are we at Risk?
CNA Event News
Community Cooking Group
2. Concordia Neighborhood Association Board News
3. Fernhill Concerts in the Park
Do you have an Alley?
4. ReNew your Resolutions
East Portland Parks
5. 72nd St Patrick's Day Festival
Gardening Workshops
Urban Bee Habitat Workshop
6. POWfest
August Wilson Monologue Finals
7. Building Community
Alberta Main Street
Dine Out & Fight Aids
Inconvenience Store
8. Local Events

*Come
Join
Concordia
Neighbors
for our
CNA General
Membership
Meeting*

Tuesday, March 4th
7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

Vote on Bylaws Revisions

(Go to concordiapdx.org to view all proposed changes)

&

Join the Discussion on Oil Train Hazards Along the Columbia Corridor

Snacks & Nonalcoholic Beverages Provided

First 10 Concordia Neighbors to arrive get a FREE beer on the CNA!

CNA SPRING CLEAN-UP Saturday, May 17th 8:00 am - 12:30 pm

PCC Workforce Training Center; NE 42nd Ave. & Killingsworth

This is the biggest fundraising event for the Concordia Neighborhood Association (CNA) and a great excuse to get rid of the junk and recyclables that you have been accumulating in your closets and garage!

WE WILL TAKE household waste, metal, furniture, electronics, lamps, plastics, cardboard, styrofoam (no peanuts), batteries, mattresses, clothes and other stuff! WE WON'T TAKE: food waste, yard debris, tires, rocks, concrete, paint, oil, and other hazardous waste! We will FEATURE a "You Price It" Yard Sale for reusable household goods as well as Tool Sharpening! Bring your knives & garden tools & have them professionally sharpened! Prices start at \$6.25 for garden tools & \$7.50 for kitchen knives. Cash/Check/Card. SUGGESTED DONATION for Clean-Up: \$10 and Up, depending on load of vehicle. Extra \$5 for electronics and batteries.

We are always in need of VOLUNTEERS to plan event & help unload vehicles and direct traffic the day-of. If interested, please email Katie at ktugolini@gmail.com or call 503-449-9690!

Community Cooking Group at St. Michael's Kitchen: A Dynamic Partnership!

by Chris Lopez

Ever wanted to learn how to toss a pizza? Make a delicious African peanut soup? Put up your own sauerkraut? Maybe sharpen, or even share, your culinary prowess with neighbors and friends? Then you are living in the right time and place my friend. CNA has formed a new partnership with two other local non profits to bring you these opportunities with many more fun and tasty events to come!

Kitchen Commons is a home grown nonprofit that matches kitchen resources with community needs and advocates for food justice. St. Michael's Lutheran Church is a local parish with

some dynamic congregants dedicated to building community, and has an under utilized and quite large, well-appointed kitchen. Lucky for us it's in Concordia neighborhood proper! CNA is joining with them both to launch the Community Cooking Group at St. Michael's Kitchen; a monthly gathering to share community through food!

The Community Cooking Group had a soft launch last fall with an inaugural garden harvest swap. Next was a couple of Cook & Freeze dinners where folks learned some new recipes, broke bread with some new friends and brought home freezer meals ready to 'heat & eat'. In November we canned our own applesauce and sauerkraut and finished up the year with a Holiday Cookie Bake. All Community Cooking events at St. Michael's are open to any and all. Every event includes dinner that the participants have cooked themselves. All you need to join in is a hunger for community connection and an actual appetite for some tasty vittles.

Next month Community Cooking Group will move to a new, permanent night; the first Thursday of every month will hold something delicious in store for you. Next up,

PIZZA MAKING CLINIC

(Rescheduled from February due to Snow)

WHEN: Thursday, March 6th from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm

WHERE: St. Michael's Kitchen, NE 29th & Dekum (through the glass doors next to parking lot)

COST: Sliding Scale: \$0-15. Suggested \$5 (Cash Only Please)

Learn to make a quick and easy pizza dough, a savory marinara sauce, and how to throw them together with a little mozz and basil to make a pizza margherita! Plus, for those willing to take a risk, come learn how to toss a pie!

Please RSVP by March 4th to stmikes@kitchencommons.net or call Rachel at 503.997.2003.

Concordia Neighborhood Association

Meetings & Updates

Get the latest news at ConcordiaPdx.org

These committees have direct results on the Livability of our neighborhood- with your participation.

Board Meeting

March 11th
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
McMenamin's Kennedy School
Community Room

General Membership Meeting

March 4th
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
McMenamin's Kennedy School
Community Room

Finance Committee

For Meeting times and location
visit our website or email:
ContactCNABoard@yahoo.com

Media Team

Newspaper and Website
Email: ConcordiaNews@yahoo.com

Social Committee

Contact Katie Ugolini (Chair)
503-449-9690 for meeting time and
location.

Help plan Spring Egg Hunt (April 19th)
and help fundraise for Fernhill Summer
Concerts

Tree Team Meeting

March 11th at 7 PM
Dining Area at New Seasons
www.concordiatreeteam.wordpress.com

Spring Clean-Up Committee (Ad Hoc)

Contact Katie Ugolini (Chair) at 503-449-
9690 for meeting time and location

Help Plan CNA Clean-Up. Volunteers
needed to plan event and unload vehicles
& direct traffic the day-of. Exploring more
re-use options this year.

**Land Use, Livability and
Transportation Committee**

February 18th at 7 PM
McMenamin's Kennedy School
Community Room

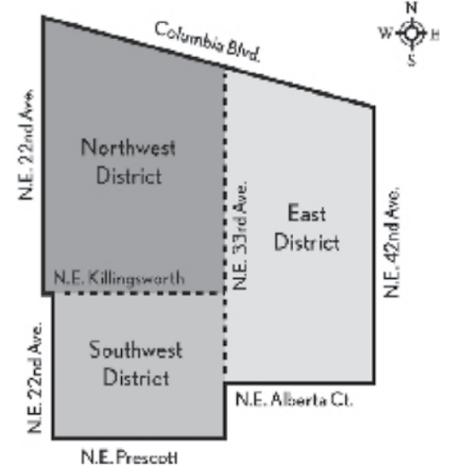
The land use committee grants
approval for many large
neighborhood projects.

To hear about and try to solve issues
affecting quality of life in Concordia
that are brought to us by community
members.

Policies/Procedures

Contact Katie Ugolini (chair)
503-449-9690 for meeting time and
location

Finalizing Bylaws



CONCORDIA NEWS

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.

