



# CONCORDIA NEWS

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

April 2018

## Last call

Don't miss the scramble of children in search of treasures at the Annual CNA Spring Egg Hunt.

And don't be late. It lasts less than 10 minutes.  
Saturday, March 31  
10 a.m.

Fernhill Park playground  
along 37th Avenue

## Spring cleaning? See 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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## Program promotes cycling safety



By Thomas Buell Jr.  
CNA Media Team

It's just after lunchtime on a recent Friday afternoon as a line of about 25 fifth graders on bicycles rolls cautiously onto the streets of Concordia from Faubion School.

Under the watchful eye of teachers and volunteers, the young cyclists ride along Holman Street, across 33rd Avenue in the crosswalk by McMenamins Kennedy School, and on to Fernhill Park. All the way they demonstrate proper hand signals and observe the rules of the

*"It's a great program because it's so important to provide safety training and help make them real Portland bikers."*

— Jamie Makara

road, with plenty of encouragement from the adults riding along with them.

This community ride caps off the two-week Safe Routes to School Bike Safety Education Program offered by The Street Trust to all fourth and fifth graders at Faubion. The Street Trust is a nonprofit member organization founded in 1990 as the Bicycle Transportation Alliance.

"It's a great program because it's so important to provide safety training and help make them real Portland bikers," said Faubion teacher Jamie Makara. "Some of these students don't have that much opportunity to ride a bike and, if they do, they may not get proper safety training."

Earlier in the week, the students prepared for the ride with classroom sessions focusing on the basics of safe riding, proper helmet fit and the importance of following traffic laws. Bikes and



Mike Clark of The Street Trust helps Faubion School fifth graders negotiate Concordia streets during a recent community ride. Photo by Thomas Buell Jr.

helmets for the classes are provided for all the students as part of the Safe Routes to School program.

Similar classes are presented throughout Portland Public Schools and neighboring districts, thanks to support and funding from the Portland Bureau of Transportation and the state of Oregon.

The Street Trust partners with community groups, schools, businesses, government agencies and elected officials to promote walking, biking and riding transit.

The Street Trust describes its vision of a strong community as one "where everyone from all racial backgrounds has access to safe, healthy and affordable transportation options in the neighborhoods where they live, work, learn, pray and play. We want all residents to equally share in the prosperity created

by investments in active transportation regardless of race, income and socioeconomic status."

Back at Fernhill Park, the Faubion students have a choice of riding down a hill and up the other side, or walking their bikes down a gentler slope before making their way back along Ainsworth Street.

At the intersection on 33rd, they wait for a green light before crossing in smaller groups and returning to school safe and sound.

Thomas Buell Jr. is an award-winning writer, editor and content strategist living in Concordia.

Editor's note: If off-road bicycling is to your liking, see Dan Werle's story on Page 4.



### LADYBUGS GO WALKING

Ecology-minded preschoolers explore local parks and nearby Whitaker Ponds.

See Page 7



### IT'S MORE THAN MEXICAN FARE

Chef Jose Verde finds success with blends of cuisine at Los Pepitos Locos.

See Page 9



### TAQUERIA SPORTS TRIKES

Taco Pedaler doesn't just peddle its dishes, it also pedals them.

See Page 10



CNA VOICES

By Meghan Bean  
Alberta Main Street Board Member



Alberta Street community prioritizes connection, inclusion

Last fall, Alberta Main Street worked with Solid Ground Consulting to conduct interviews, listening sessions and surveys with property owners, business owners, employees and residents on and around Alberta Street.

The goal was to engage community members in our ongoing strategic planning process. We want our goals and activities to reflect the needs and interests of those who live, work and play on Alberta Street.

Ninety-seven people participated in this community engagement process, and their responses showed us what people like about Alberta Main Street. Some respondents noted the joy that our events, like Trick or Treat Alberta Street, bring to the community. Others shared that they value our work to support local businesses through seminars, grants and information sharing.

Despite these strengths, there is more work we can do to further our mission to “develop Alberta Street as a vibrant, creative, equitable and sustainable commercial district serving residents and visitors to our community.”

A common theme discussed during listening sessions was gentrification. Some shared that members of the African American community do not feel welcome on Alberta Street and asked that we conduct more direct outreach to black-owned businesses and black community members.

Respondents also shared that some businesses and residents are struggling to pay high rents or are priced out of owning property. Further, as Alberta

Street has become an increasingly popular destination for shoppers and tourists, some respondents expressed a desire for more affordable businesses that provide basic services to neighborhood residents.

Community members also cited concerns about the look and feel of Alberta Street, noting trash, graffiti and the lack of green space or other places to spend time without spending money.

Alberta Main Street board members and other stakeholders discussed these findings at our January strategic planning retreat. Using community members’ input to guide our strategic direction, we agreed to focus on

the following issues as we develop our strategic plan:

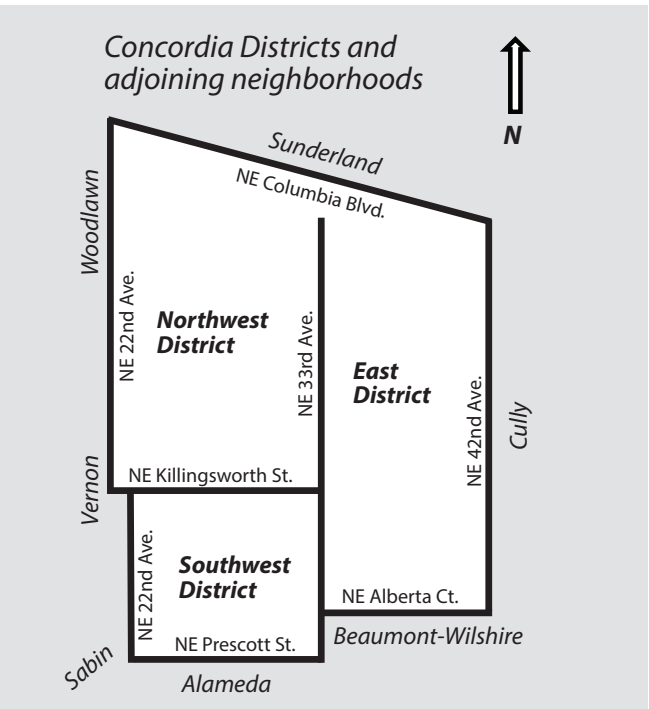
- Prioritizing equity and inclusion
- Building and engaging community
- Supporting a diverse business mix
- Maintaining Alberta Street’s unique character

We will also prioritize the following activities:

- Engaging the neighborhoods around Alberta Street
- Offering events and promotions that support Alberta Street businesses and provide opportunities for community members to interact
- Securing funding that will enable us to continue our work

If you’re interested in learning more about Alberta Main Street, volunteering with us or making a donation, please visit [AlbertaMainSt.org](http://AlbertaMainSt.org).

*A common theme discussed during listening sessions was gentrification.*



CNA Board of Directors

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Need a place for your event?

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

Pricing: \$25/hr (\$15/hr. for nonprofits)

Info: [ConcordiaDPX.org/community-room-rental](http://ConcordiaDPX.org/community-room-rental)

Concordia Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting

1st Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, April 4, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room

General Meeting

Wednesday, June 6, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room

Social Committee

If you’d like to volunteer for the May 19 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](mailto:KTUgolini@gmail.com).

