



CONCORDIA NEWS

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

May 2017



CNA Spring Clean Up May 20

**PCC Workforce Training Center
NE 42nd & Killingsworth**

The annual Concordia Neighborhood Association Spring Clean Up is **Saturday, May 20, 8 a.m.–12:30 p.m.**

Drop off items you no longer need or want.

Volunteer to help by emailing Social@ConcordiaPDX.org.

See Page 6 for details.

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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Tylers make mortgage doable

By Nancy Varekamp
CNews Editor

Mallory and Greg Tyler wanted to move from southeast Portland to Concordia in 2015. It was close to Mallory's childhood home, and it's where they wanted to raise their then-nine-month-old daughter.

Property was difficult to afford, so they looked for – and found – a home in northwest Concordia that could accommodate short-term Airbnb rentals in the daylight basement.

"That's the only way we could afford to live in this neighborhood," Mallory explained.

The daylight basement has a separate entrance, egress, plumbing and a fireplace. "It was pretty dated, so we did some fixing up and even did a seismic retrofit," she said.

Work occurred between March and July 2015. Then the Tylers applied to the city for short-term rental permits. The process wasn't difficult, but very slow, and it was October before they could open the doors to guests.

"It isn't available for long-term rental because we entertain family from Spokane and Alabama frequently," Mallory pointed out.

Visitors have come from 10 countries in North, Central and South America; Asia; Europe; the Mideast; and Australia.

Lengths and reasons for their stays differ, according to Mallory. "Some come for an early flight out of PDX. They come for Blazers games, concerts, job interviews and to check out colleges. One Japanese family stayed here two weeks. Another family from Minnesota has



Mallory and Greg Tyler, pictured with 2½-year-old Willa, wanted a home in Concordia, but couldn't afford the mortgage. So they bought a house that would accommodate a rental space, and that takes off the financial pressure.

become really good friends and have stayed with us three times.

"Sometimes we never see our guests after they check in, and sometimes we hang out with them. We just follow their lead."

Mallory has a full-time job and Greg works part-time. "So he does the greeting and a lot of the cleaning. We've always wanted our own business, and this is it."

City requirements included notifying neighbors in advance. "No one's had any complaints, and we ask guests to be considerate of one neighbor's request

about where to park," Mallory reported. "The neighbors seem to be really down with it. Some say they want to do it too."

Mallory loves being back in the neighborhood. "People seem to use Airbnb for the 'Portland experience.' So we use our Airbnb to expose people to our neighborhood."

"We decorate it with local artists' works and, in the guest book, everything is in our neighborhood – places on Dekum, Alberta, Killingsworth, Mississippi. If you Google 'places to visit in Portland,' you aren't likely to find the places we recommend."

Editor's note: This is another installment in the CNews continuing series on housing challenges and solutions in Concordia.

Help bring concerts to the park this summer



The Fernhill Concert series is just two months away and \$6,950 is still needed for this popular summertime opportunity. Sponsorships are available and individual donations are also sought.

Take a look at which local businesses have already registered as sponsors on Page 8, give them your thanks, and visit ConcordiaPDX.org to learn how to join them.

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MULTICULTURAL CHALLENGES

Yashica Island says everyone has a story.

See Page 4



NE TOOL LIBRARY

Locals borrow as many as 900 tools per week.

See Page 7



EGG HUNT DRAWS 250-PLUS

The action was fast paced at last month's CNA Spring Egg Hunt.

See Page 8

CNA VOICES

By Nancy Varekamp
CNews Editor



CNews is what it is thanks to all of you

I'll soon celebrate my first anniversary with CNews. So I jumped at the opportunity to write this column to celebrate the many people who make CNews a pleasure to edit.

I know better than to name anyone specifically without bearing the risk of omitting someone unintentionally. However, you know who you are. So please know your contributions and your support are inestimable.

I truly believe CNews is the best newsletter of any Portland neighborhood association. Visit PortlandOregon.gov/ONI/28385 to check individual associations' websites and their newsletters. CNews goes beyond the typical definition of newsletter. It aspires to be an actual newspaper that covers one small-yet-mighty slice of the city.

The people who produce CNews aren't all professional writers, reporters or photographers. They are, however, highly knowledgeable citizens who understand the concerns of their neighbors. They are passionate about the issues that face the neighborhood they are proud to call home.

We stand on the shoulders of the people who came before us to produce a publication for and about

Concordians. The time and efforts of our forebears are the foundation of CNews, and those people are a constant inspiration to your current Media Team.

We also appreciate the patience, guidance and support of the CNA Board of Directors and its committees, the members of which participate in CNews behind the scenes and in print.

We wouldn't be here – literally – without the financial commitment of our advertisers to cover the costs of producing this publication.

I saved the best for last. CNews wouldn't be possible without

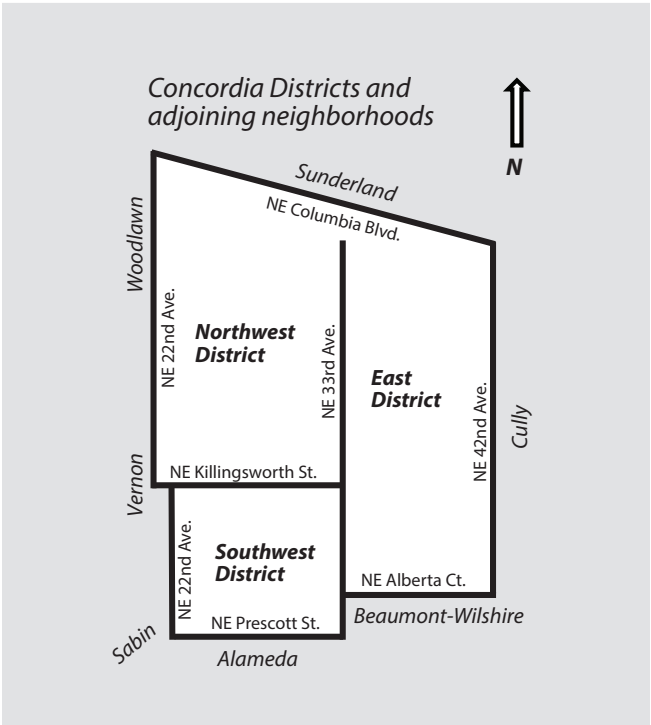
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Please suggest more stories, and please volunteer to write stories and shoot photographs. We can't do this without you – all of you.