Mission Statement

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

Concordia Neighborhood Association
www.concordiapdx.org
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Submissions

The deadline for submissions is the
15th of the month prior to publication.
Concordia News may edit for form and
length.

Advertising/Business Manager
Please send ad inquiries to:
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Please send article submissions to:
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Concordia News is printed on 40% post-
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at a local mill.

www.ConcordiaPdx.org
Visit the website of the Concordia
Neighborhood Association for:
Community Events &
News Neighborhood Information & Blog
www.ConcordiaPdx.org

2014 CNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Current Board	Title
Daniel Greenstadt	Chair
Steve Elder	E 1
Mark Charlesworth	E 2
Isham "Ike" Harris	NW 1
Katie Ugolini	NW 2
Luke Griffin	SW 1
Bill Leissner	SW 2
Robert Bowles	At-Large #1
Esther Lerman Freeman	At-Large #2
Bob Martinek	At-Large #3
Isaac Quintero	At-Large #4
VACANT	At-Large #5
Truls Neal	At-Large #6
Tracy Braden	At-Large #7

Chair's Corner

Cloudy with a Chance of Paranoia

Last month I wrote about sunshine and the sunny outlook for Concordia. This month, for some reason, I'm thinking about clouds. Dark ones.

When the snowpocalypse of 2014 hit, I did what most Portlanders did and made the best of it. Out came the mittens, the sleds and the snow shovel (yes, I actually own one and it was the envy of my whole block). We frolicked for two days until it all turned into a sheet of calamitous ice.

But early in the storm while the snow was still dry powder, I awoke early in the morning to find fresh footprints leading up my driveway, through my garden gate (still ajar) all the way down the side of my house and culminating, thankfully, at the locked door of my back porch before heading back out again and leaving the same trail of nefarious exploration at several of my neighbors' homes. Unsettling, to say the least. Did the prowler finally find an unlocked door? What happened? And what were their intentions?

Out of about 100 neighborhoods in the city of Portland, recorded crime rates in Concordia over the past year or so show that we are just about the 40th safest (or the 60th least safe) neighborhood in our fair city. But with those statistics including a smorgasbord of offenses ranging from arson to embezzlement to DUII, it's hard to know what it all means to our individual lives. Those footprints in the snow, on the other hand, were quite compelling.

What, if anything, am I supposed to worry about? Maybe crime should be the least of my concerns. My family is probably more likely to suffer the ill effects of a run-of-the-mill household accident or the flu or a traffic crash than anything else. But worrying about more exotic threats does have a certain morbid appeal.

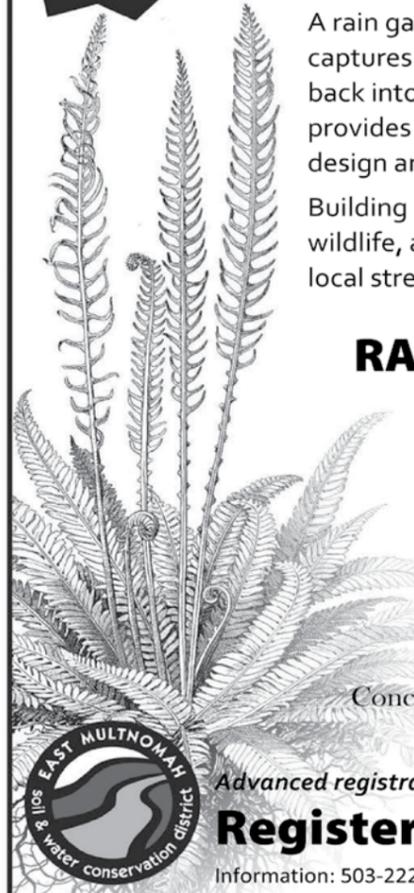
Now what's all this about oil trains? Are you telling me that the very same scenarios that killed 47 people in Quebec last year and caused the fiery crashes that burned uncontrollably - but without injury - in relatively unpopulated areas of North Dakota and Alabama within the last four months could be repeated in Concordia? Suddenly the footprints in the snow seem less ominous.

At our March 4 general meeting, Concordia Neighborhood Association will host a discussion on the topic of the oil trains that are passing, at a rapidly increasing volume, along the northern boundary of our neighborhood. Join us... as if you didn't already have enough to think about.

And if you'd really like to help out on this and many other issues impacting the lives of Concordia residents, there's space available on CNA's critically important Safety and Livability Committee.

Daniel Greenstadt, Chair, Concordia Neighborhood Association

Neighborhood Community Room
Rent it for your next gathering, book club, celebrate
a special occasion, birthday, baby or wedding shower?
CNA manages the rental space & benefits from the proceeds.
Non-Profit Organization for \$15 an hour
All others for \$25 an hour
CNAroomKennedy@gmail.com



FREE! **RAIN GARDEN WORKSHOP**

A rain garden is a sunken garden bed that captures stormwater and allows it to soak back into the ground naturally. This workshop provides step-by-step details on how to plan, design and build your own rain garden.

Building a rain garden benefits the fish, wildlife, and people that are connected to local streams and rivers.

RAIN GARDENS 101
Sunday, May 18
1:00 – 5:00pm
Kennedy School
 5736 NE 33rd Ave

Hosted by:
 Concordia Neighborhood Association

Advanced registration is required and space is limited.
Register: www.emswcd.org
 Information: 503-222-7645



Deer Fern, *Blechnum spicant*

Save the Date!
**SPRING
 EGG
 HUNT**
 SATURDAY,
 APRIL 19th

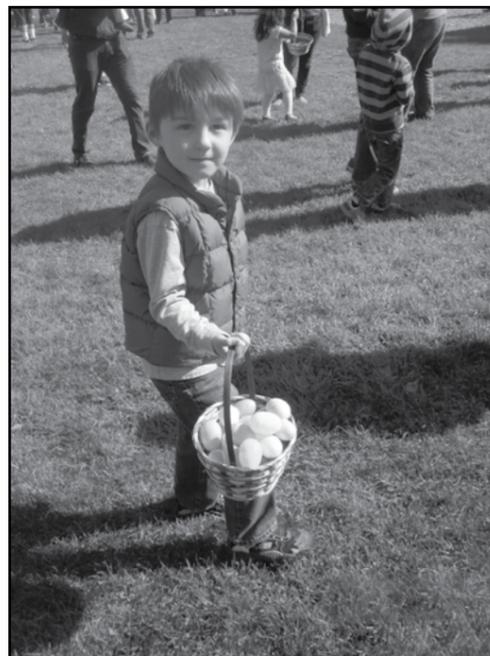


**Fernhill
 Park**

Near the Playground along
 NE 37th Avenue

The Hunt begins
 at 10 am Sharp!

