The Concordia neighborhood is many pounds lighter as a result of CNA’s annual clean-up held May 14 this year. Many truckloads of trash, recycling and re-usable goods made it to a better place than Concordian basements and attics. The clean-up is important to the neighborhood association financially, too – the event netted CNA $1,800.

Nice job everyone – see you next year!

A HUGE & heartfelt THANK YOU to our volunteers & sponsors!

Volunteers:
Robert Bowles
Paul Carrier
Belinda Clark
Donn Dennis
Don & Abby Francis
Samuel Garcia
Will Goubert
Isham Harris
Nora Hilbers
Darnell Harst
Chris Lopez
Kim McGraw
Terry Medaris
TJ Millbrooke
Susan Millhauser
Isaac Quintero
Katie Ugolini
Paul Wilkins

Sponsors:
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Multnomah County Community Service
METRO
NECN
New Seasons Market
Sharptool Edge Service

NEW EQUITY COORDINATOR
Kenya Budd fills position with Alberta
Main Street
See page 3

STREET PAINTING JUNE 3
Dragon painting at N.E. 23rd & Sumner brings community together
See page 5

PDX GOLD DUST HITS ALBERTA
Home decor shop offers fine vintage, new and repurposed items
See page 8

Clean-Up Photos
by Will Goubert

At left, Samuel Garcia, Master’s Student in PSU’s Urban and Regional Planning Program and the Concordia Neighborhood’s Sustainability Intern works the Clean-Up event to solicit support for the Portland Alley Project program.

Isham “Ike” Harris, CNA board member, was on hand to help at the annual Clean-Up event.

Your neighborhood association ‘cleans-up’
Very small, larger ways to help planet, neighborhood

I have been asking myself: As a community so far from the world stage, can we really make a difference? Considering even our legislators can’t agree on the time of day much less promoting goodwill abroad, I wasn’t so sure. But then I took a close look at our community and realized we can have an impact in the world just by being friendly and approachable. We can start with the foreign-born students attending Concordia University; they are our portals to the Middle East, Asia, South America and beyond. These students should be our ambassadors, telling the real story of America upon returning home.

So I ask you, what would happen if each one of us extended ourselves to these visitors in the same way we do with those who live here? You might ask how we do this. The answer is to just say “hi” and smile. A smile is the same in any language, the rest will follow. It is a start and if we do it enough, we can positively impact the world.

Paid, Part-time staff for Concordia News

Now back to business matters. At its last general meeting, the CNA board was presented with the concept of paying for professional assistance in producing the Concordia News. The board agreed to do so, starting with the July issue. I for one strongly support the idea of part-time, paid staff people, as I believe the Concordia News is the single most important avenue of communication within our neighborhood.

CNEWS is looking good now, due to the efforts of professionals who have been volunteering over the last several months. And, over time, it’s projected to pay for its production costs. But I believe the newspaper will cease publication if we do not respond to LUTC, nor did Ascend want LUTC to have any formal say in its plans.

Bighouse site talks break down

Lastly, the ongoing discussion with Ascend Holdings, the developer of the Bighouse site at NE 30th & Killingsworth, has hit an impasse. (See article by Spencer Parsons on page 7 for more information.) The developer’s representative recently told the CNA Land Use & Transportation Committee (LUTC) that Ascend is moving forward on construction of a 4-story apartment building, as submitted originally, to the Portland Bureau of Development Services. The rub is that LUTC had made suggestions to make the project more “neighborhood friendly.” The developer, however, had issues with the suggestions and would not provide a response to LUTC, nor did Ascend want LUTC to have any formal say in its plans.

If became involved in the LUTC/Ascend Holdings issue after their communication broke down. I cannot go into specifics, but I do know there was no one bad guy involved. I am hoping the developer will come back to the table to consider our concerns as a model of how to work with a community. It could be a re-start, but our experience is telling us that CNA – and the City – must provide all developers with not only the building code, but also a profile of neighborhood sensitivities. Doing so would be a positive approach to avoiding problems in advance of final plans.

While we are a diverse community with a variety of people and opinions, we expect compromise. We are not looking for an “I win – you lose” situation but for win-wins. The only way that happens is by talking to each other. I will continue my discussion with Ascend and keep you up to date. Or come to CNA Land Use Committee meetings and follow along.

Isaac Quintero
Chair/Concordia Neighborhood Association

Concordia Neighborhood Association

Meetings & Updates

Board Meeting

June 14 @ 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Second Tuesday of the Month
McMenamin’s Kennedy School Community Room

General Membership Meeting

September 13 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Second Tuesday Bi-Monthly
McMenamin’s Kennedy School Community Room

Social Committee

If you’d like to volunteer to help with the Fernhill Concerts in the Park and/or National Night Out Pedestrian and Bicycle Parade, please contact Katie Ugolini at ktugolini@gmail.com or call (503) 449-9690

Finance Committee

Policies/Procedures visit our website or email: Treasurer@ConcordiaPDX.org

Media Team

June 21 @ 6:00 PM
3rd Tuesday of the Month. Location changes monthly. Join the Media Team to volunteer on the newspaper, Website or Social Media. For more info & meeting location contact Susan Trubacco at susan@trubacco.biz or call (503) 440-7712

Land Use & Transportation Committee

June 15 @ 7:00 PM
Third Wednesday of the Month
This month only our meeting will be held in the Concordia University Library, room GW 303. Find the library (#19) on the Concordia University campus map. View the map by visiting www.cu-portland.edu/documents/campus_map.pdf.

LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org

CNA Chair

Isaac Quintero
(503) 352-4585 | Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org

CNA Vice Chair

Chris Lopez | Vicechair@ConcordiaPDX.org

CNA Secretary

Ali Novak | Secretary@ConcordiaPDX.org

CNA Treasurer

Robert Bowles
(503)490-5153 | Treasurer@ConcordiaPDX.org

Concordia Community Room

Rental | CommunityRoom@ConcordiaPDX.org

Crime Prevention Officer

Mary Tompkins
(503)823-4764, mary.tompkins@portlandoregon.gov

Neighborhood Response Team Officer

Anthony Zeliger
(503)823-6743, Anthony.Zoeller@portlandoregon.gov

Submissions

The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to Monthly publication.

Advertising

Please send ad inquiries to NewsBusiness@ConcordiaPDX.org

Editor

Please send article submissions to the Editor NewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org

CNA Media Team

CNA Board Advisors: Daniel Greenstadt & Steve Elder

CNEWS Production: Susan Trubacco, Gordon Riggs, Dan Werle

CNA Website: Michael French, Tami Fung

CNA Facebook: Eric Hoyer
Kenya Budd hopes to close the equity gap on Alberta Street

By Susan Trabucco
CNA Media Team

Late last year, Alberta Main Street received a grant from The William G. Gilmore Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation to fund Equitable Alberta Street. The project aims to expand the organization’s capacity to address issues related to equity, diversity, and inclusion on and around NE Alberta Street, and to ensure that underserved populations are informed about and supported in their efforts to access social and economic resources available to them.

Specifically, the grant provided funding to hire a part-time Equity and Engagement Coordinator. AMS recently chose Kenya Budd for the position. Budd will support the organization’s work on three goals: (1) Adopting policies and performing outreach to diversify the base of committed volunteers and skilled community leaders; (2) implementing projects that create greater economic and social opportunities for local minority residents and youth, and (3) providing technical assistance and AMS financial support to underserved populations.

Budd identified the means by which she will approach those goals.

“My work will include forming relationships with the community and building the organization’s capacity to address equity and diversity issues as well,” she said.

Budd also encourages neighborhood newcomers to become more knowledgeable about the history of the area and to understand the displacement that has occurred over the years. To learn more, she suggested visiting Alberta Main Street or the Research Room at the City of Portland Archives & Records Center (1800 SW 6th Ave, Suite 550). Some information is also available online on the Main Street website albertamainst.org/about-2/history/ and the City Auditor’s website: www.portlandoregon.gov/archives/article/500898.

“The area is changing, and it will be important to rebuild trust and for residents to reach out to each other; to be welcoming,” she said.

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Budd lives in the Overlook area of North Portland. Reach her Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Alberta Main Street office (772 NE Alberta Street), email kenya@albertamainst.org or call (503) 683 – 3252.
WHO’s Making it WORK?
YOUR Neighborhood Association Volunteers

Garlynn G Woodsong
CNA Board Member: SW District 1
Chair: Land Use & Transportation Committee
Lives: With his partner Carrie, his son Nehalem, and cat Husca on NE 29th Ave, between Alberta & Killingsworth
Has lived in Concordia: Since 2012
Has lived in Portland: Since 1980. Though I have lived elsewhere, I felt comfortable serving as a LUTC chair in a different neighborhood, I felt comfortable stepping in on short notice. As I had previously served as a LUTC chair in a different neighborhood, I felt comfortable stepping in on short notice.
What inspired you to volunteer with CNA?

A little about Garlynn:
I graduated from PSU with a B.A. in Geography, and fell into Urban & Regional Planning while working for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) in the San Francisco Bay Area. I then worked for Calthorpe Associates, the pre-eminent regional planning firm. I moved back to Portland right after we had our son, as I wanted him to grow up an Oregonian and be near my family. With all the home demolitions, I was inspired to pursue building flats — an up-down triplex or quadplex instead of just a high-end single family house.
Currently I have two adaptive reuse projects underway. I hope to prove that demolitions can be avoided and additional housing created by turning a single-family home into flats. I am also a licensed Realtor, and would be happy to help any of my neighbors looking to buy, sell, or invest in real estate.

Your Neighborhood Association Volunteers

Alberta Main Street
announces June 6 deadline for VISTA volunteer application

Alberta Main Street is seeking an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer to serve August 2016 to August 2017. The VISTA position will also focus efforts on Equitable Alberta Street. The application deadline is June 6, 2016. Visit albertamainstreet.org to learn more and apply online.

