Whitaker-Adams fate blowin’ in the wind

In the heart of Concordia and Cully neighborhoods, just south of Fernhill Park, a nearly 13-acre expanse of tall grass stands in quiet contrast to the sounds of construction in the area’s white hot land market. The Whitaker-Adams site has been stubbornly resistant to the forces of redevelopment for almost a decade, and currently mostly serves neighborhood joggers, dog walkers and the occasional recreational drone pilot. Before it was a vacant field, the land hosted Adams High School from 1969 to 1981, and then Whitaker Middle School from 1983 to 2001. Flaws in the building’s design led to an array of problems, including radon and black mold contamination, and ultimately to the school’s demolition in 2007.

Almost 40 years later, Portland Public Schools (PPS) still owns the land, with no current plans to develop or sell it. In an emailed statement, PPS spokesperson Rosie Fiallo said the district’s only firm commitment is to develop at least some of the land for educational infrastructure. “PPS is land banking the site for future educational needs,” Fiallo said. “As a growing school district in a growing city, we need to ensure we have the ability to provide educational facilities required in the future.”

Proposals to repurpose the site over the years have ranged from community housing to retail or commercial space. In 2013, city commissioner Nick Fish, then the head of Portland Parks & Recreation (PPR), championed the idea of turning the site into a large urban farm in partnership with Oregon State University for at least five years. His proposal died with all the others.

Many long-time residents have also noticed that Concordia, Cully and northeast Portland in general are a desert of community centers. Matt Dishman, PPS’s director of community partnerships, said that although the bureau would like to address the deficiency in access to a community center in northeast Portland, lack of capital and available land are significant barriers. Fiallo said PPS is open to the idea of a partnership with another entity to develop the land, but the right ingredients still haven’t come together. “Several individuals and organizations have expressed interest in purchasing or developing the site over the years,” she said, “but no one has proposed a viable partnership idea to PPS.”

Christian Daniels has lived in Concordia for three years. He enjoys riding his bike, walking his dogs and providing manual labor for his wife’s ever-evolving garden.

“PPS is land banking the site for future educational needs.”

Rosie Fiallo, PPS

There’s little use of the field left vacant with the removal of Adams High School and Whitaker Middle School, except for dog walkers and a few others. No new uses are currently on the drawing board. Photo by Nancy Varekamp
Hello Neighbor,

The winds they are a-changin’ … will it be a hurricane or a summer breeze? No, not talking about the weather but governance, locally and globally. Like it or not, the world is in for a paradigm shift. The question is, will the shift happen to us or will we to it?

I look around and see whole political systems being overhauled and social fabrics being torn apart by fostering injustices and poverty. In contrast, the Concordia neighborhood appears as though we are doing quite well… or are we?

Events are driving changes

I think most of us would agree on that assessment and consider ourselves fortunate not to experience the unrest we have seen in the news almost daily. The severity and impact of these events are driving changes which were usually initiated by leadership within political parties. Now, matters have become so pressing citizens have, in some cases, scrapped their representatives or taken the discussion to the street.

Change is inevitable and typically understood with a 20/20 hindsight perspective. The Concordia neighborhood is no stranger to change thanks to its location. The Concordia neighborhood appears as though we are in for a paradigm shift. The question is, will the community be the force for a better future just by taking small opportunities to step out of our comfort zones, reaching out to others or when we join in an organization of like-minded folks.

Each of these activities lets others know who we are and what is important to us. And like the great philosopher Raffi has said, the more we come together the happier we’ll be. Let’s not make any assumptions going forward, let’s have more conversations no matter if it is about skinny houses or assume going forward, let’s have more conversations no matter if it is about skinny houses or

Looking into the crystal ball, Concordia looks like it is going in the right direction, but then again, we need to ask ourselves not what we could have and should have been done to prevent the disturbing events of late. If we are going to heal the world, what we really need is to reframe our 20/20 hindsight to foresight. Let’s take those criticisms and observations about past events and ask ourselves not what we should have done but what will we do to promote wellbeing.

Each one of us is capable of bringing positive changes without having to lead the charge. Change happens in increments and, dependent on small events, eventually connecting to bring about change. We can be the force for a better future just by looking at events from a different perspective.

For some of us it is in the rear-view mirror, each and every one of us knows what could have and should have been done to prevent the disturbing events of late. If we are going to heal the world, what we really need is to reframe our 20/20 hindsight to foresight. Let’s take those criticisms and observations about past events and ask ourselves not what we should have done but what will we do to promote wellbeing.

Each one of us is capable of bringing positive changes without having to lead the charge. Change happens in increments and, dependent on small events, eventually connecting to bring about change. We can be the force for a better future just by looking at events from a different perspective.

Please send me your vision for our neighborhood – one year, five years and 15 years...
What do you want?
Media team seeks reader input

By Susan Trabucco
CNES Managing Editor
CNA Media Team

This is the age of information, in which we’re bombarded (or enlightened, depending on your perspective) with streaming news videos, blogs, texts, podcasts and various social media post notifications. So getting a plain old black and white newspaper in one’s mailbox can feel kind of comforting. At least it is for those of us (way) older than 35.