Sponsored by:
 The Concordia
 Neighborhood
 Association
 & American Legion
 Post 134



**Summer Concerts in Fernhill Park
 Needs Y O U**

Come on! I dare you! Think of a better way to spend a warm and breezy summer evening than gathering with friends and neighbors in Fernhill Park for music, dancing and family fun! For the last nine summers, the Fernhill Concert Series has been a smashing success- offering the finest musical talents that Portland has to offer free of charge!

This year it all happens on four Friday nights starting July 11th through August 1st and ends with a big shebang on Tuesday August 5th for our Concordia Neighborhood National Night Out!

The CNA Fernhill Concert Committee has begun the long, hard slog of fundraising for the Summer Concert Series, but we need your help to raise enough money to fund all five concerts! So, if you have the means, in the immortal words of **Dean Martin (the famous crooner who headlined the very first Fernhill Concert), "fork over that cabbage, pally!"** We are looking for local businesses and individuals to donate anything they can to help make the concerts happen! It doesn't matter if you are a business owner, a family, or an individual, WE NEED YOU to help raise the money to produce another memorable concert season in Fernhill Park.

If you are a family or individual and would like to contribute to this Spectacular Summer Series, please visit www.give2parks.org/concerts to donate!

- Choose FERNHILL PARK from the Pull Down Menu
- Donate Now & Get an Immediate Tax Receipt

Any contribution (e.g. \$5 or \$10) is greatly appreciated!!

If you would like to help the CNA Fernhill Concert Committee fundraise for this year's fabulous season, please contact Katie Ugolini at ktugolini@gmail.com or 503-449-9690.



If you are a business, institution, or individual and want to be a Fernhill Concert Series Sponsor

by contributing \$250 or more, please see below for the benefits of sponsorship! The benefits to you and your business for all levels of sponsorship:

- Opportunity to have promotional table at all 5 concerts to display, give, or sell items.

- A chance to give to your neighborhood
- A tax deductible contribution staying "close to home"
- Your Business Name Recognized:
 - In the PP&R Summer Free For All Brochure distributed throughout the city to over 300,000 people
 - On the PP&R Summer Free For All Website
 - Thanked over the "P.A." at concerts
 - In the Concordia News, reaching 6000 households
 - On the Concordia Neighborhood website

Here are the options:

Champion Sponsor: \$2,500 Presenting sponsor status for one night of a concert series Opportunity to MC and welcome audience to the concert Logo or name on the concert banner, select Summer Free for All movie screens, season brochure and Concordia neighborhood flyer Listed as presenting sponsor in the season brochure and the neighborhood flyer Listed on the PP&R Summer Free for All website Recognized from the stage at all concerts Featured in community newspaper promotion

Champion Combo Sponsor: \$2,500 + \$2,000 Presenting sponsor status at one park for the standard rate; \$500 off the same sponsorship level at a second park All benefits of Champion sponsorship apply at both parks

Major Sponsor: \$1,000 and up Logo or name on concert banner, one Summer Free for All movie screen, season brochure and Concordia neighborhood flyer Listed on the PP&R Summer Free for All website Recognized from the stage at all concerts Featured in community newspaper promotion

Contributing Sponsor: \$500 and up Name in bold on the concert banner Name in bold in the season brochure and on Concordia neighborhood flyer Recognized from the stage at all concerts Listed on the PP&R Summer Free for All website

Good Neighbor Sponsor: \$250 and up Name in the season brochure and on neighborhood flyer Recognized from the stage at all concerts Listed on the PP&R Summer Free for All website Any sponsor may have a promotional table at the concerts they are supporting.

Sponsorship reservations are needed ASAP; payments are due June 1, 2014 to be included in promotional material. If you are a business, please contact Judith Yeckel, Concert Production Manager at 503-503-249-8159 or judith.yeckel@gmail.com. If paying by check, make checks payable to Portland Parks & Recreation/ Fernhill Concerts and mail to Summer Concerts ATTN: Judith Yeckel, PPR: Mt. Tabor Yard, 6437 SE Division St., Portland, OR 97206. CREDIT CARDS ALSO ACCEPTED.

Do You Have an Alley?

By Garlynn Woodsong, Chair of the CNA Land Use & Transportation committee

If you do have an alley behind your house, do you use it on a regular basis? If so, what for?

Do you drive your car in your alley? Do you drive in the alley to get in and out of a garage or other alley-accessed off-street parking space? Or do you just drive in the alley when you need to load or unload stuff to or from your back yard?

Do you ride your bicycle in your alley? If so, do you access your off-street bicycle parking from your alley?

Do you walk in your alley?

Do your children play in your alley?

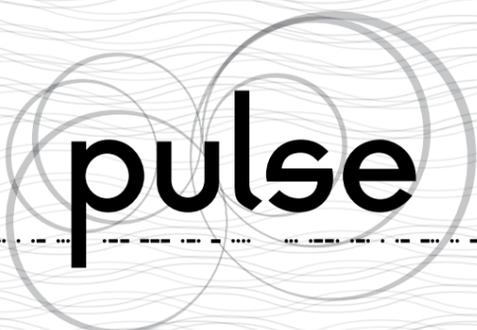
In what condition is your alley? Is it paved? Unpaved, but in good condition? Unpaved, and barely passable? So totally grown over that nobody can use it?

Is their litter in your alley? Do people illegally dump there?

Would you be willing to join with your neighbors in a work party to improve your alley – pick up trash, perhaps spread wood chips or gravel as needed, and build community? If so, would you be willing to help organize the work party, or would you prefer to just show up and let somebody else take care of the organizing?

Is there art in your alley? What about edibles – fruit trees, berries, etc.? If not, would you like to see these things in your alley? What about community space – benches or areas where children could play, off to the side?

Concordia residents interested in continuing this discussion (and answering these questions) are invited to attend the Concordia Neighborhood Association Land Use and Transportation (CNA LU&T) Committee meetings, the third Tuesday of the month, 7pm, in the Community Room in the SE corner of Kennedy School; to join the mailing list, send an email to: pdx_cna_lu_and_t_committee@googlegroups.com



May 3, 2014
8am-5pm

Tickets on sale
January 30, 2014

TEDxConcordiaUPortland.com

TEDxConcordiaUPortland
x = independently organized TED event

18th Annual Conference Attracts Scholars to Examine Shakespeare's Work and Identity

The 18th annual spring conference taking place at Concordia University April 10-13, 2014. More than 15 speakers include scholars and playwrights from Stanford University, Washington State University, Concordia University and more.

