

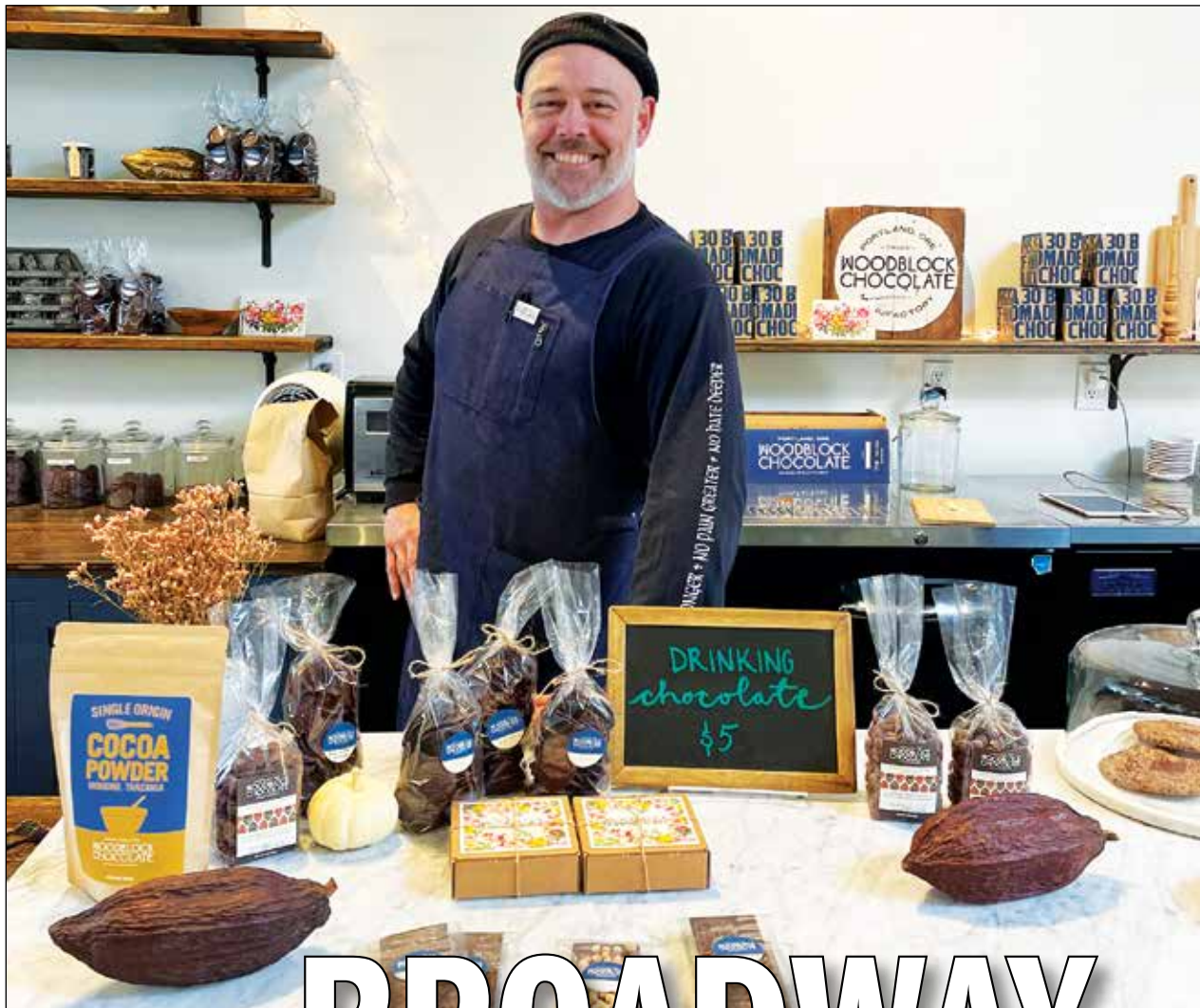
Star NEWS

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PAGE 21



★ SERVING NORTHEAST AND NORTH METROPOLITAN PORTLAND NEIGHBORHOODS ★ DECEMBER 2023 ★ VOLUME 41, NUMBER 10



NO NEED TO HIT THE MALL
Northeast Portland street has all your holiday needs and activities – and then some.
PAGE 11

BROADWAY is bustling



RESIDENTS RESIST Stakeholders ask PPS to reverse an earlier plan for modernizing Jefferson High School because they don't want to force students to travel to Marshall High during the multiyear construction. **PAGE 9**



BOOKS WITH A BENT FOR JUSTICE Grace Episcopal church library offers enlightenment. **PAGE 4**



MIKE ON THE BIKE New columnist roves the city on two wheels and will tell us what he finds. **PAGE 8**



SO SEW SPECIAL Nonprofit Sincere Studio builds community, camaraderie one stitch at a time. **PAGE 5**



SHARING IS CHILD'S PLAY NE Swap and Play connects families with resources. **PAGE 15**

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2000 N.E. 42ND AVENUE PMB 142
PORTLAND, OREGON 97213

★ STAR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



BY JANET GOETZE

JANETGOETZE@STAR-NEWS.INFO

WY'EAST PICKS UP LITTER IN NE NEIGHBORHOOD

Members of the Wy'east Unitarian Universalist Congregation have joined groups of Portlanders who are cleaning up neighborhood streets. On a cold, clear Sunday morning, members picked up about 100 pounds of litter between Northeast 37th and 46th avenues, from Tillamook to Halsey streets.

They worked in pairs, said member Diane Ingle, using gloves, grabbers, vests, sharps containers and buckets they received from SOLVE. That organization encourages volunteers to help preserve the environment, including beaches, waterways and wildlife habitat as well as city sidewalks and streets.

The Wy'east congregation performs a service project four times a year, Ingle said. On the day some picked up litter, others made seasonal cards for people who receive services or attend activities at the Community for Positive Aging.

The congregation meets at the CfPA,



Members of the Wy'east Unitarian Universalist Congregation collected about 100 pounds of trash. The Community for Positive Aging provided access to their large dumpsters for disposal. Tying up the bags are Larry Burt, Doug Campbell, Ron Thurston and Anne Wagner. (Diane Ingle)



From left, Cathy Skarica, Kate Fricke, Linda Macpherson, Hank Hadaway, Jan Hively and Linda Burk (not pictured) made seasonal cards for the CfPA. (Linda Burk)

previously known as the Hollywood Senior Center, 1820 N.E. 40th Ave, in person and on Zoom from 10:30 a.m. to noon on the first and third Sundays of the month. On the second and fourth Sundays, they meet by Zoom only.

JOINT OFFICE NEEDS UPDATED MODEL, LEADER SAYS

The Joint Office of Homeless Services can point to successes in the past year, said the new director, but it needs to develop a new governance model to increase coordination among providers, partners and programs.

The Multnomah County-City of Portland office counted 4,266 people placed in permanent housing in fiscal year 2022. Another 5,860 people received homeless services for the first time in fiscal year 2023, director Dan Field told the Interfaith Alliance on Poverty at its November meeting. The alliance includes 14 faith communities.

The agency also provides housing assistance to keep people from becoming homeless, Field said. Families with children are a special focus in that program.

Field said he wants more of his agency's

community partners to become aware of how to use Medicaid dollars on housing support. The state has received a federal waiver for the pilot program expected to help improve people's health outcomes if they have stable housing.

While services have increased since the Joint Office was formed in 2016 by then-County Chair Deborah Kafoury and then-Portland Mayor Charlie Hales, the multiple programs and partnerships aren't well coordinated, said Field, a Kaiser-Permanente executive before becoming a county employee.

A September report by Health Management Associates outlined areas for improvement following more than 40 interviews with county and city decision-makers, community service providers, other stakeholders and Metro, which has some funds for homeless services.