Media Team

1st Tuesday of the month, Tuesday, April 3, 6 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room, contact [MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org](mailto:MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org)

Land Use & Transportation Committee

3rd Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, April 18, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room, contact [LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org](mailto:LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org)

Finance Committee

Last Wednesday of the month, Wednesday, April 25, 7 p.m., McMenamins Kennedy School Community Room, contact Jody Pollack at [East1@ConcordiaPDX.org](mailto:East1@ConcordiaPDX.org)

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SUBMISSIONS & ADVERTISING

**Submissions to Concordia News:** Deadline is the 10th of the month preceding the upcoming monthly publication. Contact [CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org](mailto:CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org)

**Submissions to CNA Website:** Submit nonprofit news & events to [MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org](mailto:MediaTeamLead@ConcordiaPDX.org)

**Advertising:** Gina Levine, [CNewsBusiness@ConcordiaPDX.org](mailto:CNewsBusiness@ConcordiaPDX.org), 503.891.7178

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Pledge donations now for music in the park

Summer’s on its way, along with the **Fernhill Concert Series**. The CNA Social Committee needs sponsorship commitments by June 1.



To pledge for a sponsorship, contact Jed Arkley, event producer, 503.823.5059, [jed.arkley@PortlandOregon.gov](mailto:jed.arkley@PortlandOregon.gov) and indicate you want to support the Fernhill Concert Series.

Contact Katie Ugolini at 503.449.9690 for more details.

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Concordia Murals

# Pride dominates 17th & Alberta mural

By Karen Wells  
CNA Media Team

The 1984 Malcolm X mural, "Black Pride," features the iconic face of the influential civil and human rights activist of the 1960s.

His original family name was Little, and he was a charismatic and outspoken leader in the Nation of Islam, the Black Muslim faith tradition.

Malcolm's face and extended pointing index finger dominate the mural on 17th Avenue at Alberta Street. The use of a dynamic two-tone color palette suggests to the viewer a sense of urgency of purpose.

It is the second oldest surviving mural in Portland, and was installed during the Albina Mural Project, with funding provided by the Metropolitan Arts Commission.

"Black Pride" was one of several murals installed throughout the African American community of the 1970s. Originally it was one of two panels painted by artist Lewis Harris and students of the Black Educational Center, which was housed at the same location. The companion mural no longer exists.

The remaining mural, "Black Pride," was allowed to remain and be re-incorporated into the surrounding visual landscape but, across the years, it was vandalized.

In 2016, a team of five artists – assembled by the collaborative efforts of Lifeworks NW, Project UMOJA and Alberta Art Works – repaired and partially restored the mural.

Little background or historical information is available on the artist, Lewis Harris, or the students of the Black Educational Center who assisted with the mural. If you have information on the mural – or the artist – contact [CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org](mailto:CNewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org).




Photo by Karen Wells

## CNA Spring Clean Up

**Saturday, May 19**  
8 am – 12:30 pm

PCC Workforce Training Center at  
NE 42nd Ave & Killingsworth

Tired of seeing all the clutter & junk  
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# Bicycles may go off beaten path locally



By Dan Werle  
CNA Media Team

For decades, off-road cycling enthusiasts in Portland have been at loggerheads with city officials and residents who don't ride mountain bikes about what many see as a lack of safe, fun, easily-accessible nonpaved riding areas within Portland.

In response to these concerns, and to better understand the many variables associated with off-road cycling, in 2015 several city agencies began working together with a project advisory committee and input from the community to draft the Portland Off-Road Cycling Master Plan.

Development of the plan took a year longer than expected, according to Jocelyn Gaudi Quarrell, a committee member and certified mountain bike instructor.

Although it was a fun process to be a part of, she said, "There was no way we could have accomplished this in a year's time. The committee made a vested effort to teach people what mountain biking is, and how resources such as bikes and helmets for kids could be obtained."

For two years, the discussion draft creators worked to learn more about the interests of off-road cyclists, potential environmental and community impacts, and how more off-road cycling options could be introduced and maintained within the city.

Their draft identified potential sites



Photo by Amy Greenstadt

for new or expanded bike parks, off-road trails, and connectivity options. A 125-page discussion draft was released in October and identified 30 sites throughout the city as places where off-road options exist and need improvement, or where options are recommended for potential development.

With support from the Concordia Neighborhood Association (CNA), Fernhill Park was identified as one of the recommended locations for future devel-

*For two years, the discussion draft creators worked to learn more about the interests of off-road cyclists, potential environmental and community impacts, and how more off-road cycling options could be introduced and maintained within the city.*

opment of a bike park and/or loop trail for cycling, walking and running.

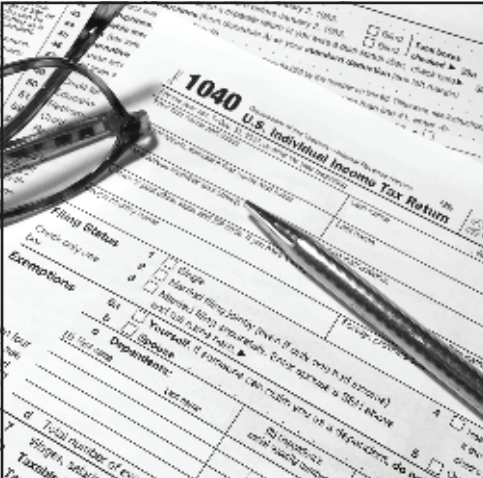
Daniel Greenstadt, former CNA Board of Directors member, pointed out, "For Concordia residents who might develop skills and further interest in off-road cycling, the next opportunity is six miles away – 30 minutes by bicycle – at Gateway Green. That's where larger scale facilities and more bicycle-specific opportunities are currently available and are undergoing further development.

"Any significant bicycle trail opportunities in Portland would have to focus on Forest Park," he added. "However, there is significant controversy there as

some members of the community wish to continue the 30-year exclusion of cyclists from any narrow trails in the 5,000-acre park."

Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) is reviewing the draft plan, and seeks public input before developing a recommendation for city council. Your next opportunity to make your voice heard is Tuesday, April 3, at the PP&R meeting. Contact Tanya.Holmes@PortlandOregon.gov for the time and place.

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



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# Tiny homes and ADUs, oh my!



By Garlynn Woodsong  
Chair, CNA LUTC

I recently wrote about the city’s decriminalization of tiny homes on wheels and RVs on private property under certain circumstances. I received some feedback, and there is apparently some confusion about what the difference is between a tiny home and an accessory dwelling unit (ADU).

Let me see what I can do to shed some more light on the topic.

A tiny home on wheels is exactly that: a tiny house, usually built atop a steel trailer frame, which can be fitted with wheels for movement.

An RV, by the way, is basically that same steel (trailer, bus, truck or van) frame, except with a different body on top of it.

An ADU is, according to the city of Portland, 800 square feet or less, and a “smaller, auxiliary dwelling unit on the same lot or within a house, attached house or manufactured home. The unit includes its own independent living facilities with provisions for sleeping, cooking and sanitation, designed for residential occupancy independent of the primary dwelling unit. The unit may have a sepa-

*Let me see what I can do to shed some more light on the topic.*

rate exterior entrance or an entrance to an internal common area accessible to the outside.”