I'm at CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org, and I want to hear from you.

The time and efforts of our forebears are the foundation of CNews, and those people are a constant inspiration to your current Media Team.



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Pricing: \$25/hr (nonprofit rates available)
Email: CNARoomKennedy@gmail.com

Concordia Neighborhood Association

MEETINGS

Board Meeting

2nd Tuesday of the month
Tuesday, May 9, 7-8:30 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room

General Meeting

Tuesday, June 13, 7-9 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room

Social Committee

If you'd like to volunteer for the May 20 CNA Spring Clean Up or join the CNA Social Committee to help plan other fun, community-building events, contact Katie Ugolini, 503.449.9690, KTUgolini@gmail.com.

Media Team

1st Tuesday of the month, Tuesday, May 2, 6 p.m.
McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room
Contact MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org

Land Use & Transportation Committee

3rd Wednesday of the month
Wednesday, May 17, 6 p.m.
McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room
Contact LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org Board Meeting

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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: CNewsBusiness@ConcordiaPDX.org, 503.891.7178

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cerimonhouse.org

Cerimon House is a nonprofit humanities & cultural organization located in the historic neighborhood meeting space on the corner of NE 23rd and Sumner. We welcome your rentals, are fully ADA compliant, and are hosting ceremonies and gatherings of all kinds. Join us and add your stories.

MAY SPECIAL EVENTS

The *At The Hearth* Conversation Series

George Nakata

Experiences in an American Concentration Camp in the 1940's

May 7th at 5pm

Zach Krahmer

Laying Down Arms: A Peaceful Transition in Columbia

May 11th at 7pm

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS.

Sunday, May 28th
(1:00 - 4:30pm):

LABYRINTH WALK

On the final Sunday of each month, visit this popular and unique community event. It's a large-scale contemplative walking pattern.

Unplug. Focus. Restore.



SCHEDULE YOUR 30-MINUTE APPOINTMENT AT OUR WEBSITE, OR DROP-IN ON MAY 28TH.



Photo by Marcus Murray

Concordia murals

She likes to leave her mark



By Dan Werle
CNA Media Team

The left section of this four-panel mural on 29th Avenue at Alberta Street was commissioned by Darryl Joannides, owner of Cork Wine Shop, more than four years ago. Breanna Field designed and painted it, and repaired the right panel after it was tagged with graffiti.

Artist: Breanna lived in Portland on and off for several years, and has since lived in Central America, Down Under, and currently is in Denver. Breanna loves interacting with people who pass by

while she paints a mural. “You see a new side of a community. It inspires conversation, connection. Also, as someone who moves around a lot, it is a way I can leave a mark on a place – a way I can say, ‘I loved it here. I cared about this place.’”

What the mural represents: “It’s my story of Portland, the light and life I found in those clouds, the forests that brought me alive, the roots I put down there,” Breanna said. “I knew I had found a special thing in Portland – the way people embrace their surroundings and really take hold of life. I grew an open-minded confidence there that I carry with me wherever I go.”

Fun fact: The panel on the far right

was tagged across the sharecropper’s face during the time Breanna painted her panel, and she was hired to repair the damage.

“Stroke by stroke I covered the awful and careless tag. So many people with coffee, strollers, groceries, on bicycles, all stopped to say how they loved the sharecropper, how sad they were when it was destroyed, and how grateful they were to me and to Darryl that we cared enough to fix it.

“I fell deeply in love with the Alberta neighborhood during that time, and I am far more proud of my involvement to save that piece than I am of my own mural.”

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

Correction

On Page 3 of the April CNews, a photo credit was omitted accidentally on the Concordia Murals photo. Volunteer Karen Wells photographed the mural at the corner of Alberta Street and 29th Avenue.

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CONCORDIA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
1975

Nextdoor.com



By Carrie Wenninger
CNA Media Team

Big hairy debate: Poster politely asks dogs and owners in front of her home to respectfully “move along” while others defend dogs’ right to do their business on private lawns...as long as they’re picked up after. Cue comment hailstorm.

Street and sidewalk snappers: Friend or foe? Taking pics of houses, gardens, gates, garages...for inspiration or more nefarious purposes? Most agree those snapping shots of your home are likely appraisers, architects, real estate or insurance agents, or simply folks who love your look!

Kindergarten rules still apply: Look left AND right! Neighbor on foot encounters car turning right that sadly fails to LOOK right for pedestrians before turning. Many, including this writer, have encountered same. Be safe, look both ways, however you travel.

Gone too soon: Longtime resident, Judy Mae Phillips, a familiar face, singing voice and ‘Ambassador of Alberta Street,’ passed away April 4. She will be greatly missed.

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

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All day; music starts at 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 3
Kennedy School and Oregon Humanities present:
**Bitter Harvest: Chinese Hop
Farmers in the Willamette Valley
in the early 1900s**
This program comprises three film shorts, a
panel presentation and audience Q&A.
7 p.m. event

Thursday, May 4
**ALEXA WILEY &
THE WILDERNESS**
Rockin' folk poetry
Gym • 7 p.m.

Friday, May 5
**'80s PROM WITH
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Live '80s dance hits
Gym • 7 p.m. • \$20 • 21 & over
Tickets at cascadetickets.com

Saturdays: May 6, 13, 20 & 27
Opera on Tap
Live opera singers in & around the Honors Bar.
6 p.m. 'til 9 p.m.

Tuesday, May 9
RACE TALKS: An Opportunity
for Dialogue
Ending the "OREGON FAIL": How
Irvington Elementary School Changed
the Face of Oregon's History
Gym • 6 p.m. doors; 7 p.m. event

Thursday, May 11
The Junebugs
High-energy folk pop
Gym • 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 14
Mother's Day Brunch
Call for reservations
\$31 adults, \$19 kids 5-12, 4 & under free
Gym • 9 a.m. 'til 3 p.m.