We know, however, the Concordia neighborhood has a median age of 35 years. So, to provide neighborhood news and info to a broader audience (okay, I mean younger), the CNA Media Team is working to beef up more than just the quality of this publication. We are also working to improve the website and grow our Facebook presence. Why? To appeal to those people who didn’t grow up luxuriating in a morning routine that includes hot coffee, a comfortable couch, and the daily (printed) newspaper. This all takes a great deal of vigilance and effort. Six months ago the ConcordiaPDX.org website was three years out of date, and we had no Facebook page. We’ve made great strides since then but, because CNA website postings and Facebook is performed entirely by volunteers with jobs and families, we ask for your patience while we work to improve our digital presence.

Now, here are three ways you can ensure we’re barking up the right media tree to provide what is relevant to you, our valued readers, as resources allow:

1. Complete and return the media survey to the right of this article, or complete it online per the instructions provided on the survey.

2. Email to CNES@PDX.org with any story or regular feature ideas, breaking news items and events, or to submit a letter to the editor.

3. Email CNA@ConcordiaPDX.org if you have suggestions for improvements or ideas for CNES, the website or our Facebook page, or you’d like to volunteer to help in any of these areas, or as a reporter.

Recent CNA Media Team accomplishments:
• Added automatic CNA Facebook posts to the home page of our website, ConcordiaPDX.org.
• Held a Beverage ‘N Brainstorming after-hours session that we expect to continue. From that session came ideas that debuted last month:
  • Trending on Nextdoor.com is a light-hearted compendium of what Concordians are talking about.
  • What’s Selling in Concordia offers a quick look at neighborhood real estate data.
  • Ask the Historian by northeast Portlander Doug Decker answers readers’ questions about Concordia history and connects it to the present day. (Doug offered up this concept, and readers have jumped in with queries.)

We have a few more ideas, but your feedback on what we’ve been providing on the pages of CNEWS, on our website and on Facebook would be very helpful to ensure we’re on the path to happy Concordia neighborhood readers. We look forward to your input!

And please – LIKE us on Facebook!

Board bullet points: news from your neighborhood association board

Highlights from the July 12 CNA Board include:
• The board designated Donn Dennis as the neighborhood association’s representative to the Northwest Coalition of Neighborhoods.
• The board is still seeking a treasurer. That volunteer role requires board membership. Please contact Robert at ali@concordiapdx.org for more information.
• The Media Team introduced the people contracted to publish CNews, and the board discussed and approved their contracts (managing editor, editor and graphic designer). The search for an advertising salesperson is still active. Please visit ConcordiaPDX.org/get-involved/open-staff-positions/ to learn more and apply.
• The board discussed planning for the autumn annual meeting in November, which will feature city commissioner Amanda Fritz. Note Isaac Quintero’s invitation – in Chair’s Corner on Page 2 – to send him your vision for our neighborhood’s future prior to the Nov. 8 membership meeting. Board elections will also be held at that meeting.
• Information about upcoming social events was shared. Concerts in the Park at Fernhill were continuing every Friday night in July, plus a parade and concert is scheduled on National Night Out, Tuesday, Aug. 2. (See Page 4)
• The Land Use and Transportation Committee gave an update on efforts to engage the developer of the Big House project at the corner of 50th Avenue and Killingsworth Street. (See Page 6.)
• The next board meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 13, at 7 p.m. at the Kennedy School in the Community Room. There is no board meeting in August. Meetings are open to all.

We’re listening
So let your voice be heard!

Please take a few minutes to complete and return this survey to help us keep Concordia News relevant to YOU, our Concordia neighbor and valued reader.

Complete the survey below, mail it to the address below, scan and email to CNES@ConcordiaPDX.org or complete it online at concordiapdx.org/survey.

Submit your survey by Aug. 15, 2016 for a chance to win a $25 gift certificate to the Concordia area restaurant, retail store or service provider of your choice.

To be included in the drawing, please provide your contact information.

(Additional)

Name__________________________
Phone _________________________
Email __________________________

What topics do you want to see covered in the Concordia News?
Check all that apply:

☐ Accessibility/gentrification
☐ Business
☐ Community news
☐ Development/demolition
☐ Diversity
☐ Environment/pollution
☐ Events
☐ Food (including recipes)
☐ Families and kids
☐ Gardening
☐ Health & Wellness
☐ History
☐ Homelessness
☐ Interviews with residents, business owners and leaders
☐ Investigative reporting
☐ Nonprofits/causes
☐ People (volunteer spotlight, interesting people in neighborhood, etc.)
☐ Real estate
☐ Sports & Recreation
☐ Teens
☐ Transportation
☐ Volunteer opportunities
☐ Other

SIX topics are most important to you?

