



CONCORDIA NEWS

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

November 2019

Don't miss this annual meeting

Guest speaker Suk Rhee, Office of Civic & Community Life director, will explain the city's proposed significant changes to the ordinance governing neighborhood associations.

That's followed by nominations and elections for 6 CNA Board of Directors seats and the position of chair.

Wednesday, Nov. 6, 7 p.m.
Details on Page 3

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.

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Students practice neighborliness



Sept. 13 saw 350 Concordia University-Portland volunteers spending 900 hours in service to northeast Portland community organizations. These cheery volunteers helped out at Oregon Food Bank. Photo courtesy of Concordia University-Portland

*By Grace Aklestad, student
Concordia University-Portland*

As a student participating in service leadership at Concordia University-Portland, I found my place on campus, identified a career path of civil service, and am forever changed as an individual, a leader and a global citizen.

Student volunteers seek to build community with and in the immediate Concordia neighborhood, as well as throughout the city.

Our Sept. 13 day of service resulted in 350 volunteers contributing 900 hours throughout northeast Portland with local nonprofit organizations. The effort brought the campus community together, and it helped everyone develop better relations and understanding of the Concordia neighborhood.

University students, faculty and staff cleaned up the communal gathering place of Woodlawn Park, set up for a community powwow with NAYA, packed food for the Oregon Food Bank and helped Faubion School with its picture day.

This is the university's mission in action: to prepare leaders for the trans-

formation of society.

As a student leader in the Office of Service Leadership, I lead students in weekly service with Night Strike, building relationships with a population experiencing homelessness. Just as people need food and shelter, many are in dire need of a sense of community.

The impact of a game of Uno or

My heart has been forever changed by the people I have met under the bridge.

sharing a cup of coffee is felt as much as a hot meal or a fresh blanket. The relationships made under the bridge benefit guests of Night Strike, but are even more deeply beneficial to volunteers like myself.

My heart has been forever changed by the people I have met under the bridge.

In conversations, I have seen and experienced whole world views shift. This is why CU engages students in service learning: to broaden horizons, understand a variety of life experiences and build supportive communities.

Service at CU is not about changing the community or individuals that comprise it. It is not about the manifestation of our vision in the neighborhoods in which we work.

Service is about using our voices and bodies, as the hands and feet of Christ, to lend help to make changes as the community members see fit.

As a CU student in service, my hope is to interact with community members and help realize the vision they have for improving our community as a whole.



Grace Aklestad is a senior history major from Montana. Upon graduation, she intends to pursue dual juris doctorate and Arab studies masters degrees.



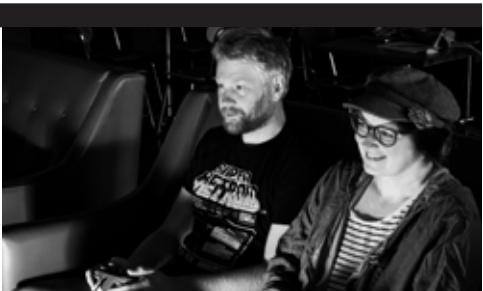
4,000 BOOKS AND GROWING
Mitchell Melville loves reading books as much as selling them.

See Page 4



CONSIGNMENT ON 42ND AVENUE
Chelsea Llewellyn-Swanda opens second shop closer to home.

See Page 6



RGB IS MORE THAN AN ACRONYM
1970s, '80s and '90s video games are on tap here.

See Page 8

CNA VOICES

By Steve Elder,
CNA Media Team



Concordia Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting
1st Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, Nov. 6, 6:30 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room

Annual Meeting
Wednesday, Nov. 6, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room

Social Committee
If you'd like to volunteer to help plan fun, community building events, contact Sonia Fornoni at SoniaGF419@gmail.com.

Media Team
1st Tuesday of the month, Tuesday, Nov. 5, 6:30 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room, contact MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org

Land Use & Transportation Committee
3rd Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, Nov. 20, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room, contact LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org

Finance Committee
Last Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, Jan. 29, 7 p.m., no November and December meetings. Contact Heather Pashley, Treasurer@ConcordiaPDX.org

Community Room Rental
For info and scheduling, visit ConcordiaPDX.org/community-room-rental or contact Sonia Fornoni at CNARoomKennedy@gmail.com.

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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
Submissions to CNA Website: Submit nonprofit news & events to MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org
Advertising: Gina Levine, CNewsBusiness@ConcordiaPDX.org, 503.891.7178

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Thoughts for Veterans Day

Veterans Day 2019 will be observed Monday, Nov. 11, and is a federal holiday. This year's Veterans Day marks the 100th anniversary of the ending of World War I. The holiday was originally known as Armistice Day until World War II, and Korea crowded the calendar.

Veterans Day usually is wrapped around by a three-day weekend – usually glorifying commerce and often doing only lip service to those who were killed, wounded or psychologically impaired in the armed forces during their service. (Disclosure: I spent two years in the Army in the 1960s. I saw no combat and have no PTSD.)

Throughout American history aggressive military force has helped establish our moral position in the world. Our worldly reputation is based on how much we are at war and how much we are at peace.

To maintain our war credibility the administration is currently ginning us up for several new wars, particularly in Venezuela and Iran.

At a recent town hall in Clatsop County, U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley was asked what he has done to ensure we engage in diplomacy instead of the use of troops in Venezuela. He spoke of a proposal he had introduced in the Senate which, if enacted, would prevent the president from using armed force in Venezuela.

CNA respects the views and beliefs of all cultures and faiths. The views expressed by this writer do not necessarily reflect the views of CNA.

Our worldly reputation is based on how much we are at war and how much we are at peace.

Not only is the United States ready to attack Venezuela, he said. It is readying us to support more military action in the Middle East. Not seemingly having learned any lessons in Iraq, the administration talks about the threat Iran poses to the United States.

Just in the past few weeks the United States deployed a carrier strike group along with bombers to the Middle East, supposedly to counter possible Iranian threats. A couple of weeks ago, in spite of Congress having voted that the U.S. should not assist in the Saudi-led war in Yemen, another “emergency” was declared by the administration and spending of \$8 billion for more guns to Saudi Arabia was authorized.

Miniaturization of the American budget and foreign policy is a bipartisan endeavor. Republicans and Democrats like to claim they are on opposite sides of many issues but, when it comes to militarism, they are on the same side.

Old men and women are sparing no expense, sending young men and women to be killed or wounded. The administration budget request is almost 10% more than the Congress said was needed for military spending.

We have many many things to spend on besides military spending.