Alberta Main Street is a nonprofit community and economic development organization that engages residents, small business and commercial property owners to seek community-based solutions to challenges by leveraging the resources within the community. Founded in 2010, Alberta Main Street advances efforts to develop Alberta Street as a vibrant, creative, equitable, and sustainable commercial district serving residents and visitors to the community.

PORTLAND HOUSING BUREAU LAUNCHES HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THOSE DISPLACED FROM N/NE

In May, the Portland Housing Bureau kicked off a housing program aimed at assisting longtime residents of N/NE Portland who experienced displacement — or are at risk now. Although a May application deadline has passed, there will be future opportunities to apply for home ownership assistance.

Recognizing that past City of Portland actions have marginalized and displaced many longtime residents of North and Northeast Portland, the PHB developed the Affordable Housing Preference Policy as a tool to prioritize impacted households for PHB housing opportunities in the area. Current and former residents of specific areas in N/NE Portland that were subject to high levels of urban renewal, and their descendants, are eligible to receive preference.

Whenever PHB housing in N/NE Portland becomes available, PHB will advertise an open application round for households to apply to receive preference for those openings. This will apply to rental apartments, ownership homes, and down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers.

Top priority will be given to households (and their descendants) who owned property that was taken by Portland City government—during the building of Memorial Coliseum or the expansion of Emanuel Hospital, for example. These are “priority status” households.

For more information, including how to apply for the next round of assistance, visit www.portlandoregon.gov/phb. The Portland Housing Bureau is an equal opportunity provider.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, INCLUDING HOW TO APPLY FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF ASSISTANCE, VISIT WWW.PORTLANDOREGON.GOV/PHB. THE PORTLAND HOUSING BUREAU IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER.

For more information, including how to apply for the next round of assistance, visit www.portlandoregon.gov/phb. The Portland Housing Bureau is an equal opportunity provider.

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June dragon street painting project brings beauty, community connections

This year’s street painting bonanza from June 3 - 12 will be the 16th annual Village Building Convergence put on by the City Repair Project. What started as a quirky idea in inner Southeast has turned into a city-wide movement and a source of pride, publicized around the world.

It is not simply about paint. Ours is a society in which individuals find themselves feeling increasingly isolated. We live in close proximity with people, but don’t know each other’s names. These street painting projects serve to bring neighbors together. Not only are these creative murals a thing of beauty that reflect the neighborhood’s spirit and add color to the dull asphalt of the concrete jungle – they are also a source of pride, notable landmarks, and symbols of unity and cooperation.

Last year, my block joined in the fun by creating the dragon on the corner of NE 32nd and Sumner avenues. Our community, led by art designer Taylor Nehrling, came together in planning sessions to discuss design and logistics. Soon, people who had merely waved to each other in passing were now breaking bread together.

After the initial stage, people went door-to-door, contacting everyone within the four affected blocks. In the week leading up to the big painting event, neighbors came out to clean the street, watch for traffic, and trace the design. It was truly a community project.

The weekend of the painting was sweltering and although there were likely a few sunburns, the lack of rain was perfect for painting. The worksite quickly became a festive two-day block party. Everyone helped as best they could. Kids played, adults shared food and drink, and everyone worked as a team. Even people from outside the core blocks stopped by to join in the merry work – the project acting as a magnet for the larger neighborhood.

“It was a perfect weekend of community building,” said Nehrling. “Everyone became a leader and worked together as a team to create something beautiful to claim where we live.”

Since the dragon’s painting, it has appeared on “Portlandia,” in European TV shows, and in numerous newspaper and Web articles. But most importantly it is what it means to the people who got involved and who now take pride in their work. Though it may not seem like much in the grand scheme of things, it is always good to add beauty to the world.

So if you are out and about at the beginning of June and you see someone painting a street, stop by, say “hello,” and pick up a brush.

“Special thanks to the Concordia Neighborhood Association and Mark Charlesworth for their generous financial support.”

Luke Griffin is a native of Northeast Portland. A committed social and environmental activist, he has written for numerous publications, dedicated time fighting for civil rights in housing, served on the CNA board, and utilized world-bridging communication and management skills for the positive betterment of society. He is currently a freelance writer and is completing his Masters of Teaching at Concordia University. Reach Luke by emailing lukeg003@gmail.com.
LUTC Mission

We made a first pass at identifying goals and objectives for the rest of the year and beyond:

- Establish Design Guidelines for residential and mixed use development.
- Encourage developers to comply with demo and construction codes and laws, and establish responsive communications with neighbors and the community.

Good Neighbor Agreements. Renew or create GNAs for:
- Concordia University’s on & off campus development plans, new buildings, parking, traffic, bicycle and pedestrian passage, and neighbor relations.
- As many area businesses as possible.

Transportation. Pursue actions to improve:
- Traffic safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles.
- Alleviation of increased parking.

Homelessness. Work to:
- Identify temporary “placement” locations and support resources.
- Promote community awareness and engagement.

