‘Voices’ resonates with students

By Tamara Anne Fowler
CNA Media Team

In this day and age of arts programs being cut in favor of sports, the students of Vernon School are lucky. These young apprentices, in the fifth through eighth grades, are taught the arts of photography, interviewing and storytelling from Vernon arts teacher Anna Matchir. The program, Vernon Voices, teams students with adult Vernon alumni to whom they are related. The students then interview their relatives on their schooling and community experiences, which offers an intergenerational perspective.

Vernon Voices has its roots in a portrait photography project of Anna’s. Patrick Forster, Vernon Voices’ project organizational lead, approached Anna after admiring her body of work. Patrick soon learned of Anna’s interest in continuing the work with an added process of inquiry that put Vernon students, current and past, in the lead.

The two discussed the expectations for such a project and immediately got to work. Patrick helps keep their focus on the organizational side of things – asking where they are in the process, identifying what is working and what needs improvement. Due to the rapidly changing demographics at the school and its surrounding neighborhood, virtually all students have positive experiences, as they are courageously opening up their personal lives – including, in some cases, some challenging events.

Due to the rapidly changing demographics at the school and its surrounding neighborhood, virtually all students have positive experiences, as they are courageously opening up their personal lives – including, in some cases, some challenging events.

It is critical that all participants have positive experiences, as they are courageously opening up their personal lives – including, in some cases, some challenging events.

Vernon Voices is one of eight community-based projects that received grants from the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods. The grants provide neighborhood and community organizations with opportunities to foster community development and improve the quality of life for residents of inner northeast/north Portland. Patrick also thanks principal Ben Keefer and Ben’s secretary Connie Schwendemann for their support.

With the autumn release of a Vernon Voices photo book, sharing quotes and photos from the Voices’ interviews, participants will have ample opportunity to assess well they are living up to their own ambitions.

And with Concordia University hosting an exhibit of their project during October and November in the George R. White Library & Learning Center, Vernon Voices leaders couldn’t have hoped for a better, more accessible venue to engage the public at large.

Tamara Anne Fowler is a copy/content editor, fiction editor and accountability coach. Visit her at EditKitten.com, email her at Tamara@editkitten.com or call 310.359.6038. She would love to hear from you.
Last Thursdays offer fun

Get ready for another summer of fun, art and delicious food at Last Thursdays on Alberta! Some of the highlights this season include: more local art, new and free interactive activities, and a special Native American culture and art area. We are especially excited for a new Native American crafting circle at 21st Avenue, three special interactive installations from Alberta Art Works and several Portland-themed mini-golf holes that will be free to play.

Please come and support the local artists who bring their wares to share with the community. Last Thursday art openings and events are celebrated in the brick and mortar stores along Alberta Street. Last Thursdays are produced by the same team at the Portland Bureau of Transportation that brings you Sunday Parkways.

For additional information, please contact Greg.Raisman@portlandoregon.gov or 503.823.1052.

Greg Raisman is a Livable Streets Program specialist with 17 years of experience at the Portland Bureau of Transportation. He manages Last Thursdays, helps produce Portland Sunday Parkways and supports the large painted intersections in neighborhoods around the city. When he’s not building community, find him enjoying local restaurants and breweries.

Last Thursday continues to be a fun and engaging place to buy local art, sample delicious cuisine and enjoy a car-free stroll down the street.

During all other months of the year, Last Thursday art openings and events are celebrated in the brick and mortar stores along Alberta Street.

For more information, please visit ConcordiaPDX.org/community-room-rental.

Dancing to live music is just one form of entertainment at Last Thursdays. This year’s events are June 28, July 26 and Aug. 30.

The Community Room at McMenamin’s Kennedy School is a great place for your book club, birthday or baby shower.

Pricing: $25/hr ($15/hr. for nonprofits)
Info: ConcordiaPDX.org/community-room-rental

Need a place for your event?

The Community Room at McMenamin’s Kennedy School is a great place for your book club, birthday or baby shower.

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Concordia Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting
Special date: Wednesday, July 11, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room

General Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 5, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room

Social Committee
If you’d like to volunteer at the Fernhill Concert Series or join the CNA Social Committee to help plan other fun, community building events, contact Kate Ugozli, 503.449.9650, KTUgozli@gmail.com.

Media Team
1st Tuesday of the month, Tuesday, July 3, 6 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room, contact MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org

Land Use & Transportation Committee
3rd Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, July 18, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room, contact LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org

Finance Committee
Last Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, July 25, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room, contact Jody.Pallack-East@ConcordiaPDX.org

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SUBMISSIONS & ADVERTISING

Submissions to Concordia News: Deadline is the 10th of the month preceding the upcoming monthly publication. Contact CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org

Advertise: Gordon Riggs, MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org

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CNA VOICES

By Greg Raisman

Portland Livable Streets Specialist

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Like Robinson, mural is larger than life

A larger than life portrait mural of Jack “Jackie” Roosevelt Robinson is a fitting representation of the “larger-than-life” Major League Baseball (MLB) player who stepped up to bat for the Brooklyn Dodgers April 15, 1947.