A theme in the report, Field said, was the lack of a shared "map" of the homeless services system to show where facilities are located, where services are offered and what staff is available.

He offered examples: City Commissioner

The Hollywood Star News

Published monthly in Northeast Portland.

Mailing Address

2000 N.E. 42nd Ave. PMB 142
Portland, OR 97213
Phone 503-282-9392

Mary DeHart Owner and Publisher
marydehart@star-news.info

Mary Ann Seeger
Administrative Assistant
maryannseeger@star-news.info

Phill Colombo Development Reporter
phillcolombo@star-news.info

Janet Goetze Community Reporter
janetgoetze@star-news.info

Lisa Lakes Feature Writer
lislakes@star-news.info

Nancy Varekamp Feature Writer
nancyvarekamp@star-news.info

Denise Szott Designer / Copy Editor

Lisa Chiba Perkins Graphic Designer
lisachiba@star-news.info

Maggie Grainger Community News
and Advertising Sales
maggiegrainger@star-news.info,
619-665-1611

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Libraries: Albina, Gregory Heights, Hollywood, Kenton, and North

Grocery stores: New Seasons on Interstate, Williams and Broadway/33rd

Fairleys Pharmacy and 42nd Street Station

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editorial@star-news.info

Editorial deadline: 15th of the month
Advertising deadline: 20th of the month

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Dan Ryan created the Safe Rest Villages and former city Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty established the Portland Street Response. Both are aimed at aspects of homelessness but neither coordinates directly with the Joint Office. In addition, Hardesty's program is popular among city residents but isn't supported by her successor.

Portland and Multnomah County leaders have been in disagreement over whether to emphasize permanent or temporary housing to deal with the region's houseless problems,

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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★ STAR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Artwork by Yoonhee Choi (above) and Sanford Biggers (right) will be on permanent display at the new main terminal at Portland International Airport when it opens next May. (RACC)



but Field said cooperation is forming.

“There’s agreement that we need a new governance model,” he said. That would include determining objectives, including what is expected of service providers and shelters and determining what models help people stay in housing.

LAND TRANSFER TO AID INDIGENOUS FAMILIES

Tiny houses for Indigenous families and a preschool for children are taking shape on property once occupied by the Presbyterian Church of Laurelhurst, 935 N.E. 33rd Ave. The development is called Barbie’s Village in memory of a woman who worked on health and housing issues for urban Indigenous people.

For the past two years, a task force commissioned by the leadership commission of the Presbytery of the Cascades, the denomination’s regional governing body, has worked with Future Generations Collaborative to make a land transfer. The action is “to tangibly participate in repair and healing alongside the Indigenous community in our region,” according to a written statement.

The land will be transferred for \$1 once certain conditions are met. These include documenting that the collaborative is incorporated, that the land shall not be sold except to an organization controlled by Native Americans and that legal documentation protects the presbytery from future liabilities.

In addition to Future Generations, the task

force worked with Leaven Land and Housing Coalition and Westminster Presbyterian Church. Future Generations is an Indigenous organization that has served the health needs of urban people since 2012.

Barbie’s Village is named for Barbie Shields, a citizen of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, who worked with Future Generations to address public health disparities among Indigenous people. She died of an aneurism in 2018.

“Her death just had a profound impact on the other elders and natural helpers — on all of us,” said Jillene Joseph, executive director for the Native Wellness Institute, a partner with the Future Generations Collaborative.

Multnomah County has allocated \$300,000 to help with startup costs for Barbie’s Village. Joseph said she hopes the county will provide more funding in the future.

JESSE BEASON JOINS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Jesse Beason, who has been president of Northwest Health Foundation and serves on several community boards, is replacing Susheela Jayapal as Multnomah County commissioner for District 2, which includes North and Northeast Portland.

Jayapal has resigned and announced she is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for U.S. House District 3. The current House member, Earl Blumenauer, has announced he won’t seek reelection.

In a prepared statement, Beason said county Chair Jessica Vega Pederson has asked

him to keep the transportation portfolio that Jayapal began working with early this year. This will include the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge and other Willamette River bridges. It also will include roads and culverts in unincorporated sections of the county.

He also expects to work with the county’s Local Public Safety Coordination Council, which has awarded a \$2 million federal grant for three years to advance a community safety project in the Cully neighborhood, which is in District 2.

Beason arrived in Portland from Denver about 20 years ago to attend Lewis & Clark College. He was a Marshall Memorial Fellow and was recognized by the Portland Business Journal as a top “40 under 40” community leader and a Rising Star by Portland Monthly.

ARTISTS TO DISPLAY WORK IN AIRPORT

Two artists, Yoonhee Choi of Portland and Sanford Biggers of New York, will create permanent artwork for the new main terminal at Portland International Airport, according to the Regional Arts & Culture Council.

Their work will be part of the first phase of the terminal core redevelopment project, according to the Port of Portland. The port calls that “the keystone project in an overall \$2 billion renovation.” The work is expected to be on display when the new terminal opens in May 2024. More artwork also will be commissioned in the future.

Choi’s work is expected to be designed for two glass walls in the pre-security area for both north and south security checkpoints. The mixed-media collages are both whimsical and structured, RACC said.

Biggers’ two large sculptures will be suspended from the ceiling and will greet

travelers as they pass through the TSA checkpoints, according to the port.

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

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★ STAR FEATURE

Some of the members of the Racial Justice and Environmental Action Team helped assemble a library to help members of Grace Memorial Episcopal Church learn about the subjects. They include, from left, Deacon Elizabeth Klein, Ann Crockett, Carolyn Brown Jo Fricker and Robin Gault. (Deacon Elizabeth Klein)



Grace library teaches congregants about social justice, environment

By Janet Goetze

janetgoetze@star-news.info

Racial justice and environmental protection are concerns of many organizations, including churches. A committee at a Northeast Portland church, Grace Memorial Episcopal, is helping members learn more about the issues by creating a special library.

In addition to a center for learning, the collection of about 75 books is a memorial to a member and librarian, Anne North, who died of cancer last year. The books are available for church members to check out from a large bookcase in the hallway outside Grace community hall.

The 10 members of the congregation's Racial Justice and Environmental Action Team decided to collect books, appropriate for all ages, as a way to honor a beloved member and to help other members gain information. Climate change, they agreed, is one of the greatest racial injustice issues of our time.

Deacon Elizabeth Klein worked with the

team. The Rev. Judith Meckling and team member Jo Fricker created a catalog with information about each book. This helps readers decide which book to select.

A book for children is "Change Sings: A Children's Anthem" by Amanda Gorman, with illustrations by Loren Long. Described as a lyrical book, Gorman writes: "I can hear change humming in its loudest, proudest song. I don't fear change coming."

Barack Obama wrote another children's book in the library titled "Of Thee I Sing: A Letter to My Daughters." The publisher describes it as a "tribute to thirteen groundbreaking Americans and the ideals that have shaped our nation."

A book by Mitchell S. Jackson, who grew up in Portland, is in the collection. "Survival Math: Notes on an All-American Family" takes its title from the calculations Mitchell and his family made to keep safe — and alive — in a Black neighborhood.

"Jesus and the Disinherited" is a 1949 book by Howard Thurman, a theologian and civil rights leader, that has influenced Christian



The Anne North Memorial Library at Grace Memorial Episcopal Church has books appropriate for all ages. (Deacon Elizabeth Klein)

thought. Reviewers note that Thurman interprets the teachings of Jesus through the experiences of the oppressed and discusses nonviolent responses to oppression.

"Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents," by Isabel Wilkerson, describes U.S. racism as akin to the caste system of India and the social stratification of Nazi Germany, which looked to U.S. laws and social structures in its treatment of Jews. While Nazis praised the U.S. laws that underscored "racial purity," even they couldn't accept one they called "unforgiving hardness." That was the rule that stated anyone with "one drop" of Negro blood (the term of the time) would be regarded as Black and thus subject to restrictive regulations.