Bighouse development

See Bighouse Redesign Team member Spencer Parsons’ article (next page) for the status of developer Brian Spencer’s response to the redesign recommendations resulting from his and CNA Chair Isaac Quiñones’ meeting with him that was facilitated by Concordia University CPO Denny Stoecklein. For current info, check the CNA website “Bighouse sidebar” at www.concordiapdx.org/tag/bighouse-project.

Residential demolitions

Nice to have some relatively good news to report on this front! On behalf of the nearby neighbors who received a demolition notice for the house at the SE corner of 37th and Killingsworth, I contacted developer Satterberg Construc tion to find they are using deconstruction to salvage many internal features and materials for use in the four “stand-alone” 2-story single family residence homes they’ll fit on the property’s R2 zoned lots totaling nearly 12,000 sq. ft. One house has a detached garage with the others integrated, and all have basements, 3 bedrooms, and 2 baths.

Not only do John and Brandy Satterberg, Portland natives who live in Hos ford Abernathy, specialize in building classic Portland bungalow style homes with quality construction designed to fit with surrounding older homes, but they are also meeting with the neighbors and a LUTC representative as part of their commitment to establish a positive relationship with the neighborhood throughout the year-long development.

Residential Infill Project

Public outreach meetings to get feedback on proposed residential zoning code updates to improve the scale of houses, narrow lot development, and alternative housing options are slated for June 13 – August 8. For schedule details and more info, see www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/67728, email julia.gisler@portland- oregon.gov, or call Jill at (503)823-7624.

Mixed Use Zoning Project

Though public testimony on the Mixed Use Zoning Draft closed May 24, comments on the resulting Composite Zoning Map can be submitted in writing and via the online Map App until the Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC) July 12 Hearing. See www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/article/572733, email julia.gisler@portland- oregon.gov, or call Jill at (503)823-7624.

Concordia residents are always welcome at CNA LUTC Meetings, 7pm every third Wednesday. The June 15 meeting will be in Room GRW 303 at Concordia University Library. For more info see the LUTC section of the CNA website at www.concordiapdx.org/category/land-use-livability, send your questions to landuse@concordiapdx.org, and email lutc_secretary@concordiapdx.org to get on the LUTC notification list.
OPINION: Will anything come to be at the Bighouse site except a residential ‘Big Box?’

Quick background

This past spring, I was part of a group of five neighborhood professionals – three architects, a developer, and a land use attorney (me) – who collaborated on behalf of the Concordia Land Use & Transportation Committee (LUTC) to address neighborhood concerns. Early in April, the LUTC submitted the ‘Bighouse Redesign Team’s’ considerations re: designing and carefully considered design changes intended to dramatically improve the building’s integration into the long-standing character of the Laning Row houses in the heart of Concordia – without negatively impacting its functionality or the project’s overall economics.

Problems with the proposed design

The most obvious shortcoming of the planned 4-story, 30 unit apartment building is that the design is totally tone-deaf in relation to the surrounding quaint yet vibrant “mini” commercial node.

First, though the lot is zoned “Commercial Storefront,” it provides a bare commercial area … compatible with the desired [storefront] character. It explicitly intends accommodating and fostering “a full range of retail, service and business uses with a local and regional market area” and that all new buildings are “pedestrian-oriented” and built with “a storefront character.”

What we asked for

While the Team determined the development, as proposed, does not progress the City’s vision for commercial use of this site, our list of suggested modest modifications sent by the LUTC to Mr. Spencer and Mr. Porter were prudently crafted to address the design shortcomings without going back to the proverbial drawing board.

The first and most significant item on our list requests conversion of the three ground-floor residential units to commercial use, or at least making them mixed use/live/work spaces, with separations and all ground-floor units face outward – some are residential, some commercial, and their use changes periodically as occupancy changes. Opening the Bighouse ground level units to the street would preserve future flexibility for commercial use. However, walling them off from the outside blocks the building from community integration, both literally and figuratively.

What the regulations say

Portland Zoning Code (PDC) 33.130 calls for new developments that “enhance the economic viability of the specific commercial district” and directs them to “preserve and enhance existing character of commercial areas … compatible with the desired [storefront] character.” It explicitly intends accommodating and fostering “a full range of retail, service and business uses with a local and regional market area” and that all new buildings are “pedestrian-oriented” and built with “a storefront character.”

As for the developers, they will have the cash and appreciate this plastic project. The only silver lining has been the planned 4-story, 30 unit apartment building is that the design is totally tone-deaf in relation to the surrounding quaint yet vibrant “mini” commercial node.

E veryone in Concordia has had the opportunity to watch a house torn down to make way for new houses, duplexes, and “skinnies,” for better and/or for worse. This is the continued chronicle of my personal experience.

The spaceship has landed

The finishing touches are now being put up or in. The outside, with the exception of the very limited yard area, is complete. Blinding white and a morose slate grey were the colors chosen, and the workers who painted it repeatedly joked about the bland choice.

To highlight its faux-modern looks, gaudy outdoor lighting floods down from the roof line making the building a cubist alien spaceship that landed mistakenly far from its square launch site.

