Don’t miss June 23-25 yard sale

The countdown is on for the Concordia Neighborhood Association 19th Annual Yard Sale. For a map, visit ConcordiaPDX.org/yard-sale after June 17.

It isn’t too late to register your yard sale in this neighborhood-wide event. See details on Page 6. If you don’t want to hold your own yard sale, you can experience just as much fun visiting the yards of your neighbors.

CNA Mission Statement
To connect Concordia residents and businesses—inform, educate and report on activities, issues and opportunities of the neighborhood.

Concordia News
is a free monthly publication of the Concordia Neighborhood Association. Newspapers are delivered to all residences and many community locations in the Concordia neighborhood.

Concordia News is printed on 40% post-consumer or better paper, manufactured at a local mill.

Join thousands of others in Concordia for a fun, family-friendly celebration of bicycle culture as Pedalpalooza returns for its 19th year.

Pedalpalooza offers 230 rides

Riding bare as you dare in a sea of other naked bike riders happens once every June during Pedalpalooza. The World Naked Bike Ride highlights the importance and vulnerability of people on bikes in the U.S. oil-centric culture.

The June 24 event—which begins this year at Fernhill Park—is also the biggest event of more than 230 free organized bike rides held during Portland’s month-long Pedalpalooza, an annual family-friendly celebration of bicycle delight.

In fact, the Concordia neighborhood is featured in a June 18 ride led by neighborhood residents Kirk Paulsen and Erinne Goodell, exploring the back alleys of northeast Portland.

“Something important to know going into Pedalpalooza, is that you’ll likely rest as much as you ride,” Kirk explained. “Many rides operate on ‘bike time,’ where the rides don’t usually start until 15 minutes or more after the scheduled time of departure.”

“Of course there are rides led by local bike shops and organizations that operate strictly on schedule,” Erinne added. “But generally, there’s as much socializing as bicycling to be found.”

Like the rides planned by Erinne and Kirk, all of Pedalpalooza’s themed rides are organized by individuals throughout the Portland and Vancouver metro areas. Find the schedule on Pedalpalooza.org. There are fast rides and slow rides, costumed rides, and rides that involve plenty of noise and bright lights. Some show off specialized bikes, like folding or cargo bikes, and others dare people to get lost in the city at midnight.

Rides come in all shapes and sizes, always offering something for everyone. Some teach how to maintain bikes, or to advocate for safer streets. BikeLoudPDX, a local grassroots advocacy group, leads advocacy and protest rides, like demonstrating against widening I-5 near the Rose Quarter.

Pedalpalooza started in 2003 as an offshoot of Bike Summer, during which Portland adopted its own version of the World Naked Bike Ride. Both were organized, international events similar to Critical Mass, in which people on bikes rode together through city streets to bring attention to the need for safe bicycle lanes and parking, and to celebrate the joy of biking.

Pedalpalooza is now facilitated by shift, a grassroots, volunteer-led bike-fun community formed during Bike Summer. Members strive to demonstrate the value of bicycling through activities that are fun, free, inclusive and, in this case, great for kicking off summer.

Riley, certified EIT, works in land development and site engineering, and can be reached at RSOboyer3@gmail.com

Look for Last Thursday resurgence June 29

This summer’s Last Thursday celebrations may not look like they did in the original free performance era. But new management—and this year will prohibit music amplification—is confident of a resurgence that encourages artists, performers and families to interact.

This year’s first event is Thursday, June 29, on Alberta Street between 15th and 30th avenues. It repeats July 27 and Aug. 31. Admission is free.

In previous years, Last Thursday events had become among the largest gatherings in Portland. According to the city, complaints about the event have gone down 85 percent in the past two years, and a survey last August found the largest percentage of attendees live in the neighborhood.

The city will continue to provide a first aid station, port-a-potties, signage, security and garbage/recycling containers, and this year will prohibit music amplifiers.

Greg Raisman, Portland Bureau of Transportation Livable Streets Program specialist, manages the event this year. “Last Thursday will include more interactive art activities for families, information from community organizations, and a Native American village with handmade art and storytelling,” he said. For more information, contact him at 503.823.1052 or Greg.Raisman@portlandoregon.gov.

Jeff, a former CNews editor, provides Last Thursday expertise to the city.

Farmer’s market opens June 1

Cully Farmers Market is open Thursdays, June through September.