The action team has been interested in books by and about authors and subjects related to Black, Indigenous and people of color — BIPOC, said Deacon Liz, as she is known in the congregation. The library is expected to grow as more books are donated, she added.

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

ARTISTS SELECTED FOR NEW SHELTER

Artists have been selected to create a mural for the Arbor Lodge Shelter, a former pharmacy that is being renovated for long-term housing for up to 106 people by the Joint Office of Homeless Services.

The building at North Denver Avenue and Lombard Street was a severe weather shelter in February 2021 after it was purchased using federal COVID-19 funding. Later it was an emergency shelter combining indoor sleeping space and sleeping pods in a parking lot.

The Joint Office, a joint commitment of Multnomah County and Portland, is overseeing the work as part of its responsibility for shelter expansion.

The artists are Lillyanne Pham and Paola De La Cruz. They have created a collaborative artistic practice, Que Lo Gi, "known for creating socially engaged projects that bridge individual stories with communal experiences which resonate with diverse local communities," according to the Regional Arts & Culture Council.

RACC worked on the project with the Joint Office, Multnomah County and Do Good Multnomah, a service organization.

Pham is a second-generation Vietnamese artist and cultural organizer. De La Cruz, of Dominican heritage, weaves digital and analog media.

The artists are expected to work with shelter guests, local community members and other stakeholders to design the mural.

DONATE WARM COATS AT REAL ESTATE OFFICE

Windermere Real Estate brokers are teaming up to Share the Warmth with winter necessities for those in need. The organization is collecting items until Dec. 20 to benefit Transition Projects, which provides services for low-income people.

Especially needed, according to Windermere, are adult-size coats and twin-size blankets. Community members may make donations from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at a Windermere office, including at 2045 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.; the Pearl District/Northwest office at 1220 N.W. Lovejoy St., Suite 130, and the Northwest Johnson office at 733 N.W. 20th Ave.

SCOUTS TO DISPOSE OF TREES ON JAN. 6

Boy Scout Troop 100 will help Irvington and Alameda neighborhood residents dispose of holiday trees on Jan. 6.

Scouts will pick up trees placed at the curb by 9 a.m. Trees also may be dropped off at two sites between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Please remove all tinsel, metal wire and nails. No wreaths or flocked trees can be accepted. A donation of \$10 to \$50 is suggested, depending on the tree size. The funds help equip the growing, 100-year-old troop for outdoor adventures.

For curbside pickup, make a check payable to Troop 100 and attach it to the tree inside a plastic bag. Payments also may be made via Venmo @Troop100_pdx. Please include the address when paying by Venmo. One drop-off site is at Northeast 27th Avenue and Fremont Street, beside Alameda School. The other is at Northeast 54th Avenue and Alameda, behind St. Rose Catholic Church.



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Sincere Studio

Sandy Boulevard sewing center tailored to community needs

By Janet Goetze

janetgoetze@star-news.info

It's not unusual for people to knit, embroider or crochet while chatting with friends or watching television with family.

But can you imagine someone hauling a sewing machine — even a small, portable one — to a coffee shop or book group to stitch among friends?

Neither could Epiphany Holmstock. That's one reason she started going to Sincere Studio, a community sewing site that opened nearly a year ago. It offers classes for novices or experienced seamstresses and seamstresses plus open studio hours for those who want to work on their own projects without being isolated.

Frances Andonopoulos, who arrived in Portland nearly three years ago from the Chicago area, had had the idea for a sewing studio for some time. When their previous job ended, they realized this might be the time to act on the dream with the help of a crowdfunding campaign for startup money.

For most of the year, the studio at 2636 N.E. Sandy Blvd. operated under the mentorship of Fractured Atlas, which provided information on getting established and operating as a nonprofit, said Holmstock, who is treasurer on the studio's three-person board. In late fall, Sincere Studio attained its own 501(c)(3) status as a nonprofit, she said.

The classes, usually of six to eight people, include beginner and advanced instruction. Some focus on garment making, hand sewing techniques and quilting. A class in serging is available, too. A serging machine creates overlocking stitches to keep stretchy materials, especially for T-shirts, from fraying at the seams.

A sewing club for people of color and another for queer and trans people also is



A Sincere Studio class member assembles fabric for a quilting project. Others work at the large table where crafters work on their own projects in community. (Sincere Studio)

available. These are intended to provide space for often-marginalized people to gather and create a sense of community, Andonopoulos said.

Class information is available at the website: sincerestudiopdx.org. Fees range from \$8 an hour for the open studio to less than \$100 for two- or three-hour classes to create several types of projects, with all materials provided. More advanced courses of several hours or two-day schedules have higher prices. Sliding-scale fees may be arranged.

Sincere crafters will join the Kerns Holiday Market, featuring businesses along Northeast Sandy Boulevard, from noon to 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16. The door to the studio is off Northeast 26th Avenue, south of Sandy. “

“It would be a great way for readers to come check out the space,” Holmstock said.

Andonopoulos teaches quilting classes because that's the sewing they most enjoy since learning from a group of women while living in what they called “the middle of nowhere in Minnesota.”



Most classes at Sincere Studio are small, which helps students get acquainted while gaining skills. In the studio, masks are required. (Sincere Studio)

“They were so excited that I was even interested,” Andonopoulos said, noting that the group's camaraderie was as enjoyable as the craft.

Nina Thompson is a regular at the studio who learned to sew with her grandmother when she was 7. She has continued sewing small projects, but she has little room in her home for larger pieces. That's what drew her to the studio, with its large tables and convenient working places.

“Some people will book an hour to cut out a pattern, then go home and sew it,” Andonopoulos said.

The classes for beginners drew in Shea Selby, who first heard about the studio from posters that Andonopoulos distributed before the center opened. “I'd dabbled in hand sewing,” Selby said, “but I'd never even used a sewing machine.”

She was pleasantly surprised about the support from instructors who showed her all the parts of a sewing machine and how to thread it. When she was sure she did something wrong, Selby said, her instructor assured her that she was simply putting her own imprint on her project.

One of her first projects was a tote bag. It taught her that sewing techniques may not seem logical at first, Selby said. She followed instructions about stitching seams, but when she looked at her double square of cloth, all she could see was raw material and pieces of thread. That wasn't the pretty bag she had envisioned.

“There's a magical moment when you pull it inside out and you have a new bag,” Selby said. She suddenly saw that the work of creating the bag stays on the inside of the project. “Sewing is really magical!”

Selby, an academic adviser at Portland Community College, has become the president of the nonprofit's board. The group has worked on bylaws and is exploring new programming.

Holmstock, the treasurer, has worked in arts administration with grant writing experience. She has assembled a grants committee to seek additional financial support for the studio.

Anna Del Savio, a Portland Tribune reporter, is the board secretary who heard about the studio on social media. She had done some sewing in the past but has a new interest in quilting and is learning how to adjust patterns to fit an individual body.

The evening and weekend classes fit her schedule, Del Savio said. She also likes the social aspects of sewing with other people.

“Our goal is to create a community space where everyone feels at home,” Andonopoulos said.



An instructor holds up a quilt to discuss with class members. Various quilting projects are in the curriculum, including creating a jacket or designing a wall hanging. (Sincere Studio)

★ STAR DEVELOPMENT NEWS



BY PHILL COLOMBO

PHILLCOLOMBO@STAR-NEWS.INFO

94 AFFORDABLE UNITS PROPOSED FOR ELIOT

Albina Vision Trust Inc. of Northwest Portland has filed applications to construct a seven-story, 94-unit apartment building on a parking lot at 1771 N. Flint Ave. With all units designated affordable, the project would include a large community room with services, a lobby, flexible meeting space and a small commercial space. No vehicle

parking is proposed, and solar panels are planned for the roof and balconies.