One of the developers repeatedly leaves most of his lights on in the drapery, and careless lighting floods down from the roof line making the building a cubist alien spaceship that landed mistakenly far from its square launch site.

Excessive noise, sidewalk

Since the neighbors complained to the City about excessive off-hour construction noise two months ago, the noise is significant (I, of course, saw running after 8 p.m., split the evening silence with cement trucks chug out their loads at 7 a.m. many mornings of the week, for ostentatious change. Opening the Bighouse ground level units to the street would preserve future flexibility for commercial use. However, walling them off from the outside blocks the building from community integration, both literally and figuratively.

Final days

By early June, this two-headed monster will be on the market. The neighbors wonder who will move in. It certainly will not be working-class families, artists or displaced former residents. Each unit, with fake fireplaces and cement pad backyards, will sell for a half million dollars, excluding many buyers. Those who have the cash and appreciate this plastic grandeur of new Portland will likely not value green space, gardening, outdoor hanging out, or community interaction. They will be impressed by the chunky angles, the glaring sharpness, and the blinding lights.

Of course, if they are nice, the neighborhood will embrace them with little to no resentment, the long-time residents keeping the communal spirit alive.

As for the developers, they will have profited greatly on our neighborhood and given back almost nothing save for a two-year headache and an eyewore which will arrogantly stand forever as a gross representation of the selling out of our neighborhood, our city, our values and our quickly dying culture that put the good of the community before personal profit.

This native N.E. Portlandian also has a permanent reminder of his lost hometown right next door. Sadly, with thoughtful urban planning and reflected city regulations, it wouldn’t be this way.

Concerned? Here’s what to do

Contact Portland City Council, get involved with the neighborhood association, start a petition. The question is not if we change but how we change.

Luke Griffin is a native of North East Portland. A committed social and environmental activist, he has written for numerous publications, dedicated time fighting for civil rights in housing, served on the CNA board, and utilized world-bridging communication and management skills for the positive betterment of society. He is currently a freelance writer and is completing his Masters of Teaching at Concordia University. Reach Luke by emailing lukeg02@gmail.com.

OPINION: Diary of demolition & development: Part 8
The Cambridge English Dictionary describes gold dust as “a thing that is difficult to find or obtain.” Knowing that, the name of a shop recently opened near NE 30th & Alberta streets makes perfect sense. While housed in an intimately-sized space on the south side of the street, PDX Gold Dust purveys a significant treasure trove of fine but curious, creative and eclectic items sure to add a one-of-a-kind flair to a home or office.

“I’m really just a designer who happens to own power tools.”
—James Weter Co-owner, PDX Gold Dust

Face. It’s worth the trek to the Alberta Art District’s eastern edge to see what this small shop has to offer. Where else, for example, would one find a shimmering, pearlescent-blue taxidermied peacock, splendid at its full six foot length? Or a real bull’s skull, artfully painted in glossy black and gold by one of the shop’s talented proprietors? These items and more adorn the walls, seating areas and even the floor, where a soft-gray animal hide serves to anchor an intricately hand-carved and finely-finished wooden bench.

Like most of the items discovered or repurposed by the shops proprietors — Sarah King and James “Blest” Weter — the ornate bench, hauled from Vietnam by a friend, has a story. Visitors to the shop who have the time to linger will be regaled by entertaining tales of acquisition, art, craft and refurbishment.

Weter and King have been friends since their teen years, and are now business partners. Both have lived and worked on or around Alberta and NE Portland for many years. Weter previously owned Dandy Lions, which was just a few blocks down the street from PDX Gold Dust. Also a woodcrafter and artist whose abilities are showcased everywhere in the shop, Weter is humble. “I’m really just a designer who happens to own power tools,” he said with a laugh.

King has worked in retail and waitressed on Alberta for years, but it was a management stint at a NE Portland resale shop that inspired King to pair up with Weter to open PDX Gold Dust. The resale shop’s focus on sustainability and keeping things out of landfills is important to both Weter and King. So, opening their own store with a similar ethos and merchandise unique to their creative interests and talents was a natural.

For this dynamic duo, opening their own store is a dream two years in the making. It took them that long to find a space that was both available and affordable.

“We don’t have a one percenter’s budget,” Weter quipped.

The shop’s location near their respective homes has encouraged them to walk or ride their bikes to work each day; they both acknowledge the Alberta area is where they feel at home, and love to spend most of their time; driving is becoming a thing of the past.

“We don’t get out much,” laughed King.

Find PDX Gold Dust and its lively and welcoming proprietors at 3012 Alberta Avenue. The duo trade in one-of-a-kind vintage, new and repurposed home décor items. Merchandise ranges in price from $1 to $1,200. Photo by Carl Jameson

By Susan Trabucco CHA Media Team

Alberta’s PDX Gold Dust offers unique new, vintage and repurposed home décor items

Last year the average home in Concordia sold for $424,274.

What’s Your Home Worth in 2016?
GO TO:
www.ConcordiaHomePrices.com
AND INPUT YOUR INFO TO FIND OUT.