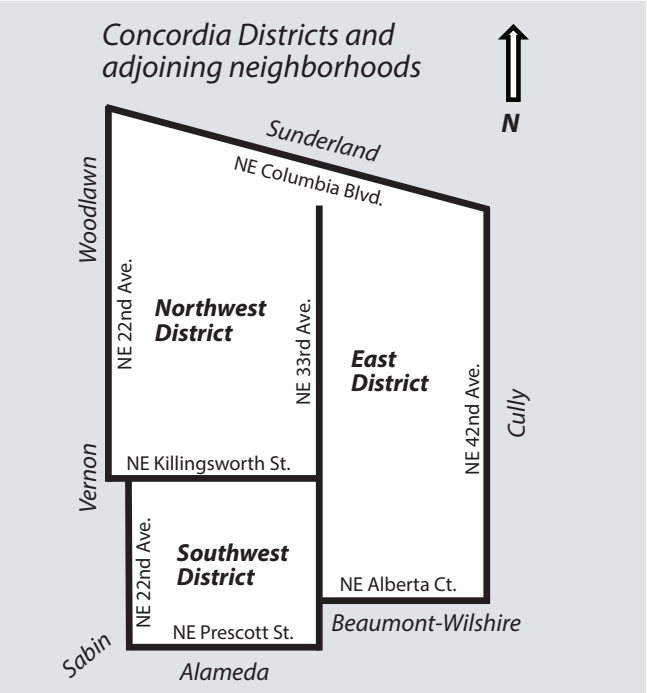
Steve Elder, East2@ConcordiaPDX.org, is an inactive lawyer, a developer, activist and old grouch.

CNA Board of Directors

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Northwest 1 | NW1@ConcordiaPDX.org Isham “Ike” Harris
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At Large 5 | AL5@ConcordiaPDX.org Truls Neal
At Large 6 | AL6@ConcordiaPDX.org Matt Boyd

Need a place for your event?

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Info: ConcordiaDPX.org/community-room-rental



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Concordia murals

The talents of children result in unique murals

By Nancy Varekamp
CNews Editor

Murals come in all mediums. At Mimosa Studios, a paint-your-own ceramics shop, the form is painted, fired tiles. “In our early days, we found families enjoyed coming in to share the fun of painting ceramics with each other,” explained studio owner Austin Raglione. “Some didn’t have very much money, and the kids really loved to paint.

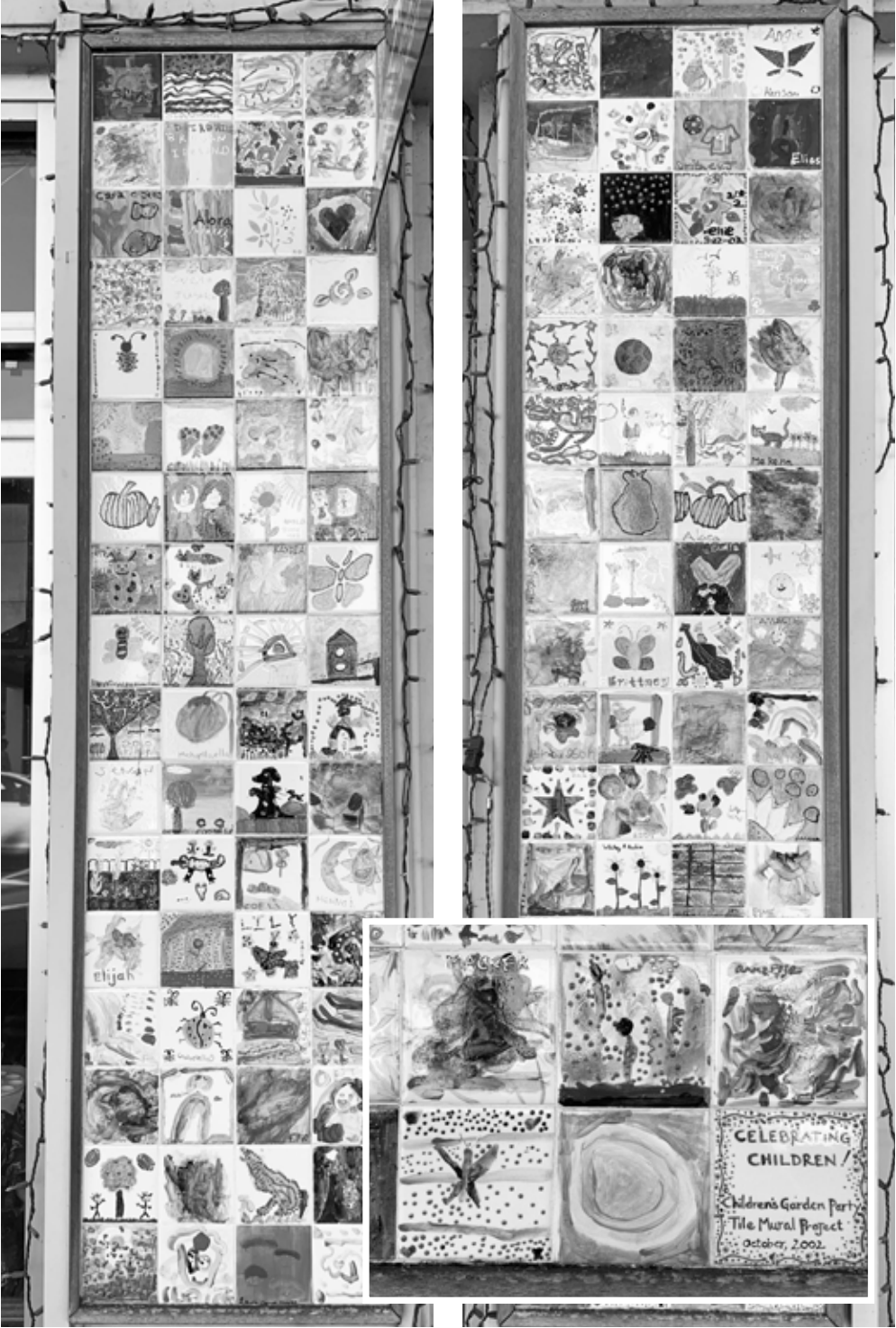
“So we let each child paint a free tile that first summer in 2002, and we thought it’d be fun to share their efforts with the community by showcasing the tiles in a mural.” The resulting 136 tiles were mounted on the storefront at 1718 N.E. Alberta St. that October to celebrate Mimosa’s first anniversary. The children were pretty excited, according to Austin. “Even today you’ll see people walking together down the street and looking at the tiles. Then one of them points to

a specific tile. They’ll say, ‘Yeah, I made this one when I was six years old.’” Austin’s own nieces from New Jersey and her now-25-year-old daughter can point to their tiles too. This was the first tile mural Austin assembled. “I glued and grouted them onto wood panels to mount on the front wall,” she explained. “They’ve held up really well, which is surprising because it was the first thing I ever grouted.” Creating sense of community isn’t confined to that exterior wall. Austin likes seeing community at work inside Mimosa when families visit to paint together, and employees of small busi-

nesses come for team-building events. The community feeling extended off Alberta Street in the past several years. She helped both a youth facility and an adult residential treatment program make their own tile murals in 2013 and 2016.