☐ 1. _________________________
☐ 2. _________________________
☐ 3. _________________________
☐ 4. _________________________
☐ 5. _________________________
☐ 6. _________________________

Did you know that Concordia News articles and additional timely news items are posted online at concordiapdx.org and on Facebook? facebook.com/concordianeighborhoodassociation? ___Yes ___No

Would you be interested in reporting or writing for the Concordia News? (If so please include your contact information above) ___Yes ___ No

How do you receive Concordia News?
☐ It comes to my home
☐ I pick up a copy at a local business. (If so, where?)
☐ I read it online

Thank you for completing our survey!
Join us to celebrate our community and to get to know your neighbors.

All are welcome - food, beverages & entertainment provided. Bring your whole family!

**Fernhill Park Event**

**Tuesday August 2nd**
At Dekum Court & Fernhill Park
Police · Community Partnerships

Everything is FREE! Call 503.280.3798 for more info.

- The Wanderlust Circus Orchestra (rip-roaring cabaret) on stage at Fernhill Park
  6:30PM – 8:15PM
- Explore a Firetruck & meet local firefighters
- Henna Artist
- Balloon Artist

**Ends at Fernhill Park**
Heads East on Ainsworth
• Heads South on 27th to Ainsworth
• Start at NE 27th & Saratoga at Dekum Court

5:45PM: Parade to Fernhill Park starts
- Balloons & Bubble Machines
- Dragon Theater’s Snow Queen & her Sister
- Upper parking lot under the overhang - 25 1/3 NE Saratoga St.

3PM-5:45PM at Dekum Court
- Free Hamburger, Hot Dogs & Treats
- Dragon Theater’s Snow Queen & her Sister
- Balloons & Bubble Machines
- Music and More!

4PM: Bike Decoration Station opens, featuring Trash for Peace.
Bring your bikes, trikes, and strollers and get creative!

5:45PM: Parade to Fernhill Park starts
- Start at NE 27th & Saratoga at Dekum Court
- Heads South on 27th to Ainsworth
- Heads East on Ainsworth
- Ends at Fernhill Park

6PM at Fernhill Park
- Children’s Art Activities by Collage
- Balloon Artist
- Hanna Arst
- Explore a Firetruck & meet local firefighters

6:30PM – 8:15PM
The Wanderlust Circus Orchestra (rip-roaring cabaret) on stage at Fernhill Park

**EcoTech Seismic Solutions · Legacy Health · McMenamins Kennedy School**
**Gazelle Natural Fibre Clothing · Grasshopper Boutique · Lombard Animal Hospital**

**Concordia Neighborhood Association, Home Forward & Trash for Peace present:**

**Concordia Neighborhood Association, Home Forward & Trash for Peace present:**

**Community Partnerships**

Concordia Neighborhood Association, Home Forward & Trash for Peace present:

**Concordia Neighborhood Association, Home Forward & Trash for Peace present:**

**Champion Sponsors**
Collage · Concordia Neighborhood Association · Vacasa

**Major Sponsors**
Concordia University · Inventiv Solutions

**Contributing Sponsors**
EcoTech Seismic Solutions · Legacy Health · McMenamins Kennedy School

**Good Neighbor Sponsors**
Gazelle Natural Fibre Clothing · Grasshopper Boutique · Lombard Animal Hospital
Our 42nd Avenue · Smiles on Sandy · St. Michaels Lutheran Church

**Come on, come all to the Aug. 13 Alberta Street Fair**

Fun, funky, family friendly and free. That’s the 19th Annual Alberta Street Fair, presented Saturday, Aug. 13, 11 a.m. -9:30 p.m. by Legacy-GoHealth Urgent Care.

Showcasing the best of the Alberta Street community, the event features entertainment, music, vendors, and food and drink for people of all ages. Hosted by Alberta Main Street, the event continues to be one of Portland’s most beloved neighborhood street festivals and draws more than 25,000 people.

The fair will kick off with the Sixth Annual Children’s Parade, starting promptly at 11 a.m. at 15th Avenue and ending at the Center Stage at 21st Avenue. Participants meet at 10:30 a.m. at the Alberta Co-op parking lot at 15th Avenue.

Additional event highlights include:
- Kid’s Activity Corner, hosted all day by PDX Parent at 18th Avenue, with crafty fun and entertainment for children of all ages
- Unique products and crafts from Alberta’s local businesses and 300 vendors lining Alberta Street between 14th and 30th avenues from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Dancing and music at three stages located at 12th, 21st and 30th avenues – keep an eye on albertamainst.org for the full lineup
- Local beer and wine at the family friendly venues: 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Radio Room Beer Garden, 11th Avenue, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Bella Faccia Beer Garden, 39th Avenue; and 1-6 p.m., PDX Urban Wineries Tasting Pavilion, 30th Avenue
- Food and beverages from Alberta’s well-known eateries, food carts and Street Fair vendors
- All-day activities and demonstrations between 10th and 11th avenues

Volunteers are needed, mostly for three-hours shifts. In addition to helping put on a great community event, you receive a super-cool T-shirt, a ticket for a beer (if you are age 21 or older) and an invitation to our volunteer appreciation party in late August. Sign up for a shift today at albertamainst.org/whats-happening/street-fair/volunteers/ and tell your friends!