Under the direction of Dr. Earl Showerman, the annual conference is anticipated to be the largest ever, drawing individuals interested in exploring the authorship of William Shakespeare's classic works.

The four-day conference will feature presenters and panel discussions with Dr. Peter A. Sturrock from Stanford University (emeritus), author of the recently published study, *AKA Shakespeare: A Scientific Approach to the Authorship Question*. Sturrock will also receive the Vero Nihil Verius Award for outstanding scholarship. In addition, Canadian actor Keir Cutler, will be performing his famous adaptation of Mark Twain's satire "Is Shakespeare Dead?"

"We believe we have put together a powerful and provocative program for the annual authorship conference," said Rev. Dr. David Kluth, Dean of College of Theology, Arts & Sciences and SARC Director at Concordia. "Each of the presenters bring a unique perspective to the authorship discussion which makes the annual conference an engaging event."

This year's conference will convene with a reception and screening of Joss Whedon's contemporary film version of *Much Ado about Nothing* and conclude with an informal brunch and conversation on SARC's future work.

Conference registration is now open at www.authorshipstudies.org. Cost is \$200 for all four days, and daily registration is \$75. **High school and Concordia University students and faculty are invited to attend conference sessions at no charge.**

May you always walk in sunshine.

May you never want for more.

May you have warm words on a cold evening,

A full moon on a dark night

The road downhill all the way to your door.

RE-new Your New Years Resolution

By Anne Koski, Owner, Homegrown Fit , www.homegrownfitpdx.weebly.com

Fighting a cold, the other day I peeled open a cough drop to find motivational phrases written on the wrapper. "Don't try harder. Do harder!" it said. Wow, that was just what I needed to hear! Later that day, I was face-down on the sofa. Meh.

With today's readily-offered sources of motivation and inspiration, at the touch of a button, or even sneaking in to your life uninvited, how is it that motivation is so fleeting? At this point in the year, it's not too early to take a snapshot of our progress toward our New Year's goals thus far. Maybe you didn't write them down and follow the SMART guidelines to success. But admit it, you thought a goal or two! And I've seen you out walking, or buying more produce, especially during the snow break. I made goals too, and to be truthful, I'm not even sure if I've failed or met that goal.

It's time to re-set our goals for March (because it's never too late), and this time, they may stick. The number one personal goal that Americans make is to lose weight, so let's talk about that.

First, motivation is nice, but it eventually fizzles. Instead, use discipline to lead you to success. Discipline won't happen unless you make a specific plan to follow. If your New Year's Goal was to eat out less often, keep that goal and add parameters: decide how many restaurant visits/take-outs per week is reasonable. Make a calendar and log the number of times you eat out, or better yet, plan them.

Lose the aesthetic reasons for cleaning up your diet and getting active. It's another fleeting motivator, and it can often make your goal seem impossible to reach. If you can't let it go, it may help you to know that exercise has an anti-aging effect. Two recent studies have shown that when middle-aged people consistently exercise, they have cells that are 75% younger than their sedentary counterpart. And, scientists noted, that they also looked much younger! Another reason to lose aesthetic goals: it feels so good to be able to do

basically anything you want, including gracefully picking up that dropped pen under the kitchen table.

Have you heard the phrase, "everything in moderation"? The idea is that when you eat a variety of foods, that you'll successfully avoid any adverse effects of your perceived bad eating choices. One problem with this approach is that there are hundreds of food-like substances that could be eaten, in moderation, and collectively still produce ill effects. Another problem: you eat many foods in moderation. Ice cream once a week, French fries once a week, donuts once a week. It adds up!

Lastly, research has shown that the more goals people make at one time, the much less likely they are to be on track a month later. Try this: each month for the next three, pick one goal that will help you toward getting healthier. Then, each month, add another. Start with something that doesn't deprive: this month, plan to serve a vegetable or fruit at every meal.



East Portland Parks Enhance Under served Areas

Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) will begin final design this year on both Beech Park (approximately 16 acres off NE 126th Ave & Beech St.) and Gateway Park & Plaza (four acres off NE Halsey St between NE 104th & 106th Aves) with construction on both parks scheduled to begin in early 2016.

"In east Portland, two out of every five households do not have easy access to a City park. That is in stark contrast to the rest of Portland where four out of every five households live within a half-mile of a park or natural area," says Fritz, who designated Beech and Gateway Plaza Parks for development after careful consideration of community input. Commissioner Fritz considered four worthy park options that were ready to build in East Portland – those with completed master plans.

This is a significant step in addressing historic inequities in parks in East Portland." Says Commissioner Amanda Fritz. All over Portland, people are telling me, "Provide parks for people who don't have one. There are inequities in every neighborhood, and insufficient resources to correct them all. These two projects begin to correct the disparities in East Portland."

"Both of these much-needed new parks will open access to vital public green spaces for families who need and deserve them," says Portland Mayor Charlie Hales, who along with Commissioners Fritz, Fish, and Novick will attend today's ceremony. "I laud Portland Parks & Recreation and Commissioner Fritz's leadership on these important projects, and I want to single out in particular the Portland Development Commission's \$1 million contribution towards Gateway Park and Plaza. PDC's partnership will help revitalize the commercial appeal and livability of the Gateway neighborhood."

Fast Facts on Beech Park:

Features - Adjacent to Shaver Elementary School in the Parkrose School District, in the Argay neighborhood of NE Portland. It will feature grand views, a sports field and basketball court, accessible play and picnic areas, shelters, pedestrian and bike paths, parking, community gardens, and a fenced off-leash dog area.

Equity/Equal Access -The park will serve nearly 965 new households which currently do not have

ready access to a park. Data show that 49% of these households are ethnic minorities, and 23% are below the poverty level.

Funding - Project cost is estimated at \$7.7 million (\$4.2 million, phase 1; \$3.5 million, phase 2), from Parks System Development Charges (not General Fund tax dollars). You can learn more about this park plan here.

Fast Facts on Gateway Park & Plaza:

Features -The four-acre park will become a "living room" for the Gateway neighborhood, featuring accessible spaces and activities for all ages, including a plaza ready to accommodate a variety of events, festivals, and farmers' markets. As envisioned in the Master Plan, the park will also include flexible green spaces to accommodate picnic areas, accessible playground features and nature play.