If a tiny home on wheels is placed atop a concrete foundation and bolted to it – probably removing the wheels in the process, I would assume – then it can become an ADU.

Interestingly, if an RV is placed atop a concrete foundation and bolted to it, it could also become an ADU.

Oh, and a “skinny home” is a house built on a lot that is less than 36 feet wide. Typically, it’s a 25- or 33-foot-wide lot, which, with 5-foot setbacks on each side, leads to either a roughly 15- or 23-foot-wide house, usually at least 1,500 square feet in size.

A tiny house is typically between 100 and 400 square feet in size, regardless of whether it is on or off wheels.

If you had a 25-foot-wide lot, I presume that you could, if you want, build a skinny

house with an ADU, either on the first floor or basement level. Or, I suppose, in the attic. Or, heck, even just off to one side, or in a really small building in the back yard. Then you could, in theory, also park an RV or tiny house in the driveway.

If the people living in all these places got in your hot tub at the same time, it’d be full very quickly! Yet, making an intentional community in this manner is one way to not only economize on expenses, but also to be able to share household duties.

Shared meals, cleaning, yardwork and maintenance are ways to reduce the labor required of any one person on a daily basis. Building community can enhance resiliency.

And that hot tub will still likely be empty for most hours of the day, if you still want to enjoy a solitary dip by yourself at odd hours...

*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/lutc/](http://ConcordiaPDX.org/lutc/), send your questions to [LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org](mailto:LandUse@ConcordiaPDX.org), or email [LUTC\\_Secretary@ConcordiaPDX.org](mailto:LUTC_Secretary@ConcordiaPDX.org) to join the LUTC notification list.*

## News from the NET

# Where are you on the continuum?



By Tom Phillips  
Concordia/Vernon/Woodlawn NET

Everyone is somewhere on the disaster preparedness continuum.

On one end are those who have no idea about the potential for a natural disaster in Portland and wouldn’t know a pee from a poo bucket (more on that later).

On the other end are those of us on the Concordia/Woodlawn/Vernon Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET). We think about the potential for disaster

What does that mean? In a large natural disaster our neighborhoods will likely lose water and sewer functions for many days, if not weeks or months. Preparedness for such a scenario means thinking about the stuff that absolutely must get taken care of – for yourself, your family, your neighborhood and the environment.

How will you take care of your essential bodily needs if you can’t flush your toilets? Having pee and poo buckets will

help. It’s just one element of disaster preparedness, but an important one.

We’ll give more tips in future columns here in CNews. In the meantime, find out more about your local NET team by going to the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management NET site at [PortlandPrepares.org/net-teams/northeast/concordia-vernon-woodlawn](http://PortlandPrepares.org/net-teams/northeast/concordia-vernon-woodlawn).

We’d love to have you join us in getting on the informed end of the disaster preparedness continuum.

*We’ve had training and regularly meet to discuss strategies for coping with “the big one” as well as the little ones.*

a lot, and we actually have pee and poo buckets!

We’ve had training and regularly meet to discuss strategies for coping with “the big one” as well as the little ones. The latter is usually when we are called out by the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management to monitor downed power lines during storms.

Where are you on the disaster preparedness continuum?

We’d like to help you answer that question in the hope of moving you from blissful ignorance to pee and poo buckets ready.

## Feast Community Choir

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Spring term begins April 13th.

[FeastCommunityChoir.com](http://FeastCommunityChoir.com)

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- Private off street parking

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Learn more and reserve at:  
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## What’s Selling in Concordia?

175 Homes sold in RMLS in last 12 months as of March 7<sup>th</sup>

3.99% Increase in Average Sale Price since 2017

Avg. Sale Price in 2017: ..... \$503,593

Avg. Sale Price currently: ..... \$523,683

Avg. Days on market: ..... 25

*This information provided by*  
Mark Charlesworth, Concordia resident & Broker  
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Monday, April 2

## Happy 23rd Birthday, Black Rabbit Red

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\$20 bottles and food specials all day!

Wednesday, April 4

## OPEN HIRING CALL

Simply come to the open hiring call,  
fill out an application and interview  
on the spot. E.O.E.  
Gym • 11 a.m. ‘til 4 p.m.

Thursday, April 5

## McDOUGALL

Foot-stompin’ Americana  
Gym • 7 p.m.

Every Saturday

## Opera on Tap

Live opera singers in & around the Honors Bar.  
7 p.m. ‘til 9 p.m. • 21 & over

Tuesday, April 10

## RACE TALKS: An Opportunity for Dialogue “MIND, BODY, SPIRIT: THE CORRELATION OF RACE AND HEALTH”

Gym • 6 p.m. doors; 7 p.m. event

Thursday, April 12

## RICH LAYTON AND THE TROUBLEMAKERS

Texas twang and tremolo  
Gym • 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 19

## THE TALBOTT BROTHERS

As part of Great Northwest Music Tour  
Gym • 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 19

## LIMITED-EDITION BEER TASTING

5 p.m. ‘til 7 p.m.  
Brewery • 21 & over

Thursday, April 26

## THE BROTHERS JAM

Rootsy rock and deep rhythmic grooves  
Gym • 7 p.m.

Monday, April 30

## HISTORY PUB

Theater • 6 p.m. doors; 7 p.m. event

Sunday, May 13

## MOTHER’S DAY BRUNCH

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# Concordian changes job, not his purpose

By Tamara Anne Fowler  
CNA Media Team

*The problem is concrete. Paved surfaces contribute to storm-water pollution, whereby rainwater carries toxic urban pollutants to local streams and rivers, greatly degrading water quality and riparian habitats. Pavement also disconnects us from our natural world.*

*The solution is clear. The removal of impervious pavements will reduce storm-water pollution and increase the amount of land available for habitat restoration, urban farming, trees, native vegetation, and beauty, thus providing us with greater connections to the natural world. – Depave.org*

Eric Rosewall grew up in southwest Michigan and moved to Oregon in 2003 after visiting Seattle and falling in love with the lush botanic wonders of the Pacific Northwest. He earned a University of Oregon degree in landscape architecture.

In 2009, Eric got involved as a volunteer at the outset of the now internationally-recognized nonprofit organization Depave.

He deployed a tool he had always used: a camera. He would take shots of the community coming together and smashing pavement. Eric would chronicle these events. His love turned into a paid career.

During Eric's stint at Depave, more

than 151,000 square feet of asphalt was depaved – almost exclusively by hand – to create 52 new community greenspaces in Portland.

At Depave, Eric could be seen steering the ship and wearing many hats: organizational development, partnership building, fundraising, project and volunteer management, financial oversight, landscape construction and graphic design.

Last September, he left as executive director to lead Portland Parks & Recreation's (PP&R's) new Ecologically Sustainable Landscapes program. But he's still active with Depave, and you'll find him at the April 12 fundraiser. Visit [Depave.org/events/](http://Depave.org/events/) for details.

"Similarly to my work with Depave, my role with PP&R requires being a jack of many trades to build a program to create urban greenspaces through community collaboration," Eric reported.

Now he reaches out to relevant organizations in the name of how much people value parks. This program is geared toward involving the community. He brings people together to take ownership.