A month into the season, his first swing broke the color line of the segregation policy of the MLB. Robinson’s player number was 42. Collaboration between Michael DeMarco, Our 42nd Avenue executive director; Dennis Karas, Cully Neighborhood News advertising manager; and local painter/art teacher John Vance brought the image of the legendary baseball social justice activist to life on the north-facing wall of 5140A N.E. Sumner St. two years ago.

In 2016, John asked Dennis if there was any opportunity to install a mural within the Cully neighborhood. During a negotiation meeting, Michael shared a photo of Robinson wearing his No. 42 jersey.

The number was a good fit for the Our 42nd Avenue, and the organization’s primary goal of supporting equity and inclusion of all who live, work, play and do business in Cully and along 42nd Avenue.

John used interlocking geometric shapes painted warm colors of red, yellow and orange – interspersed with cooler ones of blue, green and violet against a black background.

Together they create visual illusions of blocks, diamonds or mountains. Robinson’s image is emblazoned against this background of color. The sense of agency – his innate ability to exert power – is palpable to the viewer. He is positioned to take flight toward the next goal, the future.

John earned his bachelor of fine arts degree in 2004 from Parsons School of Design, New York City, and the following year he moved to Portland. He loves the physicality of producing murals, and the abundant trees, natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest. John’s work can be seen at JohnnyTerrific.com/murals-gallery/.

Editor’s note: If you’d like to know more about Jackie Robinson, his life, and his influence on American culture, Karen shares her resources online. Visit ConcordiaPDX.org/jackierobinson

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Clean up earns $1,300 for building community here

More than 20 tons of refuse in 9 drop boxes – much of it recyclable – were hauled away for 125 Concordia households in May.

Through their efforts, those household and the 34 volunteers earned $1,300 for Concordia Neighborhood Association to continue its activities to continue building community.

“It was a pretty tiring day,” acknowledged event chair Katie Ugolini. “But it was worthwhile in so many ways. The neighborhood came together to dispose of castoffs, and we were pleased that we could turn much of it over to recyclers.”

The final tally collected includes:

- 92 items sold in the “You Price It” Yard Sale
- 508 items totaling 1.53 tons of electronics
- 14.70 tons of mixed waste
- 3.85 tons of metal
- 25 tons of paper/cardboard
- 85 cubic yards of polystyrene
- 6 large appliance items
- 21 small appliance items
- 28 pieces of furniture
- 68 items of apparel
- 1 mattress
- 6 bicycles
- 6 bicycles

“We were pleased to put those bikes in the hands of the Community Cycling Center to continue their good work,” Katie pointed out. The electronics, metal, paper/cardboard and polystyrene were delivered to recyclers. Leftovers from the “You Price It” Yard Sale, furniture, apparel and mattress were picked up by Better Bargains.

“We especially want to thank the Portland Metropolitan Workforce Training Center for the space in its parking lot,” Katie said. “It’s our 12th there, and the location works so well for the cleanup.”

---

Heart in Hand Preschool

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July 2018 | Page • 3
CNA 20TH ANNUAL YARD SALE

Friday–Sunday, July 13–15

Follow these simple steps to participate:

- Register with the coupon below or electronically.
- Gather all your unwanted items.
- Display those items in your yard July 13-15.
- Fill out a deposit slip and head to the bank July 16.

Register by Thursday, July 5, to be on our map. Late registrants will have their addresses posted only on the electronic version published on ConcordiaPDX.org, Facebook and Nextdoor.com.

Your packet is available to pick up after 1 p.m. Saturday, July 7, at 5120 N.E. 27th Ave. If it’s still there Sunday, July 8, it will be delivered to your address.

Register:

Paper

- Complete and mail/deliver to the address listed in the coupon below.
- Don’t forget to insert a $7 check, payable to Concordia Neighborhood Association, in the envelope.

Electronically

- Email the information requested in the coupon below to StephSherman@gmail.com or text it to 503.593.3642.
- Visit ConcordiaPDX.org/yard-sale to make your $7 payment through PayPal.

Questions? Email Stephanie Sherman, yard sale coordinator, at StephSherman@gmail.com, or text her at 503.593.3642.

CNA Yard Sale Registration

Name: ________________________________
Address: ____________________________
Phone: ___________ Cell: ___________
Email: ______________________________

Indicate days you will participate in the sale:

☐ Friday, July 13
☐ Saturday, July 14
☐ Sunday, July 15

Enclose a check for $7, payable to Concordia Neighborhood Association mail/deliver to: Stephanie Sherman 5120 N.E. 27th Ave., Portland, OR 97211

Street Trust, law firm sponsor bike legal clinics

By Cynthia Newton & Chris Thomas

If you have questions about your rights as a bicyclist in Oregon, come to a free Bike Legal Clinic in 2018.