See Page 4

Churches offer sanctuary

Churches in and near Concordia offer more than shelter.

See Page 9

The concerts are coming

Colectivo Son Jarocho de Portland performs in the Fernhill Concert Series.

See Page 12
African Americans are refugees in own country

We hear a lot about refugees. In this country, a different kind of refugee exists — a people who fled persecution to save their lives and earn a decent living. These people, however, fled one home WITHEN the United States to another in, presumably, a better part of our country.

According to the book “The Warmth of Other Sones” by Isabel Wilkerson, 5 million African-Americans fled the South between 1915 and 1960 because of the misery and unfairness, and the discriminatory economic, education, and judicial systems.

They headed north and west in search of better lives for themselves and future generations. They became refugees within their own country.

Many who came to our northeast neighborhoods moved out of crowded northwest Portland. In response, the newer white neighborhoods of east Portland adopted restrictive covenants, effectively confining black eastside home seekers to Albina.

Portland adopted restrictive covenants, effectively denying black homeownership rights. The 1936 Portland City Plan, for example, set racial zoning policies. These policies prevented black homeowners from moving into white neighborhoods, even if they were willing to pay the same prices.

In 1940, the largest population of African Americans lived in the Albina neighborhood of Portland, Oregon. The area was home to many African American workers, including those employed in the defense industry. However, in the 1950s, African Americans began to move out of Albina, seeking better living conditions and more opportunities.

The PDC offered favorable loans to homebuyers and business owners — mostly of them young and white — who were attracted to the remaining Victorian homes. Home values in Albina rose dramatically, driving out lower-income, mostly black renters and homeowners.

Many who came to our northeast neighborhoods moved out of crowded northwest Portland. In response, the newer white neighborhoods of east Portland adopted restrictive covenants, effectively confining black eastside home seekers to Albina. Gangs came in and so did absentee landlords, unemployment, drugs and violence.

Removal of the black population from Albina set the stage for many of the problems that exist in the neighborhood today.

In the 1990s the city began to revitalize Albina. The PDC offered favorable loans to homebuyers and business owners — mostly of them young and white — who were attracted to the remaining Victorian homes. Home values in Albina rose dramatically, driving out lower-income, mostly black renters and homeowners.

Today, gentrification of Portland’s eastside continues to take a toll on Albina’s black population. The neighborhood that was 68 percent black in 1990 was just 28 percent in 2010. If this trend continues, where does that leave black Portlanders in 20 years?

Forced out of their homes once again, African Americans continue to be refugees in their own country and city. Together, can we find a better ending for this continuing sad story?
Wolf mural watches passersby

The gray wolf stares at passersby over the shoulder of the elk he brought down, while his pups look on. He’s looking out of a mural painted on a corrugated metal wall of the Alleyway Bar at 2415 N.E. Alberta St.

The mural was painted in 2013 by Portland artist, printmaker and writer Roger Peet with Mexico artist and printmaker Mazatal. They are among 29 members of the artists cooperative Justseeds.org who create art and graphics across North America in support of social and environmental movements.

The wolf was named OR-7 in 2011 by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, after radio collars were attached to several wolves in northeastern Oregon. In that migration study, he became the first wild wolf documented in western Oregon since 1946 and the first in California since 1924.

He was named Journey by the press, fans and moviegoers after he migrated 1,000 miles from the Wallowa Mountains into northern California and then the Rogue Valley. By 2015 he had mated, sired seven cubs and was featured in a film that debuted in the Hollywood Theatre.

His collar’s battery expired in late 2016, and he was last spotted in April 2016 by a trail camera in Siskiyou National Forest.

“His voyage and his determination are great symbols for the efforts to return wild wolf populations to the West, and in turn to help to bring back some of the stability and biodiversity that top predators create,” the Portland muralist said.

CNA Board bullets

The Concordia Neighborhood Association (CNA) Board meeting June 9 resulted in an announcement, formation of two committees and the decision to submit a letter to the city of Portland.

• The board announced the general membership meeting is Tuesday, June 13, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room. All residents, landowners and business owners are invited to attend to hear updates about their neighborhood and their community association.

• The CNA Safety & Livability Committee was formed with Donn Dennis, Isham “Ike” Harris and Truls Neal serving as liaisons between the committee and the board. Committee members from the community are needed. For details, contact Donn at AL2@ConcordiaPDX.org, Ike at NW1@ConcordiaPDX.org or Truls at AL5@ConcordiaPDX.org.