He attends neighborhood association meetings – including his own here in Concordia – to build awareness and get people involved. For example, the Alberta Park stream bed was built by a local Boy Scout troop.

The city partners on Alberta Park development with the Columbia Slough


**Eric Rosewall traded hats recently, leaving Depave and joining PP&R. But his job continues to concentrate on greenspaces.**




Watershed Council and is planning a ribbon cutting ceremony there May 5.

"Hopefully people will see plants and

think they are cool," Eric noted. "Maybe they'll seek them out and create their own little nature patch."



## 2018 29th ANNUAL YOUTH SOCCER CAMPS




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# Ladybug walks are part of ponds’ charm



By Tamara Anne Fowler  
CNA Media Team

The small crew of two year olds and five year olds embarked on their journey around Whitaker Ponds. Part of Ladybug Nature Walks, they set out to discover what moss feels like, what a beaver chew is, how to touch thistle so it won't poke you.

Rain or no rain. Wind or no wind. They strapped on their tiny, borrowed ladybug backpacks, and off they went.

Each backpack contained the tools needed for this all-important mission: plastic magnifying glass, thick paintbrush, plastic cup and beaded multi-colored bracelet to be used as a color wheel.

These four ecologists and their parents and grandparents left the Whitaker Ponds gazebo at 10 a.m. on a Thursday. Their red ladybug backpacks bobbing in the wind, they were not to be distracted.

Whitaker Ponds Nature Park was originally the site of a landfill. After Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) acquired it in 1998, hundreds of tires and toaster ovens were removed.

PP&R collaborates with Portland Bureau of Environmental Services and works with the schools and with Verde, a local nonprofit, to conduct year-round restoration and education events at the natural area.

Whitaker Ponds Nature Park is

undergoing significant restoration. To monitor local wildlife, turtle trapping takes place every May and September. The turtles are tagged to provide generational data. PP&R is making note of any turtle injuries as well as tracking growth rates across time.

The southern trail is newly regrav-eled. PP&R repaves every couple of years.

"There is an old baseball field here," noted Laura Guderyahn, PP&R natural resource ecologist. "We want to clear away the field and fencing, and convert the land to a native forest area.

"We will likely have a community process to see what the neighborhood would like to see replace it. I would like to see a few big trees with a native garden demo area for folks to get ideas to take back to their own yards," she added.

"I'd also like to turn part of it into healthy nesting area for the turtles."

Then there's the invasive Yellow Flag Iris to be removed and replaced with native rushes, sedges, grasses and cattails to help pull pollutants from water. This will have benefits to native wild life – for native geese, ducks, beavers, frogs and turtles.

"We will be engaged in restoration until the end of time," Laura said with a smile.

Those ladybug walkers and commu-nity volunteers have no objections.

*Editor's note: For a list of ladybug walks throughout Portland and/or to volunteer at Whitaker Ponds, contact Yoko.Silk@PortlandOregon.gov.*

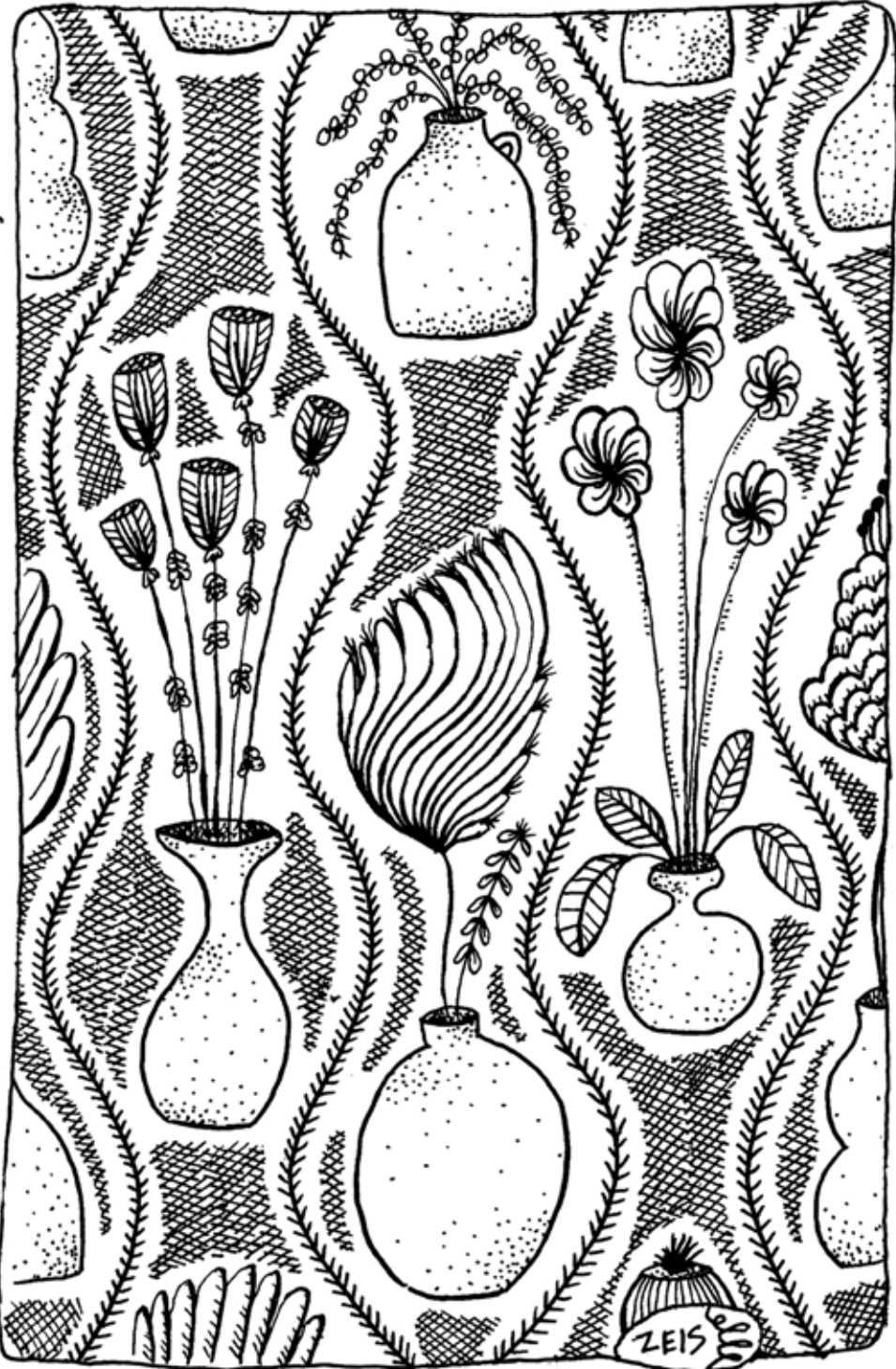


Toddlers and preschoolers – and their grown ups – are welcome at Ladybug Nature Walks in Portland parks. They explore nature with trained environmental educators. Photo by Tamara Anne Fowler

Tamara 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](http://EditKitten.com) or contact her at [Tamara@editkitten.com](mailto:Tamara@editkitten.com).