The clinics are hosted by Thomas, Coon, Newton and Frost (TCNF) in partnership with the Street Trust. This tradition goes back to 1993, when attorney Ray Thomas hosted his first clinic, and is continued today by TCNF’s four bike trial lawyers: Ray Thomas, Jim Coon, Cynthia Newton and Chris Thomas, who will take turns presenting.

Cynthia Newton and Chris Thomas both live in northeast Portland and commute by bicycle to the TCNF office downtown. Cynthia will present at several 2018 clinics, including the July 10 clinic at Gladys Bikes for women cyclists.

Cynthia has defended the rights of injured Oregon cyclists in hundreds of cases since 2004, giving her abundant experience on the practical effect of Oregon law following a collision. She has written extensively on the application of Oregon insurance law to bicyclists and the danger to cyclists posed by commercial vehicles.

Although Chris Thomas is the most recent addition to the TCNF team of bike lawyers, he has been actively involved in the Portland bicycle community for over 15 years.

He has lived in, and commuted primarily by bicycle from northeast Portland, downtown, Beaverton and rural Washington County. He also competes as a Category 3 road cyclist. As a father to two young boys, most of his weekend riding currently involves pulling a kid trailer, which gives him a heightened sense of the importance of protected bike routes.

Each clinic attendee receives a free copy of Pedal Power: A Legal Guide for Oregon Bicyclists by Ray Thomas, which is a compilation of statutes and articles regarding Oregon bike law.

Clinic topics include taking the lane, riding on sidewalks, signaling, lighting, e-bikes, riding under the influence and more.

The 2018 clinic schedule includes:

- July 10 at 6 p.m. at Gladys Bikes (Women’s Bike Clinic), 2905 N.E. Alberta St.
- Aug. 14 at 6 p.m. at Outer Rim Bicycle Shop, 10625 N.E. Halsey St.

(Story reprinted with permission from Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods newsletter, Hey Neighbor!)

Like your neighborhood?

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

Ready to help?

Email: Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org
TriMet plans new operations facility

By Steve Elder
CNA Media Team

In the near future you’ll be seeing more TriMet buses in the neighborhood, but they won’t be just picking up and delivering passengers.

TriMet is in the process of having a new bus operations facility in the neighborhood for bus storage and maintenance. It will be on the five acres on the north side of Columbia Boulevard, just east of 42nd Avenue, in the Cully neighborhood. Since 1960, the property has been the home of Peterson Cat, the Caterpillar equipment dealer.

“TriMet’s 10-year expansion of transit is accelerating and we are adding more than 11,000 weekly service hours coming in the next five years,” said Roberta Altstadt, TriMet media relations & communications manager.

“To make this happen TriMet will be adding buses, hiring more operators and increasing necessary support staff and equipment. This will require space TriMet does not presently have.”

TriMet currently has about 690 buses and, by 2020, expects the need to grow to more than 900 buses. Its three bus operations facilities are already at capacity, so the service expansion will require a fourth bus headquarters.

TriMet looked at several locations for a fourth garage and the Caterpillar property was felt to have the best potential. Among the criteria is the proximity to the service area and access to major arterials to minimize bus travel to and from the route to the garage.

“Locating a garage in northeast Portland, where TriMet has some of its most robust bus service, allows buses to begin and end their routes closer to their home bases,” Altstadt explained. “This minimizes the time buses spend in traffic between the garage and the starts or ends of their service routes.”

TriMet’s outreach team has been working to notify residents and business owners in the area. It has sent postcards to addresses within a one-half-mile of the Caterpillar site.

What about an environmental impact from leaky buses or bulldozers? “Any potential cleanup is to be determined as we learn about the site condition,” Altstadt said. “TriMet values sustainability and we will meet or exceed environmental standards.”

What about buses going through Concordia, particularly 33rd Avenue? “Traffic studies are underway to determine what improvements TriMet might make to adjacent streets and sidewalks,” she explained.

“It is likely that a traffic signal and pedestrian crossings will be added at northeast Columbia and northeast 42nd.”

News from the NET
Making a plan is imperative, free

By Tom Phillips
Concordia/Vernon/Woodlawn NET

Here is a scenario for you to consider: You are shopping for groceries at New Seasons on 33rd Avenue. Your spouse is working in downtown Portland. Your kids are at school, one at Jefferson and the other at Roosevelt.

Just then, the BIG EMERGENCY happens in the whole region. Power is down, roads are blocked. For now, let’s not think about the frightening quality of what happens in the whole region. Power is down, roads are blocked.

What about buses going through northeast Portland, where TriMet has some of its most robust bus service, allows buses to begin and end their routes closer to their home bases?” Altstadt explained. “This minimizes the time buses spend in traffic between the garage and the starts or ends of their service routes.”

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“It is likely that a traffic signal and pedestrian crossings will be added at northeast Columbia and northeast 42nd.”

The question is, what will you do before and after the emergency. And, by 2020, expects the need to grow to more than 900 buses.