Thursday, May 18
ALIALUJAH CHOIR
As part of Great Northwest Music Tour
Folk trio
Gym • 7 p.m.

Thursday, May 18
**EXTRA CREDIT
BEER TASTING**
Come sample this month's featured beer.
Brewery • 5 p.m. 'til 7 p.m. • 21 & over

Monday, May 22
HISTORY PUB:
Portland's Black Belt:
Motives and Means in Albina
Real Estate, 1940-1990
Theater • 6 p.m. doors; 7 p.m. event

Thursday, May 25
OLD OUTFITS
Indie psych pop
Gym • 7 p.m.



CU multicultural director has come home full circle



By Karen Wells
CNA Media Team

Everyone has a story. So says the Concordia University (CU) Office of Multicultural Services web page. And so does Yashica Island, Diversity and Intercultural Engagement director. This is hers.

Yashica attended Benson High School with the goal to become a physician. She

access to fulfill program requirements.

"Pharmacists told me I was only allowed to cashier," she recalled. Heartbroken, but undaunted, Yashica switched gears to OSU's master's program in elementary education and teaching, with a focus on science and mathematics. Later she taught science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) classes at a predominantly white Northwest high school.

"The students were great, though staff, administration – and especially the

"I want to provide support that helps any student weather the challenges of being a person of color in higher education in Oregon."

— Yashica Island

earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry and a minor in mathematics from Southern Arkansas University.

She returned to the Northwest and enrolled in the Oregon State University (OSU) doctor of pharmacy, pharmaceutical sciences program. Three years into the four-year program, the doors of the pharmacy sector slammed shut. Yashica couldn't secure a mentor, internship site, nor would any local pharmacy allow her

parents – were unsupportive. They regularly challenged me on my lesson plans, expertise, credentials, etc." After three years, Yashica moved on to the college level.

How does a person with a strong teaching and STEM background wind up being a university multicultural center director?

"I want to provide support that helps any student weather the challenges of



Yashica Island, Diversity and Intercultural Engagement director, came full circle – geographically and culturally – when she joined Concordia University this year. Her office is just eight blocks from her childhood home. Yashica faced racial discrimination in pursuit of her original two career goals, pharmacy and high school teaching. Photo by Karen Wells

being a person of color in higher education in Oregon," she said. "Being black and being a Portland native prepared me for this position since I have firsthand knowledge of the terrain, the subtleties of race dynamics and how the dysfunctions play out."

Yashica became the Multicultural Center director in January. "The center is important because dominant culture people – white people – are afraid of interacting with people they see as different. White people don't seek out people of color and engage socially. They have the option of hiding in the comfort of their social bubble, which creates problems on both sides of the equation."

It's been a long journey back to her home digs, eight blocks from her childhood home at 18th Avenue and Holman Street. The CU she remembers as a child was an ivy-covered building surrounded by a bustling diverse community.

"I want to bring some historical perspective of place, of what this community was back in the late 1970s, before the demographic and housing market shifts."

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

Editor's note: For resources about the Concordia University Multicultural Center, race issues in higher education and in Oregon, and bias in healthcare, visit ConcordiaPDX.org/multicultural-resources.

GOT NEWS?

email:

CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org

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On-street parking reform foiled by city council



By Garlynn Woodsong
Chair, CNA LUTC

Most Portlanders who live in single-family homes are long accustomed to parking their car(s) on the street in front of their house, for free. As our city continues to grow and evolve, however, the ability to continue to do so is changing, especially in our more popular neighborhoods, such as Concordia.

Residents living near popular restaurant and retail clusters, such as Fox Chase at 30th Avenue and Killingsworth Street, or Alberta Street west of 30th Avenue, know they will be competing with visitors for on-street parking spaces during

popular meal hours as well as special events, such as Last Thursday.

New infill development is steadily increasing pressure on the supply of on-street parking spaces. One example is the new 30-unit building at Fox Chase Corner for which no off-street parking is required (per current city code).

These pressures have been recognized by Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) staff members, who have been working behind the scenes for years to develop policy solutions. In 2015, PBOT launched the Citywide Parking Strategy, which was built around the concept of Performance-Based Parking Management (PBPM). City Council approved development of a PBPM program April 13, 2016.

The goal was to provide tools to allow

commercial areas and adjacent neighborhoods to manage their growth to promote both economic development and livability. This program would have included variable parking pricing for commercial centers and corridors, as well as a new companion parking permit program available for use by adjacent residential areas.

These tools were designed to be used in sequence so as areas grow, PBOT could work with the public to address parking needs in a way that deploys the tools in a logical sequence – using simpler solutions first before implementing, if at all, the more involved systems of permits and paid parking.

The CNA LUTC had recently opened a dialogue with PBOT staff on how to begin deploying the parking toolbox to

help Concordia deal with our increasing parking challenges.

Unfortunately, at its meeting on December 15, 2016, Portland City Council unexpectedly declined to adopt these proposals into policy.

So now, without an adopted set of parking policies to help us cope with the growing demands on our limited on-street parking supply, the CNA LUTC is beginning our own process, in conjunction with other neighborhoods, to determine how best to convince city council their failure to address the city's parking challenges has not erased the need to do so.

Stay tuned for more information soon on opportunities to participate!

Land use, transportation & livability update



By Ben Earle
Secretary, CNA LUTC

It's the blusty month of May, and that gorgeous time of year to revel in. But the land use world brims with much to do, so without further ado...

for alleviating the increasing traffic congestion between Oregon and Washington not addressed by the elusive Columbia River Crossing.

Concordia University: The LUTC is crafting input to a revived good neighbor agreement as an important part of re-establishing an ongoing positive relationship between CNA and

to the Better Housing by Design (BHD) project.

The BHD's purpose is to revise development and design standards in the multi-dwelling zones outside the city's central core. That's in conjunction with the 2035 Comprehensive Plan's already-completed, single-dwelling focused Residential Infill Plan and commer-

approaches to create street and pedestrian connections. They also take into account neighborhood character fit and enhancement.