A suggested $2 donation supports building a vibrant and healthy Alberta Street. Donations are accepted at the info booth, 1722 N.E. Alberta Street, and the beer garden. Please consider walking, biking or taking public transportation to the Alberta Street Fair.

**Northeast Village PDX opens membership campaign Aug. 1**

Northeast Village PDX, due to begin providing services Oct. 31, begins enrolling members Aug. 1. Enrollment for full-service and associate charter members began July 1 and continues through the end of the year, requiring an additional $7500 tax-deductible donation per member and offering a lid on membership fees through 2020.

Part of the group organizing seven neighborhoods, the Northeast Village PDX is an intergenerational group of residents committed to enabling members to age in place in their homes. In addition to Concordia, the Northeast Village PDX includes the Alameda, Beaumont-Wilshire, Cully, Grant Park, Hollywood, Irvington Lloyd, Madison, Parkrose, Parkrose Heights, Rose City Park, Roseway, Sullivan’s Gulch, Sumner, Sunderland and Woodland Park neighborhoods, and the city of Maywood Park.

An information booth is planned for the Aug. 13 Alberta Street Fair. Addition- ally, you may visit nevillagepdx.org for details, email nevillagepdx@gmail.com or call 503-895-2750.

Full-service members receive assistance with transportation, household chores, minor maintenance and yard work from trained, background-checked volunteers. Those members and associate members additionally have access to lists of professional services companies that have been prescreened, community resources and an array of social and educational offerings.
Fernhill concerts kick off Concordia summer

Doug the Dog: Wiley dachshund continues to elude traps and extend his about-town adventure. The farthest potential sighting was July 8 at 36th and Broadway.

July Fourth fireworks spark explosive neighborhood debate: Are they good patriotic fun or stress-inducing bedlam?

For some, Red Plum circular isn’t peachy, just junk mail: Remove your address at redplum.com/tools/redplum-postal-addressremove.html.

Phisfy phone calls: Look out for bogus phone scam claiming the IRS has filed a claim against you. Report phishing of that nature at irs.gov/uac/report-phishing.

Two thumbs up: Nextdoor.com’s Recommendations section has been upgraded to make it easier than ever to find neighbor-approved businesses. Find it on the home page menu tagged with a heart icon.

Rx for old meds: Recommendations for disposing of expired or unneeded prescription medications is at deq.state.or.us/lq/sw/hhw/pharmaceuticals.htm.

Carrie Wenninger is a Concordia resident and lives on 29th Avenue. She is also a freelance writer with a penchant for poetic prose who tries to look for the humor in everyday life. She also is a mom and world traveler who, with her partner, owns a company that restores and repurposes vintage homes. Contact her at wurdgurl@gmail.com.

Fernhill Concerts Kick Off Concordia Summer

Tony Starlight kicked off the Fernhill Park series of Concerts in the Park July 8 (top left). More than 300 people braved the rain, until a deluge ended the concert early. Tony serenaded the crowd prior to the concert with “Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head.” The Quick & Easy Boys entertained a crowd of more than 1,000 July 15 (top right and right). Photos by Belinda Clark and Peter Gearin.

This month’s column is intended to provide a timely serving of hot topics – as well as pass along some news you can use – from Concordia Nextdoor.com

Doug the Dog: Wiley dachshund continues to elude traps and extend his about-town adventure. The farthest potential sighting was July 8 at 36th and Broadway.

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Nextdoor.com hot topic round up

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The Residential Infill Project and equity

Last month, I discussed the Residential Infill Project Stakeholder Advisory Committee (RIP SAC). I mentioned the staff proposal is not supported by the infill project’s advisory group, and a majority of the RIP SAC has instead been in support of the Portland For Everyone (P4E) proposal. It’s actually not very different from RIPSAC has instead been in support of the staff proposal regarding scale, but takes more progressive steps toward allowing more missing middle housing types in all of the city’s single-family zones.

This month, I focus on the differences between the staff and the P4E proposals on location, and specifically how it relates to equity. City staff has put forward a proposal for the Residential Infill Project that will allow only some new missing middle housing types within a quarter mile of centers, corridors and frequent transit service stops – specifically duplexes, triplexes and up to two accessory dwelling units per primary structure. The P4E proposal would simply allow these same housing types, with a few bonuses intended to encourage the preservation of existing structures, within all single-family zones citywide.

The argument for allowing these types in all single-family zones boils down to equity. It is more equitable to allow housing types with more than one dwelling unit per lot in all neighborhoods. That will allow for the possibility of creating new more-affordable housing units across the city, including in wealthier neighborhoods.

It would seem Portland needs to make a bold commitment to provide for abundant, diverse, and affordable housing to meet the needs of all family sizes in every neighborhood.

For more information, see portlandoregon.gov/bps/infill and portlandorevyerne.org.

Transportation

A promising new proposed Greenway Diversion Policy was presented to the LUTC in July. It would establish citywide greenways crossing arterial streets, which residents can walk to most regularly.