Albina Vision Trust was created to steward the vision for the future of lower Albina and achieved nonprofit status in 2017. The trust seeks innovative solutions with a focus on building partnerships. As a nonprofit organization, it is positioned to link private interests and public priorities with community values.

Detailed information on this and other projects are at <https://bikeportland.org/2021/01/20/albina-vision-trust-will-develop-housing-and-theater-project-in-lower-albina-324923>.

BETTER 82ND ENTERS NEXT UPGRADE PHASE

The upgrade construction of six new signalized pedestrian crossings on Northeast and Southeast 82nd Avenue got underway in mid-November. This portion of the multiyear project aimed at making urgent safety and maintenance repairs to the busy north/south corridor will take place at Northeast Beech, Klickitat and Schuyler streets and at Southeast Clinton, Ash and Schiller streets.

Portland's Bureau of Transportation advised the traveling public to expect lane closures and delays on 82nd Avenue and side streets near the work zones and requested slower travel and caution in work zones,



Parking lot at 1771 N. Flint Ave. in Sabin where Albina Vision Trust will build a seven-story, 94-unit, affordable housing apartment building. No parking is proposed for the project. (BDS)

observing all directions by flaggers and using alternate routes, if possible.

Crossings will be enhanced with new pedestrian half-signals, full signals or pedestrian beacons along with accessible curb ramps, high-visibility crosswalks and concrete median islands. Street lighting upgrades also will be provided along 82nd Avenue between Northeast Lombard and Southeast Clatsop streets in addition to providing improved lighting for a 2-mile stretch of Northeast Halsey Street between 112th and 162nd avenues. These improvements will bring street light brightness up to current safety standards by adding lighting infill.

Construction is expected to last up to 18 months with typical work hours between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

There also may be occasional evening or weekend work. Construction will create noise, vibration and dust, and work may impact neighborhood activities and normal use of driveways or business entrances. The contractor will provide advanced notification of impacts to adjacent property owners and residents.

For more information, go to: <https://www.portland.gov/transportation/planning/82nd-avenue>.

CONTRACTOR NAMED TO BUILD EARTHQUAKE-READY BURNSIDE BRIDGE

In early November, Multnomah County named Burnside Bridge Partners Joint

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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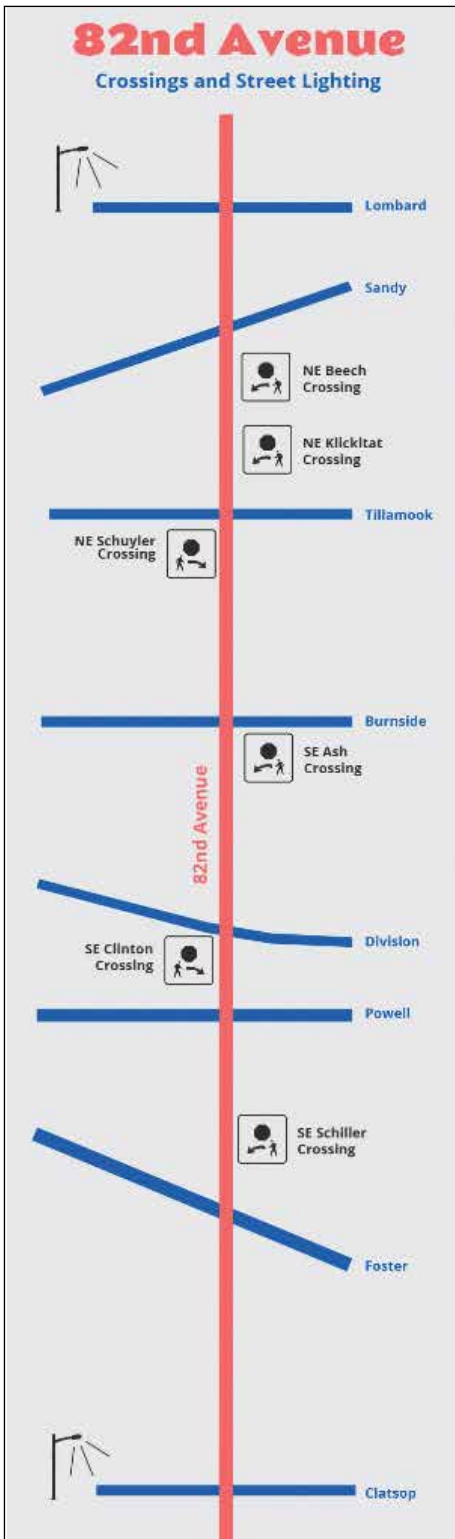
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Photo by Jennifer Ayse

★ STAR DEVELOPMENT NEWS



Venture as the principal contractor. The partners include Stacy & Witbeck, an employee-owned company that built Portland's streetcar system and multiple light-rail lines; Taylor Brothers, which has constructed more than 135 major bridges; and American Bridge, which fabricated the original Burnside Bridge and built the Astoria Bridge over the Columbia River in its more than 120-year history.

The Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge Project is a multiyear effort to replace the nearly 100-year-old Willamette River crossing with a structure that will withstand a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake. The county expects Burnside Bridge Partners to officially begin work in December as part of the design phase.

Construction of the bridge could start in early 2026, pending full funding of the project. If funding goals are met, a new Burnside Bridge could open as early as 2031.

For more details: <https://www.multco.us/earthquake-ready-burnside-bridge>.

PERMITS ISSUED

In Overlook at 4607, 4619, 4629 and 4635, 4641 N. Campbell Ave., North Houses LLC of Southwest Portland has secured permits to build an eight-unit, four-story development with single-vehicle attached garages on a shared vacant lot.

In Sabin at 3738 N.E. 16th Ave., Fitzgerald Design Build LLC has permission to build a 330-square-foot, single-story garage at the rear of the property where a 1,670-square-foot, single-family residence has stood since 1927.

APPLICATIONS FILED

In Arbor Lodge at 1229 N. Bryant St., Shane Allbee filed for permission to deconstruct a 624-square-foot, single-family residence

Map of intersection along 82nd Avenue where improvements will be made. Upgrades will include new pedestrian half-signals, full signals or pedestrian beacons along with accessible curb ramps, high-visibility crosswalks and concrete median islands. (PBOT)

built in 1926.

In Concordia at 5838 N.E. 30th Ave., Daniel Matarazzo and Laura Johnson seek to deconstruct a 400-square-foot detached garage built in 1926.

In Cully at 5124 N.E. 48th Ave., Zoe Moskovitz and Daniel Huish want to construct a new detached accessory dwelling unit at the rear of their property.

In Humboldt at 833 N. Simpson St., Declan O'Connor Trust is seeking to secure a deconstruction permit for a detached garage built in 1910.

In King at 210 N.E. Alberta St., Joseph Gum wants to build a detached, 239-square-foot, single-story garage with a new paved driveway. A deconstruction permit to remove the detached garage on the property since 1906 also has to be filed.

In Kenton at 2340 N. Kilpatrick St., Nation Enterprise LLC of Vancouver, Washington, wants to deconstruct an 820-square-foot, single-family residence built in 1928. Early assistance has been completed on replacing this structure with four attached town homes.

In Sabin at 4146 N.E. 14th Ave., DEZ Development LLC of Clackamas filed to build four two-story, single-family residences without garages in a cottage array. A 1,216-square-foot, single-family residence on the property since 1906 will remain.

At 1624 N.E. Skidmore St., Mark & Meghan Whitaker are seeking permission to build a single-story, detached accessory dwelling unit without a garage.