The diverse group of attendees at the NECN session asked many questions and provided a wide range of thoughtful feedback on:

- Front garage limitations, along with associated parking options and front entrance requirements
- Front setbacks in higher density zones
- Alternative development options for inner neighborhoods

A final public workshop is scheduled June 3 for code concepts. Then input will be compiled, and the entire process will conclude with public hearings and adoption planned this autumn and winter.

For more information, or to provide input directly, visit Portland.Oregon.gov/bps/betterhousing or call 503.823.7728.

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

Percolating projects and pending actions

Parking: This spring or early summer the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) will come talk with the community about available parking options – current and potential – to help mitigate myriad problems. It's part of the Land Use & Transportation Committee (LUTC) initiative to address the growing parking challenges throughout our neighborhood. See our intrepid LUTC chair's story above.

Transportation: The LUTC is submitting letters in support of:

- Further safety protections for the Lombard Street & 42nd Avenue bike lane and pedestrian crossings currently being installed
- Extension of TriMet Line 24 across the Fremont Bridge to connect the northeast and northwest
- Development of the Cascade High Speed Rail project as an alternative

The goal is to foster housing that helps meet Portland's diverse housing needs in middle-density zones.

Concordia University (CU). We are identifying key issues arising from CU's daily activities and steady campus expansion that impact the community's livability needs directly.

Better Housing by Design initiative progresses


In lieu of our normal meeting, LUTC members joined more than 20 people April 19 at the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN) office next to King School. It was the fifth of six stakeholder working group meetings the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) is conducting at various eastside locations since February to solicit input

cial-plus-residential mixed use “early implementation” zoning projects.

The goal is to foster housing that helps meet Portland's diverse housing needs in middle-density zones. That includes equity and fairness in access to affordable housing and inclusion of open space and green elements for healthy living.

The two-hour meetings focus on public feedback on a variety of building designs, for both their individual merits and their roles in influencing the community environment of the surrounding block(s).

The options presented range from different approaches to building layout and scaling, to looking for new



What's Selling in Concordia?

189 Homes sold in RMLS in last 12 months as of April 12 th	4.4% Increase since 2016 2016 Average Sale Price: \$469,377
Avg. Days on Market:..... 20	Average List: \$474,711
Avg. Cumulative Days on Market23	Median List: \$449,700
Median Days on Market:7	Average List \$ per square foot: \$230
Median Cumulative Days on Market7	Average Sold \$ per square foot: \$238
Avg. square feet:2,063	Median Sale Price: \$465,000
Median square feet:2,108	Average Sale Price: \$490,976

This information provided by
Mark Charlesworth, Concordia resident & Broker Keller Williams, Portland Central.
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CNA SPRING CLEAN UP

Saturday, May 20

8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

PCC Workforce Training Center at NE 42nd & Killingsworth

Spring cleaning comes to Concordia, and CNA will dump, recycle and/or find new homes for your household items.

ACCEPTED MATERIALS

- Household waste
- Metal
- Styrofoam (no peanuts)
- Plastics (see story on this page)
- Furniture
- Electronics
- Lamps
- Batteries
- Mattresses
- Clothes
- Bicycles
- Other household items

PROHIBITED MATERIALS

- Hazardous waste
- Construction, demolition, roofing & remodeling debris
- Kitchen garbage
- Residential yard debris
- Commercial landscaping materials
- Waste & recyclables collected curbside
- Light bulbs
- Refrigerators & freezers
- Large appliances/white goods
- Tires, rocks & concrete
- Paint & oil

SUGGESTED DONATIONS PER LOAD:

- Car: \$10
- Truck, van, SUV: \$15
- Large truck: \$20
- Oversized load: \$30
- Electronics & batteries: \$5



All proceeds support CNA’s mission to organize human and physical resources, build community and enrich livability here.

SPECIAL FEATURES IN 2017

“You Price It” Yard Sale:

See something you like among the reusable household goods, say what it’s worth to you and it’s yours.

Professional tool & knife sharpening:

Look elsewhere on this page for details.



The “You Price It” Yard Sale was a big hit last year, so look for it again this month at the CNA Spring Clean Up. Donated household items will be on display. Say what you think an item is worth and pull out your wallet. It’s yours.

CNA Spring Clean Up needs (lots of) volunteers

Here’s your chance to help your neighbors, your neighborhood association and your environment. Volunteer to help out at the May 20 CNA Spring Clean Up. You can help greet your neighbors, staff the drop off tables, sell items at the “You Price It” Yard Sale, sort donations and more. Email Social@ConcordiaPDX.org for details.

What do you do with plastics?



By Heather Pashley
CNA Board Member

Portlanders are lucky to have a curbside recycling program. You can put plastics in your mixed recycling bins to be picked up weekly by the garbage haulers. They will pick up bottles, jugs and jars (any container with threaded necks or necks narrower than the bases), round plastic tubs, rigid planting/nursery pots, and buckets that are 5 gallons or smaller.

You may wonder about those plastics that don’t fit those rules. To learn how to recycle them, call the Metro hotline at 503.234.3000 or visit OregonMetro.gov/tools-living/garbage-and-recycling/find-a-recycler.

Better yet, bring the plastics your garbage hauler doesn’t pick up to the CNA Clean Up. It’s Saturday, May 20, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the PCC Workforce Training Center at NE 42nd & Killingsworth. CNA will collect clean and dry plastic bags like grocery, bread and reclosable food storage bags; bubble wrap; shrink wrap; and other film-like plastics that are not crinkly.

You also may bring mixed plastics that have recycling 1-7 printed on them, like clamshell containers, flat plastic lids, and containers that are smaller than 6 ounces.

CNA can also accept bulky rigid plastics that don’t have recycling numbers, like buckets, crates, baskets and storage bins

Questions? Send an email to AL6@ConcordiaPDX.com.

THANKS TO THE CNA SPRING CLEAN UP’S GENEROUS SPONSORS

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Don’t use dull blades for your home spring clean up

Bring your kitchen and garden tools to the May 20 CNA Spring Clean Up for professional sharpening. Between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m., 1Sharptool Edge Service will donate a percentage of the proceeds from sharpening:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| • Knives | • Scissors | • Machetes |
| • Pruners | • Loppers | • Axes |
| • Pocket knives | • Garden shears | • Shovels |
| • Hoes | • Chisels | • Rotary mowers |

Services are first come first served. Prices start at \$6.25 for garden tools and \$7.50 for kitchen knives. 1Sharptool Edge Service accepts cash, checks and credit cards.