Equity/Equal Access - The park will serve more than 800 new households which currently do not have ready access to a park. Data show that 36% of these households are ethnic minorities, and 28% are below the poverty level.

Funding - Project cost is estimated at \$4.7 million, from System Development Charges (not General Fund tax dollars). The Portland Development Commission (PDC) will be contributing \$1 million for the improvements, and is recruiting private investment to develop a building on NE Halsey adjacent to the new park. You can learn more about this park plan here.

Challenges Remain

As Portland Parks & Recreation commits to new parks in communities where none currently exist and to expanding other parks, many existing parks are at a crossroads. For decades operating funding has been cut or remained flat forcing PP&R to postpone rehabilitation and maintenance in every neighborhood throughout the city. PP&R has maintenance needs (<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/63265>) totaling over \$400 million. From aging playground replacements to leaking roofs, the list of needs is huge, and grows every year that we don't address it. The beautiful parks we love to visit are being held together by thousands of volunteers and wonderful employees going above and beyond the call of duty.

72nd St Patrick's Festival

All-Ireland Cultural Society's
72nd Annual St. Patrick's Day Festival
Ambridge Event Center, 376 NE Clackamas Street
Sunday, March 17, 2013, 12 noon – 8pm

An all family public event admission: \$10, \$5 students 12-20, free 11 & under with paying adult, Food & drink are extra

The All-Ireland Cultural Society of Oregon (AICS) presents their 72nd Annual St. Patrick's Day celebration. Enjoy continuous entertainment by local Irish dance schools, céili dancers, bagpipe music and traditional music by Portland's Premier Irish Ceili Band and PETER YEATES from when doors open at 12 p.m. until closing at 8:00 p.m. PLUS Face painting, clowns and raffle!

Schedule of Activities and Performers:

- 12 noon – Doors Open
- 12:30 – Opening ceremony
- 1:15 – TVF&R Pipe and Drums Band
- 2:00 – Tir Eoghain Céili Entertainers Dance
- 3:00 – Mikey Beglan and the Co Cavan Ceili band
- 4:15 – An Daire Irish Dancers
- 5:15 – Peter Yeates
- 7:00 Molly Malone Irish dance troupe



Urban Bee Habitat Workshop

Start a bee-friendly garden project in your neighborhood!

With spring around the corner, the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN) will host a workshop on March 19th on how to start a bee-friendly garden project in your neighborhood.

Did you know that planting bee-friendly flowers is the most important thing you can do to help save both native bees and honey bees? Even if you don't know a daisy from a daffodil, its easy to grow some pollen-bearing plants that the bees will love. It's even more fun if you join with your neighbors to learn about bees and take action together. That's what residents of the Sabin Community Association did, and now they want to share some practical tips that will help you start a bee-friendly garden project in your community.

Join the following experts for a panel discussion and Q&A:

- Mace Vaughan, Pollinator Program Director at Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation and co-founder of the Sabin Bee-Friendly Garden Project
- Tim Wessels, Master Beekeeping Instructor at Oregon State University, President of the Portland Urban Beekeepers, and founder of Bridgetown Bees
- Diane Benson, Coordinator for the Sabin Bee-Friendly Garden Project
- Glen Andresen, Gardening and beekeeping educator and host of The Dirtbag, a KBOO radio show about organic gardening

The Sabin Bee-Friendly Garden Tour is a free, self-guided tour with 41 sites that you can visit whenever you like – spring, summer or fall. A map and a guide to the gardens are available on the Sabin website (sabinpdx.org). Sabin hopes to inspire other neighborhoods to create similar projects for protecting pollinators and building community.

Gardening Workshops

Cully Gardening Workshops: Learn how gardening with natives and installing a rain garden can help reduce pollution and conserve water while saving you time, money and energy! The Cully Association of Neighbors and City of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services are hosting these FREE March workshops so you can learn to landscape for clean water & healthy habitat! Register online. For more information call 503-222-7645.

Naturescaping Basics: Naturescaping is the practice of designing a vibrant, chemical-free landscape that conserves water and reduces pollution-March 2 at 12:00-4:00pm Hollywood Library, 4040 NE Tillamook

Rain Gardens 101: A rain garden is a sunken garden bed that captures storm water and allows it to soak back into the ground naturally-March 22 at 9:00am - 1:00pm Columbia Ecovillage, 4647 NE Killingsworth

Bring on the Rain

by Living City, 4255 NE Alberta St.

Wondering what do in the garden as snow melts into a week of heavy rain? Get planning!

1) Plan your garden - what are you dreaming of eating fresh from the garden this year and where will it live in your garden?

2) Start seeds inside - starting seeds is fun, inexpensive, and a great way to learn about plants. Believe it or not it is almost time to get those tomato, eggplant, and pepper seeds planted indoors. Ready for fresh salads? Plant lettuce and arugula indoors now and transplant under a cloche in 10-14 days.

3) Cloche your garden - Cover parts of your garden with a cloche or cold frame to dry and warm the soil so you can plant in your garden even sooner!

4) Grab your PEAS please! Pea planting season is right around the corner (err right now, but perhaps the snow should melt first?!) have you got your seeds? If not consider what you'll most enjoy munching on in June, perhaps snow peas, or snap peas or maybe even shelling peas.

5) Remember that all of those raindrops are adding needed moisture to our soil...you, your plants, and your water bill will be thankful for the increased soil moisture come hot, dry, summer months.



Preparing for Kindergarten

Transition to Kindergarten: Preparing for a Successful Transition to Kindergarten

Are you wondering what the process will be like for your child to move on from Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) to Kindergarten? Do you know what an Individualized Education Program [IEP] is, and how it differs from your child's Individual Family Service Plan [IFSP]?

This training will: go through the differences between an IFSP and IEP, explain the transition process, provide a comprehensive discussion about your critical role in your child's IEP team and conclude with a step-by-step look at the development of an IEP.

Providence Cancer Center Amphitheater
4805 NE Glisan

Monday, March 17 at 6:00 – 8:30 pm

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POWfest: PDX OR Women's Film Festival

The Portland Oregon Women's Film Festival (a.k.a. POWFest) is pleased to announce the programming highlights of our upcoming festival scheduled to take place March 6 - 9, 2014 at the Hollywood Theatre. In their 7th consecutive year, POWFest continues to be the only film festival in Portland exclusively placing a spotlight on women directors by showcasing their work and strengthening the community of women in film; and only one of a handful of festivals in the U.S. dedicated to women-directed film. POWFest's goal is to shift the world of women in film, honoring the true pioneers while providing support and recognition for the next generation of leading women filmmakers.