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Here is Mike taking a break outside studio of All Classical radio station KQAC FM on the eastern shore of the Willamette River during the Oregon Cystic Fibrosis Cycle For Life event this past July. The piano is available during the summer for passersby to play a tune and spread joy.

Meet the Star's new monthly columnist

Mike on a Bike

Get ready to go for a spin around North and Northeast Portland with our new roving reporter, Michael Wright.

Mike travels on two wheels from his home on the Alameda Ridge to the Rose Quarter, along the Willamette to Boise, through Sabin, east to Rocky Butte, across Parkrose, back to Lloyd Center and all points in between.

Most of these rides are unplanned and Mike turns left or right depending upon what strikes him at the moment.

This new feature will highlight something in our neighborhoods that may surprise or delight readers — occasionally both.

It may be a new mural painted on the crossroads of two streets, a captivating

garden, a new food cart or perhaps one of those delightful poetry posts that dot our sidewalks. Mike will interview someone involved in the highlight to offer some insight on the story behind the photograph.

Beginning in January, Mike has an interesting take on the tiny sidewalk libraries that are popping up more and more often to stimulate recycling of books and reading!

Look for Mike spinning through your neighborhood. He's easy to spot with his Hollywood STAR NEWS flag flapping in the breeze behind him keeping him safe.

If you have a cool story to share that you think our readers would find intriguing, wave him down.

— Mary A. DeHart,
Publisher

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★ STAR FEATURE

Community resists proposal to relocate Jefferson High students

PPS plan would send teens to Marshall High School during modernization work

By Janet Goetze
janetgoetze@star-news.info

More than 100 community members have asked Portland Public Schools to reverse an earlier plan for modernizing Jefferson High School, 5210 N. Kerby Ave., because they don't want students traveling to Marshall High School during construction.

The request will delay the start of construction, likely cost more than a current bond would provide, and would mean tearing down the school's original 1909 building, which those attending public planning meetings in 2019-2022 had urged designers to retain.

The opposition to holding classes at Marshall, 3905 S.E. 91st Ave., grew out of parents' reaction to a school district letter, sent in the summer, saying the move was necessary. Several months ago, engineers and architects determined that they couldn't reinforce the school's original four-story brick building safely and within the budget if



More than 100 community members have spoken loud and clear that they don't want Jefferson High School students to be forced to travel to Marshall High School during the three-year project to modernize the Jefferson campus. (©2017 Steve Morgan)

students were inside, the letter said.

Holding classes in the 1909 building for a phase of the \$300 million modernization project had been part of the plan approved by the school board a year ago, following open-house and focus-group meetings during the planning years.

District officials looked for other nearby sites to move students but didn't find one that offered the space for academic classes, arts, athletics and offices, the

district said. Those facilities are available at Marshall, where Grant, McDaniel, Franklin and Benson students have gone during construction.

A group of parents demanded a change in plans at an August meeting with the school board. The district invited community members to what it called a "collaborative conversation" on Nov. 6, hosted by Self Enhancement Inc., and moderated by Camille Idedevbo, representing the meeting

sponsor, the Center for Black Student Excellence, a district initiative.

Remote and in-person polls conducted at the meeting showed that more than 90% of 136 participants were opposed to moving students off campus during construction.

Retaining a sense of community is necessary for Jefferson's largely Black and Brown enrollment, several speakers said,

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



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“Now is the time for equity and justice for this community to be heard, to be given what it needs and to be given what it deserves.”

— November meeting attendee



Jefferson High School was built in 1909. Engineers and architects determined that they couldn't reinforce the school's original four-story brick building safely and within the budget if students were inside. That prompted a plan to send students to Marshall High School while modernization work took place. Community members oppose the idea. (Wikipedia)

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- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

and they believe that wouldn't happen with a move to Marshall. Some also were concerned that a three-year move during construction, from the 2024-25 school year to opening a modernized campus for the 2027-28 school year, would cause the

school enrollment of about 600 to dwindle further. In earlier meetings, Principal Drake Shelton said some students in the Jefferson attendance area already are enrolled at Benson, Grant and McDaniel.

In the planning stages for modernization, one of the proposals presented at workshops and focus groups would construct a new building facing Ainsworth Street without preserving the 1909 building, once seen as a historic beacon for the community.

Several people at the November meeting expressed a preference for a new building, with some focusing on the new Lincoln High School, 1750 S.W. Salmon St., which opened in 2023 after a three-year construction period. Students stayed in the 1950s Lincoln building while the new campus developed on the former sports field.

No one mentioned other schools, which included new construction in addition to gutted and modernized historic buildings.

Some said Lincoln parents are affluent and got what they wanted because they are part of “the white dominant power structure” and “they were not asked to bus their community.”

“Now is the time for equity and justice for this community to be heard, to be given what

it needs and to be given what it deserves,” one attendee declared.

Kiesha Locklear, an architect working on the Jefferson modernization project, said rising construction costs are likely to make a new plan more expensive than funds available in the voter-approved 2020 bond measure that includes Jefferson. Going back to the drawing board could require voters to approve a new bond.

In addition, the city Historic Landmarks Commission must consider demolition of the 1909 building because it is a contributing piece in the Piedmont Conservation District.

Any decision made by the commission can be appealed to the city and state by the Jefferson community or any individual in the area, Locklear said. An appeal could extend the time for developing a new construction plan.

Michelle DePass, a school board member attending the meeting, said community pressure could gain approval at the landmarks and funding levels.

“Money and time are not our problem,” said Tony Hopson, CEO and president of Self Enhancement Inc. “That’s their problem,” he said, referring to the school district.

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★ STAR BLOCK X BLOCK

HOLIDAY CHEER IS BRIMMING ON BROADWAY

By Maggie Grainger
maggiegrainger@star-news.info

Let the festive spirit wash over you during a stroll down Broadway. This street has something for everyone all year long, but has an extra magical charm during the holidays. Browse through a bookstore or boutique and then enjoy a treat or two at one of the many bakeries and breweries. Happy holidays!

HALE PELE

Where there's smoke, there's fire, or, in the case of tiki bar Hale Pele, lots and lots of really fun drinks.

This hidden gem — located at 2733 N.E. Broadway — has been lighting people's nights on fire since 2012, offering bar-goers a unique Pacific Northwest-style tiki experience.

"Tiki bars in general are about escapism," says bartender and social media manager

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



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Clockwise from above: Just a small selection of the more than 250 rums in rotation at Hale Pele.

The famous flaming Volcano Bowl can be shared with up to six people at a time.

The bar's small plates are inspired by the culinary staples of island culture.

Feeling adventurous? The Jet Pilot is not for the faint of heart.

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★ STAR BLOCK X BLOCK



at any given time. Murphy understands so many choices might feel overwhelming, but she says not to worry. Hale Pele's bartenders will steer you in the right direction.

On a first date? Try the Lava Flow, a "coconutty" classic that's also really pretty and sure to impress your partner.

Looking for an adventure? The Signal Fire is one of their most popular drinks and is a Hale Pele original. Rated "quite a stinker" by the staff, it fuses coconut, peach, cinnamon spire and rum for a "wonderful dance of flavors."

Appreciate the classics? It may sound basic, but Murphy swears by the Mai Tai, her go-to shift drink.

Ready to rage? The Jet Pilot is a Level 4 and not for the faint of heart. Added bonus: It's served on fire, which doesn't

hurt. It has a lot of cinnamon so it's a great drink to enjoy in the winter when you're craving fall spice.

Wanting to share with friends? Murphy says the piece de resistance everyone should try before leaving is, hands down, their famous volcano bowls — a communal cocktail that can be shared with up to six friends.

Please note: Hale Pele doesn't take reservations and is on a first-come, first-serve basis. However, the Chieftain's Hut

The Chieftain's Hut can be reserved for groups of 8-12 people. (@blake.thomas.riley)

Katherine Murphy. "That's partly why it's so fun — especially in the winter in Portland. You can be transported to another place for a couple hours.