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“It is likely that a traffic signal and pedestrian crossings will be added at northeast Columbia and northeast 42nd.”

How are you prepared for a disaster? A home emergency plan is one of the first steps to take in advanced emergency preparation. It will not cost a dime but will take some time.

There are four elements to making a plan:
• Take the time to talk about potential disasters.
• Establish emergency contacts.
• Practice evacuating your home.
• Determine two meeting places where your family will reunite.

Here is one more preparation tip: if you use smartphones, download Red Cross mobile apps such as the Emergency App and the First Aid app from RedCross.org/local/orgon.

Editor’s note: If you have questions about emergency preparation – individually or related to the Concordia neighborhood – send them to CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org.

Steve Elder, Eastz@ConcordiaPDX.org, is an inactive lawyer, a developer, activist and old groaner.

TriMet is planning a new bus operations facility on this five-acre site on the north side of Columbia Boulevard. It’s just east of 42nd Avenue in the Cully neighborhood.
Concordian enjoys cats, people at OHS

By Tamara Anne Fowler
CNA Media Team

What do you do if you have spare time and love animals? You volunteer at the Oregon Humane Society (OHS).

Concordian Diane Hogan has been volunteering at the OHS cattery for the past 23 years.

Her love of animals started when she was four with a dog, a cat and a chicken. It was also when Diane was four that her father got her mother a Siamese cat. It was the late 1940s and Siameses were extremely rare. He was a pure breed named Woo Yang of Jericho.

Currently, Diane’s cats – whom she adopted from OHS – have less outrageous names. Both Isaac and Aurora are participants in OHS’ Friends Forever Program.

When she first started volunteering, Diane felt sad for animals, but then realized if they made it here they would find good homes.

Detach from the bugaboos

by Kim Magraw
Licensed massage therapist

I f an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, how come it takes a pound of effort to motivate ourselves to do an ounce of prevention?

Humans are wired for immediate gratification, and there is a list a mile long of things we do to gratify ourselves in the moment that don’t benefit us in the long-run.

People have a hard time motivating themselves to do something that we’d rather not do – such as eat less salt, take a daily walk, or get that preventative screening – to possibly avoid something that might happen years in the future.

In other words, the trade-off is tangible immediate gratification vs hardly tangible distant possible pain. Not only does human nature drive us toward the former, but we are a society of rugged individualists in a time of conspicuous consumption.

This spells doom for many a New Year’s resolution, post-prandial proclamation, and armchair declaration. It also puts many of us in the cycle of sloth, guilt, excess, despair.

People need help to return to the cycle of prevention and therefore needs prevention more palatable. Here are some ideas:

• Reward yourself (in moderation, of course). Set a goal and when you achieve it give yourself a prize.

• Turn it into a team effort to bring more fun and a degree of accountability to others.

• Set a daily or weekly routine. It takes less effort to maintain a behavior when we don’t have to plan for it every time.

Many of our “bad” behaviors emerge when we feel stressed, disconnected or – let’s be honest – unlovable. Detach from these bugaboos by taking time for yourself and making a point to appreciate the good things.

Need a place for your book club to meet?

The Community Room at McMenamins Kennedy School is available for your next gathering.

• Free Wi-Fi
• Capacity for 49 people
• Private off street parking
$25/hour ($15/hr. for nonprofits)

Learn more at: ConcordiaPDX.org/community-room-rental
Music (and a movie) due at Fernhill

Summer has arrived and, with it, the Fernhill Concert Series and National Night Out. Pack your blanket, picnic basket, the kids and the dog. Head for Fernhill Park Friday, July 6 and return the following four Fridays.

That final Friday, Aug. 3, celebrates National Night Out with a concert and a movie. Children’s activities are part of the evening’s fare and free popcorn is available during the movie.

Each Friday’s activities are on the west side of Fernhill Park, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Food vendors are available.

The concerts are among 61 this summer in 42 Portland parks, and this is the second Year Concordia Neighborhood Association (CNA) has screened a movie at the National Night Out gathering.

Here’s the line up:

Friday, July 6: Portland Interfaith Gospel Choir

This community-based interfaith choir and nonprofit aims to inspire joy and unity through traditional black gospel traditions and foster cross-cultural and cross-racial understanding and connection.

Friday, July 13: Sonny Hess and Lady Kat

Veteran guitarist and vocalist Sonny Hess teams with Lady Kat who, for the past six years, has performed at the Waterfront Blues Festival. At Fernhill Park, they’ll offer modern blues and soulful rhythm and blues.

Friday, July 20: Trujillo

A congregation of like-minded musicians and family come together and create a rock & roll ode to Chicano identity.

Friday, July 27: The Slants

This all-Asian-American dance-rock band made headlines last year thanks to a landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling that supported the group’s name. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office had refused a trademark to the group, citing the name as an offensive slur to people of Asian descent. The band’s representatives argued the meaning instead refers to their perspective and is an attempt to repurpose the term.