• The CNA Community Room Committee was formed. Members are Steve Elder, Amelie Marian, Truls Neal, Chris Lopez and Jody Pollak.

• The board also decided to submit a letter to the Portland Bureau of Planning & Sustainability regarding the ongoing city-wide Off-Road Cycling Master Plan process. The board is requesting that Fernhill Park be considered as a potential site for a family- and bicycle-friendly facility, perhaps in conjunction with a community center long desired by the neighborhood.
Farmers market opens June 1 for 4 months

By Alexey Moore
Manager, Cully Farmers Market

Come hang out at the Cully Farmers Market and support a lively rural scene in an urban setting. Meet and support the farmers of the Cully neighborhood, and enjoy the eclectic music featured in this season’s band lineup.

The market starts Thursday, June 1, at 42nd Avenue and Alberta Street. It runs every Thursday through September. Hours are 4 - 8 p.m. in June, July and August, and 4 - 7 p.m. in September. For details, visit CullyFarmersMarket.org or call 520.730.9701.

If you happen to grow food, or if you are a local artisan with handmade goods and products to sell, there are affordable booths and spaces available. If you’d like to meet your neighbors and try out selling your wares, you may sign up for a spot at our free community table.

If you find yourself with an over-abundance of fruits and veggies in your garden, you can drop off produce donations on market day. All sales will go to support the Neighbor Voucher Program, which provides free Cully Farmers Market tokens to families that can’t easily afford groceries.

The market is also looking for community members interested in leading workshops and activities. A free booth or tent can be provided for anyone who would like to lead a workshop related to food and/or health.

Letter to the editor
Front page story was wrong on so many levels

To the editor:
I always read the Concordia News and find it helpful in one way or another, so appreciate the work you do. But I have to say that the front page article of the paper that arrived yesterday — “Tyler’s make mortgage doable” — struck me as wrong on so many levels.

First, it presents Airbnb as all good and almost recommends it as a way for (mostly white) people to solve their economic shortfall.

Secondly, it purports to be part of a series on housing challenges and solutions in Concordia, but people turning possible long-term rentals for Portland residents into short-term rentals for people from out of town is not a solution to housing challenges in Portland or Concordia.

Thirdly, for me, it seems insensitive to highlight a white family who could almost afford to move into the Concordia neighborhood, when so many families of color have been kicked out, excluded or have no hope of buying into a home in Concordia, especially since this used to be a very diverse neighborhood.

My complaint is not about what the Tylers are doing in particular, it’s about Concordia News highlighting and implicitly endorsing what they do as a “solution” for housing challenges in a neighborhood that was historically diverse.

When you put this article on the front page as part of a series on housing solutions, you were indicating that you thought it was the most important news, a solution to housing for Portland residents and a good thing.

I just don’t agree and was offended by it.

Opinions expressed by this writer do not necessarily reflect the views of Concordia Neighborhood Association. Deadline is the 10th of the month prior to publication. Please contact CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org earlier to discuss space limitations.

— Chiquita Rollins

28th ANNUAL YOUTH SOCCER CAMPS

“Our curriculum encourages fundamental skills, cooperation, and creativity. Our camp environment is upbeat, fun, and positive, yet challenging.”

— D. Birkey,
Camp Director and Concordia Men’s Soccer Head Coach

YOUTH CAMP A
June 19 – 23, 2017
Boys & Girls, Ages 5 – 14

YOUTH CAMP B
July 10 – 14, 2017
Boys & Girls, Ages 5 – 14

YOUTH CAMP C
July 24 – 28, 2017
Boys & Girls, Ages 5 – 14

YOUTH CAMP D
July 31 – August 4, 2017
Boys & Girls, Ages 5 – 14

All camps will be held at the Concordia University HILKEN COMMUNITY STADIUM, TUOMINEN YARD 2715 NE Liberty, Portland, OR

Register Today: cu-portland.edu/concordia-youth-soccer-camps

OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF CONCORDIA CAMPS

Register Today: cu-portland.edu/concordia-youth-soccer-camps
Make tree decisions with eye to distant future

The Concordia Tree Team has been quietly advocating for the preservation and propagation of our neighborhood’s urban forest since 2010. Members Barbara Wharton, Lizzy Hildebrand and Jim Gersbach are Concordia neighbors who serve as ambassadors for our diverse and beloved street trees. “Everybody loves trees,” said Lizzy.