"It's a little more vintage with just the right amount of kitsch to make it fun ... and, of course, we're famous for setting drinks on fire."

In fact, the "House of the Volcano Goddess" serves up more than 60 unique drinks (not all are lit aflame) and has between 250 and 300 rums on the back bar



Merci Milo — which means 'Thank you, Milo' in French — is full of fun and unique gift ideas. (Schoolhouse)

is a semi-private space that is available to reserve for groups of 8-12.

ADDRESS: 2733 N.E. Broadway WEBSITE: halepele.com INSTAGRAM: @halepele DON'T MISS: Be sure to ask your bartender about Hale Pele's rum tasting and cocktail loyalty programs. Once completed, participants receive perks like 20% off food and drinks every Sunday.

MERCI MILO

Relive the joys of childhood every time you enter the whimsical wonderland

that is Merci Milo, a unique children's boutique located at 2438 N.E. Broadway.

Inspired by a family trip to Paris, owner Caroline Rodrigues wanted to recreate the classic toy shops of yesteryear with her own modern spin.

"My daughter, Milo, was only 6 months old when we made our first trip to Paris together as a family," she says. "We loved taking her to our friend's classic toy shop. I could see her eyes just light up when we entered the shop."

Wanting to capture some of the magic from that moment, Rodrigues decided to

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



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STAR BLOCK X BLOCK



start an online shop eight years ago before opening a location in Los Angeles. After moving to Portland during the pandemic, she knew Broadway was the perfect area to open a second location.

"I want people to feel like they've stepped into an old-time, Old World toy shop from the past," Rodrigues says of the overall vibe. "I want them to remember their childhood. I have so many customers come in that get excited about some of the old school, retro toys we carry because they used to play with them as a child. It's nostalgic."

She says lots



of care and consideration goes into the items she curates for the shop.

"I call it intuitive buying," she explains. "I try not to stock items that don't bring joy, or that everyone else has."

She continues: "You really have to love it, to feel connected to it. Will this live on forever and

ever? Be passed down for generations? Those are some questions I ask before I bring it into our shops."

Rodrigues says Merci Milo — which means "Thank you, Milo" in French — is also a love letter to her daughter, who is now 9.

"If it wasn't for her, I wouldn't have opened this shop," she says. "In many ways, Milo was the dream and the magic behind the shop. She really gave me the courage to open it and inspired me every step of the way."

ADDRESS: 2438 N.E. Broadway **WEBSITE:** shopmercimilo.com **INSTAGRAM:** @shopmercimilo
DON'T MISS: Come in and take a portrait in their holiday elves cottage. The Alice in Wonderland-inspired setup includes a miniature house with a miniature Christmas tree and furniture and makes for a truly unique photo shoot.



Woodblock sells drinking chocolate. It's different from hot cocoa in that it's made with full-fat chocolate; none of the cocoa butter is removed. (Maggie Grainger)

of Woodblock Chocolate Manufactory off of Broadway and Northeast 17th Avenue. "It's the soil, the pollinators, the weather, the altitude — it's agriculture.

"A lot of people don't think of that when they think of chocolate."

The former furniture restorer says he and his wife, Jessica, have learned many things about the intricacies of the cocoa bean over the 13 years they've been in the artisanal chocolate-making game, and they continue to grow, learn and evolve with each batch.

However, there was one lesson early on that changed the course of their lives: Learning the difference between a

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



Plush stuffed animals, like the hot dog (top) and books are available at Merci Milo.

Inspired by a family trip to Paris, owner Caroline Rodrigues wanted to add her own modern spin to the classic toy shops of yesteryear. The shop also is a love letter to her daughter, Milo, who is now 9. (Merci Milo)



WOODBLOCK CHOCOLATE MANUFACTORY

Just like winemakers study the quality of each grape that goes into a bottle of wine, chocolate makers must examine each cocoa bean that will eventually turn into a bar of chocolate.

"There is a unique quality to each cocoa bean depending on its variety and other factors," says Charley Wheelock, the owner

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★ STAR BLOCK X BLOCK



Woodblock's signature 10-pack comes with their ten anchor bars and makes a delicious gift. (Maggie Grainger)

chocolatier and chocolate maker.

"Chocolatiers buy chocolate and make stuff out of it like bonbons," Wheelock explains. "Chocolate makers make it from scratch."

As the couple started researching more and more, they realized there were no chocolate makers in Portland and only 15 in the entire country. That was all the motivation they needed to jump all in.

"We were on the forefront," he continues. "When we started, we were the first chocolate bean to bar in the artisan chocolate-making industry."

Now all of their chocolate bars are made right in the Woodblock Chocolate Manufactory where customers are met with the warm, delicious smells of roasting cocoa beans the minute they enter the shop.

Visitors are encouraged to check out the chocolate-making equipment, sample some products and ask questions about the unique process.

For those coming in looking for a delicious holiday gift, Wheelock recommends their signature 10-pack. Each box comes with their 10 anchor bars, but you can also customize it and mix and match your favorite flavors.

"It's a slam dunk," he says. "Everyone eats those up."

ADDRESS: 1715 N.E. 17th Ave. **WEBSITE:** woodblockchocolate.com Instagram: @woodblockchocolate **DON'T MISS:** Their resting chocolate. Chocolate rests on something dry and aromatic like hops or peppermint and it becomes part of the flavor profile. A truly unique gift.



Charley Wheelock and his wife, Jessica, have been perfecting the art of artisanal chocolate-making since 2010 when they started experimenting in their Portland kitchen. (Maggie Grainger)

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★ STAR FEATURE

Swap & Play

Northeast play space lets families connect, share affordable resources

By Maggie Grainger
maggiegrainger@star-news.info

Sara Tretter was a stay-at-home mom looking for a way to meet other families in her Rose City Park neighborhood when the idea for the NE Swap and Play first came to her.

"I was looking for more affordable options for my two children under the age of 3," she says. "I was also looking for ways to connect



NE Swap and Play was designed for younger children to play, learn and explore while creating a space for Portland families to build community. (NE Swap and Play)

with other moms in my community. "When my kids were little, it was crucial to my mental health to get out of the house and talk to other adults." After attending a birthday party at the St. John's Swap and Play, Tretter knew she wanted to do something similar for the Hollywood and Rose City Park communities. She had a vision of creating a space where parents can come together and play with their children and swap and share baby and children's items that they no longer needed. "I put out a call in our local Buy Nothing group and connected with two other moms,

and together we got this project off the ground," she says. They started looking for community spaces to rent and finally found a home in the basement of Rose City Park United Methodist Church, located at 5830 N.E. Alameda St. Now the Swap and Play has built up a following of dedicated monthly members and continues to grow through word of mouth. Community members pay a small monthly membership — which is on a sliding scale and based on what each family can afford — for access to the play and swap spaces.

However, the team doesn't want financial barriers to prevent anyone from using the space. They will work with individuals on obtaining memberships based on what they can pay, even if that means nothing. "Our membership model means families can drop by anytime, no appointment needed," says membership coordinator Cindy Weydt. "Families are welcome to bring food and drink to enjoy while playing, and best of all, you're very likely to run into another family from the neighborhood while

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 16



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★ STAR FEATURE



Members can drop off donations in the swap room and take anything they'd like. (NE Swap and Play)

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

you're here."

The main play area is home to a cozy reading corner, climbing structures, a play kitchen and market, and lots of imaginative toys and puzzles. Members also have part-time access to Youngston Hall, which has play structures and bikes. The swap room is accessible from inside the playroom, and members can drop off donations and take anything they'd like. Be sure to check the website for an updated list of acceptable items to donate.