For details, contact 1Sharptool Edge Service at 360.606.7062 or visit 1SharpTool.com.

Tools available for your own spring clean up

It's the busy season at the Northeast Portland Tool Library. According to Robert Bowles, a founding member of the library, that's going to continue through summer. "On our busiest days we loan 900 tools, and an average day will see 200 to 400 tools go out the door."

That's all within the nine hours the library is open weekly: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m.-2 p.m., except holidays.

mixers to welders to screw drivers. About 20 volunteers staff the library and – just like the tools – more are always needed. Since the library doesn't offer instruction on use of the tools, volunteers need no experience.

Visit NEPTL.org for details about free membership, volunteering and donating tools. The "Tools" tab on the home page offers an inventory.

"Our clientele come from all income levels and the library empowers our

"Our clientele come from all income levels and the library empowers our neighbors to maintain a sustainable, thriving community."

— Robert Bowles

Redeemer Lutheran Church is the current fiscal sponsor of the nonprofit, all-volunteer organization in its basement at 5431 N.E. 20th Ave., but just last month the tool library became its own 501(c)(3).

Although 7,000 northeast Portlanders 18 years and older are library members, Robert estimates 2,300 of them are active borrowers of the library's 3,000 tools. Those tools range from cement

neighbors to maintain a sustainable, thriving community," Robert said. "Most are first-time homeowners or renters who don't have access to tools, and they're setting out on smaller jobs. But, as you start doing home maintenance and improvement, you take on bigger projects.

"There has been a ton of remodeling work, and several tiny houses and accessory dwelling units have been built with



About 7,000 northeast Portlanders 18 years and older are members of the Northeast Portland Tool Library and borrow its tools for free. Photo courtesy of NEPTL

our tools," he reported. "A couple of people have even built guitars."

Individual borrowers are limited to seven tools for seven days. People working on group projects are permitted to check out more than seven tools at a time.

Robert is proud of the library he and several others helped found nine years ago. "Concordia resident Eric Fair-Layman took the idea from the North Portland Tool Library and started finding people to help start one in northeast Portland."

Since then, the library has grown leaps and bounds in membership, volunteers and tools. It sponsors a few classes and workshops each year. Members even helped two other tool libraries in southeast Portland get started.

Letter to the editor

Thanks for helping get the word out on bullying

To the Editor,

I wanted to give a public "shout out" and "Thank you so much" to the people who helped me craft my three article series on bullying. I could not have done the series without their generosity of spirit, time and insight.

Nancy Varekamp, Dan Werle, Carrie Wenninger, Susan Trabucco and Will Goubert, Concordia News Media Team; Judi Martin, district ombudsman, Portland Public Schools, Rick Kirschmann, assistant director of school climate and discipline, Portland Public Schools; Ben Keefer, principal, Vernon School; Diallo Lewis, vice principal, Grant High School; Dawn Menken, author, "Raising Parents Raising Kids;" Bernadette Janet, Chris Lopez, Kelly Zakis, community members; Tressa Graham, my cousin; and Priscilla Carlson, my wife.

Much love and gratitude.

— Karen Wells

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

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CNA Spring Egg Hunt lures 250-plus children



An estimated (i.e., too many to count) 250 children joined the Concordia Neighborhood Association Spring Egg Hunt last month. The action lasted for about 10 minutes while the children swarmed Fernhill Park in search of 6,000 candy-filled

plastic eggs.

Those eggs were stuffed by about 30 volunteers the previous day, and hidden in the park by about 17 volunteers on hunt day. The event was sponsored by the neighborhood association and American Legion Post 134. Additionally, Saturday

morning volunteers were treated to juice and donuts by Mark Charlesworth Real Estate Team - Keller Williams Portland Central. A goodie basket was donated by Dutch Bros., along with hunt day coffee and hot chocolate for volunteers.



Photos by Chris Baker

Please become a sponsor for Fernhill Concert Series

Business sponsors and individual donors are still needed for this summer's Fernhill Concert Series. At press time, Concordia Neighborhood Association was still \$6,950 short of the budget required for five concerts every Friday in July and at the Neighborhood Night Out the first Friday of August.

Individual donations – even \$5 and \$10 is a big help – are needed. To donate online and/or for instructions for check donations, visit ConcordiaPDX.org/concerts.

Business sponsorship commitments are needed ASAP, but payment is not due until June 1. Contact Chariti Montez, concert production manager, at Concerts@PortlandOregon.gov or 503.823.5059.

Current business sponsors:

Champion Sponsors \$3,000

- Concordia Neighborhood Association
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- McMenamins Kennedy School

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- St. Michael's Lutheran Church



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Resident spotlight

It's better here in some ways, not in others



By Jessica Rojas
Northeast Coalition of
Neighborhoods

Editor's note: This story is reprinted with permission from Hey Neighbor, the NECN newsletter. Some of Marcia Cole's answers were trimmed to fit space available in CNews. For the entire story, visit ConcordiaPDX.org/marcia-cole.

How long you have you been in this neighborhood?

I was born in Portland, my mother was of Irish descent from Canada and we grew up in southeast in my early years. Being a hairstylist, one of my clients had gotten a good deal on this house and she was having trouble finding people who wanted to move in. I rented the house in May of '76, and I purchased it in



Marcia Cole

December of '96. During the '80s, none of my friends hung out here, they would either drop me off or pick me up. There weren't restaurants on Alberta like there are now. By

the time crack cocaine infected the neighborhood, I had bullet holes in the back of my garage which I'm kind of proud of...we all lived through that, and we all tried to still be good neighbors. What is sad about gentrification is many people who were displaced, were older than me, they had owned their homes, stuck through all the horrible times and had to deal with the drive-bys. It is when taxes went up and they couldn't refinance, I feel concerned that many were screwed out of their houses.

Do you remember when there were other clubs in the neighborhood?