Driven by interest in greening our neighborhood, in cooperation with Portland Parks & Recreation and the Portland Urban Forestry Commission, our Concordia Tree Team pioneered the first completed neighborhood tree inventory in Portland in 2010.

The data from that inventory tells us we have more than 4,000 individual street trees in the Concordia neighborhood, but just 10 tree types make up 70 percent of those trees. With 10 percent of our existing trees in poor health and development often removing mature existing trees – as well as extensive yet unplanted residential spaces – there are many opportunities for selecting new trees to balance our treescapes.

Decisions on new trees should be made thoughtfully, with an eye toward the distant future, rather than the immediate gratification of ornamental choices for street trees. In Concordia include flowering trees like cherry, crabapple, pear and plum. However, Barbara explained, “While these can be good choices for some planting opportunities, many have a short life span, offer limited support for wildlife, and will never shade a 3-story house.”

Instead she encourages planting trees best suited for the planting location. In large planting strips large trees such as many oaks, for example, create long-term healthier habitat for humans as well, by helping to lower to peak summer temperatures, reduce energy costs, and reducing air pollution.

The Tree Team has successfully established new pockets of diverse tree plantings, including the thriving International National Grove at 42nd Avenue and Lombard Street, and a 31-tree (and counting) grove at Alliance High School that recently achieved Learning Landscape Status.

The Ainsworth Linear Arboretum, spanning 30 blocks of Ainsworth Street east of MLK Boulevard, was the inspiration of Jim Gersbach, who leads tours of the greenway spring through late fall.

The arboretum continues to expand its collection with new trees planted regularly. The Concordia team also seeks to recognize Portland Heritage Trees in our neighborhood, nominating unique specimens for recognition by the city council for their size, age, and historical or horticultural significance. We have three such trees in our neighborhood, identified by plaques, listed in the Portland Heritage Tree database and protected by the Urban Forestry Commission.

There are many opportunities to join the Concordia Tree Team’s work in promoting these valuable assets. Volunteer to participate in the tree inventories planned for Alberta and Wilsieh parks this year, assist in watering young trees in the neighborhood, and help spread the word about planting projects via social media and in person meetings.

Come to a monthly meeting at New Seasons Concordia at 6 p.m. the first Thursday of every month – that’s June 1 and July 1 for the next meetings – or email Barbara at BarbaralWharton@yahoocom.

Land use, transportation & livability update

This information provided by
Mark Charlesworth, Concordia resident & Broker Keller Williams, Portland Central.
charlesworthhomes@gmail.com • 503.807.9911

by Alix Nevak
CHB Board Member

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June 2017 | Page • 5

What’s Selling in Concordia?

180 Homes sold in RMLS in last 12 months as of May 12th

4.0% Increase since 2016

2016 Average Sale Price: $469,377

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4.0% Increase since 2016

2016 Average Sale Price: $469,377

Avg. Days on Market:............................... 23
Avg. Cumulative Days on Market .................. 23
Median Days on Market: ......................... 21
Median Cumulative Days on Market ............. 7
Average square feet: ......................... 2,041
Median square feet: ................................ 2,092

Average List: ...................................... $473,397
Median List: ....................................... $446,950
Average List $ per square foot: ................... $223
Median Sold $ per square foot: ................... $240

Average Sale Price: ........................... $469,013

Words escape you all the time? You think....

• Newsletters & Annual Reports
• Press Releases & Ad Copy
• Feature & Fun Stuff!
• Message Development
• Design Direction

Former business journal owner, editor & publisher.
I get business!

susan@trabucco.biz • trabucco.biz • 503.340.7732

Land use, transportation & livability update

The intent of HB 2007 is to create more affordable housing. Amendments crafted in response to the bill are well intentioned, yet counterproductive and take a “one size fits all” statewide approach. Promoted by 1000 Friends of Oregon, those amendments would turn back the clock on other state and local goals. The amended bill could be intentionally, yet counterproductive.

Visit VisitAHC.org for the Architectural Heritage Center’s helpful summary. BPS (Better Planning & Sustainability) has scheduled two follow-on workshops. Pushed by developers looking to expand their building scope before the expiration of important buildings and spaces which shape the unique character of all Oregon communities.