"Our swap room sets us apart from other indoor play spaces," Weydt says. "I have given — and taken — dozens of items over the years including clothing, books and baby gear, all of which are expensive to purchase brand-new."

The team maintaining the space is made up entirely of volunteers, and they are always looking for more helping hands. There are a variety of volunteer positions currently open including a membership coordinator, programming/events coordinator and weekly events planner. They are also always seeking nighttime cleaning closers, deep cleaners and help with website maintenance. Volunteers receive free membership.

"It's a space designed for younger children to play, learn and explore while creating community

If you go

When: The NE Swap and Play is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Wednesday play is by reservations only and is \$5 for members, \$20 for nonmembers.

Where: Rose City Park United Methodist Church basement, 5830 N.E. Alameda St. There is a unique code to enter the building.

More: Visit neswapandplay.org. Check out the website and Instagram account (@neswapandplay) for upcoming events, like a recurring Mommy and Me pelvic floor workshop and a Spanish-language storytime.

for Portland families," Weydt says. "It is maintained entirely by a group of dedicated volunteers who truly care about the space and the community."

She continues: "The kids play in the space, we volunteer here. It feels like an extension of your own home or playroom. I think many members tend to bring their children on the same days and times each week, so people begin to recognize each other and form friendships. The best part is meeting other like-minded families and getting to know our neighborhood."

Star News sighting



Get ready for takeoff! It's December, which means thousands of Portlanders will be treading the famous carpet at Portland International Airport on the way to their destination.

Whether you're heading home

for the holidays, off on a global adventure or a quick weekend getaway, catch up on all your Northeast neighborhood news while you wait to board your flight. Happy travels!

Where did you spot the Star? Send a photo with a short blurb (3-5 sentences), your name and the neighborhood to maggiegrainger@star-news.info and it might be featured in an upcoming issue.

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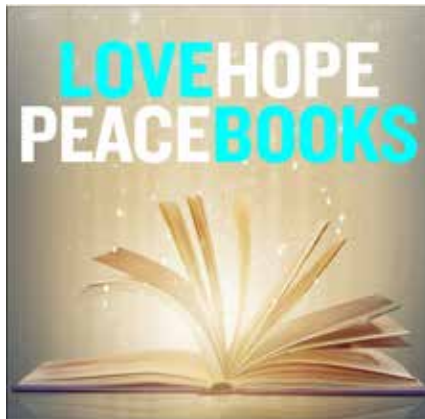
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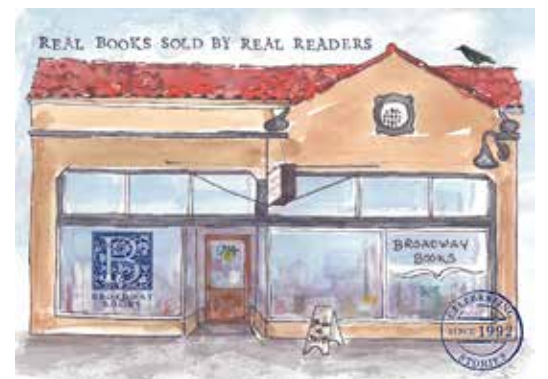


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★ STAR PET CONNECTIONS

Pet-safe holidays make for happy holidays



BY LISA LAKES

LISALAKES@STAR-NEWS.INFO

Holiday events and special foods, while enjoyable to humans, can present a danger to our furry friends. Chocolate, coffee, caffeine, raisins, grapes, onions, garlic, leeks, chives and salty foods are just some of the human foods that can be dangerous or deadly to cats and dogs. Keep these foods away from pets and avoid overtreating with fatty or rich foods like gravy during the holiday season.

New Year's Eve fireworks and loud noises pose another potential risk. Some pets are noise averse and can develop gastrointestinal or nervous disorders. Many pets will try to run from these scary sounds and end up lost.

Desensitizing your animal is possible but takes time and patience. If the time is not available, there are some short-term tools that may mitigate noise aversion. You may choose to use medication, noise blocking or removing the pet from the environment (for example, spending the night at a quiet location).

Medication – There are several short- and long-term medications that may help



Noise-blocking headphones will protect your pet's ears from loud sounds, like fireworks on New Year's Eve or the Fourth of July. (Lisa Lakes)

Resources

- **ASPCA Poison Control number:** 888-426-4435
- **iCalm Pet – noise-blocking music:** <https://tinyurl.com/5446uppz>

- **Mutt muffs:** <https://www.safeandsoundpets.com/index.html>
- **Pet Friendly lodging:** <https://tinyurl.com/mtn5ssry>
- **BluePearl Pet Hospital Emergency:** <https://tinyurl.com/2mt68x2u>

your pet. Contact your veterinarian well in advance of the need to help determine the right choice for your pet. While there are some over-the-counter options, it is best to consult with your pet's veterinarian to ensure you have selected a brand that won't negatively interact with other medications or special needs your dog has.

Noise blocking – Provide "white noise"

through a website or alarm clock that has this function. There are also CDs that play quiet, dog-friendly sounds and music (see the icalm link below). Noise blocking headphones are another option. Originally created for dogs they may work for your cat also.

Remove the pet from the noisy environment – Urban settings generate

the most noise around the holidays. There are several websites that detail pet-friendly lodgings around Oregon. However, you may not have to leave home to calm your pet. A quiet room with white noise added may be enough. For pets that are used to being crated, covering the crate to create a safe, dark space may help.

Finally, you may find that a combination of methods is right for your pet. A quiet room with white noise and/or medication and headphones may improve your pet's holiday experience.

Should you need emergency veterinary care, BluePearl Pet Hospital is open 24 hours a day, and is located at 2030 N.E. 42nd St., 503-501-2375.

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KIDSTEENS AND FAMILIES

HEAR STORIES, SONGS

Dec. 5. 10:15 a.m. Continues Tuesdays. A Tiny Tots storytime includes songs. Free; 503-988-5123; multcolib.org. First come, first served. Tickets available 15 minutes before class begins. Hollywood Library, 4040 N.E. Tillamook St.

READ TO THE DOGS

Dec. 7. 3:30 p.m. Young readers improve skills by reading to the dogs. Free. Registration: 503-988-5123. Multcolib.org. Hollywood Library, 4040 N.E. Tillamook St.

STORIES ON FRIDAYS

Dec. 8. 10:15 a.m. Continues Fridays. This storytime is for preschoolers. Free; 503-988-5123; multcolib.org. Kenton Library, 8226 N. Denver Ave.

MEET OLD ST. NICK

Dec. 16. 9-11 a.m. Enjoy a light breakfast of sweet rolls and beverages with Jolly Old St. Nick. Bring a camera or phone to capture a photo with Santa, if desired. No charge, but donations will be accepted. The building is ADA-compliant. Reservations are required: breakfastwithsantaatRCPUMC@gmail.com. Rose City Park United Methodist Church, 5830 N.E. Alameda.

ENJOYARTS

'TINY THINGS' IN SHOW

Dec. 1. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Open Tuesdays-Sundays. Closed Mondays. Until Jan. 3, the annual show of "Tiny Things" continues to provide artworks at economical prices. All the works measure 7 inches or smaller. They include many mediums: ceramic, oil, acrylic, wood. www.guardinogallery.com. 503-281-9048. Guardino Gallery, 2939 N.E. Alberta St.



"Wild Rose," ceramic, Heather Bellamy (Guardino Gallery)

PARKER POSEY IN FILMS

Dec. 5. 6:30 p.m. On four Tuesdays, explore four films starring Parker Posey, called "Queen of the Indies," and often viewed as one of cinema's greatest and most underrated comedic actresses. Offered at Movie Madness, the educational arm of Hollywood Theatre. Class limited to 18. Proof of vaccination required.