The particular emphasis is on ensuring the ground floor is fully optimized for retail use...
Life changes as you age, but its purpose shouldn’t

Many are talking about the makeover of various Portland neighborhoods, including the Concordia community and surrounding areas. I leave that discussion for others. I want to talk about changes that occur when we age, and about how we react.

As someone who has worked with and on behalf of older adults for the past 40 years, I have observed many changes in myself, my family and my friends. Many of these occurred slowly. Some are relatively minor, such as changes in hair color and body shape, or decreases in hearing and eyesight. Others are more significant, like limitations in mobility and chronic conditions such as diabetes and blood pressure. And we note our forgetfulness with a certain anxiety in case it is a sign of dementia.

Then there are the social, psychological and economic changes. Our networks change as we lose friends, stop working, or limit our external activities for various reasons. We might experience the loss of a spouse or siblings. Children grow up and create their own lives. If school, raising a family and work occupied a large part of our lives, then who are we when that is in our past? Often our mentality shifts to conserving our personal and financial resources. Sometimes the response to these changes is to hunker down, avoid others and look inward.

Clearly maintaining good health, having opportunities to interact with others and being economically secure makes it easier to age successfully. But there’s one strategy that does not require good health, a large social circle or money. It’s having purpose.

Purpose can take many forms, such as volunteering for an organization, taking care of grandchildren, caring for a pet, learning a new skill or becoming more knowledgeable about one’s religion. The question to ask oneself regularly is, “What gives my life purpose?” If the answer is “nothing,” then it is time to give some thought to what could bring purpose into your life.

We plan around our purpose, organize our lives around it and use it as a method to remain engaged in ways important to us physically, intellectually, socially and emotionally.

If you feel you have no purpose and don’t know what it is – ask yourself this important question, “What would motivate me to act?”

Keren Brown Wilson, Ph.D., is president of the Jessie F. Richardson Foundation. Based in Clackamas, the nonprofit helps elders live full lives with dignity. Its strategies focus on bridging the gap for elders, families, and communities throughout the United States and around the globe. Contact her at 503-408-4088 or kwilson@jfrfoundation.org, or visit jfrfoundation.org.

Aging
Gracefully

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If you’re going to play the
GAME OF HOMES

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Winter is coming. Call today to list your house.

Mark Charlesworth
real estate team
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Red Sauce Pizza
EST. 1988

Patio now open!

Patios
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Wednesday through Sunday 4:30 to 9:30 PM
www.redsaucepizza.com 503-288-4899
Profile of Cannon’s Rib Express

21 years in business with no end in sight

A customer sporting a broad, ear-to-ear grin peaks through the screen of the pick-up window at Cannon’s Rib Express at 33rd Avenue and Killingsworth Street. “It was pretty good – almost as good as they were at the old location,” she told the owner. Then she reminisces about meeting Wayne Cannon in 1998 at the original location on the south side of Killingsworth, between 33rd and 34th avenues. “I walked by. It smelled so good,” she reminded him. “I walked in, and you gave me a plate with a rib on it. After I ate it, you joked, ‘I’m just like the pusher man, I give you a little try today, so you’ll buy more later!’”

Wayne purchased the business in 1995 from Chuck Hinton, who had opened Chuck Hinton Rib Express in 1986. In 2001, as the neighborhood’s demographics and character began to change, the largely empty block where the Concordia New Seasons now sits underwent a major transformation.

The supermarket and its parking lot were constructed, and that required the smaller businesses lining the south side of the 3300 block of Killingsworth to move. According to Wayne, the rib place remained near its former location as part of a compromise struck among the city, Concordia Neighborhood Association and the developers responsible for the renovations of the block.

Cannon’s barbecue has been awarded accolades from Sunset Magazine, Willamette Week and numerous rib aficionados from coast to coast. Regular customers make their way to Cannon’s from as near as Vancouver, Salem and Seattle and as far as the Midwest and beyond. Long-haul truck drivers often make Cannon’s a destination stop, commenting frequently that the quality of the barbecue stacks up well against those in better-known rib meccas such as St. Louis, Kansas City and Memphis.

When Chuck Hinton Rib Express opened, there were only a few rib spots in town. A recent internet search identifies more than 30, yet Cannon’s prepares, on average, three cases of ribs – with nine racks per case – per day during the busy summer months.

What sets Wayne’s ribs apart from others in town? He’s unflinching in his response, “We have the best barbecue in Portland, bar-none.”

Editor’s note: Cannon’s Rib Express is open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. seven days a week summers. During winter, hours are 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Sundays-Thursdays and 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, and vegetarian options are available. Call 503-288-3836 or visit cannonsribexpress.com.

Dan Werle lives in Concordia with his wife, Anna, and their dogs.

Restaurant supported Wayne’s own transformation

When Wayne Cannon gives his customers a good-natured ribbing about being a “pusher man,” it harkens to his own transformation during the time he grew his ribs restaurant. In mid life, he picked up a cocaine habit that led to self reflection, prayer and change. That change included the 1995 fresh start in Portland.