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Concordia residents are always welcome at CNA LUTC meetings, every third Wednesday – except December – at 7 p.m. in the McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room. For more information, visit ConcordiaPDX.org/category/land-use-livability, send your questions to LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org, or email LUTC_Secretary@ConcordiaPDX.org to join the LUTC notification list.

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CNA 19TH ANNUAL YARD SALE

Friday–Sunday, June 23–25

Follow these simple steps to participate:
• Register with the coupon below or electronically.
• Gather all your unwanted items.
• Display those items in your yard June 23-25.
• Fill out a deposit slip and head to the bank June 26.

Register by Wednesday, June 14, to be on that map. Late registrants will have their addresses posted only in the electronic version published on ConcordiaPDX.org, Facebook and on Nextdoor.com.

Your packet is available to pick up after 1 p.m. Sunday, June 18, at 5252 N.E. 32nd Ave. If it’s still there Wednesday, June 21, it will be delivered to your address.

Register:
P
• Complete and mail/deliver to the address listed in the coupon below.
• Don’t forget to insert a $7 check in the envelope.

Electronically
• Email the information requested in the coupon below to ShareBearU@yahoo.com or text it to 503.706.8176.
• Visit ConcordiaPDX.org/yard-sale to make your $7 payment through PayPal.

Questions? Email Sharon Griffin, yard sale coordinator, at ShareBearU@yahoo.com, or text her at 503.706.8176.

CNA Yard Sale Registration

Name: ___________________________
Address: ________________________
Phone: ___________________ Cell: __________________
Email: _______________________

Indicate days you will participate in the sale:

☐ Friday, June 23
☐ Saturday, June 24
☐ Sunday, June 25

Enclose a check for $7, payable to Concordia Neighborhood Association, mail/deliver to: Sharon Griffin
5252 N.E. 32nd Ave., Portland, OR 97211

The old is made new by local upcycling pro

Loal crafter and ingenious upcycler Mari Bartoo Jacobson of The Make House’s Rutabaga Redesign is preparing to shop the June 23–25 Concordia Neighborhood Association Annual Yard Sale. She’ll be looking for inspiring objects, doodads and diamonds in the rough.

What’s upcycling? It’s the process of bringing new, useful and often beautiful life to old, discarded materials. It’s the embodiment of the idea that “One person’s garbage is another’s treasure.”

Q: Why do you do what you do?
A: I’ve always been keenly aware of our often ugly impact on the environment around us while, at the same time being deeply enamored of the beauty we can bring to light. I endeavor to turn what would otherwise become part of a landfill into something new and interesting.

Q: How did you become interested in upcycling?
A: My dad was a carpenter when I was young, and I remember always feeling empowered to build things: tree houses, a rubber band gun, a marimba—those are a few of the things I built with my dad. In my family there was a lot of emphasis placed on “walking lightly on the earth.” So what I do now feels like a beautiful outgrowth of those opportunities and values I was given growing up.

Q: Where do you do your work?
A: I have a workshop space in The Make House at 1732 N.E. Alberta St. Six other artists and I have workspace in the building, and I also curate a retail space on the main floor called Rutabaga Redesign. My shop features local, handcrafted work from over 50 different artists and craft people, myself included.

Q: Explain the name.
A: Rutabaga Redesign is the name simply because I really like how it rolls off the tongue. Say it out loud. Isn’t that fun?

Carrie is a Concordia resident and lives on 29th Avenue. As a freelance writer with a penchant for poetic prose, she 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 Ward-Gurl@gmail.com.

Time is running out to fund the Fernhill Concert Series

The Fernhill Concert Series is only a month away and Concordia Neighborhood Association is still short $5,500 of the $20,000 needed to pay the topnotch performers. (See Page 12 for the list.)

There are four ways to help:
• Make a donation on behalf of yourself or your family online or by mailing a check. For instructions on both, visit ConcordiaPDX.org/concerts.
• If you work for an employer that matches your charitable donations, make your donation and then apply at work for that match.
• If you own or manage a business, become a sponsor. You’ll not only make a big difference in your community, but your business will receive plenty of publicity and appreciation. For details, contact Chariti Montez, concert production manager, at Concerts@PortlandOregon.gov or 503.823.5059.
• Help the series fundraisers. The most vital volunteer role in putting together the concert series is soliciting donations to pay for it. Email Katie Ugolini at KTUgolini@gmail.com for details.
Compost tea is well known these days as a DIY garden amendment. Most people assume the benefits come from the nutrient content of the tea, but the real reason to make your own fresh compost tea is for the millions of beneficial microbes and fungi that recharge soil life.