My significant other was a founding member of a biker club, "Brothers Free." During those times, there were many struggling low-income families that appreciated the Easter egg hunt. These

bikers would get these kids outside all day and every year. One can hear those big burly bikers on a megaphone as they fed the neighborhood, they also held a toy donation run around Christmas.

What else do you remember about the family make-up of the neighborhood?

I think back when I came into the neighborhood and there was nobody of my age bracket and that was white, so I could tell it kind of might have been a big deal at the time. I remember that there were many established households around here in '76. People were neighborly but it was also like, "mind your own business," and so that's how it's different now. People are more outgoing now, but when people ask me if I think it's better now, in some ways yes, but in some ways no.

JFR Foundation Ageless Award goes to Sen. Margaret Carter



Keren Brown Wilson

May is Older Americans Month, celebrated nationally since 1963 when President John F. Kennedy signed the proclamation recognizing and honoring the contributions of seniors. Both Portland and Multnomah County have already signed proclamations for 2017.

Organizations serving older adults have many special events planned and those interested should contact Elders in Action or their local service center to get details about those.

In keeping with Older Americans Month, it is fitting one of north-northeast's own older Americans, state Sen. Margaret Carter, was honored with the 2017 Ageless Award by the Jessie F. Richardson Foundation. The Ageless Award



Margaret Carter

is given to persons 75 and older who demonstrate living purposeful lives and continued engagement in later life. Margaret moved to Portland in 1967 with her five children. She put herself through college and graduate school, and she spent 27 years as a counselor at Port-

land Community College. In 1984 she ran for state office and became the first African American woman elected to the Oregon Legislature, where she spent the next 28 years serving in either the House or Senate. Margaret's work as an educator, counselor, legislator, civic leader and volunteer have shaped not only Portland but the whole state of Oregon. At age 82, she continues to work and volunteer in Portland and Salem. Margaret is a true

model of living a life with purpose. Keren Brown Wilson, Ph.D., is president of the Jessie F. Richardson Foundation. Based in Clackamas, the nonprofit helps elders live full lives with dignity. Its strategies focus on bridging the gap for elders, families, and communities throughout the United States and around the globe. Contact her at 503.408.4088 or KWilson@JFRFoundation.org, or visit JFRFoundation.org.



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Try body tapping practice



By Penny Hill
Rising Sun Massage

The word tapotement translates to “light blows.” In massage there are several types of tapotement. Various types are administered using the flat hand (slapping), loose fists or the familiar

Tapping on the body for health is found in many traditions. Tapping, or tapotement, is one of the five main strokes of Swedish massage.

the fingers toward the heel of the hand, then slap the cup on the back over the lung area. This percussion clears congestion. We tap baby’s backs to soothe them.

Tapping on the body is a technique also found in Qigong. It is stimulating for the flow of blood and energy.

The following is a very soothing and stimulating routine. In sets of three passes:

- With flat hands and medium pressure, slap down the front of the torso.
- Using the right hand, slap from shoulder to wrist, the top and bottom sides of the left arm, repeat on other side.
- Return to the left side and slap from under the arm to the waist.
- Repeat the action on the right side.
- Slap down the outside of the legs, from hip to knee.
- With loose fists tap gently on the low back.
- Finish with some tapping on the top of the head. Massage and tug on the ears.

Give this a try in the morning to get the energy flowing for the day, or as a pick-me-up anytime.

Penny, LMT and Certified EFT Practitioner, may be reached at PennyHilleft.CoachesConsole.com

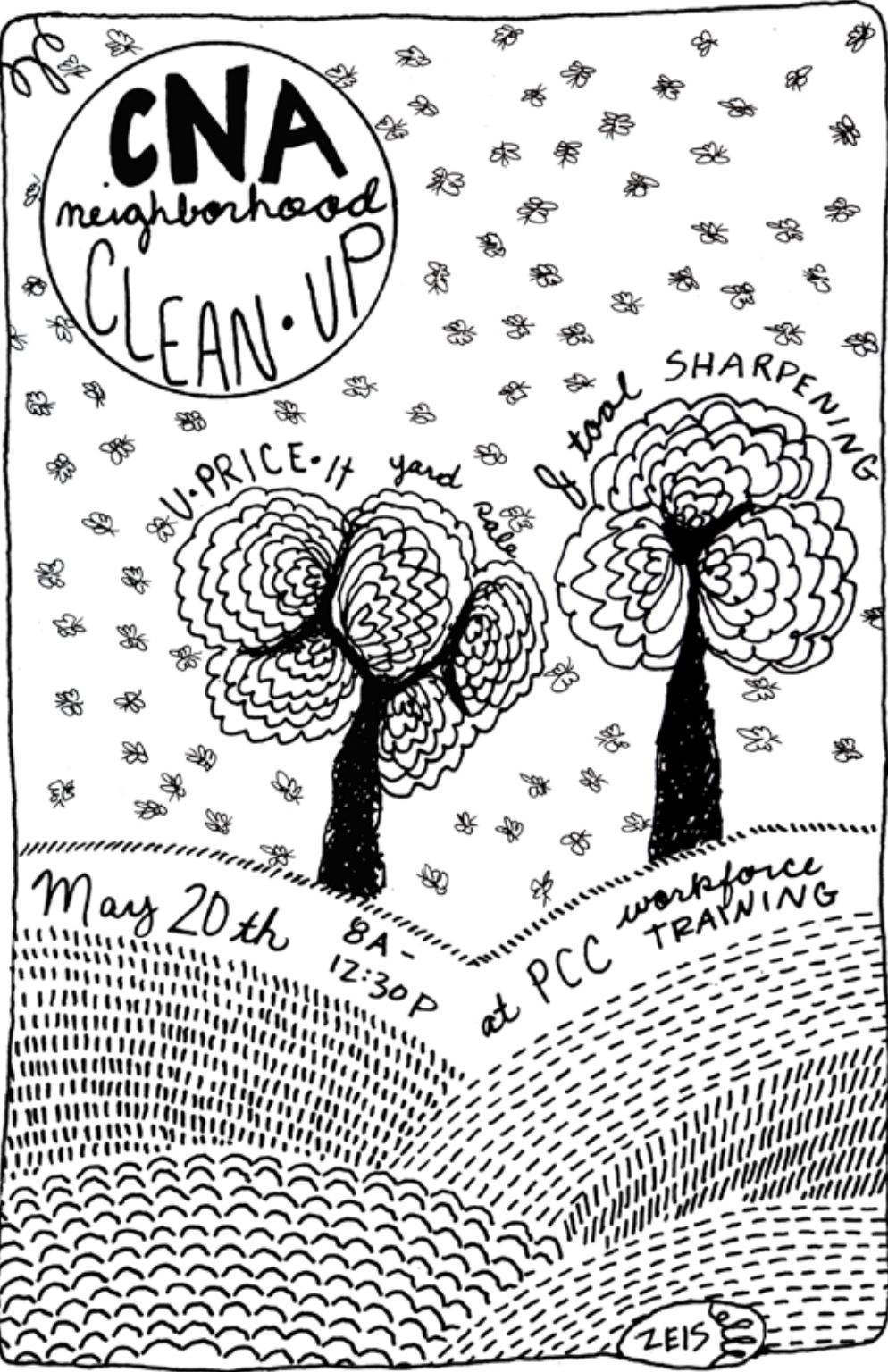
*It is stimulating
for the flow of
blood and energy.*