ART CORNER by Jeanette Zeis



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A humanities & cultural arts organization, we are located in the heart of the Alberta Arts District in Concordia.

The building was saved from the wrecking ball, and renovated with care to become a place for community, creativity, curiosity and celebrations. We are fully ADA compliant, and welcome your rentals.

The Creative Path Walk (a monthly series) is Cerimon House's popular community programming on the Third Sunday of each month. This indoor labyrinth walk is an artful contemplative experience.



**April Theme: "The Earth's Ecology"**  
Make your appointment for your 30-minute walk at our website.  
Sunday, April 15th: 12noon - 4pm

**APRIL EVENTS**  
**Oregon Humanities Conversation Project**  
Two free remarkable group conversations on the essential matters of our times.  
Details about Sunday dates at the website.

**Songs for the Earth**  
Earth Arts NW presents community chant-song Workshops with Voiceweaving's Robin Chilstrom, creating songs to honor and speak-out for the Earth.  
April 12 & 19th: 6:45pm - 8:30pm

**Earth Day Open House**  
Stop by for a variety of family-friendly activities, knowledge about trees, and a brief Earth-Song sing-along.  
More details at the website.  
Sunday, April 22nd, 12 noon to 3pm

**"Closely Knit" Scarf Creation**  
In April we'll launch Knitting Tuesdays. Join us in creating scarves for year-round distribution. Details on our website.

Visit our website for details and find us at the corner of NE 23rd Ave. & NE Sumner St.

CERIMONHOUSE.ORG

# Legacy of trees runs strong



By Karen Wells  
CNA Media Team

The trees of Concordia University have stories. Those stories are about how Frank W.J. Sylwester – president of Concordia University from 1905 to 1946 – acquired an eclectic inventory of trees for the campus.

The grand Oregon White Oak (*Quercus garryana*) is the sentry on Luther Hall Green. That oak was about eight years old when the college, then high school, opened its doors. It was one of the original trees in the Douglas fir woods of east Portland.

Frank was passionate about trees. When the right of way for 28th Avenue posed a threat to the oak, he advocated for the tree to be spared.

He satisfied his yearning for connection to his Germanic ancestry by planting trees germane to Germany. In 1908 he planted European Linden (*Tilia x europaea*) seedlings from Berlin. He purchased and planted a Spruce (*Picea*) from Germany. A Correl Tree (*Oxydendrum arboreum*) is a gift to the campus from Sylwester.

In 1920 Frank gathered Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) acorns from Vernon Park, now known as Alberta Park, and planted them on campus. He recalled much later in life, "Every one of those acorns produced a tree."

In 1960, he saved a small Sequoia (*Sequoiadendron*) at a campus building



The Oregon White Oak that stands sentry on Luther Hall Green predates Concordia University. Photo by Karen Wells

construction site. He replanted it in a stand of Incense Cedars (*Libocedrus decurrens*). In 1964 he traveled to central Oregon and brought back a Western Juniper (*Juniperus occidentalis*) seedling for the campus.

In the beginning, the president's home was part of the campus, just north of Elizabeth Hall. He surrounded it with trees from his travels – Redleaf maples (*Acer palmatum*) and Common Hawthorn

(*Crataegus monogyna*) to name two. He had an inventory of 59 trees sorted by common and scientific name divided into five, creating the Campus Tree Project.

That project was published in 1974, "Arbor Vitae," with anecdotal tales and tidbits of Concordia University history.

Karen is a retired early childhood community educator, health and safety trainer.

## Opinion

# Dismissal can't go unchallenged

I'm sorry Finn the cat is missing. Is he an ambassador for outdoor cats because he's friendly and appealing? That's not good enough for me. I'd be devastated to lose my cat, but she doesn't go outside.

Many of us love cats and birds both, but we have come to understand our responsibility to prevent cats from killing native wildlife. Finn's person, Nic, does not want to believe the science on this issue, but their casual dismissal of it cannot go unchallenged.

Yes, of course the billions of birds that are estimated to be killed by cats each year is an extrapolation; it's based

on conservative estimates of cat populations and numbers of birds killed per cat per year, from data that have been well studied.

Here are a few more facts: Domestic cats are not native to this continent. We brought them in, and not all that long ago. Our wildlife did not evolve with this super-predator, and are no match for it.

Whereas cats are naturally excellent hunters – the bird slaughter is not their fault – what's not natural is their place in the ecosystem. Especially not in the concentrations we see here in the city, where we subsidize them with food and

medical care and then send them outside for their entertainment.

At one time I would have done that too, but my position on this has evolved. Letting your cat out to roam is like dropping your pet python in the Everglades.

When I was a kid, everyone let their dogs run free and nobody picked up poop. So I haven't lost hope that someday free-roaming cats might be unacceptable.

The neighbor cat that took one of my chickadees last spring also doomed her nest of seven hatchlings. I had been monitoring them outside my window for weeks.

Perhaps I take that loss too personally, but if we are going to be picking and choosing which species to care about, I'll opt for the ones that belong here, every time.

If you can't bring yourself to keep your cat indoors, there are a few products that, unlike bells, do help cut down on the predation. The CatBib and the Birdsbesafe collar are two. Check them out online, and if you would like to try a CatBib, I've bought several, and I'd be happy to deliver one to you, free.

– Murr Brewster, pootie@spiretech.com

## Help wanted: 2018 CNA yard sale organizer

Concordia Neighborhood Association is looking for a new yard sale leader!

Here's a great way to get involved.  
(And you'll know ahead of time where to find the best treasures!)



Interested? Email Katie at Social@ConcordiaPDX.org to learn more.

The opinions expressed by this writer do not necessarily reflect the views of the Concordia Neighborhood Association. Opinion columns must offer solutions to issues. This is the final piece CNews will publish about the indoor/outdoor cat issue. Please submit any further pieces to Facebook.com/groups/ConcordiaPDX.



# Los Pepitos Locos expands to northeast



By Rob Rogers  
CNA Media Team

**W**alking along 42nd Avenue, Los Pepitos Locos’ vibrant red storefront catches your eye. Peek inside and you will find head chef and owner Jose Verde fastidiously prepping and preparing generous portions of international dishes made with farm fresh ingredients featuring courses with Latin American, South American and Central American roots.

The menu invites you to choose anything from burritos, tacos, short ribs, gyros and pupusas filled with savory ingredients like mushrooms or shrimp. Jose wants people to know his cuisine offers far beyond what the exterior sign says: Taqueria.

“It is food that I personally like from all over,” he said. “I’m not limited to one region or country.”

Jose’s pursuit as a chef began 18 years ago when he cooked at a downtown Portland restaurant. He took the entrepreneurial leap five years ago as head chef starting the first Los Pepitos Locos on North Lombard Street. He created his own menu with a collection all of his favorite international foods.

“I make something different,” Jose said, referring to the unique sauces that accompany his dishes. He suggests people try the big burrito with his special

habanero sauce. In his stuffed papusas, Jose includes loroco, a vine with edible flowers native to Central America. This unique ingredient lures customers in to experience a flavor like no other.

Last year the former Roses property on 42nd caught his eye as a potential space for his second restaurant. The physical layout of the building presented an ideal restaurant space, especially the kitchen adjacent to the dining area.