503.807.9911 charlesworthhomes@gmail.com

FIND PDX Gold Dust and its lively and welcoming proprietors at 3012 N.E. Alberta St. You’ll also find frequent updates on Facebook and Instagram, where new finds are posted. Hours of operation are Wed. - Sun., 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call (503) 288-4610 or visit www.pdxgolddust.com.

This bull’s skull for sale at PDX Gold Dust was artfully painted by one of the shop’s proprietors. Photo by Susan Trabucco

A blue, man-sized taxidermied peacock is a unique find at PDX Gold Dust, now open on Alberta Street. Photo by Susan Trabucco

Heart in Hand Preschool
Waldorf in the neighborhood since 2002
Now enrolling!
Gnome’s Home
Classes for Kids and their Kinfolk
This is the fourth of a four-part series about the early days of the Alberta business district, written by Northeast Portland neighborhood historian Doug Decker. To read more about the neighborhood's mom and pop grocery stores, visit Doug's blog: www.alamedahistory.org.

Picking up where we left off in Part 3, one of our favorite mom-and-pop grocery stores, at the northwest corner of NE 27th and Going, had risen from a vacant lot in the midst of the Alberta District's 1909 muddy streets, to a men's clothing store in 1911, to a vibrant neighborhood grocery run by a local family from 1921 to 1943.

But after years as a store, church, artist's studio, and run-down residence, deferred maintenance was catching up. So when it sold to a developer in 2002, the property was well on its way to becoming a vacant lot. Fortunately for the building, an adventurous fixer-upper couple - Chad Crouch and Sheryl Eckrich – bought it and brought it back to life.

"I was attracted to its unusual live-work facade which I thought was very handsome, unique, and proportionally graceful," remembers Crouch. But he also remembers that it was in very sorry shape. The southeast corner was rotted and sinking. The foundation and the floor of the store had to be completely replaced. The residential kitchen was a disaster.

While it had been almost 40 years since being an active retail store, Crouch and Eckrich found two clues, including a Franz Bread ad and the word "LIPTON'S" etched into window glass. Other than that, the store space held no clues to generations of retail activity.

"It was very spare: plaster walls and painted wood floors; florescent shop lighting; no original fixtures, stenciling, or noteworthy mouldings. There was a wood stove taking up a lot of floor space," said Crouch.

Crouch and Eckrich invested sweat-equity and financial capital in the restoration, and did so in a creative way.

"We used some of the original wood flooring in a step-up elevated dining platform and perimeter bench in the main room. It turned out to be more work than it was probably worth, as the planks had been compressed by traffic patterns of 100 years of foot traffic. Some hand-planing was required to work out the refinishing. We put up salvaged tin ceiling tiles on the new span joists we ran to accommodate a master bedroom in the 1/2 story above," Crouch explained.

Chad and Sheryl have done a great service to the future and to the past with their careful, thoughtful restoration. The Smythes, the Coulters and the other proprietors—plus the generations of families and neighbors who bought their groceries and necessities here—would definitely recognize the building and think it’s in fine shape for being 106 years old.

Today, Alberta’s bungalow-grocery is an attractive and vibrant old building that serves as a kind of time capsule for the neighborhood, showing just how nicely old buildings can be restored and repurposed instead of razed and replaced. In a neighborhood where change is the common denominator, this success story holds hope for the future.
If life is change, moving is health!

Do you know someone who is (or are you) a creature of habit? Most of us are; we live out a combination of choices in patterns of movement, in our bodies and minds, enforced by life, jobs, family, emotions, and injuries. We follow the same paths, think the same thoughts, choose the same reactions, and adopt the same postures at work. No wonder some of our massage clients come in with the same areas bothering them session after session, wondering why massage is not helping them feel better for more than just a few days or a week at a time.

Have you ever noticed that when you go on vacation you stop hurting in the usual places? In part, this is due to the fact that you have changed the physical structures and habits that have been reinforcing, and the body starts to let go of the patterns your usual places? In part, this is due to the fact that you have changed the physical structures and habits that have been reinforcing, and the fact that you have changed the physical structures and habits that have been reinforcing, and the

“Think of your life as a supporting structure.”

For great taste, grow organic cucumbers

Cucumbers are a favorite warm season edible for the home gardener. A cucumber harvested at the peak of freshness from the summer garden is hands down better than any cucumber you will ever get from the grocery store.

Growing cucumbers in Portland is relatively easy if you plant them at the right time. Cucumbers need ground temperature of 60-65 degrees and night air temperature of at least 55 degrees. Typically in Portland this is mid-May to early June. If the weather is not warm and dry, the cucumbers will fall prey to the dreaded powdery mildew. The leaves will develop crispy brown edges. Powdery mildew is a fungal disease that flourishes in the summer in Portland. During the growing season you can prevent powdery mildew by spacing your plants appropriately to provide good air circulation. Water the soil, not the plant, by using a watering wand, drip irrigation or soaker hose. If you use overhead watering the fungal disease easily spreads by splashing from leaf to leaf and soil to soil. Practice crop rotation and in the fall clean up all plant debris.