hacking using the edge of the hands in a quick series of alternate karate chop like movements. It produces a series of quick muscle contractions that can bring blood and energy to a weak muscle, or drain excess energy from a tight contracted muscle.

Another useful form is cupping. Form the hand into a cup-like shape by bending

Art Corner

Jeanette Zeis is ready for the Saturday morning, May 20, annual Concordia Neighborhood Association Spring Clean Up. Are you? Check out the details on Page 6.



You can thank 1938 voters for Fernhill Park

The question:
How did our three closest parks – Fernhill, Alberta and Wilshire – come to be?
– Calley Dodero

The historian reports:

By Doug Decker
Historian

In this, the third of three profiles on local parks, we’re focusing on Fernhill Park.

If you’ve ever appreciated the wide open spaces of Fernhill Park, the soccer fields, dog

park, tennis courts or playground, you have Portland voters in 1938 to thank, and a determined parks bureau staff in the 1950s who acquired multiple individual parcels to make up today’s 25-acre park.

The 1938 vote approved a tax levy for parks and playgrounds that led to a 10-year program of acquiring and enhancing open spaces in Portland neighborhoods.

Using the new funds, the city’s acquisition of property from willing sellers in the area began in August 1940 with a 10-acre parcel bought for \$7,125 from A.W. Jackson. It included the densely-forested ravine area that is now the dog park.

Prior to 1940, the surrounding area was almost all farmland and orchards stretching west to Kennedy School, south to Killingsworth and north to the banks of the Columbia Slough.

Often referred to as “truck farms,”

because the produce was sold out of the back of trucks at busy intersections and small markets around town, these fields produced vegetables for Portland households.

One farm near the corner of what is today’s 41st Avenue and Holman Street was owned and run by a Japanese immigrant family, as were others in the area. During World War II, Japanese farming families were removed from their land and placed in internment camps in southeast Oregon and central California.

As the park took shape through the late 1940s and early 1950s, locals referred to it as Ainsworth Park. That’s a name that appears frequently in real estate advertising of that era. On July 14, 1954, the city council passed an ordinance officially naming the area Fernhill Park. That’s a name that was not in local usage prior, but that may take its meaning from the hills on the north side of the park.

Construction of Adams High School just southeast of the park in the mid-1960s caused quite a stir and protest from the neighborhood. More than 150 angry neighbors turned out at a Portland School Board meeting Sept. 4, 1964, to raise awareness that 26 homes had to be demolished to make room for the school, as well as three duplexes, a local greenhouse/nursery known as Knapps and a PGE substation. Despite strenuous protest, school construction went ahead.

When high school enrollment dropped in the early 1980s, the building was repurposed as a middle school, which lasted 18 years before being closed in 2000 due to health concerns about mold. The building sat empty and was



frequently vandalized until it was torn down in 2006, leaving the large open space south of the track.

local history, including further details on the history of Fernhill, Wilshire and Alberta parks at AlamedaHistory.org.


Do you have a question for the neighborhood historian? We love solving mysteries. Contact CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org with your question, and we’ll ask Doug Decker to do some digging. Check out his blog for more on

You can ask your questions of Doug in person. See Page 12 for details.



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Camp Director and Concordia Men’s Soccer Head Coach



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Concordia community events calendar

May 1, 4, 20
LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WORKSHOPS
Locations: Various
Participants learn how to prevent lead exposure in their homes, especially homes older than 1978 with children, pregnant women & others concerned about lead exposure.
Details/registration: communityenergyproject.org, 503.284.6827 ext. 109
Monday, May 1, 2 - 3 pm East County WIC Clinic, 600 NE 8th St., Gresham
Thursday, May 4, 4:30 - 5:30 pm, Northeast WIC Clinic, 5329 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saturday, May 20, 10:30 am - 12 pm Energy Project, 2900 SE Stark St.

Thursday, May, 4, 6 - 8 pm
ST. MIKE'S KITCHEN
Location: St. Michael's Lutheran Church kitchen, 6700 NE 29th Ave.
Join others in the kitchen to cook & eat sincronizadas, chicken avocado & chipotle soup, green bean salad with feta cheese & burrito bowls in celebration of Cinco de Mayo.
Details/RSVP: Rachel Schweitzer, st.mikes@kitchencommons.net, 503.997.2003

Saturday, May 6, 9 am - 1 pm
NATURESCAPING BASICS
Location: Columbia Slough Watershed Council Building, Whitaker Ponds Nature Park.
Naturescaping is the practice of designing (or redesigning) your landscape so it reduces water use & decreases stormwater runoff while saving you time, money & energy. East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District's introductory workshop introduces the core concepts of naturescaping. Even if you decide to enlist the help of a contractor, you'll have the framework to make decisions & effectively communicate the vision you have for your yard. Class will visit a nearby naturescaped project to see design principles in action. You'll receive a comprehensive workbook to help you get started.
Details/registration: "Upcoming Workshops" at emswcd.org/workshops-and-events