Parker Posey

Information: . education@moviemadness.org. Tuition \$75 or \$60 for members. www.hollywoodtheatre.org; 503-234-4363. Films shown at Movie Madness Miniplex, 4320 S.E.



"3 Little Pigs," oil on linen, Jill McVarish (Guardino Gallery)

Belmont St.

VIEW THOUGHTFUL FILMS

Dec. 6. 6:30 p.m. On four Wednesdays,



"Red Pepper, Hot Sauce and Cupcake," acrylic, Wayne Jiang (Guardino Gallery)

study four films by Krzysztof Kieslowski, one of the most thoughtful and socially

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

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Baroque Holiday Concert
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Friday, December 22, 2023 7:30pm

J. S. Bach: Christmas Oratorio (Parts 1-3)
Isabella Leonarda: "Magnificat"

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conscious filmmakers to emerge in the 1980s and 1990s. Offered by Movie Madness. Class limited to 18. Proof of vaccination required. Information: education@moviemadness.org. Tuition \$75 or \$60 for members. www.hollywoodtheatre.org; 503-234-4363. Films shown at Movie Madness Miniplex, 4320 S.E. Belmont St.

ART, CRAFTS FOR SALE

Dec. 7. 4-6 p.m. Shop on the first night of Hanukkah for arts and crafts, gifts and decor. Also enjoy cider and cookies with some of

the artists. The gallery is open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily. Artistic Portland Gallery, 4110 N.E. Fremont St.

'BLACK NATIVITY' SET

Dec. 7. 7:30 p.m. Continues Thursdays and Fridays to Dec. 10. Matinees at 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. PassinArt Theatre Company presents "Black Nativity" by Langston Hughes, directed by Jerry Foster. The story of the Nativity is told from an African American perspective through Scripture, poetry, dance and song with griot-style narration. Tickets: \$27 to \$40. at www.passinart.org. Brunish Theatre, fourth floor, 1111 S.W. Broadway.

'MESSIAH' SCHEDULED

Dec. 8. 7:30 p.m. The Portland Baroque Orchestra presents George Frideric Handel's "Messiah" featuring the Cappella Romana choir. Continues 7:30 p.m. Dec. 9 and 3 p.m. Dec. 11. Tickets start at \$25. Tickets for groups of 10 or more are available. \$5 Arts for All tickets subject to availability. Tickets: PBO.org and 503-222-6000. First Baptist Church, Southwest 12th Avenue and Taylor Street.

A-WOL TO CELEBRATE

Dec. 16. 4-6 p.m. Enjoy a matinee of dance and aerial artistry to celebrate the 20th birthday of the studio and raise funds, including a silent auction. Tickets \$27-\$42. From 7-10:30 p.m. enjoy an evening gala of artistry, with refreshments and silent auction. Tickets \$32-\$57. www.tickettailor.com. Information: www.awoldance.org. A-WOL Dance Collective, 513 N.E. Schuyler St.

WINTER CONCERT SET

Dec. 16. 7 p.m. The Aurora Chorus presents a winter concert, "Inner Gardens." The words are from the Austrian poet and writer Rainer Maria Rilke. The music views the nature of winter's ability to inspire inner and interpersonal cultivation. Tickets \$15-\$30. www.aurorachorus.org. First United Methodist Church, 1838 S.W. Jefferson St.

FILM COSTUMES VIEWED

Dec. 18. 6:30 p.m. A two-hour class explores costumes, an important part of film's visual language, and the role of the costume designer. This Movie Madness class uses case studies from contemporary, sci-fi/fantasy and period films. Proof of vaccination required. Tuition \$45. www.hollywoodtheatre.org Questions? education@moviemadness.org. 503-234-4363. Films shown at Movie Madness Miniplex, 4320 S.E. Belmont St.

BACH ORATORIO SET

Dec. 22. 7:30 p.m. The Bach Cantata Choir presents a Baroque Holiday Concert featuring the Christmas Oratorio, parts 1-3, by J.S. Bach; "Sulpita Cesis" by Parvulus filius, and "Magnificat" by Isabella Leonarda. Tickets \$30 at http://www.buytickets.at/bachcantatachoir. Rose City Park Presbyterian Church, 1907 N.E. 45th Ave.

FOR SENIORS

LEARN ABOUT TECH

Dec. 5. 9:15 a.m.-10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Continues Dec. 12, 19. A Technology Ambassador answers questions about a smartphone, tablet or laptop. Bring the device and charging cord. Free. Appointments required: 503-288-8303 or email staff@communityfpa.org. Community for Positive Aging at the Hollywood Senior Center, 1820 N.E. 40th Ave.

YOGA FOR BEGINNERS

Dec. 7 and 21. 10-11 a.m. A Hatha-based yoga and meditation session for beginners. Yoga may improve balance, flexibility and strength of mind and body. Free. Information: 503-288-8303. Community for Positive Aging, 1820 N.E. 40th Ave.

ROYAL BLUES TO SING

Dec. 12. Noon-1 p.m. The Royal Blues ensemble from Grant High School presents lively tunes of the holiday season, sponsored by the Hollywood Lions Club. Free. Community for Positive Aging at the Hollywood Senior Center, 1820 N.E. 40th Ave. Dec.

INGENERAL

TREES GO ON SALE

Dec. 1-3, 8-10. Hours: noon-7 p.m. Fridays; 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturdays/Sundays. Choose a Christmas tree. Cash, check or credit card accepted. In the parking lot at Rose City Park United Methodist Church, 5830 N.E. Alameda.

LIONS TO RING BELLS

Dec. 2. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The Hollywood Lions Club is ringing bells for the Salvation Army at the Hollywood West Fred Mayer store, by the grocery entrance, 3030 N.E. Weidler St.

TUTORING OFFERED

Dec. 4. 5 p.m. Tutoring for adults is offered on a first come, first served basis. 503-988-

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 23



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5123; multcolib.org. Kenton Library, 8226 N. Denver Ave.

HOLIDAY SHOW SET

Dec. 5. Noon-6 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays. Visit the annual holiday show and sale. Instagram: @starkstreetstudios. Stark Street Studio & Gallery, 2809 S.E. Stark St.

LABYRINTH, TAIZE OPEN

Dec. 16. 4 p.m. Walk a contemplative labyrinth in the second-floor Great Hall. At 5

p.m., a Taize/Healing and Wholeness service begins in the sanctuary. The elevator to the second floor is inside the Northeast 16th Avenue door, between Schuyler and Hancock streets. Enter the Westminster Presbyterian Church sanctuary from 17th Avenue or the door with the maroon awning at 1624 N.E. Hancock St.

MUSIC FOR VESPERS

Dec. 17. 4 p.m. A Christmas Vespers service features carols, organ music, choir anthems and carol singing by the attendees. Free. The building is ADA-compliant. Rose City Park United Methodist Church, 5830 N.E. Alameda.

SERVICES FOR HOLIDAY

Dec. 24. 7 p.m. Family service with carols,



Taize participants may receive prayers, to pray silently in the pews, or light a candle. (Westminster Presbyterian Church)

choir and organ music. At 10:30 p.m., a candlelight service includes carols, solo musicians and organ music. Pastor David

Weekley will share a message at both services. Rose City Park United Methodist Church, 5830 N.E. Alameda St.

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Per the charts, home prices will continue to appreciate and mortgage rates will continue to decline. We are optimistic these charts hold true.



Home Prices Are Expected To Keep Rising

Home Price Forecasts for 2023 and 2024



Mortgage Rate Projections

Updated November 1, 2023

Quarter	Fannie Mae	MBA	NAR	Average of All Three
2023 Q4	7.30%	7.20%	7.80%	7.43%
2024 Q1	7.10%	6.80%	7.50%	7.13%
2024 Q2	7.00%	6.60%	6.90%	6.83%
2024 Q3	6.90%	6.30%	6.50%	6.57%