With spring delivering comfortable outdoor dining weather, Jose was excited to open the patio, where a diner can enjoy a margarita or a fruit smoothie along with one of his international dishes.

Seeing the potential of the space along with the vibrant restaurant community sprouting along the street, Jose couldn’t pass up the opportunity to land the location. And he and his partners opened a third Los Pepitos Locos location merely weeks ago at Burnside and northeast 185th Avenue.

Jose attributes his expanding business to his partners, dedicated staff and customers who keep returning to try another unique dish on the menu.

“People really like my food,” he pointed out. “It’s fresh and I’m proud of the team that has come together to staff Los Pepitos Locos.”

*Rob is an Oregonian who worked in web marketing for years. Now he’s involved in drone aerial photography – when he’s not on his bike.*



Jose Verde and his partners chose the former Roses site on 42nd Avenue for their second restaurant last year. Now they’re on 185th Avenue too. Photo by Rob Rogers

## operation clean sweep

### 2018 ALBERTA STREET EARTH DAY CLEANUP

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# Find taqueria fare at 2 locations, 5 trikes



By Steve Elder  
CNA Media Team

They make the tortillas at Taco Pedaler by hand. One at a time.

The philosophy of the taqueria and bar at 5427 N.E. 42nd is to prepare food by hand, using locally sourced ingredients. Taco Pedaler doles out meaty, vegetarian and vegan tacos; quesadillas; rice and beans; salads; chips; and guacamole. Beer, wine and a full bar are on premises.

“We try to shop locally whenever we can,” said owner Melanie McClure. “We get vegetables from local farmers markets, and eggs, chicken, beef and pork from local producers.”

The restaurant is Melanie’s second brick and mortar location in Portland. Since 2015, she’s had a one at 2225 N.E. Broadway. The 42nd Avenue location is just south of Killingsworth, where Pollo Norte was. There’s a Tibetan food cart next door.

Melanie started out in food service by

pedaling, literally. Since 2011, she’s had a fleet of three-wheel cargo bikes. Each tricycle has a grill between two wheels in front of where the passenger/cook sits and pedals. Just Google: taco tricycles.

Melanie is from Silverton and – although she attended community colleges in California and Oregon – she had no formal culinary training. She’s worked in food service from Alaska, down the West Coast to Baja, where she crossed the Gulf of California to Mazatlan and traveled overland south to Belize.

“Everywhere we went heading south we saw tricycle food vendors. I figured it might work in Oregon,” she said. Now she has a fleet of five trikes she sends to parties and street fairs. Three came from Mexico. Two were flown to Portland and one came by rail.

Melanie has a young child and lives nearby in the Cully neighborhood.

Taco Pedaler’s Concordia location seats about 25 inside, but considerably more outside in the soon-to-be-heated patio. Plans include a fire pit and children’s play area there. Onsite parking is available.



No two tortillas at Taco Pedaler may be alike. They’re made by hand, and the other ingredients are locally sourced. Concordia is now home to the second Melanie McClure restaurant in Portland. Photo by Steve Elder

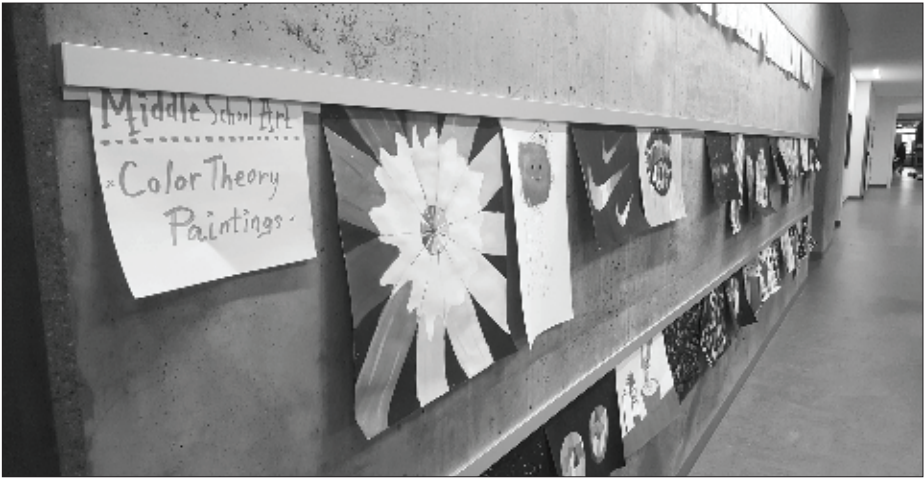
Both Taco Pedalers are open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Happy hour is Monday through Friday from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

“We want to be a neighborhood hangout,” Melanie said.

Steve Elder, [East2@ConcordiaPDX.org](mailto:East2@ConcordiaPDX.org) is an inactive lawyer, a developer, activist and old grouch.

## Creative Concordia!

Featured art from the halls of Faubion School



Visit [ConcordiaPDX.org/concordia-creative](http://ConcordiaPDX.org/concordia-creative) to view more Faubion School art

Stay tuned for featured Vernon School art next month!

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### Like your neighborhood?

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Ready to help? Email [Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org](mailto:Chair@ConcordiaPDX.org)



## This is one big flu season



By Kim Magraw

Every year a number of us get the flu – the aching, exhausting, leaking, bedbound influenza.

This season has been unusually nasty, not due to the sheer number of people affected, but the intensity and duration of infections. If you have been among those hit by the flu this season, you need no statistics to convince you this was a tough year.

Nevertheless, here are some findings from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC):

- The percentage of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness reached 7.7 percent in February, the highest since 2009. As of Feb. 3, 63 influenza-associated pediatric deaths had been reported to CDC this season.
- In prior years with similarly high levels of influenza – for example the 2014-2015 season – the CDC estimated the flu accounted for as many as 35.6 million illnesses, 16.6 million

medically attended visits, 710,000 hospitalizations and 56,000 deaths annually.

An article in the March 3 issue of Science News describes an ongoing study by researchers at the University of Maryland at College Park looking at flu transmission.

The known modes of spread are: touching, coughing, sneezing and exhaling.

The researchers found that 39 percent of people who have the flu exhale infectious influenza suspended in fine-aerosol particles small enough to stay in the air indefinitely.

So, if you are infected, it may not be enough to cover those coughs and sneezes and avoid touching anything that others might touch. You may have to protect other people from your very breath.

Perhaps those face masks will be the next big fad.

Kim, L.M.T., practices at Concordia Wellness – [ConcordiaWellness.com](http://ConcordiaWellness.com) – and is a founding member of Concordia Area Massage and Bodywork Professionals.

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Ask the Historian

# Cerimon House breathes new life into lodge

The question:

I've noticed the big red building at 23rd and Sumner called Cerimon House. Did it used to be a church or some other public gathering space? What's its story?  
— Susan Riggs

The historian reports:



By Doug Decker  
Historian

Yes, if you stand and stare at that interesting building for a moment, many possibilities come to mind: hostel, church, school, chalet, rooming house, theater. Hmm, what could it be?

If you guessed Masonic lodge, you'd be right. The two-story, bracket-eaved old beauty was built in 1923 as the home of the Alberta Lodge No. 172 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, a fraternal organization.

Those big gable-ended walls at front and back – they're made out of concrete, formed and poured in place. Moving a window or door is no simple task.