Saturdays, May 6, 13, 20, 27, 10:30 am
STORY TIME
Location: Concordia University Jody Thurston NW Center for Children's Literature
All interested children & parents are welcome to share books, sing songs & tell interactive stories. Reading sessions are about 30 minutes, followed every other week by themed crafts. Sessions are drop-in basis.
Details: cu-portland.edu/about/events/campus-calendar

Sunday, May 7, noon - 1pm
URBAN COMPOSITIONS ART EXHIBIT
Location: George R. White Library & Learning Center, Concordia University
Opening reception for the latest art exhibit This exhibit – which continues through June 30 – features photography from the Inner Light Photographic Society. Celebrating 31 years, the diverse group includes more than 20 photographers who work in wide range of photographic styles & media. The exhibit also features multiple award winning & nationally recognized artists Lyn Nance-Sassser & Stephen Sasser. The unusual images are superimposed on 1950s vintage tourist street-maps, accompanied by graphic icons pinpointing the precise locations of the chosen features.
Details: cu-portland.edu/about/events/campus-calendar

Tuesday, May 9, 6 pm
RACE TALKS
Location: McMenamins Kennedy School gymnasium
These opportunities for dialogue about race in Oregon – both historically & the current time – are presented by McMenamins History & Donna Maxey; doors open: 6 pm; discussion: 7 pm.
Details: racetalkspdx.com

Thursday, May 11, 11:45 am
ST. MIKE'S KITCHEN
Location: St. Michael's Lutheran Church fellowship hall, 6700 NE 29th Ave.
Seniors are invited to enjoy homemade soup & side dishes along with the company of other seniors.
Details/RSVP: Rachel Schweitzer, st.mikes@kitchencommons.net, 503.997.2003



Thursday May 11, 5 - 8 pm
EVENING CANOE THE SLOUGH
Location: Whitaker Ponds Nature Park
Bring the whole family for a safe & fun canoe trip on the slow-moving Columbia Slough. We'll have some canoes set up in a "bimaran" configuration – safe for new paddlers, infants & grandparents alike. Families may also borrow regular canoes & kayaks. The boat, lifejacket, paddle are provided. Enjoy the water, plants, & wildlife from the best seat possible! Three trips are scheduled that evening.

Details/registration/fees: Karen Carrillo, karen.carrillo@columbiaslough.org, 503.281.1132

Wednesday, Saturday May 17, 20
LEAD-SAFE HOME PROJECTS WORKSHOPS
Locations: Various
Before any demolition, scraping, sanding, or remodeling in pre-1978 housing, check out this class. Great for people who want to do a small project that may involve exposure to lead paint or a small construction project in an older home.
Wednesday, May 17, 6 - 7:30 pm, Northeast Tool Library, 5431 NE 20th Ave.
Saturday, May 20, 12:30 - 2:30 pm, Community Energy Project, 2900 SE Stark St.
Details/registration: communityenergyproject.org, call 503.284.6827 ext. 109

Thursday, May 18, 6 - 8 pm
ST. MIKE'S KITCHEN
Location: St. Michael's Lutheran Church kitchen, 6700 NE 29th Ave.
Join others in the kitchen to prepare chicken enchiladas & then prepare an entire chicken enchilada casserole to take home to your fridge or freezer.
Details/RSVP: Rachel Schweitzer, st.mikes@kitchencommons.net, 503.997.2003



Friday, May 19, 7 - 9 pm
OFF THE COUCH EVENTS ACTIVITY NIGHT
Location: St. Charles Catholic Church gymnasium, 5310 NE 42nd Ave.
Differently-abled individuals, 18 & older, are invited for games, crafts, dancing & snacks. Admission is \$7 per participant & first companion is free.
Details: offthecouchevents@gmail.com, 503.702.2394



Saturday, May 20, 8 am - 12:30 pm
CNA SPRING CLEAN UP
PCC Workforce Training Center at NE 42nd & Killingsworth
Concordia Neighborhood Association will dump, recycle and/or find new homes for your household items. Read all the details on Page 6.

Hawaiian Lei Making Class

Flowers In Flight
1413 NE Alberta St.

June 3rd, 2017 4-6pm

Lets kick off Summer with a fun & engaging lesson in Hawaiian Lei making, just in time for graduations & weddings! Enjoy a glass of sangria & a nosh, all while learning how to prepare & string orchid blooms into the perfect celebratory Lei.

Get details/reserve your spot with Lily Hutchins by Saturday, May 27th, by calling 503.274.7088 or emailing lily@flowersinflight.com.

\$75 covers the cost of the class and all materials.



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13 14	WANDERLUST + 3 LEG TORSO PRESENT A MOTHER'S DAY CIRCUS
17	OREGON HUMANITIES PRESENTS THINK & DRINK: THIS LAND
18	RUSSELL HOWARD ROUND THE WORLD + AMY MILLER
19 20	MORTIFIED PORTLAND
21	CATIE CURTIS CD RELEASE CONCERT
23	ROY ROGERS & THE DELTA RHYTHM KINGS
25	LIVE WIRE RADIO WITH LUKE BURBANK
26	THE HAROLD & MAUDE SQUAD TWO SHOWS
27	THE BOBS FINAL SHOW IN PORTLAND

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Ask the historian live and in person May 24

Doug Decker, local historian, offers a history lesson on the Concordia neighborhood Wednesday, May 24, at 6:30 p.m. in the McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room.
Doug writes the CNews monthly feature "Ask the Historian." So the Concordia Neighborhood Association Media Team invited him to meet readers in person.
Using early maps, photos and newspaper accounts, and memories he's collected from past residents, historian Doug will tell the story of how Concordia developed, beginning in the early 1900s. He will also profile its key institutions, early builders and

building styles.
Doug runs a website devoted to old house and neighborhood history in northeast Portland, AlamedaHistory.org. He also conducts architectural and social histories of buildings and places through interviews, document and archive research, photo research and other explorations to create rich understanding of properties and their impacts, significance and roles across time.