Despite his addiction, he continued the strong work ethic he learned in childhood and practices today – through 30 years in the bar business before he left California for Portland. Once here, he developed – and continues to maintain – both his business and his sobriety. “It changed my whole life,” he pointed out.

Last year he was baptized at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church in north Portland, and is active in the congregation. Wayne maintains a 35- to 40-hour work week, and has no plans for retirement. In fact, the final concert in this summer’s season of Sunday evening jazz concerts – he has sponsored them for more than a decade in his canopy-covered seating area – will celebrate his 70th birthday.

Retail Happy Hour adds foot traffic to Alberta

Wednesday afternoons aren’t as slow for Alberta Street retailers as for their counterparts elsewhere, thanks to Retail Happy Hour. From 3 to 6 p.m. every Wednesday, 39 retailers offer shoppers exclusive deals or special discounts.

“Happy Hour is a social event in bars, and customers understand the concept and know there will be deals,” explained Angie Heiney, Alberta Main Street Promotion Committee chair and Frock co-owner.

“We’ve taken happy hour in a totally new and different direction, on retail items with no alcohol involved – yet. We’re hoping at some point to begin partnering with the local bars and restaurants to expand the focus and continue increasing foot traffic on Alberta Street on Wednesday afternoons.”

Coordinated by Alberta Main Street, Retail Happy Hour is free and open to the public. It resulted from a meeting last summer when many of the Alberta Street retailers collaborated on how to attract more people to the neighborhood on the nontraditional shopping day.

“Shoppers love it. They really do,” Angie pointed out. “Sometimes I forget to put out signs about what the Retail Happy Hour special is at Frock, and customers remind me. It’s a lot of fun for them, and for us.”

For details about Retail Happy Hour and a list of participating businesses, visit albertamainstreet.org/whats-happening/retail-happy-hour/ or you may follow #retailhappyhour, or just look for the orange and teal logos in the front windows of participating businesses.
Summer has come into full swing with longer days and later nights, and all the extra sunshine has everyone busy with activity. In the natural world, nature is teeming with life, plants are at their peak growth for the year, and animals are busy foraging and feeding their young.

We are all part of this cycle of life, and we can easily get swept into the energy that is available to us at this time. Our children are feeling it, too! They are out of their school rhythms, and there is a freedom that comes with that. In my household, it can be frazzling to have later nights and days full of activities.

How about you? Are you also feeling the fullness of summer in your home? When our kids are whirling with the day's activities, it is nice to help bring some calm and groundedness back into their beings. That helps restore rest, and it supports the growth they are also experiencing during the summer.

As a follow up to last month's column, here are some additional ways to support your kids now that summer is here, and the energy is running high.

• Keep a consistent bedtime: What does this mean exactly? Well, if you are taking advantage of the later daylight, then you have probably moved bedtime back a bit. That is just fine, so keep it the same for your children.

• Use natural remedies: In our house, we love to take Epsom salt baths and use essential oils on our bodies. Warm salt baths help to ground and support their bodies physically and emotionally. Essential oils, like lavender and chamomile, offer gentle therapeutic benefits. Also dilute the oils with carrier oil like almond or coconut oil, or another one you like. Start with just a small amount – one drop – to make sure your child doesn’t have a reaction.

• Take an evening walk: Nature is healing. Children will do much better in the evening spending time outdoors on a walk, at a park or just in your backyard – as opposed to watching television or doing screen time before bed. Media can be a challenge for many children, winding them up and creating mental hyperactivity. It’s a good idea to bring some mindfulness about when you are allowing their interaction with media.

May these suggestions serve as tools to benefit your family on these long summer days, and to help keep healthy rhythms in your home!

Jennifer Allison is an early childhood educator at Gnome’s Home. Visit gnome-home.org for information on classes for children and adults.

Pop-up café teaches zero waste

It’s a pop-up café, it’s in Concordia, and it’s got kid-friendly activities scheduled throughout the month.

Communid Café at Leaven is open every Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Leaven Community/Salt and Light Lutheran Church on the corner of 20th Avenue and Killingsworth Street.

Tea, coffee and pastries are available – all at suggested donation prices – and free wi-fi is available.

Kid-friendly activities planned for August include:

• Aug. 4: iced and blended coffee and story time
• Aug. 11: Italian sodas and bubble wands
• Aug. 18: smoothies and balloon im-

They still need eight to 10 hours minimum of rest per night, depending on their age, and more if they are younger. No child can do well with fewer than eight hours of sleep. Their bodies are still developing, and they need our help to get the rest they need.

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Get out of that rut

Although the human brain may soon be outsmarted by the computer, still the brain is the most sophisticated and intricate machine we know of in the universe. One of its most marvelous functions is automation. Once we’ve learned something handy – like turning our head, walking, juggling, typing, talking, driving or playing an instrument – our brain can put these activities on autopilot so we can focus our attention on some other activity.