Friday, Aug. 3: National Night Out

Concert: Eric John Kaiser is known as the French Troubadour. Born in Paris, the singer-songwriter moved to Portland 10 years ago and continues to reimagine Americana music by applying his French heritage.

Movie: “Isle of Dogs” – 2018, rated PG, Spanish subtitles – is a stop-motion animated film about a boy who searches for his dog after its species is banished to an island following a canine-flu outbreak.

Please help bring the music (and the movie) to Concordia

Thanks to sponsors and individual donors, The Fernhill Park Concert Series and National Night Out celebration is close to being funded. Another $6,500 is still needed. You can help keep the music (and a movie) in the park with a donation.

There are three ways you can help bring these shows to Concordia:

1. Join the concert series fundraisers.
2. Make a donation on behalf of yourself or your family online at ConcordiaPDX.org/concerts.
3. If you own or manage a business – to the sponsors we have now. “So far, we have seven business sponsors, and we need more,” Katie said. “We’ll share additional sponsors’ names in the August CNews. In the meantime, please give your thanks – and/or your business – to the sponsors we have now.”

Those sponsors are:

• CNA
• Concordia University
• Frock Boutique
• Gazelle Natural Fibre Clothing
• McMenamins Kennedy School
• St. Michael’s Lutheran Church
• Sojourn Church
• Vacasa

Make sure to pull down the menu to “Fernhill Park” in the “Sponsorship Designation” field.

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Call 503-290-9427
or email volunteer@mfsemail
She chooses to be colorful in Concordia

By Marsha Sandman
CNA Media Team

The imagination of Concordian Mandy Allen results in colorful, creative and unique anodized aluminum and silver jewelry as well as botanical inspired wall art. Mandy Allen Metal Arts is a successful and popular line of jewelry that is sold locally and nationwide.

“In jewelry, as in life, balance is key – playful yet elegant, distinctive yet wearable, well-crafted yet affordable.”

– Mandy Allen

Although the transformation from plain aluminum sheet metal to colorful three-dimensional shapes and designs occurs right here in Concordia, the seeds of creativity were planted by Mandy’s 3rd grade teacher who recognized her artistic talent and encouraged her to pursue the arts.

After attending Los Angeles County University.

After attending Los Angeles County University, she gained a strong understanding of design and technique. She also met her husband, which is fortunate for Concordia, because his job transfer brought them here in 2004.

“To jewelry, as in life, balance is key – playful yet elegant, distinctive yet wearable, well-crafted yet affordable,” Mandy explained. “I love creating colorful anodized aluminum and silver jewelry that helps you celebrate your day simply by wearing it.”

In Mandy’s online Etsy store, she explained the process. “Anodizing is a process in which an electrical current is run through a sheet of aluminum while it is submerged in an acid solution. This stimulates a chemical reaction that forms an oxide layer on the surface of the aluminum.”

Mandy mixes and combines luminous dyes in a way that no one else does. She uses hammers and stakes to form myriad shapes and forms. Her jewelry is lightweight and comfortable to wear.

She said her design inspirations include botanicals, and Japanese textiles and design motifs.

“The metal working process is very satisfying to me. I am continuously learning about the capabilities and the possibilities that metal has to offer. As I respond to the metal, the piece will evolve and come into focus.

“I feel a piece is only successful when I achieve a balance between craftsmanship, composition and artistic expression,” Mandy added.

She’ll sell her work at several art galleries and juried craft shows this summer. You can also find Mandy Allen Metal Arts at the Salem Art Festival in July, Local 14 in September, and at the Wild Arts Festival in November.

To see her collection of earrings, necklaces, bracelets and wall art, visit AllenMetalArts.com or Allen Metal Arts on Etsy.

Volunteers clean 120 alleys

Neighbors have more than 700 pounds less litter now, thanks to the 4th Annual Concordia Alleyway Clean Up event April 14.

Sponsored by Concordia Neighborhood Association (CNA), Concordia University (CU) and SOLVE, about 15 volunteers scoured 13.5 miles between 33rd and 22nd avenues, and between Dekum and Prescott streets.

SOLVE provided the collection bags, trash grabbers, protective gloves, first aid kits and sharps containers. CU Serves organization volunteers picked up waste paper, plastic, cloth and glass debris.

The collection bags were staged at the end of each of the 120 alley blocks for pick up by a van that followed the crews.

A dumpster was provided by Concordia University Serves organization (CU) and SOLVE, about 15 volunteers removed 700-pounds of trash from 120 blocks of Concordia alleys in April. Photo by Elsie Praeger-Goller

John McSherry, CNA board member, participated in the event.

“The Alleys of the Concordia are special community spaces,” he said. “They provide unique opportunities for residents to enhance the neighborhood’s quality of life.”

Community BBQ – FREE!

July 15 at 5 PM
Wildshire Park
NE 33rd Ave, Portland

Enjoy a FREE Texas style BBQ while interacting with neighbors new and old. Sides and drinks included, serving until we are out.