Compost has long been recognized by organic gardeners for promoting overall garden health. Beyond stimulating plant growth, compost and compost tea can actually fight off diseases by inoculating plants with beneficial organisms like bacteria, yeasts and fungi. These tiny organisms are beneficial if they form a physical barrier against pathogens, or if they effectively compete with or attack the plant pathogens. To prevent powdery mildew on cucumber plants, apply compost tea to your garden soil and as a foliar spray on cucumber leaves at 2-3 week intervals beginning at planting time; you can find garden tea at some area nurseries. Garden on Portland!

For more information: joleandomo-hue.com
STEAM-powered robots investigated at Vernon School fair

The Vernon Elementary School STEAM fair on May 10 highlighted the work of students from kindergarten through 8th grade. The hallways were covered with class projects, and the gym was filled with tri-fold displays of student-led, science-based investigations. It was the fourth year for the popular event where robots were the main attraction – from found-object art pieces to mobile components.

Jennifer Hulford Odell, one of the event’s organizers, "So, if you are trying to design a robot you will use all of the different components." Anna Macfhir, art teacher, noted that "The kids really enjoy it, they take ownership of their projects," said Black. "They seem really proud about what they've done. And the number of people who showed up tonight is overwhelming because it shows all the support that they have for this program." Carl Jameson is a writer/director/ videographer at Craftmaster Productions, a creative media company. He’s lived in Concordia since 2004. Email him at: carlj@craftmasterpro.com.

A student explains his work with sugar crystals at the STEAM fair held recently at Vernon Elementary School. The displays showcased their use of the scientific method by asking a question, generating a hypothesis, solid observation and careful reporting. Photo by Carl Jameson

Favorite tricks for good behavior

At our daycare, guiding the children requires discipline. I’ve learned the hard way that some methods can backfire while others teach a lasting skill.

Your child is doing something they shouldn’t be doing. Instead of whatever you’re saying that isn’t working, try this: “When you do that it shows me that (this scenario) isn’t working. Is that right?”

For example: “When you ignore me when you’re playing dolls, it shows me that the dolls are too distracting and need to be put away. Is that right?”

This works two ways. One, it offers the child a choice. If he or she is being absent-minded, it provides an opportunity to refocus. If the child chooses to be contrary, then the consequence has been clear that you mean business and will follow through, without shaming or negative "problem" behavior and using these solutions over and over gives parents a quick ‘go-to’ solution and teaches their children what to expect. Consistency and empathy not only diminish "wild care" behavior, but also build a lasting bridge between you and your child. How to thrive in a relationship with children, please feel free to contact roomtotgrowportland@gmail.com.
Cully Farmers Market on 42nd Avenue

Thursdays, starting in June
Every Thursday, 4pm–8pm.
June – August. 4pm–7pm in September.
Local produce, food vendors, live entertainment, crafts, activities for kids. Up to $10 match for SNAP recipients.
5011 NE 42nd Ave @ Alberta St. (In the parking lots of Old Salt & Roses.)
Call (503) 912-9830 or visit www.cullyfarmersmarket.org

Columbia Slough Watershed Events

¡Explorando el Columbia Slough!

June 11, 1pm–5pm.
11 de Junio de 1pm–5pm.
Para encontrar información sobre este evento en español, visite www.columbiaslough.org/events/event/139

Whitaker Ponds Nature Park
7040 NE 47th Ave, Portland, OR 97218

Celebrate nature in the city and the environment of the Columbia Slough! This bilingual environmental event offers activities in Spanish and English for all ages. Explorando is free, and includes guided canoe trips, live music, folk dancing, storytelling, arts & crafts, workshops, and more! The first 200 visitors receive a free Explorando t-shirt.

Interested in volunteering? We need your help! Visit our Volunteer Registration page to learn more or contact Volunteer Coordinator Hanna Davis at hanna.davis@columbiaslough.org or call (503) 281-1132.

Tadpole Tales
Mondays in June, 10-11 a.m.

Children aged 3-5 with their parents are invited to a short story and guided nature walk every Monday May through June. Watch birds fly overhead, search for macroinvertebrates, and smell the scents of trees and flowers.

Event runs rain or shine, and families are welcome to bring a snack.

$3 admission/donation per child, no charge for adults.

Monday, June 6: Children’s Arboretum
10040 NE 6th Drive
Portland, OR 97211

Monday, June 13
Whitaker Ponds Nature Park
7040 NE 47th Ave
Portland, OR 97218

Monday, June 20
16650 NE Airport Way
Portland, OR 97210

Monday, June 27
Kelley Point Park
N Kelley Point Park Road
Portland, OR 97203

Questions? Contact Jennifer Starkey at (503)281-1132 or email jennifer.starkey@columbiaslough.org

www.columbiaslough.org

Alberta Street Gallery
May 26 – June 29

Anomalies II - Art from Maquette: Thy tongue is in the cheek
Maquette is known for her acrylic paintings based on poor photography with a quirky sense of humor. The results are unexpected and attention grabbing art that deviates from the normal order of things.