Inside, there were small rooms and chambers for the various aspects of the secret Masonic rites, kitchen, office, cloak rooms and a beautiful theater-like gathering space.

During its heyday, the lodge had 450 members and was jammed busy on multiple nights each week. Those included ceremonies and the many social gatherings that preceded or followed: picnics, breakfasts, dinners, work parties.

In 1986, with lodge membership dipping to just 150 members—most of them senior citizens—the Masons



This unique building at 23rd Avenue and Sumner Street was built as a Masonic Lodge in 1923 and became a church in 1986 before being abandoned in disrepair. Today, at 95 years old, it's been thoughtfully restored as a place for art, music, lectures and weddings called the Cerimon House. Photo by Doug Decker

Another, reflecting on the changing society, “People live a different lifestyle these days. All the fraternities are dwindling.”

Following its time as a lodge, the building was the Fellowship Church of God until 2005 when that growing community moved first to the Doubletree Hotel near Lloyd Center, then to a new

ering space for art, music, readings and lectures—and lots of other interesting events, including weddings, meetings and family gatherings.

Take a virtual tour of the interior and learn more at CerimonHouse.com.

Editor's note: If you have a question for the neighborhood historian, send it to [NewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org](mailto:NewsEditor@ConcordiaPDX.org), for Doug to do some digging. Check out his blog for more on local history at [AlamedaHistory.org](http://AlamedaHistory.org).

*During its heyday, the lodge had 450 members and was jammed busy on multiple nights each week.*

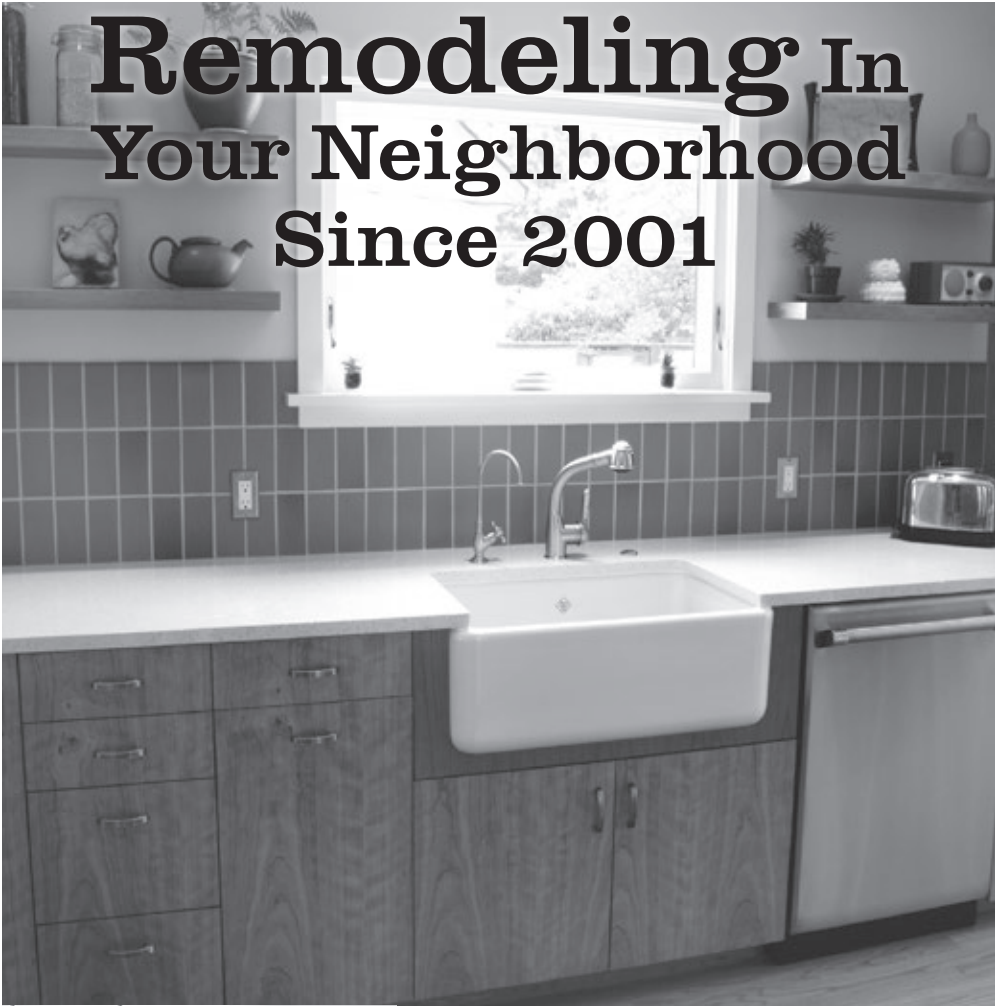
decided to sell the building and consolidate several other shrinking lodges under one roof in Parkrose.

Masonic elders came to reclaim the ceremonial cornerstone and extinguish its service in one last ceremony. A Jan. 14, 1986, news story in The Oregonian quotes the wife of one former Alberta Lodge leader, “It's been our whole life.”

and larger facility on 122nd Avenue.

The space was rented on and off for several years, and served as the home of Heaven Bound Deliverance Center before slipping into receivership and an accumulated ocean of deferred maintenance.

Today, the old Alberta Lodge building is definitely back to life as the Cerimon House, a very carefully restored gath-



  
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# Concordia community events calendar

Friday, March 30, 5-8pm  
**STUFF PLASTIC EGGS FOR CNA SPRING EGG HUNT**  
**Location:** American Legion Post 234, 2104 NE Alberta St  
How many volunteers does it take to stuff several thousand plastic eggs with prizes & treats? Find out during this party atmosphere volunteer event.  
**Registration:** none required

Saturday, March 31, 10am SHARP  
**CNA SPRING EGG HUNT**  
**Location:** Fernhill Park  
How long does it take hundreds of children to find several thousand treat or prize-filled plastic eggs? Ten minutes. So don't be late.  
**Registration:** none required

April 2, 5, 12  
**LEAD POISONING PREVENTION**  
**Locations:** Various  
Participants learn how to prevent lead exposure in their homes, especially homes built before 1978 with children, pregnant women & others concerned about lead exposure.  
• Monday, April 2, 5:30-7pm, 600 NE 8th St, Gresham, Community Energy Project, 2900 SE Stark St  
• Thursday, April 5, 4:30-5:30pm ,Northeast WIC Clinic, 5329 NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd  
• Thursday, April 12, 5:30-7pm, Community Energy Project, 2900 SE Stark St  
**Details/registration:** communityenergyproject.org, 503.284.6827 x109

Fridays, April 13, 20, 27, noon  
**FEAST**  
**Location:** Subud Portland, 3185 NE Regents Ave  
Forget Everything & Sing Together (FEAST) is a community acapella choir with the goal to build community.  
**Details/fee:** feastcommunitychoir@gmail.com

Saturday, April 7, 9am-1pm  
**NATURESCAPING BASICS**  
**Location:** Livingscape, 3926 N Vancouver East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District introduces you to the concept of designing (or redesigning) your landscape so it reduces water use & decreases stormwater runoff while saving you time, money & energy.  
**Details/registration:** emswcd.org/workshops-and-events/upcoming-workshops/