Nancy Varekamp is semiretired from her career in journalism, public relations and – her favorite work engagement – writing and editing targeted newsletters.



The summer of 2002 was spent painting tiles for these Alberta Street murals. In total, 135 were created by the children who are today’s adults. Photos by Nancy Varekamp

Your CNA needs you Nov. 6

Have you read the recent headlines about proposed changes to the city’s support for its 95 neighborhood associations? Come to the Concordia Neighborhood Association (CNA) annual meeting to hear the city’s perspective. Suk Rhee, Office of Community & Civic Life director, will engage you in conversation on the proposal. It’s Wednesday, Nov. 6, at 7 p.m. in McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room. Also on tap are nominations and elections for seven positions on the CNA Board of Directors. In addition to the chair’s position, representatives of six CNA districts are up for election: East 1,

Northwest 1, Southwest 1, and At Large 1, 3 and 5. See those district boundaries on the page to the left. If you’re a resident, property owner or business owner and want to get more involved, you may nominate yourself – or others with those qualifications – for election. According to CNA bylaws, one representative from each residence or business is eligible to vote at the annual meeting, and voting members can be as young as 14 years old as long as they have permission from their parents or guardians. Light refreshments will be served, and you’re welcome to purchase and bring a beverage from any of the Kennedy School bars.

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There’s no absence of titles in this new shop

By Tamara Anne Fowler
CNA Media Team

Travel down a whimsical dirt path surrounded by lush greenery and you will arrive at Melville books, a charming new addition to Alberta Street.

Mitchell Melville is the owner, and he has never owned a bookstore before; however, “I have been scouting books for about 10 years and selling online as well,” he said.

After making the decision to open a bookstore, Mitchell began attending as many library, estate and garage sales as possible to build a collection. He still goes out and buys at least four days a week before opening the shop. Open hours are noon to 7 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays.

The store boasts about 4,000 titles in stock, all used. There are roughly 3,500 books inside and another 400-500 outside on carts.

Mitchell received the keys June 1 and the doors opened for a few hours July 21.



Tamara Anne Fowler is Edit Kitten, a writer with 20-plus years of experience offering a softer, gentler approach to editing and coaching. Her personal editors -- Armani, Max Factor and Spicey'D -- are also her cats. Visit her at EditKitten.com or contact her at Tamara@EditKitten.com.

Melville Books’ first official full day was July 24.

Although he can’t possibly choose what his absolute favorite books are, “‘White Teeth’ by Zadie Smith is one of my all time favorite novels. I try to read a little bit of everything but fiction and science fiction are my favorites.

“I loved the ‘Remembrance of Earth’s

“It’s hard when I have to schlep a bunch of books around on the bike.”

Past’ trilogy by Cixin Liu and the ‘Broken Earth’ trilogy by N.K. Jemisin,” Mitchell reported, noting both series are science fiction.

“I love reading science and math nonfiction, but also do some history and biography on occasion.”

He’s currently reading four books: “Little, Big” by John Crowley, “Evicted” by Matthew Desmond, “The Word for World is Forest” by Ursula K. LeGuin and “The Name of the Rose” by Umberto Eco.

He and partner Isabel live in north-west Portland, and they are hoping to move to the eastside within five or six months. Their goal is to be somewhere close to the shop.

Isabel is originally from New York City and doesn’t have a driver’s license.



Mitchell Melville has stocked his Alberta Street bookstore with about 4,000 books, all used. And he’s continually finding more to add to the collection. Photo by Bernardino Quintanar

“She never needed one,” Mitchell pointed out. “So we are looking for an area within walking distance of a good grocery store and with good public transit accessibility.”

Currently, Mitchell rides his bike to the store, which takes about 30 minutes.

“In September, I started making an effort to ride here at least once a week, and I hope to be commuting via bike nearly every day before too long.

But the ride isn’t without challenges. “It’s hard when I have to schlep a bunch of books around on the bike.”



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LUTC update

Don't throw out the baby with the bathwater

By Garlynn Woodsong
CNA Board Member, SW1
CNA LUTC Chair

Portland city commissioner Chloe Eudaly ordered the rewrite of city code 3.96, which governs the relationship between the neighborhoods, neighborhood associations, district coalitions, business district associations and elements of the city government.

She expressed a desire to increase equity by reshaping who gets a say in city policy. She feels neighborhood associations too often represent white homeowners and exclude renters, people of color and immigrants.

She believes neighborhoods serve as gatekeepers that stand in the way of denser development and additional affordable housing.



Garlynn Woodsong lives on 29th Avenue, serves on the CNA board and is an avid bicyclist. He also is a dad who is passionate about the city his son will inherit. He is the planning + development partner with Cascadia Partners LLC, a local urban planning firm. Contact him at LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org.

Your Concordia Neighborhood Association board does not disagree with her diagnosis. We feel, however, there are effective solutions to increase participation, ones that don't throw out the baby with the bathwater.

Fundamentally, we believe there is a place for geographically-based groups in our citywide dialogue. Faith- and ethnicity-based groups alone cannot sustain the robust civic life Portlanders pride ourselves in. This is a city of neighborhoods to celebrate, preserve and enhance.

In the spirit of Thomas Jefferson's concept of a ward republic – and toward the goal of promoting and enabling more diverse participation in the most local geographic units of our democracy – the CNA board made these recommendations to city council:

- Elect neighborhood association board members in county-administered general elections. That's how it works for East Multnomah County Soil and Water Conservation District and circuit court judges. Our local neighborhood associations provide much in the form of community-building activities. They surely are important enough to rate at least this basic level of recognition.
- Allow individuals to nominate themselves and others for board elections for free.