Kids Camp Ages 5+

July 23 - 27, 9 AM – 12 PM
Fields at Alliance Meek
4039 NE Alberta Ct, Portland

Cost: $25, $10 for each additional camper

Register: Sojournpdx.org/events

All proceeds are being given back in a check to our neighborhood school, Vernon, to help with their school budget for the 2018/2019 school year.
Cellist & bandmates inspire positivity, love

By Vanessa Miali
CNA Media Team

He is a fixture in Concordia. You’ve likely seen him playing his cello outside of New Seasons, at the Portland Saturday Market or at any number of other local festivals or farmers markets.

Martin Watkinson has played the cello since he was 5 and, if you haven’t heard his music, you’re missing out on a unique, alternative sound.

“I channel positive energy from spirit and release it through looping cello psychedelically,” he said.

Martin played classical cello his entire childhood, then dabbled in folk music and ska, a predecessor of reggae, and now wraps it all into what he calls ethereal layers.

There is also a layer of love entwined throughout his music – a love of mother earth, a love for living in unity with all things, and a deep and everlasting love for his wife and bandmate Cherita Meadows.

She describes their meeting at a party as divine intervention. In no time they were playing free-style music together. “It was magical,” Cherita said. “I was already in love with him.” She has a soulful voice that complements his cello perfectly. She also plays a box drum called the cajon. Early inspiration came from her childhood mentor and friend, musician and activist Ani DiFranco.

Shortly thereafter Martin, Cherita and Jackson Coffee formed their band GAEA, and their song “Ready for Love” was created from that first meeting. They’ve since produced three records, the most recent to drop next autumn, “Phoenix.”

They pride themselves in having full creative control and working on a donation-based system for music distribution. That allows everyone access to their distinctive music.

There have been many successes for GAEA beyond the album releases. Martin performs background music and two original songs for the movie “Seed: The Untold Story.”

He also plays throughout Macy Gray’s song “Stoned” and a few other tunes on her album “The Way.”

Together, Martin, and Cherita create infectious beats and uplifting melodies that sometimes move their crowds to tears. But life hasn’t been easy.

Two and one-half years ago, their rental house caught fire. Martin, trapped inside, nearly died. He now suffers from extreme lung tissue damage, which acts up in harsh pollution and has left him susceptible to infections.

The fire claimed their pets, $20,000 worth of musical equipment and all of their personal memorabilia. The financial devastation of the fire has also left them homeless, and they work tirelessly to make ends meet.

To hear their music, visit GAEASoul.com. To donate, visit YouCaring.com and type in the search engine: GAEA.

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Red Fox celebrates 8 years in Concordia

By Rachel Richards
CNA Media Team

Red Fox Vintage opened in 2010 at 3014 N.E. Killingsworth St. and is owned by local women Erin Beauchamp and Jodi Newton. Both were vintage vendors who said they opened the shop to create a space that has a mellow atmosphere with great customer service and great shopping.

“The shop has lots of nostalgia that is fun for everyone to shop,” she pointed out. “Buying vintage is green. It keeps things out of landfill and, with vintage products, you get better quality at lower prices – plus style recycles. You might as well have the original.”

Across the past eight years, Red Fox became a well known vintage store here in Concordia and, due to its success, it expanded into a second location in the southeast Portland Woodstock area in 2013.

The Concordia location is 1,500 square feet with 25 vendors, and the Woodstock location boasts 4,500 square feet and 60 vendors. According to Erin and Jodi professional vintage dealers from around the world frequent Portland and specifically Red Fox because of the variety of items available and the shop’s ability to showcase Portland’s unique style.

“Buying vintage is green. It keeps things out of landfill and, with vintage products, you get better quality at lower prices – plus style recycles. You might as well have the original.”

– Erin Beauchamp

Want to work as a beat reporter?

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Choose the subjects you want to cover — from events to new businesses, schools to community issues and so much more.

CONTACT US TODAY
CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org
ConcordiaPDX.org
What’s with those horse hitching rings?

By Doug Decker
Historian

The question(s):
CNews readers have been wondering about horses lately, which is kind of interesting. In the past few months, we’ve received a few different questions we’ll answer all at once.
1. What were those rings embedded in curbs all about?
2. Where did all the horses live if people kept them tied up out front?
3. Have you ever seen those three guys who used to ride horses to the bar at 33rd and Killingsworth?

The historian reports:
You might see them today tethering toy horses to curbs across Portland’s eastside neighborhoods, a kind of whimsical tip of the hat to our pre-automobile past. But those round iron rings rusting on the curb are more than just quaint antiquities. They actually had an important job to do back in the day.

Many eastside neighborhoods like ours were conceived and built when horses and wagons dominated the scene. In the early 1900s – as Portland was expanding and our neighborhoods were the newly minted suburbs – cars were an unproven, mostly unavailable commodity.