But what happens when one of these programmed activities is unhelpful in a situation? For example, we move to a place where cars are driven on the other side of the road? Or we’re accustomed to speaking English and we move to a country where the language and sentence structure is completely different? Or we got a lot of attention from our parents by whining when we were young, but somehow all that whining doesn’t serve us at a later age?

When these preprogrammed habits are serving us, we are in a groove. When they don’t, we might think we’re stuck in a rut – a behavior that is really difficult to unlearn. A trick is to have some tools to get us out of a rut. It turns out that a great first step is awareness. We quickly become aware when we’re driving on the wrong side of the road because that’s obvious. But a whimsy attitude may be less easy to identify in ourselves.

After awareness, we can set the stage to bust out of a rut by putting some parameters in place:

- Urgency: “I’d better get in the other lane or I’ll hit this oncoming car.”
- Fascination: “This person seems so interesting, but she doesn’t speak a word of English.”
- Focus: “I’m going to find a quiet space for two hours to practice my mandolin.”
- Yes, automation is an amazing adaptation. Better yet, and more uniquely human, is plasticity – the ability to change and adapt, no matter how deep and rutted our groove may be.

Kim Magrini, a licensed massage therapist, may be reached via the ConcordiaMassagePros.com directory.

Do you feel like health advice is a moving target?

Remember when you were a kid and your mom said “go outside and play.” Get moving! Believe it or not, your mom was on to something. Andrew Lafrenz, Ph.D., Concordia University Exercise and Sports Science associate professor and researcher, conducted a large study in the workplace showing the importance of even small amounts of movement on one’s overall health and happiness.

Participants in the study spent their work days sitting at desks. The workers were given timers and instructed to take two- to three-minute movement breaks every hour. Those who took as little as two to three minutes every hour to stretch and move were more productive, had higher job satisfaction and experienced reduced blood pressure.

People often ask me how to drastically change their health by starting an exercise program or changing their diet,” he said. “My advice is to listen to your mother. Get off the couch, move a little bit every hour, eat your vegetables and spend more time with your family and friends.”

There is a similar link between activity and good health in children. In a study of health in children, he found that children with higher parental engagement, who ate meals as a family and who participated in school clubs and sports were much more physically active, had better nutrition, and they had lower rates of disease.

“We all know we’re not supposed to remain seated for hours on end,” pointed out Karen Morgan, assistant professor of Exercise & Sports Science and director of Physical Activity courses at Concordia. Many apps – designed for adults, families and children – have been created to remind you to get up for that much needed break.

“Some of our favorite free apps can be downloaded to your phone, computer or other device to remind you to take breaks from sitting at a desk too long,” she added. Those include: Stand up! The work break timer; iMonkeyMatta.com/bigstretch/ and iamfutureproof.com/tools/awareness/.

“Try some Pokemon Go in the Concordia Neighborhood and at Concordia University,” she suggested.
The Question:

When I moved into our house in March 1962, there was a Joe Bernard Realty office in the building where Doggie Business is now. Joe said this area was part of the Bernardo family farm and there were chestnut trees from 42nd Avenue to 33rd. My question: were there chestnut trees all along Alberta Court?

Bob Walters, Alberta Court

The Historian Reports:

Although the historian could find no evidence of chestnut trees lining the length of Alberta Court, he located this beautiful old one on the court at the northeast corner of 41st Avenue. Photo by Nancy Varekamp

And here’s an interesting note: Alberta Street was renamed to Alberta Court after a vote of residents on the street in summer 1940 and a city ordinance passed Aug. 28, 1940. On Aug. 11, 1940, The Oregonian reported, “Multnomah County suggested the city change the name of the street within the city limits to avoid confusion, and a survey of sentiment of the property owners was taken. Most of them approve the change to avoid confusion.”

We pulled up a series of aerial photos from the 1920s and 1930s that show the western stretch of the street, and we don’t see a line of trees in this area. We did connect with a former paperboy who delivered newspapers along Alberta Court in the late 1940s and, although he remembered homeless camps there along what was the city limits, he didn’t recall seeing any orchard or line of chestnuts.

This doesn’t mean there weren’t chestnuts along Alberta Court, just that evidence is scarce. In fact, it does appear there is a lone survivor of what Joe was remembering. You can find a beautiful old chestnut tree today at the northeast corner of 41st Avenue and Alberta Court, reminding us they were, indeed, in the neighborhood. We’ll keep digging on this and welcome any information from CNEWS readers.

Thanks for asking!