This can save your plants the stress of fighting off soil pathogens, and improves access to the nutrition already in your soil.

I first came across compost tea through a friend who brewed it in a giant tank in her basement! She would make batches on demand when her gardener clients wanted some fresh tea sprayed on their yearning plantings.

The before and after shots I saw were incredible. Imagine a magical, natural elixir for most of your plants’ ailments.

Imagine a magical, natural elixir for most of your plants’ ailments.

Microbes in fresh, aerated compost tea can turn any depleted urban soil into a living treasure box of luscious greenery. Getting to the heart of it, here’s what you’ll need to make some leaf-smacking good compost tea for you, your friends and neighbors:

• One 5-gallon bucket (find it at food shops/bakeries)
• 20 – 100 gallon aquarium air pump, with two silicone hoses and air stones (it’s easy to find these all sold together for $20 or less)
• An old tube sock, small burlap sack or mesh bag to serve as a “tea bag” large enough to hold 1 - 2 cups of compost
• Fresh, cool and damp compost from your own pile or that of a friend
• Water (let chlorine evaporate for 24 hours)

For a great description of how to brew your own compost tea, my favorite video is on YouTube, called “How to Brew Compost Tea in a 5 Gallon Bucket to Enrich Your Garden.”

Enjoy a healthier and happier garden by teaming with nature!

Pete is an ecological landscape designer at Blossom. A love of beneficial plants and regenerative practices drives his desire to create productive living systems for urban homeowners and community groups. Reach him at 503.837.3857 or BlossomEarthworks.com.

Tapping stimulates energy flow

In the past few columns I’ve written about tapping on the body to stimulate energy flow and decrease muscle tension. Now, I’d like to introduce another form of tapping called EFT.

That stands for Emotional Freedom Techniques, and it combines tapping on the body at specific points along the acupuncture meridians while thinking about a particular stressor.

It is literally at your fingertips, available to you 24/7.

This combination produces amazing results. In just 30 minutes of tapping this way, clinical studies show a whopping 25 percent decrease in cortisol levels! Cortisol is one of the major stress hormones. And reducing stress is job No. 1 in our stress-burdened modern lives.

But thinking about doing all the things that reduce stress – like meditation, exercise and eating right – make people more stressed. This is the brilliance of tapping. It is literally at your fingertips, available to you 24/7.

Stress affects everyone differently. Symptoms can include: being overwhelmed, agitated, irritable, lonely or depressed, or unable to relax – mind or body.

Physical symptoms can include: fatigue, headaches, digestive upsets, muscle aches, insomnia, getting sick easily, chest pain or rapid heartbeat, clenched jaw and more. Stress is one of the biggest factors in chronic diseases, and stress aggravates those conditions.

EFT is the easiest and fastest way I have ever found to reduce stress. There are EFT videos all over the internet of course. Two sources I trust are TheTappingSolution.com and EFTUniverse.com. There you’ll find resources to get you started.

For veterans with traumatic stress, tapping coaches across the country offer free sessions. Online videos can be found at BattleTape.org. In the aftermath of war, women and children are left suffering, and tapping easily crosses borders. Check out PeacefulHeart.se for tapping efforts in Africa and worldwide. Let’s all have less stress! Tap on.

Contact Penny, LMT at PHEFT22@gmail.com.

By Pete Widin
Rising Sun Massage

5736 N.E. 33rd Ave. · Portland
(503) 249-3983
mcmenamins.com
Free · All ages welcome (unless noted)

By Penny Hill
Rising Sun Massage

16-02 CANS OF MCCMENAMINS ALES
Take home cans of Ruby & Hammerton, available in the Gift Shop.
Bike First! class set for developmentally delayed

BIKETOWN, Portland’s bike-share program, is expanding its service area this month to include nine locations on the Alberta and Killingsworth corridors between 10th and 33rd avenues. Neighbors, local employees and visitors in and near Concordia will be able to rent any of the program’s bikes locked in the neighborhood by downloading the app from BIKETOWNpdx.com/app and opening an account. Employers may register for discounted annual group memberships for their staffs at BIKETOWNpdx.com/

Residents next door in Sabin will paint the intersection of 21st Avenue and Going Street Sunday, July 16. And Concordia residents are invited to join in — both by wielding paint brushes and by donating dollars. Sabin Neighborhood Association and nonprofit City Repair Project are pooling creativity and motivation, while building a stronger network of neighbors. “We hope this street painting will help brighten the hearts of many and make the community a more beautiful place,” said Sarah Schumacher, a project volunteer. A total of $1,200 is needed to cover permit costs, street sign rentals and painting supplies. Email Sarah at Sartista1@gmail.com about volunteer/organizing opportunities or visit TinyURL.com/goingstreetpainting to make a tax-deductible donation.