Tuesday, April 10, 6pm  
**RACE TALKS**  
**Location:** McMenamins Kennedy School  
These opportunities for dialogue about race in Oregon – both historically & the current time – are presented by McMenamins History & Donna Maxey; doors open: 6pm; discussion: 7pm  
**Details:** racetalkspdx.com

Saturday, April 14, 6:30-8:30pm  
**CU GOV. VICTOR ATIYEH LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION AWARDS**  
**Location:** Concordia University  
Information, sponsorship & tickets for this fundraising event to benefit students scholarships & 3 to PhD, are available online. Keynote speaker: Jill Biden, PhD.  
**Details:** concordialeaders.com

April 14, 19  
**NATIVE PLANTS**  
**Locations:** Various  
NE Coalition of Neighborhoods, 4815 NE 7th Ave  
This introduction to common native plant communities in Portland shows examples of species that do well in similar growing conditions. You'll learn successful planting tips that will help them thrive & more. A slideshow

highlights characteristics & desired growing conditions of many local favorite native groundcovers, shrubs & trees.  
• April 14, 9-11:30am, Parkrose Community United Church of Christ, 12505 NE Halsey St  
• April 19, 6-8:30pm, NE Coalition of Neighborhoods Office, 4815 NE 7th Ave  
**Details/registration:** emswcd.org/workshops-and-events/upcoming-workshops/



Sunday, April 15, noon-4pm  
**CREATIVE PATH WALK**  
**Location:** Cerimon House, 5131 NE 23rd Ave  
Cerimon House hosts a contemplative labyrinth walk the third Sunday of every month. It's a 30-minute immersive indoor experience of light, sound & walking meditation – a place for you to focus, unplug & restore. The April theme is "Earth's Ecology." \$10 suggested donation  
**Appointments/details:** cerimonhouse.org

April 17, 18, 21  
**LEAD-SAFE HOME PROJECTS WORKSHOP**  
**Location:** Various  
This class is for anyone who is planning to complete a small project that may involve exposure to lead paint, such as sanding down an old window frame, repurposing an older door, or any other small construction project in an older home. Each qualified participant receives a free kit of supplies.  
• Tuesday, April 17, 6:30-8:00pm, 2209 N Schofield St  
• Wednesday, April 18, 5:30-7pm, Community Energy Project, 2900 SE Stark St  
• Saturday, April 21, 1-3pm Pilgrim Lutheran Church Basement, 4244 SE 91st Ave  
**Details/registration:** communityenergyproject.org, 503.284.6827 x109



Friday, April 20, 7-9pm  
**OFF THE COUCH EVENTS ACTIVITY NIGHT**  
**Location:** St. Charles Catholic Church, 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, April 21, 9am-3pm  
**CULLY ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORS CLEAN UP**  
**Location:** Trinity Lutheran Church & School, 5520 NE Killingsworth St  
Got time to volunteer &/or unload your unwanted household goods? A full list of volunteer duties, sign-up form & details about what can be dropped off at the clean up are online. Construction materials, hazardous waste & large amounts of yard debris cannot be accepted.  
**Details:** cullyneighbors.org, cullycleanup@gmail.com, 503-912-4283

Saturday, April 21, 9-11:30am  
**BENEFICIAL INSECTS**  
**Location:** Oregon Food Bank, 7900 NE 33rd Dr  
Meet the beetles, bugs, flies, lacewings & other invertebrates such as spiders & centipedes that work around the clock to provide free pest control. Discover plant types & management practices that provide habitat to attract & sustain beneficial insects that help your garden thrive. You'll also learn how to keep an eye out for some of the invasive insect pests that currently threaten the state.  
**Details/registration:** emswcd.org/workshops-and-events

Thursday, April 26, 6-8:30pm  
**URBAN WEEDS**  
**Location:** East Portland Neighborhood Office, 1017 NE 117th Ave  
Learn how to identify the most common garden & landscape weeds along with some of the other more notorious plant invaders of the region. Information includes how these aggressive plants take over in your yard, plus some simple yet effective tips to help you get the upper hand without turning to synthetic herbicides.  
**Details/registration:** emswcd.org/workshops-and-events



Saturday April 28, 9am-noon  
**STEWARDSHIP SATURDAY: PLANT BY BOAT**  
**Location:** 142nd Cross Levee, near 14134 NE Airport Wy  
This is the only event this winter for planting native trees by boat. Paddle canoes west from the levee & plant along the bank.  
**Details/registration:** volunteer@columbiaslough.org, 503.281.1132



Saturday April 28, 10am-2pm  
**WETLANDS 101: ROAD TRIP**  
**Location:** Delta Park MAX Station is meeting point, look for the blue CSWC signs  
In this hands-on workshop learn about the importance of wetlands in urban communities, how wetland mitigation occurs, & what plants & animals rely on wetlands to survive. Pack your lunch, & join the wetlands mobile for a tour of north & northeast Portland's richest wetland spots. Tour stops: Vanport Wetlands, Kelly Point Park area wetlands, Port of Portland Wildlife Undercrossing & wetlands, Smith & Bybee Lake wetlands overlook at St John's Prairie. Suitable for adults & teens 12+, \$5 suggested donation.  
**Registration/details:** susanne.raymond@columbiaslough.org, 503.281.1132

Date: Sunday, April 29, 1-5pm  
**RAIN GARDENS 101**  
**Location:** Bridgeport United Church of Christ, 621 NE 76th Ave  
Join the East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District for this workshop. Learn how to build your own rain garden, explore the critical role rain gardens can play in urban stream restoration & how they add beautiful landscaping to your yard at the same time.  
**Registration:** emswcd.org/workshops-and-events/upcoming-workshops/

### 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.



APRIL 2018	
1	<b>THE HAROLD AND MAUDE SQUAD TWO SHOWS</b>
6	<b>LIVE WIRE</b> WITH LUKE BURBANK MALLORY ORTBERG + SARAH SHAPIRO + MUSICAL GUEST MOOREA MASA
7	<b>THE MYSTERY BOX SHOW</b> 6TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW
8	AN EVENING WITH <b>PETER ASHER</b> + <b>ALBERT LEE</b>
12 13	A FOND FAREWELL <b>THE MUSIC OF ELLIOTT SMITH REIMAGINED</b> PRESENTED BY THIRD ANGLE NEW MUSIC AND HAND2MOUTH THEATRE
17	<b>EXPRESSING MOTHERHOOD</b>
18	<b>SCIENCE ON TAP</b> AFTER THE FLAMES: THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE EAGLE CREEK FIRE RESPONSE
19	<b>CRYSTAL BOWERSOX</b>
20	AN EVENING WITH <b>KWAME ALEXANDER</b>
21	<b>LIVE WIRE</b> WITH LUKE BURBANK MARY PILON + RON ARTIS III
24	<b>SCIENCE ON TAP</b> THE CRIMINAL BRAIN: THE NEUROSCIENCE OF PSYCHOPATHY
25	<b>IGNITE TAO: TECH V9</b>
28	SIREN NATION presents <b>LADY SINGS THE BLUES</b> a tribute to BILLIE HOLIDAY
ALBERTAROSETHEATRE.COM 503.764.4131 3000 NE ALBERTA	