- Ensure neighborhood associations reach out to all community-based organizations within their borders to make those groups aware of the opportunity to be elected the neighborhood association boards.
- Dedicate a meaningful percentage of revenue from on-street parking – both from residential permit programs and from meters – toward neighborhood improvement project programs comanaged by each neighborhood association in partnership with the city and neighborhood coalition offices. This revenue stream could be used in combination with other funding sources to help deliver more livability outcomes in shorter periods of time. Neighbors would help decide where and when to build bulb-outs, place benches, stripe crosswalks, plant trees, place public art, hold events and otherwise help achieve and maintain community livability goals.
- Head off efforts by some neighborhoods to slow the development of much-needed new homes during our extended housing crisis by the city providing more by-right fast-approval development pathways in all neighborhoods. So, if projects are proposed that meet adopted development and design standards, they can be approved administratively and without the opportunity for delay presented by discretionary review and lengthy public involvement and appeal processes.

- Protect neighborhood livability from new development – rather than destroy it – by empowering neighborhood associations to work with the city to develop and adopt design standards that work as a part of a citywide form-based code. That will allow each neighborhood to articulate and enforce its own local design character, as long as those regulations don't impede factors measured by the Buildable Lands Inventory that are related to the ability to provide sufficient development capacity within our urban growth boundary.

News from the NET

Vernon PTA gets ready

By Amy Gard, Team Leader
Concordia/Vernon/Woodlawn NET

On Oct. 7, Vernon Parent Teacher Association met to learn about the seismic risks here in Portland and held an initial planning session for reviewing and improving the emergency response plan for the school.

A "Getting Ready to Rumble" Mercy Corps presentation was provided by the

reunification process that verifies and records the identity of the caregivers picking up students. That will probably be without access to the electronic systems on which they typically rely and which offer the most up-to-date information.

The October dialogue offered much insight into the complexity involved in creating an effective and efficient response plan for this type of chaotic

School personnel will need to plan for meeting student needs without normal services like electricity, natural gas, water, sewer and phone.

Concordia/Vernon/Woodlawn Neighborhood Emergency Team, and the planning session drew participation of dozens of parents and representation of the Vernon administration.

The discussion brought forth many examples of the difficulties schools face in the aftermath of disasters, and in planning for them. If the Cascadia Subduction Zone ruptures during school hours, staff and administrators anticipate needing to care indefinitely for upwards of 100 students. That could be for hours or days after the quake because primary caregivers will be unable to reunite due to factors such as bridge collapses and unpassable roads.

School personnel will need to plan for meeting student needs without normal services like electricity, natural gas, water, sewer and phone. They will simultaneously need to operate a tight


event.

It is not hard to imagine why many administrations hesitate to take up this mantle. But, if our local families are any indication, it is something with which parents are increasingly willing to assist.

If you would like to be an advocate in your school community, Parents4Preparedness is a great, local organization that can offer resources, advice and tools to help you at Sites.google.com/view/parents4preparedness.



Amy Gard is a mother, retired teacher/administrator, former Concordia business owner, saxophone player and active volunteer for the NET and Oregon Food Bank.



What's Selling in Concordia?

177	Homes sold in RMLS in last 12 months as of Oct. 10
-0.5%	Decrease in Average Sale Price since 2018
Avg. Sale Price in 2018: \$523,453	
Avg. Sale Price currently: \$520,619	
Avg. Days on market: 29	

This information provided by
Mark Charlesworth, Concordia resident & Broker
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MAKE IT TO

Vernon IB World School's 5th Annual



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 **Vernon IB World School**
2044 NE Killingsworth St.
www.vernonpta.org

The Maker Fair is organized by the Vernon PTA. A percentage of the proceeds will support enhancements at Vernon such as field trips, art, music, STEAM, garden education and facility improvements.

She found her passion in consignment store

By Carrie Wenninger
CNA Media Team

Chelsea Llewellyn-Swanda is unzipping her parka-style jacket on a chilly October morning, about to sit down for a cup of coffee in the Kennedy School cafe, when a woman oohs adoringly over the blue-tinged faux fur lining the hood.

Chelsea's face brightens. "Thank you!"

It's a fitting exchange. Chelsea owns Give & Take Resale in Kenton and will open sister store Take It or Leave It, at 5012 N.E. 42nd Ave., in November.

She began her consignment career at Sweet Pea's in Sellwood, then learned the ropes from the "Godmother of Consignment" herself, Marcee Meijer, at Village Merchants.

Realizing she'd found her passion, the next obvious step was to open a place of her own.

Having opened in 2012, Give & Take is a much-loved and eclectic mix of trinkets, clothing, home goods, kitchen-ware, toys, games and kitsch. Take It or Leave It will riff on the same successful formula.

While it was not necessarily her plan to open a second shop, Concordia resident Chelsea was looking to keep her shop manager and stylist topped up with

work. Expanding made sense, as they had experienced a profitable year.

"The timing looked right, so we moved on it," she said.

Through coverage in Concordia News, she became aware of Michael DeMarco

"Consignment is a community business. It's a place to find new treasures and a way to keep useful things out of the landfill."

— Chelsea Llewellyn-Swanda

and Our 42nd Avenue, and she reached out.

"They've been so kind and have really helped us build connections. It's been very much a hand-holding experience, and we've been so supported. I'm grateful.

"We also received funds from an anonymous donor through Our 42nd Avenue, which helped with the transition from rough space to finished store."

Having a husband in the construction business has helped tremendously, too, and David Swanda of Greylock Construction has spent evenings and weekends readying the space.



Chelsea Llewellyn-Swanda created a successful consignment store strategy in Kenton, and now she's bringing it to a second store on 42nd Avenue. Take It or Leave It opens in November. Photo by Lloyd Kimeldorf

With a penchant for baskets, crockery and quirky stuff, Chelsea said she also enjoys bringing a sense of humor to her offerings. "I do kind of live for the oddities," she laughed.

She recalled a few of those — a taxidermy squirrel, an anatomical teeth model for dental students and a record by Billy Joel's heavy metal band, Attila, circa 1970.

"Consignment is a community business. It's a place to find new treasures and a way to keep useful things out of the landfill. It's also good, affordable fun," Chelsea pointed out.

"And, at the end of the day, I am proud to be able to make a living from recycling."

Find her at the new storefront or online at TakeItOrLeaveItPDX.com.



Carrie Wenninger lives on 29th Avenue in Concordia. She is a freelance writer, a mom, a world traveler and a small business marketing consultant. Contact her at WurdGurl@gmail.com.

Want to get involved locally?



Care about transportation or land use issues affecting our Concordia neighborhood?

It's easy. The Concordia Land Use & Transportation Committee meets next on Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. in the Kennedy School Community Room.

(Generally, meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.)



Meetings are open to the public. Just show up or contact LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org.

Info: ConcordiaPDX.org/lutc



The Concordia Neighborhood Holiday Party is coming!

Before your calendar fills up, mark **Wednesday, Dec. 11**, for the Concordia Neighborhood Association Holiday Party, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Cerimon House, 5131 N.E. 23rd Ave.