Opening Night - Thursday, March 6th, 2014, 7:15 p.m., Hollywood Theatre

The Portland Premiere of **REDEMPTION TRAIL**, by director/writer Britta Sjogren, will open our festival

Friday, March 7th, 2014, 5 pm, Hollywood Theatre

- Meet the Directors Mixer begins at 5 p.m. at the Hollywood Theatre with your ticket for the LUNAFEST Showcase or your festival pass

- SHORTS I (7:15 p.m.) – LUNAFEST -

- LA VALLEE DES LARMES (THE VALLEY OF TEARS) (6:45 p.m.): Narrative feature by

Maryanne Ze'hil.

- WHERE THE DARKNESS HAS TO RUN (9:15 p.m.): by UK filmmaker Yolanda Barker

- A FRAGILE TRUST: PLAGIARISM, POWER, AND JAYSON BLAIR AT THE NEW YORK TIMES (9:30 p.m.): Director Samantha Grant

Saturday, March 8th, 2014, 10 a.m. – 11 p.m.

- DIRECTOR'S PANEL (12 p.m.): "Beyond Gender"

- SPRING & ARNAUD (2:00 p.m.): Documentary feature by Canadian filmmakers Katherine

- TALES FROM THE ORGAN TRADE (2:30 p.m.) Documentary directed by Ric Esther Bienstock.

- A SELF-MADE MAN (4:15 p.m.): by award winning documentarian and POWFest veteran Lori Petchers.

- SHORTS II (4:45 p.m.) – (Mature topics.)

- RUSSIAN FEDERATION FILMS – Two separate programs of Russian Films with attending filmmakers (tickets sold separately):

- o DOG'S PARADISE (7:00 p.m.): Directed by Russian director, Anna Tchernakova.

- o LINAR (9:15 p.m.): A documentary feature by Russian Federations's Nastia Tarasova.

- SMALL SMALL THING (7:30 p.m.) – presented by Jessica Vail

- SHORTS III (9:30 p.m.) – (Mature topics.)



Spring Forward Sunday, March 9th, 2014, 10 a.m. – 11 p.m. – Hollywood Theatre

- SHORTS IV (12:00 p.m.) – Animation/Experimental Showcase (Mature topics.)

- MY LONG NECK (12:30 p.m.): Australian filmmaker Shalom Almond

- FAMILY FRIENDLY AFTERNOON –

- o SHORTS V (2:15 p.m.) – Family Showcase

- o SHORTS VI (4:15 p.m.) – Youth Film/POWGirls Showcase:

- ABOUT FACE: The Story of Gwendellin Bradshaw (2:30 p.m.)

- SHORTS VII (4:45 p.m.) – It's Generational Showcase

- POWFest Guest of Honor Showcase - JOANNA PRIESTLEY RETROSPECTIVE (7:15 p.m.)

- GIDEON'S ARMY (7:15 p.m.): Dawn Porter directed this documentary feature, a veteran of Tribeca and Sundance.

- AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD! (9:15 p.m.)

The August Wilson Monologue Regional Finals

A brand new group of actors is taking the center stage in Portland. The August Wilson Monologue Competition (AWMC) is heating up as contestants prepare for regional finals next month.

The Portland AWMC Regional Finals are produced and presented by the Red Door Project, and co-hosted by Portland Center Stage. The finals will take place March 3rd at 7pm in the Portland Center Stage's Main Stage. The event is open to the public and free to attend. Spots are going quickly, so those interested are encouraged to reserve their seats now at reddoorproject.org/awmc-regional-finals

Of the over seventy who applied, the remaining AWMC participants comprise sixteen diverse local private and public high school students. Many have discovered a love of acting—and August Wilson—for the first time thanks to the competition.

Beyond exposure to Wilson's work and real theatre experience, the AWMC provides students with life-changing prizes, as well as professional acting mentorships and training. The first, second, and third-place finalists will receive cash rewards and a flight to New York City, where they'll perform on Broadway alongside the best young actors from Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, and other major cities in the U.S. In addition, Portland Actors Conservatory will award the eligible regional winner with a full academic, two-year scholarship valued at over \$21,000.

Leaders from Portland's acting community have joined the AWMC in supporting young performers. Hollywood actor Russell Hornsby is instructing students in ongoing master classes prior to finals. Known for his starring roles in NBC's Grimm and many more. Hornsby joins the AWMC's roster of teaching artists, which includes esteemed local actors Chantal DeGroat, Vin Shambry and Victor Mack.

"From theatres to educators, we're involving everyone in a small way," said Red Door Project co-founder Kevin Jones. "The AWMC is creating new audiences for theatre in Portland, and we're sharing that with our community. By giving these young people the opportunity to meet, engage, and support each other, the competition directly affects our racial ecology. It's introducing them to the movers and shakers in our community who can help them change their lives."

As a Red Door Project program, the AWMC is designed to build more than acting skills for its participants. Students develop the confidence, discipline, and drive necessary to thrive as adults in a rapidly changing world, by learning how to take feedback and improve their performances in real time.



"This is an important program for Portland especially," he continued. "We have more millennials moving here than any other city in the country, and they're bringing a different paradigm. They don't think of race the same way older generations do. At the same time, Portland is the whitest city in the country. The fact that the AWMC celebrates a playwright of color and performers of all colors makes it not only about theatre—it's directly connected to equity, and our city's future."

"These students have internalized these monologues to the point where they've become these characters. The performances will be intense, not only because it's a competition, but because these sixteen students have become an extraordinary team, supporting and inspiring each other to make their monologues even better. It's going to be a rocking good time."

The Competition is presented by sponsors Ronni Lacroute and Priscilla and Dan Wieden. Supporters include the Collins Foundation, the PGE Foundation, the Oregon Community Foundation, Friends of the Children founder Duncan Campbell, the Regional Arts and Culture Council (RACC), Isabel A. Sheridan, and Self Enhancement, Inc. (SEI).

Building Community

Last year, Cerimon House acquired the Alberta Lodge assembly hall and the Board and several committees have been working on making this grand space operational, as they enter a capital campaign and continue to organize a renovation to begin this Spring.