2724 NE Alberta Street
(503) 280-6329

Guardiano Gallery
May 26–June 28

MAIN GALLERY
Karen Croner creates mixed media animal sculptures. Her current work is inspired by old folk tales and fables. Each piece is her interpretation of forces and emotions that drive those stories: mystery and menace, loyalty and betrayal, mischief and humor.

Gay Freedorn will be presenting oil painting of animals and their relationship with man and each other. She has two series: Love Story and Odd Couples. In Love Story the human/animal bond is explored. With Odd Couples two seemingly incompatible animals are put together.

FEATURE AREA
Yelena Roslaya creates exquisite ceramic donut configurations to explore glazes and the sculpture form. The donut shapes are slip-cast and are stacked vertically to facilitate experiment with glazes pored on them.

Kelli MacConnell’s chosen medium is lino-cut, relief printmaking. Her current body of work focuses on the expansive, diverse environment of the Pacific Northwest landscape in black and white. 2939 NE Alberta St Portland OR 97211 (503) 281-9048

Ties that Bind: Grandparents who Parent “Social”

June 14, TUES., 2pm.
Ties That Bind is a monthly program developed to support grandparents (and other non-parent family members) who are raising grandchildren. Ties That Bind provides participants with a rotating lineup of experts on issues of interest to grandparents. In addition, peer support is available during sharing time, as is information about available resources. Veteran program members have the opportunity to volunteer as community navigators for other grandparents.

On Tues., June 14, Starts at 2pm.
Grandparents and their grandchildren will be hosted at a summer social in the Community Room of George White Library at Concordia University. Meet people who can offer support and guidance and others raising grandchildren. No formal agenda is planned for this event - just an opportunity for a fun and supportive social environment. Refreshments will be provided. For more information email kwilson@jfrfoundation.org or call (503) 408-4088.

Lead Poisoning Prevention Workshop
Free workshop where participants learn how to prevent lead exposure in their home. For households with children or pregnant women in housing older than 1978, or those concerned about lead exposure. Qualified participants receive a free kit of safety and testing supplies.
Register for the workshop at www.communityenergyproject.org or call 503.284.6827 x109.

Thurs, June 9, 6-7:30pm
Library, 385 NW Miller Ave, Gresham

Tues, June 14, 6–7:30pm
Community Energy Project - 2900 SE Stark St, Suite A, Portland

Mon, June 27, 6-7:30pm.
Gregory Heights Library, 7921 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland

Lead-Safe Home Projects Workshop
Before any demo, scraping, sanding, or remodeling in pre-1978 housing, check out this class! Great for people who want to do a small project that may involve exposure to lead paint, such as sanding down an old window frame or a reused door with potential lead paint, or a small construction project in an older home. Register for the workshop at www.communityenergyproject.org or call 503.284.6827 x109.

Sat, June 4, 10:30am-12pm
Southeast Portland Tool Library
1137 SE 20th Ave Portland

Tues, June 21, 6-7:30pm
Community Energy Project
2900 SE Stark St, Suite A, Portland

Concordia U. hosts Free Summer Events & Camps
Concordia University will host a series of free, public events on its Portland, Ore. campus at 2811 N.E. Holman St., For a full list of events visit www.cu-portland.edu/events.

Free community library cards and Saturday story times for children are available throughout the summer at Concordia University’s George R. White Library & Learning Center, 2800 NE Liberty St. in Portland. The library’s summer hours are Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Summer athletic camps are also available through Concordia University Athletics. For information about soccer, baseball, softball, basketball, and volleyball camps, visit www.goccuco.com.

Summer Story Time
Saturdays in June
10:30-11:30 a.m. (June 4, 11, 18 & 25)

Children of all ages and their parents are invited to drop in for a free summer story time at Concordia University’s George R. White Library & Learning Center in the Jody Thornton Northwest Center for Children’s Literature.

Alberta Street Theatre
June 2016

PORTLAND YOUTH JAZZ ORCHESTRA WITH THE SHANGHAI WOOLIES
TUCK & PATTI + ADLAI ALEXANDER
BACK FENCE PDO + MAINSTAGE FLIRTING WITH DISASTER
CARRIE RODRIGUEZ
JOE PURDY + GARRISON STARR
THE MYSTERY BOX SHOW
LLOYD COLE
ROBBEN FORD
ROY ROGERS & THE DELTA RHYTHM KINGS
TERRY EVANS + SAMSEL
SCIENCE ON TAP
EVERY BRAIN NEEDS MUSIC
NEUROSCIENCE, PERFORMANCE, & MUSIC
EDNA VAZQUEZ + THE VILLALOBOS BROTHERS
siren nation presents
11TH ANNUAL DOLLY PARTON HOOT NIGHT
W/ Willie nelson + gelee haggard band + mama casa + the dolly palace + more!
CHAMBER MUSIC NORTHWEST SUMMER FESTIVAL PERCUSSION & PIANO

Neighborhood Events