All who live or work in the Concordia neighborhood are invited to the free holiday festivities.

The holiday party is a great way to meet new neighbors and mix and mingle with friends – old and new – in a festive and family-friendly atmosphere.

If you would like to help organize the annual event, contact Sonia at SoniaGF419@gmail.com or 305.812.5280.

Come for scrumptious desserts and savory treats, with plenty of nonalcoholic beverages. Holiday music and festivities for the kids top off the event.

Look for details next month in CNews and on [Facebook.com/groups/ConcordiaPDX/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ConcordiaPDX/)



Concordian has a life well lived

By Marsha Sandman
CNA Media Team

Everyone has a story, and Concordian Zac Reisner is living proof. Strong childhood influencers instilled in Zac a yearning for a life of adventure, creativity and a passion for the great outdoors. He was born in San Francisco but grew up in Texas and Oregon. He learned to read fluently by age 5, and Boy Scouting propelled his interest in the

With a sharp wit and some horse sense, he began to write poetry.

natural world. By the age of 14 he got a job as a ranch hand in Texas.

A couple of years studying natural history at the University of Washington convinced him that was not to be his life course.

Zac’s talent was in the arts, so he studied literature, philosophy and painting. He discovered he had a talent for writing when he worked for an underground newspaper. With a sharp wit and some horse sense, he began to write poetry.

The call of nature took him to the mountains with the Tacoma Mountaineers. That’s where Zac became an avid climber and mountain guide, and he has since climbed all the glaciated peaks in the Northwest. He became a cowboy, poet, climber, writer and painter.

Studying at Reed College he met and was heavily influenced by Gary Snyder. That Pulitzer Prize winner is best known as a beat generation poet and environmental activist.

Zac jumped at the opportunity to help him build a house in northern California and stayed on for about 2½ years. So then Zac became a cowboy, poet, climber, writer, painter and builder.

He put his cowboy talent to work after reading Joe Back’s “Horses, Hitches and Rocky Trails,” which is often referred to as the packer’s bible. He was soon working as a packing, riding, fishing and hunting guide.

Zac also worked on an Indian reservation in Alberta, Canada and has fond memories of long hitching and hiking journeys from Canada to the United States.

Unfortunately an injury curtailed his guiding days. And so he opened another door. He returned to college at Utah State University, where he honed his skills as a talented painter and illustrator. So now he’s a cowboy, poet, climber, writer, painter, builder, guide and illustrator.

He can be reached at ZacR@coho.net.



Multi-talented, multi-skilled Zac Reisner is a cowboy, poet, climber, writer, painter, builder, guide and illustrator. Currently he concentrates on building and writing poetry in Concordia. Photo by Marsha Sandman



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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



After living east, south, north and west, Marsha Sandman is home at last. And she wants to hear your story. Contact her at MarshaJSandman@gmail.com.

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Thursday, November 7
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Saturday, November 9
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Live music in the Gymnasium by:
TIMOTHY JAMES Noon - 2 pm
THE VAN RONTENS 2:30 - 4:30 pm
THE COASTLINE 5 - 7 pm
THIS YEARS MODEL 7:30 - 10 pm

Sunday, November 10
Martha Jordan Craft Party
Make decoupage wood slice ornaments
Martha Jordan Room • 2 - 5 pm

Monday, November 11
PARANORMAL PUB:
Do Orbs Have Healing Powers?
The Magic of Orbs, Energies
and Plasma Clouds!
Theater • 6 pm doors; 7 pm event

Tuesday, November 12
RACE TALKS:
An Opportunity for Dialogue
The Color of Fear (Part 2):
What It's Like to Be Gay
Gym • 6 pm doors; 7 pm event

Thursday, November 14
Simon and Garfunkel Tribute Show
Gym • 7 - 9 pm

Sunday, November 17
Siren Nation Art & Craft Sale
10 am - 4 pm

Tuesday, November 19
Happy Birthday, Terminator!
\$4.50 pints, \$9 growler fills of Terminator
and food specials all day!

Wednesday, November 20
DRAG QUEEN BINGO
W/ POISON WATERS
\$15 includes 9 bingo cards and a
great show with Poison Waters
5 pm doors; 6 pm show • 21 & over

Thursday, November 21
LIMITED-EDITION BEER TASTING
W/ BRIAN RILEY & RYAN LUND
5 - 7 pm • Brewery
21 & over to drink

Thursday, November 21
Robin Jackson and the Caravan
Indie folk singer-songwriter
Gym • 7 - 9 pm

Monday, November 25
HISTORY PUB:
Northeast Portland: Past,
Present and Future
Theater • 6 pm doors; 7 pm event

Thursday, November 28
THANKSGIVING BUFFET
Classic dishes plus unique sides.
Noon - 6pm • \$39 adults, \$24 kids 5-12

RGB is more than just its name

By Garlynn Woodsong
Video Game Enthusiast

It's no coincidence the acronym for Retro Game Bar is RGB. It describes the red, green and blue connection cables between the collection of vintage gaming consoles and their monitors.

Owners Jason and Shira Yovu opened the bar in May at 6720 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Since then gamers have flocked there to enjoy the collection of 1970s, '80s and '90s cartridges and discs that play on 19 consoles.

"We had to buy more consoles, monitors and equipment to open RGB, and also more games for systems like the Dream Cast that didn't feature prominently in my personal collection," Jason explained.

Although the form of entertainment at RGB is relatively rare, he's no newcomer to food service. This is the fourth establishment in which he's been involved with startup. One was in Maine, where Jason and Shira met almost 10 years ago.

RGB features the games Jason has collected for more than 15 years. "I wanted the games in my collection to be played, not sitting around collecting dust, to have these games be accessible to everyone," he said.

During the summer, RGB sponsored special weekend hours for minors. "As of mid-October, our all-ages program is on hiatus," Shira said. "But we hope to redesign it with more options and bring it back by early 2020."

One of the pleasures for RGB visi-



Caught in the glow of a video game monitor, Jason and Shira Yovu enjoy their Retro Game Bar as much as their customers. Photo by Chris Baker

tors is the opportunity to play on classic systems like the Turbo Graphics 16 from the late 1980s – far less common than its contemporary, the original SEGA Genesis and Super Nintendo systems – as well as a few machines such as a Neo-Geo that were previously coin-operated.

RGB features all original hardware and games, no emulators or replicators. It gives the authentic feel, like a record shop, of using the actual original media. RGB signals are the preferred output from the consoles to the monitors, of course, along with analogue outputs.