Orange bikes come to Concordia

Instead of an orange station, you’ll find the bikes joining regular ones at nine existing blue bike corrals.

Street painters need your help, donations

This is what 21st Avenue at Going Street will look like next month. Want to help? Both your elbow grease and a few dollars are needed.
Sanctuary goes (way) beyond church walls

A training session for rapid responders in March included 200 volunteers willing to help families in their communities. “We agreed to form friend-families, undocumented persons buddying with citizens to have someone to call in an emergency,” Diana said.

The January “Sanctuary Assembly” also drew a crowd. Due to space, the church building at 806 N.E. Alberta St. likely won’t serve parishioners yet, so we really don’t know how ready we are to respond in a case,” Diana pointed out.

“One of the things that is coming out of all this is parishioners understanding we are more like each other than different. We are part of a community that shares a lot of values. “What moves your world is when something happens.”

More than 200 people attended last month’s Know Your Rights Forum sponsored by St. Andrew Catholic Church. Education is a cornerstone of the parish’s efforts as a sanctuary church. Photo courtesy of St. Andrew Catholic Church
Children master decoding before reading

S
ummer time is a time of long, lazy days. It’s a perfect time for curling up with a good book. Being able to decode is the foundation for learning to read.

Decoding is the process of recognizing shapes as letters, matching sounds to letters and having it all make sense. How do children learn to decode? It all starts with conversations you have with your babies during feeding, diaper changes and cuddle time.

They are always listening, watching, learning and making sense of the sights, sounds and actions they experience every moment. Interacting with children builds the foundation for reading readiness and reading.

When does reading begin? Early signs of reading readiness can be seen as early as 18 months. This is about when children start to carry books around, hold books (or digital devices) in correct orientation, point at pictures and begin to understand that reading is an important activity.

They also understand that books, printed words and reading go together and have purpose. You can grow readers by reading to them and have them read to you.

Reading is a social interaction opportunity waiting to happen. A time for sitting together, following the story with fingers and showing interest in the story by asking questions about the story or characters.

Interacting with children builds the foundation for reading readiness and reading.

Some reading applications on the market may not be developmentally appropriate for emerging readers. When in doubt, do research or ask a librarian.

Multnomah County Library’s summer reading program and story times are geared to emerging readers, and major book publishers have emerging reader categories. Look for books with interesting storylines, short sentences and uncluttered pages.

“Best Ride Ever,” by former Concordia resident Raymond Quinton and “Are You Ready to Play Outside” by Mo Willems will entertain reader and listener.

Happy summer reading to all.

Karen, OCCD master trainer, early childhood education, conducts health and safety trainings for parents and childcare staff via Child Care Resource and Referral of Multnomah County. She may be reached at 5CornersFamily@gmail.com or text 619.244.7892.

Editor’s note: For further resources, visit ConcordiaPDX.org/summer-reading.
Ask the Historian

WWII traces await demolition

The question:
What’s the story behind the bright green garages at 42nd Avenue and Holman Street?
— Rose Paisley

The historian reports:
That bright green garage-like building is actually seven attached very small apartments, built in 1942 and known for years as the “Tourist Cabins.” The darker green building just across the parking lot is the former Spur Tavern.

If you want to see them, look quickly, because both are now surrounded by cyclone fence and slated for demolition any day to make room for a 59-unit apartment building.

These buildings have obviously known better days. Some might call them eyesores, all spray painted with graffiti sporting broken and boarded up windows, tilting roofs and doorways, and rotting siding.

A small ocean of cracked and buckling pavement and gravel surrounds it all, moss growing everywhere, branches down, junk piled. But it wasn’t always this way.

They were built in 1942, about the time 42nd Avenue was connected to Columbia Boulevard, and there was a new Portland airbase (at the newly relocated Portland airport). The Tourist Cabins and Spur Tavern provided a sought-after home base for servicemen and their families on short assignment, and others who needed temporary quarters for seasonal jobs or as a jumping off place into the next chapters of their lives.