The Cerimon House family members are a wide circle of devoted volunteer citizens, and are proud to have saved the building from demolition and focus on the restoration of this community treasure. They are teaming-up with another beloved local non-profit, Friends of Trees, on Saturday, March 15th for a city wide tree planting event in which over 300 trees will be planted in Northeast Portland alone. Cerimon House has purchased 8 Japanese Stewartia trees that will be planted on the public sides of the building: the first step to building a beautiful green canopy for happy birds and healthy neighbors. This species of tree is a multi-stemmed, deciduous tree that was chosen for its stunning bark that exfoliates in strips of gray, pink and reddish brown, its colorful leaves that emerge bronzy purple in Spring, develop into dark green by Summer and turn red or orange in the Fall and for its small white flowers that arrive midsummer.

In preparation for this event, Cerimon House has been working with Hedgehog Tree Service to prune the two 90-year-old red cedars that also grace the lot, and remove some very sick plums from the parking strip. The community is invited to join on Saturday, March 15th at 10:30am to witness the trees going into the ground, and then from 1:00pm - 3:00pm Cerimon House will host an Open House - even while the trees find root in their new community - and participants are welcomed to stop by for a self guided tour, meet the Board members, and see the plans to revitalize this beautiful old building.

You can also volunteer with the planting teams in the Northeast neighborhood by contacting Jenny at jennyb@friendsoftrees.org or call 503-595-1213. Gloves, tools and trained volunteer guidance are provided. It is a great way to get outside, learn how to plant trees, meet people and help make the neighborhood greener and healthier. Find more information at www.friendsoftrees.org/volunteering.

Join Cerimon House again on Sunday, March 16th at 5:00pm for an original theatrical ceremony and tree-blessing, featuring favorite local performers and citizens. Seating for this benefit is limited, so please reserve your place for the March 16th performance at: reservations@cerimonhouse.org. Spring is nearly here, and it will be a community in bloom.

Alberta Street Fair Seeks Performers and Vendors

Performer and vendor registration for the 17th Annual Alberta Street Fair is now open. The street fair will be held on Saturday, August 9, 2014.

The Alberta Street Fair is a day long celebration of community, art and music that brings over 20,000 people to Alberta Street. Hosted by Alberta Main Street, the street fair includes three stages of entertainment and 300 vendor spaces between NE 10th Ave and NE 30th Ave.

Call for Performers: Alberta Main Street seeks a diverse array of performers appropriate for a family friendly event. The non-profit seeks performers of all kinds: musicians, dancers, children's performers and other acts that appreciate and represent the cultural diversity of our neighborhood. Performers are invited to learn more and apply online: albertamainst.org/whats-happening/street-fair/call-performers/. All acts must perform original material or works that are clearly in the public domain. The application deadline is April 21, 2014.

Vendor Registration: Local artists, crafters, makers, organizations and food vendors are invited to participate in this popular event. Vendor registration fees vary by the type of vendor and size of booth. More information and registration is now available online: albertamainst.org/whats-happening/street-fair/vendors/. Register before June 15, 2014 for early bird discounts.

Contact: Sara Wittenberg 503-683-3252 | 503-683-3252 | sara@albertamainst.org | www.albertamaintst.org

NE Restaurants Needed to Participate

Dine Out. Fight AIDS! on April 24th, 2014

Dining Out for Life is an annual international dining fundraising event, raising money for AIDS service organizations. This year, all across North America, Dining Out for Life will take place on April 24th. Please save the date, grab your family and friends, and make plans to Dine Out and Fight AIDS for breakfast, lunch, dinner, coffee, cocktails and more! Dine out at one of the participating restaurants and a substantial percentage of your bill will go directly to programs serving people with HIV/AIDS locally. In the Portland metro area, Dining Out for Life benefits OHSU's Partnership Project and Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's HIV Day Center, located right here in the Concordia Neighborhood!

NE Restaurants Needed to Participate!

There is still time for restaurants to sign up to participate and make a difference! Let your favorite local stomping grounds know and plan to eat out on April 24th. Restaurants can participate for all of the day or just part. For more information contact the Day Center at 503.460.3822, check out the website at www.diningoutforlife.com/portland, or find them on Facebook at DiningOutForLifePortland.

Where Grocery Meets Community

Inconvenience Store 1.0: Where Grocery Meets Community!

Do you have a food specialty? Do your friends rave about your creations? Come share your talents with your neighbors through the Inconvenience Store 1.0, an online format for you to post small batch food and goods for sale.

More of an eater than a cook? Browse the online inventory for local meals, snacks, produce & more.

What better way to strengthen community AND support your local economy than by buying directly from and selling directly to your neighbors! The current inventory is posted and will be available for purchase through March 12th. Items are available for pick up on Saturday March 15th, where you'll meet the local purveyors and finish the transaction!

Come shop with us & enrich your community experience!

WHEN: Saturday, March 15th, 2014 10AM to 2PM

(Orders must be placed online by March 12th)

WHERE: Leaven Community Bldg., 5431 NE 20th Ave

Visit www.inconveniencestore.org



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The Back Page - Neighborhood Events

KENNEDY SCHOOL
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Thursday, March 6
RICHARD CRANIUM & THE PHOREHEADS
Featuring members of the legendary Holy Modal Rounders
7 p.m. · Free · All ages welcome

Tuesday, March 11
RACE TALKS: An Opportunity for Dialogue
DISMANTLING ECONOMIC INEQUALITY & GENTRIFICATION IN PORTLAND:
the Trader Joe's, PDC and PAARL Controversy
6 p.m. doors; 7 p.m. · Free
All ages welcome

Thursday, March 13
GRAVEL
7 p.m. til 9 p.m.
Original songs and covers.
7 p.m. · Free · All ages welcome

Sunday, March 16
ETHOS ROCK BAND SHOWCASE
2 p.m. til 4 p.m. · Free
All ages welcome

Monday, March 17
st. patrick's day celebration
Live music, bagpipers, McMenamins Irish Stout, Irish Coffee cocktails, Irish food specials and more.
balloon guy · face painter
irish family hooley
with the murray irish dancers
kathryn claire · river city pipe band
the twangshifters
Music starts at 12 noon · Free · All ages

Thursday, March 20
GREAT NORTHWEST MUSIC TOUR
THE Howlin' Brothers
From Nashville, a distinctly bluegrass take on the blues
7 p.m. · Free · All ages welcome

Thursday, March 20
SPECIAL WOOD-AGED BEER RELEASE & TASTING
CONCORDIA COMMON ALE
5 p.m. 'til the beer is gone
In the Boiler Room · 21 & over

Friday, March 21
Ruby's 28th Birthday

Thursday, March 27
WIL KINKY
Bluesy and soulful
7 p.m. · Free · All ages welcome

Monday, March 31
VENEREAL GIRLS:
Gender, Public Health and Civil Liberties in WWI-era Portland and its Aftermath
7 p.m. · Free · All ages welcome

Call now for reservations
Sunday, April 20
Easter Brunch
Spend Easter with friends and family – and us!