We love solving mysteries, so if you have a question for the neighborhood historian, email it to CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org and we’ll ask Doug Decker to do some digging.
A NIGHT OF SOUL
LEVON’S DAUGHTER CARRIES THE TORCH
ROCK ‘N’ ROLL CAMP FOR GIRLS

NEW: Mcmenamins CANS!
For the first time we’re offering 16-ounce cans of Ruby and Hammerhead, to-go. Take ‘em with you anywhere, $2.75 per can or $10 for a four-pack.
Show us your cans on social media @McMeninCANS

Thursday, August 4
BUTTERFLY BREAKDOWN
Blues rock
Location: Rock & Roll Gym · 6 p.m. doors; 7 p.m. event
Details: Mcmenamins.com

Tuesday, August 9
RACE TALKS:
An Opportunity for Dialogue
“Actor Jesse Williams’ Recent BET Humanitarian Award Speech”
Gym · 6 p.m. doors; 7 p.m. event
Details: Mcmenamins.com

Thursday, August 11
BATTLE OF THE LAWYER BANDS
Rock battle
Location: Rock & Roll Gym · 7 p.m.
Details: Mcmenamins.com

Thursday, August 18
EASY, GREAT BEER TASTING
Wee Heavy
5 p.m. ‘til the beer is gone
Boster Room Bar · 21 & over
Details: Mcmenamins.com

JESSE DAYTON
As part of Great Northwest Music Tour Country-influenced Americana
Location: Rock & Roll Gym · 7 p.m.
Details: Mcmenamins.com

Thursday, August 25
COTY HOUGUE
Rock & country
Location: Rock & Roll Gym · 7 p.m.
Details: Mcmenamins.com

Monday, August 28
HISTORY PUB:
“Keeping Unity in the Community: Portland’s Good in the Hood Festival, Its Motivation & Achievements”
Theater · 6 p.m. doors; 7 p.m. event

TUESDAY MOVIE SPECIAL
Pizza, Pint & Movie Ticket for $12
Good at all showings - Theater only

Find us (and LIKE US) on Facebook for updates and other timely information.
www.facebook.com/concordianeighborhooassociation

CULLY FARMERS MARKET
August: 4 - 8 PM; September: 4 - 7 P
Location: 5011 NE 42nd Ave · Alberta St.
(loading zone for Columbia Slough, in parking lots of Old Salt & Roses.)
Local produce, food vendors, live entertainment, plus crafts & activities for kids. Up to $10 match for SNAP recipients.
Details: (503) 912-8936, cullyfarmersmarket.org

3 SHOWS
ANTLER GALLERY

LOCATION:
2728 NE Alberta St.
Details: Michael Page, Gosia & Annie Owens; Sally Deng.
Details: antlerpdx.com/growthdecay.html

2 ARTISTS
GUARDINO GALLERY
Location: 2039 NE Alberta St.
Rick Clarke, Dawn Paratija, Alicia Justus.
Details: guardinogallery.com

Aug. 4, Monday
LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WORKSHOP
Location: East County WIC, 600 NE 8th St.
Details: Page 4

Aug. 5 - 7, Thursday-Sunday
OREGON STAMP SOCIETY BIRTHDAY OPEN HOUSE
Location: Historic fire station @ 33rd Avenue & Stark St., Suite A
Details/registration: communityenergyproject.org, (503) 284-6827, ext. 109.

Aug. 7, Sunday (Hurry! Registration required by Aug. 6)
ALBERTA STREET FAIR
Location: Concordia University, George White Library, Room 120
2 - 4 PM
Join support & resource meeting for grandparents, foster grandparents & family members caring for grandchildren.
Details: (503) 408-4088.

Aug. 16, Tuesday
LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WORKSHOP
Location: Community Energy Project, 2900 S.E. Stark St. Suite A
6 - 7:30 PM
Learn to prevent lead exposure at home. Great for households with children or pregnant women in housing older than 1978, or those concerned about lead exposure. Qualified participants receive free kits of safety & testing supplies.
Details/registration: communityenergyproject.org or (503) 284-6827, ext. 109.

Aug. 19, Friday
SUBS ON THE SLOUGH
Location: Columbia Slough
11:30 AM – 1 PM, free
Lunchtime tour by Portland Water Bureau & Columbia Slough Watershed Council. Learn about protecting the slough’s underground drinking water source & new solar array that helps offset Portland Water Bureau energy needs. Lunch provided, suitable for age 10 and older.
Details/registration: columbiaislough.org.

Aug. 20, Saturday
CAMPUS BLUES FEST
Location: Concordia University campus green
8 PM, free
Tribute to Janice Scroggins & Linda Hornbuckle, sponsored by Concordia University and The Original Hallibur's.

Aug. 25, Thursday
LADIES LUNCHTIME PADDLE
Location: Columbia Slough
Bring lunch & join Columbia Slough Watershed Council for ladies (adults only) lunchtime paddle. Bring boat or borrow one of the council’s limited number. Group puts into upper Columbia Slough.
Details/registration: columbiaislough.org.

Aug. 26, Friday
BAY NIGHT
Location: Whiskey Ponds
7:30 - 9:30 PM, suggested $5 per person donation
Diverse bat species wait until sunset to hunt. Event suitable for families with children older than 5, space limited.
Details/registration: columbiaislough.org.

Aug. 27, Saturday
LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WORKSHOP
Location: Multnomah County Central Library, 801 S.W. 10th Ave
2 - 3:30 PM, free
Learn to prevent lead exposure at home. Great for households with children or pregnant women in housing older than 1978, or those concerned about lead exposure. Qualified participants receive free kits of safety & testing supplies.
Details/registration: communityenergyproject.org or (503) 284-6827, ext. 109.