"We had to modify some consoles slightly," Jason pointed out. "That allows them to send the RGB signals for their original full resolution to be displayed

on monitors that are much higher resolution than the TVs most people originally played the consoles on."

RGB serves fare as nostalgic as its games, including themed cocktails and a variety of hot dogs.



Garlynn Woodsong lives on 29th Avenue, serves on the CNA board and is an avid bicyclist. He also is a dad who is passionate about the city his son will inherit. He is the

planning + development partner with Cascadia Partners LLC, a local urban planning firm. Contact him at LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org.

Have you checked out CNA's Facebook page?

Facebook.com/groups/ConcordiaPDX/

Keep informed of CNA activities and your neighbors' comments.

Check out the page for:

- CNA Board meeting invites & meeting minutes
- Neighborhood events
- CNews story highlights
- Community discussions



Gardening guidelines

November is time to start your composting

Jolie Ann Donohue
The Gardening Goddess

During the cooler weather and shorter days of November we are not planting anything new in our edible gardens. This is an excellent month to start a compost system.

Composting at home is simple and effective. Good garden soil is the key foundation for your healthy, abundant, edible garden. Making your own compost and applying to your garden will improve your soil consistency and boost fertility.

In both autumn and spring, top dress your garden beds with two to three inches of compost.

When we combine nitrogen plant material "greens" with carbon plant material "browns," this raw material is decomposed together to create compost rich in nutrients and loaded with beneficial microorganisms.

Add layers of material with the ratio of one part greens to two parts browns.

Purchase at your local nursery a compost activator to add to your materials. Keep your compost pile moist but not soggy to speed decomposition.

Stirring your pile – aerating with a garden fork or using a compost tumbler – will accelerate the breaking-down process. Adding garden lime will eliminate compost pile odors.

Green/nitrogen sources include: fruit and vegetable scraps, grass clippings, garden waste, coffee grounds & loose tea, eggshells, seaweed, soil, livestock manure, bat guano, and alfalfa, kelp, blood, and bone meals

Brown/carbon sources include: Card-board, shredded newspaper and office paper, dry leaves, leaf mulch, bark mulch and nuggets, pine needles, corn stalks, sawdust, straw, woody twigs, brown paper bags, paper towels & napkins, coffee filters, and wood ash from fire-places

Keep out of your compost pile: avocado and stone fruit pits, bones and meat, cooked food, oil and cooking grease, pet feces, disease- or pest-infested plant material, weeds with seeds and any plant material treated with chemicals.

For all the dirt on healthy dirt, visit JolieAnnDonohue.com



Jolie Ann Donohue is a garden educator, consultant and designer. She is the author of The Gardening Goddess's Guide to Edible Gardening in Portland. Reach her at her website, JolieAnnDonohue.com.

She approaches community with creativity

By Nancy Varekamp
CNews Editor

Jordana Leeb has had a difficult time with all of the changes to her block in her eastern Concordia neighborhood. So she’s reaching out to others of similar mind.

“I love my neighborhood and feel passionate about Concordia, the smaller houses, the people who live here, and its

“I think a lot of people look at development in black and white terms. I feel there’s much more gray in the conversation.”

– Jordana Leeb

walkability,” said the Portland native.

“There have been a lot of changes to the built environment,” Jordana added. “I’ve spent the past 10 years watching house after house be demolished. They were much more affordable as they were, and the larger, new houses aren’t neces-



Nancy Varekamp is semiretired from her career in journalism, public relations and – her favorite work engagement – writing and editing targeted newsletters.

sarily increasing density.”

That’s why she attended a community conversation at Cerimon House last December – to hear what others had to say.

As someone drawn to expressing herself creatively, it inspired her to turn to one of her favorite mediums, collage. The result was an artful mixture of photos of the new houses that had replaced demolished houses in her neighborhood.

But there’s more she wants to do. “I think a lot of people look at development in black and white terms. I feel there’s much more gray in the conversation.”

So, she’s leaning into the skills of her 20-plus-year career in community outreach, education and project management, as well as her graduate degree in community planning. The result is the Concordia Neighborhood Project.

Jordana has devoted countless volunteer hours – and enlisted the help of friends, neighbors and local organizations – to create a three-phase approach to understanding change:

- “A Diary of a Street,” a short film focused on interviews with neighbors from her block
- The Jan. 12, 3-5:30 p.m., Community Conversations event at Cerimon House (details at tinyurl.com/ConcordiaConversations)
- A juried community art show next



Portland native Jordana Leeb thrives on creativity and community. So she’s planning creative means for Concordians to share their impressions about how the neighborhood is changing.
Photo by Nancy Varekamp

summer

“Through all of these activities, I want people to respond to the statement, ‘What neighborhood change means to me,’” Jordana said.

A small grant from the Regional Arts and Culture Council is paying most of the bills for the film production, room rental, and art show prizes and exhibit costs.

Jordana is especially excited to secure Cerimon House for the winter event. “It’s a beautiful space with a sense of history, and a community-minded mission. And that’s where I was when I decided to find new ways to continue the community conversation.

“The project has been a lot of work, but it’s really fun, and I thrive on creativity and community.”



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To your wellness

You can stop those patterns of ‘holding’

By Penny Hill, LMT

A holding pattern is a repeating movement that awaits some input to finally complete. But in massage and tapping, what I’m usually working with are held, or stuck patterns of thought, feelings or movement. We are full of routinized patterns. The question is: are they patterns that please or stuck patterns that are just hold-overs? Some of these habits are healthy and protective. Others are, at best, not helping us. At worst, they actively hold us back or cause pain. When we get stuck in life, whether it’s in our bodies or feelings, we often get stuck in a routine movement – the arm swing that won’t quite rotate gracefully, that hitch in your “git-along,” that situation that shouldn’t make you mad but does, those actions you don’t take for reasons that are not clear even to you. One of the most direct ways through a stuck pattern is to just disrupt the

pattern. Have you ever noticed your usual aches and pains – whether physical or emotional – go away on vacation? Partly it’s because you’ve changed your

Open into your life with new physical motions.

patterns of movement and probably your habitual feelings as well. New sights, new routines and/or new stimuli, elicit changes in your nervous system. But you don’t have to wait for vacation to do this. Open into your life with new physical motions. Engage the stuck places with gentle and unusual movement. Add undulations and rotations to your stretches. Move like a kid, hum, skip a few steps, take a class. Are your patterned emotional responses still valid or just old programming? Does that guy really still bug you? Is there room for more grace? Drive or walk new routes. Find what’s ready to shift or be released. Stretch slowly, breathe deeply. See the life around you with new eyes. Smile.