Guardino Gallery

February 27-March 25
Main Gallery: Cathie Joy Young works in acrylic on wood panels and Kim Murton is a ceramic artist working with low-fire terracotta clay and colored slips.
Feature Area: Jeana Edelman will be presenting two different bodies of work: charcoal/graphite on wood and enamels on metal.
2939 Alberta Street | 503 281-9048
www.guardinogallery.com

Six Days Art Gallery

February 27 through March
Melinda is a new member of the gallery so we will feature her "Ginglandia" encaustic paintings throughout March.
2724 NE Alberta Street | 503-280-6329
www.sixdaysartgallery.net

Knitting & Cocktails

Mondays at 8pm
With Close Knit at Cruz Room
Knitters get a discount on food and drinks.
2338 NE Alberta St.
503-208-3483 info@cruzroom.com

Fused Glass & Cosmos

Thursdays at 6:30pm
Every Thursday night you can learn how to make fused glass art at Wells Glass Studio. We provide the hands-on instruction, a fun social crafty environment, and free cosmopolitan martinis. Create anything from jewelry to platters!
Wells Glass Studio, 1614 NE Alberta St.
wellsglassstudio.com | 503-719-2728

Bingo

Every 1st & 3rd Monday of the month. Bingo starts at 8pm SHARP so show up early. \$1 a game for 3 cards (4 with a can of food for the Oregon Food Bank!
American Legion Hall
NE 21st & NE Alberta

Poetry Slam

Every Friday Night at 7:30-10pm
Hosted By Jalin and Emily
Anna Bananas Cafe, 2403 NE Alberta

Scrabble New Seasons

Every Tuesday, 7pm – 9pm
New Seasons Market – Concordia
NE 33rd Ave. & Killingsworth St

Portland Storytellers Guild

FREE, Friday, March 7, Story Swap and Potluck, 6:30 pm in the Community Room, McMenamin's Kennedy School, 5736 NE 33rd Ave. For anyone who loves stories. Sit back and listen to others tell their story or share your own 5 minute story in a safe, supportive environment.

Storytelling Workshop: EFFECTIVE STORYTELLING IN THE WORKPLACE led by Will Hornyak, an advocate for storytelling as a "change agent" for individuals and organizations. His workshop will consider: the four stories that need to be told in every workplace.

Saturday, Mar 8, from 9 to 11 am
McMenamin's Kennedy School, Community Room, 5736 NE 33rd Ave

"Not Always As It Seems," presented by Howard Adler, Pam Maben and Leslie Slape, a selection of folk and personal tales featuring mysteries, transformations and unexpected twists. 7:30 PM Friday, March 14 at Hipbone Studio, 1847 E Burnside. Details for upcoming events are available through www.portlandstorytellers.org.

Concordia Univ Events

TEDxConcordiaUPortland May 3, 2014 (this event sells out early) <http://tedxconcordiauportland.com>.

Register Now for the 18th Annual Shakespeare Conference April 10-13, 2014. www.authorshipstudies.org

Free Tax Assistance Saturdays 9 a.m.-12 p.m. through April 12 at Concordia University's George R. White Library & Learning Center. Just show up, or for an appointment call 503-493-6250. Last year, over 100 tax returns were filed, generating over \$250,000 in refunds.

Mar. 7, 7 -8:30 p.m. – Concordia University Small Instrumental Ensemble Concert in the Fine Arts Building www.cu-portland.edu/music

Mar. 8, 12-4:30 p.m. Respite Day for parents of children with special needs. Pre-registration required at www.cu-portland.edu/respite

Mar. 9, 2-4 p.m. – 2nd Annual Celebrating Diversity Art Exhibit - Exhibit Reception
Concordia University will host a reception in the George R. White Library and Learning Center lobby. For more information visit <http://www.cu-portland.edu/academics/library/library-events>

Mar. 9, 3 p.m. - Concordia University Wind Ensemble Concert in the Fine Arts Building www.cu-portland.edu/music

Alberta March Mixer

March Mixer Tuesday, March 4, 2014 at The Station (2703 NE Alberta). Meet your neighbors and catch up with Alberta Main Street. Mixers are a great community building and networking opportunity for business and commercial property owners as well as community leaders.

4th Annual Earth Day Clean-Up

April 26, 2014 • 10 AM – 2 PM
Alberta Main Street's The Fourth Annual Earth Day clean up is more than just a day of litter and graffiti removal; it is a day to meet your neighbors, build community and celebrate at the Golden Garbage Awards. We are currently seeking event sponsors and have opened our volunteer sign up! Many thanks to all of our sponsors: Umpqua Bank, Alberta Eye Care, car2go, Salt & Straw, Shift Vacation Rentals and Heart in Hand Preschool.

Classes at Collage

Sat, March 1st - Beginning Acrylic Painting, 1-5pm
Wed, March 5th - Basic Stitch Sampler, 5:30-7:30pm
Tues, March 11th - Comics and Zines for TEENS: ages 11-16, 4-5:30pm
Tues March 18th - Dapped and Stamped Metal Charms; 6-7:30pm
Sat, March 22nd - Wood burned Animal Portraits 11am-1pm

Group Meditation

Every Thursday (except the last Thursday)
CNA Community Room at Kennedy School.



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CONCERT + FUNDRAISER
- 4 **MARDI GRAS** WITH
THE NEW IBERIANS + MORE!
- 6 **BIRDS OF CHICAGO**
- 7 **JOHN GORKA**
- 8 **WEST OF ZANZIBAR**
SCREENING + CD RELEASE
- 9 **KEVIN BURKE & CAL SCOTT**
- 13 **IGNITE TAO! v5**
- 15 **LIVE WIRE RADIO**
SHERMAN ALEXIE + RUN ON SENTENCE
- 18 **PIERRE BENSUSAN**
- 19 **AN EVENING WITH**
MARTYN JOESPH
- 20 THE GAIA PROJECT
AN EVENING WITH
PAULA COLE
- 22 **WOMEN WITH THE BLUES**
- 27 **TRACE BUNDY +**
SUNGHA JUNG
- 28 **UKULELE**
EXTRAVAGANZA!
- 29 **LIVE WIRE RADIO**
- 30 **SOLAS**

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