In 1905 there were only 218 cars registered in the entire state of Oregon. People got around on foot, horseback and by horse and wagon. But mostly our predecessors here in eastside neighborhoods got around by streetcar.

And, mostly, neighbors did not keep horses and wagons at home. So what’s with all the hitching rings embedded in all of our curbs?

Every commodity and supply that came to your house in those days was delivered by horse and wagon: firewood, coal, ice, groceries, dry goods, laundry, building materials.

In days of yore, iron rings kept horses and their wagons in place while deliveries were made by truck. The horse tethering rings became a thing of the past and, in some cases, were removed altogether. For a more complete exploration of the history of Portland’s horse tethering rings, check out the article on my blog at AlamedaHistory.org.

On the question of recent horse activity. Hmm, we haven’t seen it.

We do recall in the 1990s the former owner of the Texas Restaurant and Lounge on Alberta Street – a Texas cowboy named Jeff Parks – was known to have been seen on a horse once or twice. Readers?

Every commodity and supply that came to your house in those days was delivered by horse and wagon: firewood, coal, ice, groceries, dry goods, laundry, building materials.

A page of classified ads in The Oregonian from 1900 to 1910 looks like the land of opportunity for horse-wagon delivery teams and people with strong backs.

In 1907 Portland City Council actually passed an ordinance requiring new curbs have “ring bolts” installed every 25 feet so delivery vehicles could be securely tied down to protect pedestrians and other wagons using the street.

Many delivery drivers also carried heavy weights attached to straps they would place out on the ground – almost like anchors – to prevent the horses and wagons from moving around when the deliverymen hopped out and ran up the steps.

By the mid 1920s, cars had completely taken over and deliveries were made by truck. The horse tethering rings became a thing of the past and, in some cases, were removed altogether. For a more complete exploration of the history of Portland’s horse tethering rings, check out the article on my blog at AlamedaHistory.org.

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Doug Decker initiated his blog AlamedaHistory.org in 2007 to collect and share knowledge about the life of old houses, buildings and neighborhoods in northeast Portland. His basic notion is that insight to the past adds new meaning to the present. If you have a question for him to answer in CNews, send it to CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.com.

Photo by Doug Decker
Concordia community events calendar

Mondays-Fridays, July 2-31
FREE LUNCH & PLAY
Location: Various parks
Lunches are free to youths 18 & younger / adult or guardian must accompany anyone younger than 10. In addition to the standard daily fare – lunch, sports & games, arts & crafts – special events are planned with music groups, sports teams, libraries & more. See full schedule at PortlandOregon.gov/parks/sfta.

• Alberta Park, through Aug. 22, activities 11:30am, lunch noon
• K'umamokwst Park, through Aug. 22, activities 11:30am, lunch 12:30pm
• Woodlawn Park, through Aug. 17, activities 11:30am, lunch 11:30am

Mondays-Fridays, July 2-31, noon
FAUBION SUN COMMUNITY SCHOOL LUNCH
Location: Faubion School, 2930 NE Dekum Street
Lunches are free to youths 18 & younger, $4 to adults.

Tuesdays, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 6:30-9pm
TEXTILE TUESDAYS
Location: Cerimon House, 5131 NE 23rd Ave
Join other neighbors for camaraderie & craftiness. Bring a textile project you are working on or observe others – as the group stitches, knits, quilts & crafts. It’s a simple gathering of artful citizens.
Details: cerimonhouse.org

Wednesdays-Saturdays, through Sept 16, 1-4pm
WING LUKE MUSEUM EXHIBIT OF ART OF JIMMY TSUTOMU MIRIKITANI
Location: Emerson Street House, 1006 NE Emerson Street
Jimmy Tsutomu Mirikitani was a fiercely independent Japanese American artist who lost his family & friends to the US internment camps during World War II & the Hiroshima bombing. This remarkable exhibition about his art & life is a poignant exploration of the lasting impacts of war & discrimination, & the healing power of creativity.
Details: emersonstreethouse.com/currentexhibit/

 Thursdays, July 5, 12, 19, 26
CULLY FARMS MARKET
Location: 5011 NE 42nd Ave
Farmers market is back every Thursday through September. Meet continuing & new vendors, enjoy entertainment, grab dinner with friends, connect with your community, buy fresh veggies, support local farms & artisans, trade/sell your homegrown/handmade items at the Community Table.
Details: cullyfarmersmarket.org, facebook.com/cullyfarmersmarket/

• Friday, July 6, 6-30pm
FERNHILL CONCERT SERIES: PORTLAND INTERFAITH GOSPEL CHOIR
Location: Fernhill Park
This community-based interfaith choir & nonprofit aims to inspire joy & unity through traditional black gospel traditions. The choirs cross-cultural & cross-racial understanding & connection. Find vendors available.
Details: Page 7

Tuesday, July 10, 6pm
RACE TALKS
Location: McNemar's Kennedy School
These opportunities for dialogue about race in Oregon – both historically & the current time – are presented by McNemar's History & Donna Maxey. Doors open: 6pm; discussion: 7pm
Details: racetalkspdxx.com