Penny Hill provides stress relief to her neighbors through her businesses, Rising Sun Massage, and Tapping for Less Stress. Find other resources and contact information at CalmHealthEase.com.

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is THE place to write!



“I enjoy writing for the Concordia News because I believe everyone has a story. I delight in being continually amazed. What’s your story?”

Marsha Sandman,
CNA Media Team
MarshaJSandman@gmail.com

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



Community Room Calendar

Concordia Neighborhood Association hosts these events in McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room. If you’re interested in sponsoring community-building events in this 49-person-capacity venue, contact Sonia Fornoni, SoniaGF419@gmail.com. Unless noted otherwise, events are admission free.

Friday, Nov. 1, 10am-noon
REFRAME COLLECTIVE
The Reframe Collective Toddler Series classes are opportunities for parents & kids to learn & explore together.
Details: reframecollective.com, thereframecollective.com,
thereframecollective.com,
Mondays, Nov. 4, 18, 10-11am
EFT TAPPING STRESS RELIEF
EFT combines cognitive elements with tapping certain acupuncture points. This allows for quick release of current stress & the release of old, stuck energy that may be affecting your health & well-being.
Details: 503.493.5954, pheft22@gmail.com, calmhealthease.com
Thursdays, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 6-7:30pm
SPANISH CONVERSATION
CNA sponsors these free classes. Brush up on your Spanish skills to reach out to the Hispanic community more effectively. All levels are welcome.
Details: soniagf419@gmail.com

Tuesdays, Nov. 12, 19, 26, 7-9pm
TALLERES & FANDANGO
“Fandango” is a family-friendly celebration of traditional music & folk dancing from Veracruz, Mexico. Beginners welcome at these intergenerational workshops.
Details: 360.280.3868
Sunday, Nov. 24, 3-6pm & Thursday, Nov. 28, 7-9pm
SACRED HARP SINGING
This is not a choir, & there are no auditions & no performances. Each session is composed of whomever attends, including every possible level of musical experience & ability—even those who were asked not to sing in their church choirs.
Details: portlandsacredharp.org

For events scheduled after CNews press time, visit ConcordiaPDX.org/community-room-calendar

Cerimon House
is an arts & humanities organization at the heart of the Alberta Arts District, offering dynamic programming for the community. The history-filled building is ADA compliant, climate controlled, and welcomes rentals including classes, activities, and life celebrations.

cerimonhouse.org **CRERIMON HOUSE** **creativepathwalk.org**

Ongoing events include:
*Art Exhibits *“Time Together” Tuesdays: a weekly open house
* Creative Path Walk: a restorative & unique indoor labyrinth

Find us at the corner of NE 23rd Ave. & Sumner St.

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ConcordiaPDX.org/get-involved/ad-sales



Ask the historian

Logan Grocery building to be demolished



This photo from the 1920s shows Logan Grocery, a view looking southwest from the corner of 33rd Avenue and Alberta Street. The former, then known as the “county road,” was not yet paved. Photo courtesy of Bob Wilson



Here's the former grocery store, as it appeared just last month. Photo by Gordon Riggs

By Doug Decker
Historian

The old green building at 33rd Avenue and Alberta Street says “Notice of 120-day delay for demolition.” That means the building is about to be torn down and replaced by condominiums.

Here’s the story: The 109-year-old grocery store building, built before both streets were paved, is slated for demolition and will be replaced by a three-story, mixed-use condominium and office building.

Developer Bob Bochsler of Box Real Estate Holdings in Portland expects demolition to take place in 2020 with construction to follow soon thereafter. Although drawings for the new structure are not yet complete, he envisions a building with a pitched roof and an inner courtyard facing Alberta. “I want to be in keeping with the Pacific Northwest style,” he said.

When the developer first approached the project, he said he wanted to consider ways to utilize the existing building.



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.

Adaptive reuse, however, was not cost effective, due to costs associated with reinforcing the foundation.

The property is ranked in the City of Portland Historic Resource Inventory, which recognizes its significance

Adaptive reuse, however, was not cost effective, due to costs associated with reinforcing the foundation.

for potential historic register designation. However, because past owners never listed the property in the National Register of Historic Places, it may be torn down after a brief delay.

Operated from the 19-teens until the 1940s as Logan’s Grocery, the building cycled through multiple owners from the 1950s through the 1970s, known as Zwhalen’s Grocery and then as Romoli’s. From the late 1970s until recently, the building contained the studio and residence of noted Portland artist Jay Backstrand.

Concordian Bob Wilson, grandson of former storekeepers Anna and Earl Logan, has fond memories of the store from its heyday.

In recent correspondence, Wilson shared these memories:

“When I was a small child, my grandparents lived in the house just south of the store. My grandmother would fix lunch every day for my grandfather Earl and bring it over to him.

“Earl was the storekeeper. Anna was the butcher for the store. As a small boy it was so much fun to be with my grandparents, and then to go over to their store and see all of the people who dropped by.”

I’m collecting memories and photos of the life of this old building and welcome

hearing from any CNews readers who have a story or photo to share.

Ask the historian is a CNews standing feature that encourages readers to ask questions about the history of the neighborhood and its buildings. Is there something you’ve wondered about? Drop a line to CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org and ask Doug Decker to do some digging.

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Want to get involved locally?

Join us at the next CNA Annual Meeting.

Guest speaker Suk Rhee, Office of Civic & Community Life director, will explain the city’s proposed significant changes to the ordinance governing neighborhood associations.

That’s followed by nominations and elections for 6 CNA Board of Director seats and the position of chair.

Wednesday, Nov. 6, 7 p.m.
See Page 3 for details.



Concordia community events calendar



Saturday, Nov. 2, 9am-noon
STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY
Location: ACME Storage, cul-de-sac at end of Colfax
 Join Columbia Slough Watershed Council for restoration planting at a local business. It's family friendly & you're provided with training, gloves, tools, snacks & warm drinks. Dress for the weather & wear long pants, long-sleeved shirt, & closed-toed shoes.
Details: rachel.walsh@columbiaslough.org



Sunday, Nov. 3, noon-6pm
69TH ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER
Location: St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, 5310 NE 42nd
 Dinner includes salad, bread, pasta, meatballs & pie. Beer & wine are available for additional purchase. Hospitality room opens early & 50/50 raffle tickets are for sale. Adults \$12, seniors \$10, children ages 6-12 \$5, children 5 & younger eat free.
Details: Purchase tickets at parish office, at the door, or bit.ly/spagdinner2019