From the front door of the Spur Tavern you could look out at agricultural fields in every direction. Off to the west across the Concordia neighborhood, across the open fields of what is today’s Fernhill Park, you could see clear through to the

This April 2017 photo from 42nd Avenue and Holman Street looks east. In the mid-1940s, this was a community of returning WWII servicemen and their families, temporary workers and others passing through the Portland area.

Kennedy School.

The Spur Tavern was the proverbial watering hole where residents of the cabins, servicemen and people passing through stopped in for a beer and a snack.

Today, most people probably pass by and think they’re just old falling down, derelict graffiti attractors, which may be true. But in their day, they were a whole community out here at the far edge of a growing Portland that was home to generations of people passing through.

If you have a question for the neighborhood historian, contact CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org and Doug Decker will do some digging. Check out Doug’s blog for more on local history, including further details on the histories of Fernhill, Killworth and Alberta parks, visit AlamedaHistory.org.
Concordia community events calendar

Music returns to Fernhill Park

The Fernhill Concert Series kicks off July 7 with a repeat performance from Tony Starlight. Last year he sang “Rain Drops Keep Fallin’ on My Head” to the accompaniment of a summer shower. Cross your fingers for better weather this year. The full 2017 line up is:

- July 7: Tony Starlight, music and laughter from Sinatra to the ’80s
- July 14: Edna Vasquez Band, sensational Latino alternative with folkloric roots
- July 21: Farnell Newton & the Othership, funk and soul with a twist
- July 28: Robin Jackson & the Caravan, folk cabaret and gypsy-tinged pop

August 4: Colectivo SonJaracho de Portland, traditional Afro-Mexican folk, followed by The Lego Bateman Mooty with local cabaret vocalists. Concerts are from 6:30 to 8:15 p.m.

Each concert night, collage will provide children’s activities beginning at 6:15 p.m. Food vendors will be on hand, and bring your own picnic basket. Individual donations and sponsors are still needed. See Page 6 for details.

Sponsors to date are:

- Champion Sponsors $3,000+
- Concordia Neighborhood Association
- Vacasa
- collagé

Major Sponsors $1,250+

Inventor Solutions

Contributing Sponsors $600+

Amelia Marian, Hasson Company Realtors

Mark Charlesworth Real Estate Team

Keller Williams Portland Central

- McMenamins Kennedy School
- Mike & Emily Watson
- Good Neighbor Sponsors $300+
- Concordia University
- Doggy Business
- Frock
- Gazette Natural Fibre Clothing
- Living Cully
- Lombard Animal Hospital
- Our 42nd Avenue
- St. Michael’s Lutheran Church

Robin Jackson & the Caravan, with its folk cabaret a gypsy-tinged pop, appears Friday, July 28, in Fernhill Park. The evening is just one of five in July and August in the Fernhill Concert Series.

Friday, June 16, 7 - 9 pm
OFF THE COLON EVENTS

ACTIVITY NIGHT

Location: St. Charles Catholic Church gymnasium, 5310 NE 42nd Ave.

Differently-abled individuals, 18 & older, are invited for games, crafts, dancing & snacks.

Admission is $7 per participant & first companion is free.

Details: otfconcocevents@gmail.com, 503.702.2394

Thursday, June 15, 6 - 8 pm

LEAD-SAFE HOME PROJECTS WORKSHOPS

Location: Community Energy Project, 2900 SE Stark St.

Details/registration: communityenergyproject.org, 503.284.8827 ext. 109

Saturday, June 24, 1 - 5 pm

EXPLORANDO EL COLUMBIA

Location: Colwood Golf Center, 7313 NE Columbia Blvd.

This bilingual, family environmental festival offers activities in Spanish & English for all ages. Explorando includes guided canoe trips, live music, folk dancing, storytelling, arts & crafts, workshops, & more.

Details: Karen Carrillo, karen.carrillo@communityloung.org, 503.281.1132

Thursday, June 29, 6 - 9 pm

LAST THURSDAY

Location: Alberta Street, 15th - 30th av.

Alberta Street becomes a pedestrian thoroughfare for three hours of interactive arts & non-amplified music. Managed by the city of Portland, the family-friendly event repeats in July & August. (See story on Page 1.)

Details: Greg Raisman, greg.raisman@portlandoregon.gov, 503. 823.1052