Wednesday, July 11
CONCERT & MOVIE IN THE PARK
Location: K’umamokwst Park
Concert: 6:30pm: Matisses Latin Band, movie: after dusk: “Beautil & the Beast”
Details: portlandoregon.gov/parks/81921

Friday, July 13, 6:30pm
FERNHILL CONCERT SERIES: SONNY HESS & LADY KAT
Location: Fernhill Park
Veternan guitarist & vocalist Sonny Hess teams with Lady Kat who, for the past six years, has performed at the Waterfront Blues Festival. At Fernhill Park they’ll offer modern blues & soulful rhythm & blues. Food vendors available.
Details: Page 7

Friday, July 13
CONCERT & MOVIE IN THE PARK
Location: Willshire Park
Concert: 6:30pm, Far Out West, rootsy funk, blues rock, movie: after dusk, “The Secret Life of Pets”
Details: portlandoregon.gov/parks/81921

Sunday, July 15, noon-4pm
CREATIVE PATH WALK
Location: Cerimon House, 5131 NE 23rd Ave
Cerimon House hosts a contemplative labyrinth walk with a monthly theme. The 30-minute immersive indoor experience of light, sound & walking meditation offers a place for you to focus, unplug & restore. This is a unique replica of a historic pattern from France. $10 suggested donation
Details: portlandoregon.gov/parks/81921

Friday, July 20, 6:30 pm
FERNHILL CONCERT SERIES: TRUJILLO
Location: Fernhill Park
A congregation of like-minded musicians & family come together & create a rock & roll ode to Chicano identity. Food vendors available.
Details: Page 7

Saturday, July 21, 9am-1pm
GREAT SLUGG CLEAN UP
Location: Various
The 15th annual trash-hauling extravaganza needs you in one of the council’s boats or your own – or you can sort trash on land. Prizes are available for the best finds & most enthusiastic volunteers. In addition to boats, gloves & refreshments are provided. Suitable for volunteers 14 years & older.
• St. Johns Boat Launch, 9933 N Columbia Bird
• Multnomah County Drainage District, 1880 NE Elrod Dr.
• Parkrose, 5432 NE 112th Ave.
Registration/details: columbiaislandouh.gov/events/event_volunteer@columbiaislandouh.org, Kirk Fatland, 503-281-1132

Tuesday, July 24, 6-7:30pm
LEAD POISONING PREVENTION
Location: Community Energy Project, 2900 SE Stark St
Participants learn how to prevent lead exposure in their homes, especially homes built before 1978 with pregnant women & others concerned about lead exposure.
Details: registration/communityenergyproject.org, 503.284.6827, x109

Wednesday, July 25, 6pm-7:30pm
LEAD-SAFE HOME PROJECTS WORKSHOP
Location: Community Energy Project, 2900 SE Stark St
This is for anyone who is planning to complete a small project that may involve exposure to lead paint, such as painting down an old window frame, repurposing a leaded window door, or any other small construction project in an older home. Each qualified participant receives a free kit of supplies.
Details: registration/communityenergyproject.org, 503.284.6827 x109

Thursday, July 26, 6-9pm
LAST THURSDAY
Location: Alberta Street, 15th-30th avenues
The iconic monthly festival is back – complete with street closure – the final Thursdays in June, July & August. Musicians, other performers, artists, artisans & food vendors line Alberta Street. The brick & mortar restaurants & coffee shops will be open.
Details: lastthurspdx.org, see Page 2

Thursday, July 26
CONCERT & MOVIE IN THE PARK
Location: Alberta Park
Concert: 6:30pm, Joy Tribe, world-infused pop, movie: after dusk: “Two Strings”
Details: portlandoregon.gov/parks/81921

Friday, July 27, 6-30pm
FERNHILL CONCERT SERIES: THE SLANTS
Location: Fernhill Park
This all-Asian-American dance-rock band made headlines last year thanks to a landmark US Supreme Court ruling that supported the group’s name. The U.S. Patent & Trademark Office had refused a trademark to the group, citing the name as an offensive slur to people of Asian descent. The band’s representatives argued the meaning instead refers to their perspective & is an attempt to promote the term. Food vendors available.
Details: Page 7

Friday, July 27, 9-11pm
MOONLIGHT PADDLE
Location: Kelley Point Park, N Kelly Point Park Rd
Under the cover of dusk for paddlers, owls & other nighttime creatures. The full moon (a council staff) will lead the way through the braided network of slough channels. Suitable for volunteers 14 years & older: $10/individual suggested donation
Registration/details: columbiaislandouh.gov/events/event_volunteer@columbiaislandouh.org, Susanne Raymond, susanne.raymond@columbiaislandouh.org, 503-281-1132

Community calendar items
Admission to events is free unless otherwise noted. Priority is afforded to local events sponsored by – or which benefit – local nonprofit organizations. Submit information to CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org by the 10th of the month preceding the event.