Tuesdays, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, 4-8pm
TIME TOGETHER: TUESDAYS AT CERIMON HOUSE
Location: 5131 NE 23rd
 Gather, knit, craft, fold, chat, be. This open house connects friends. Most Tuesdays also include a 22-foot Chartres pattern labyrinth for a contemplative walk.
Details: cerimonhouse.org

Wednesday, Nov. 6, 3-5pm & 6-8pm
HOME ENERGY SCORE WORKSHOPS
Location: Community Energy Project, 2900 SE Stark
 Portland homes now require home energy scores to be listed for sale. This class is for home sellers/buyers & real estate brokers. Class covers interpreting home energy score reports & effective energy efficiency upgrades.
Details/registration: communityenergyproject.org



Wednesday, Nov. 6, 7 p.m.
CNA ANNUAL MEETING
Location: McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room
 Make nominations—for yourself or others—to 6 CNA board positions & chair, then participate in voting. Guest speaker is Suk Rhee, Portland Office of Community & Civic Life director, who offers the city's perspective on proposed significant changes to the ordinance governing neighborhood associations.
Details: Page 3



Fridays, Nov. 8, 15, 22, 10:30am-noon
FEAST COMMUNITY CHOIR
Location: Subud Portland, 3185 NE Regents
 Forget Everything & Sing Together (FEAST) is a community acapella choir with the goal to build community. New singers welcome.
Details/fee: feastcommunitychoir.com



Saturday, Nov. 9, 9am-noon
STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY
Location: 16650 NE Airport
 Join Columbia Slough Watershed Council for a restoration planting at the Portland Water Bureau Groundwater Pump Station, which serves as a secondary source of drinking water for Portlanders. It's family friendly & you're provided with training, gloves, tools, snacks & warm drinks. Dress for the weather & wear long pants, long-sleeved shirt, & closed-toed shoes.
Details: rachel.walsh@columbiaslough.org



Tuesday, Nov. 12, 7pm
RACE TALKS: WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE GAY
Location: McMenamins Kennedy School
 The topic is "The Color of Fear," an insightful, groundbreaking film about the state of race relations in America. It gives an in-depth look into the state of race in America. In the era of Black Lives Matter, gay pride & chants of "Send them back"—with the urgency for racial reconciliation heightened—the film's commentary is just as poignant today as it was 25 years ago. This is the final of 3 parts. Doors open 6pm.
Details: mcmenamins.com/events/197496-the-color-of-fear-part-2-what-its-like-to-be-gay

Thursday, Nov. 14, 6:30-8:30pm
MBA NETWORKING EVENT
Location: Oregon Public House Community Room, 700 NE Dekum
 Join local business professionals along with Concordia University-Portland School of Management faculty, students, & alumni for refreshments & to hear from Nelson Pratt, Navex corporate marketing director & CU adjunct professor.
Details: cu-portland.edu/about/events/campus-calendar



Monday & Tuesday, Nov. 18 & 19, 4pm-7pm
CREATIVE PATH WALK
Location: Cerimon House, 5131 NE 23rd
 This month's theme for the indoor community contemplative walk is "Returning the Thanks," a nod to the power of gratitude during these turning times. The Reims pattern labyrinth offers the opportunity to focus & still the mind.
Details: creativepathwalk.org



Thursday, Nov. 21, 6-8pm
FREE CRAFT NIGHT
Location: Atlas Pizza, 710 N Killingsworth
 collage & Atlas Pizza collaborate the third Thursday of each month to sponsor this event. Supplies & instructors are provided, no registration necessary.
Details: collagepdx.com

Monday, Nov. 25, 7 p.m.
HISTORY PUB: NORTHEAST PORTLAND: PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE
Location: McMenamins Kennedy School
 Explore the early years of Concordia, Cully, Sabin, Alameda, Vernon & Beaumont-Wilshire neighborhoods & examine how they connect with the present & future. Presenter is historian, CNews columnist & local resident Doug Decker.
Details: mcmenamins.com/events/197510-northeast-portland-past-present-and-future

Concordia University music performances close the year

Concordia University (CU) offers several music performances during the final two months of the year. Check CU-Portland.edu/about/events/campus-calendar for details.

Sunday, Nov. 3, the university's Praise Ensemble joins the worship service at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Happy Valley, 9800 S.E. 92nd Ave., from 9 to 10 a.m.

Sunday, Nov. 17, its Chamber Orchestra joins both worship services

at Christ the Vine Lutheran Church in Damascus, 18677 S.E. Hwy 212, at 8 and 11 a.m.

Friday, Dec. 6, the CU 68th Christmas Chorale is closer to home at St. Michael's Lutheran church, 6700 N.E. 29th Ave. From 7 to 9 p.m., all of the CU student music ensembles join to add a musical background to the Christmas Story. The performance repeats Saturday, Dec. 7, from 7 to 9 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 8, from 3 to 5 p.m.

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.



NOVEMBER 2019	
1	THE NITEMARE B4 XMAS + MICHELLE ALANY & THE MYSTICS
2	
3	
4	THE GREATEST GENERATION PODCAST LIVE: GREATESTGENKHAN II: STAR TREK III
5	VISHTÈN
6	CASCADE BLUES ASSOCIATION 2019 MUDDY AWARDS
7	BOOKER T. JONES CELEBRATES THE RELEASE OF HIS MEMOIR TIME IS TIGHT
9	LIVE WIRE RADIO WITH LUKE BURBANK
10	LIVE WIRE RADIO SPECIAL PORTLAND BOOK FESTIVAL BRUNCH SHOW
10	PHENOMENAL WOMAN FEMALE SONGWRITERS & THE WOMEN WHO INSPIRE THEM
12	ABORTION ACCESS FRONT PRESENTS ABORTION AF: THE TOUR FEAT. LIZZ WINSTEAD + BETH STELLING WITH BRANDON LYONS
13	THIS IS MOTO THE MOVIE PREMIERE
14	RODNEY CROWELL + JOE ROBINSON
15	LIVE WIRE RADIO WITH LUKE BURBANK
16	MORTIFIED PORTLAND 2 SHOWS
17	TYRONE WELLS + DAN RODRIGUEZ + RIVVRS
19	SCIENCE ON TAP A PATH IN THE WOODS HOW FORESTS CAN HELP STOP CLIMATE CHANGE
20	FIDDLERS SHE CAITLIN WARBELOW • AARUN CARTER • BRONGAENE GRIFFIN
21	LIVE WIRE RADIO WITH LUKE BURBANK
22	FINEHOUSE A TRIBUTE TO AMY WINEHOUSE + ADEBISI (22) AND POPGOJI (23)
23	
24	TIM O'BRIEN BAND
29	THE NEXT WALTZ
30	
1 DEC	

