

## Keeping warm on KILLINGSWORTH

**STREETWISE** Barb Hughes visits a handful of businesses along the city's vital Killingsworth thoroughfare and finds Betty Estifenos serving up platters of a vegetable and lamb feast with Injera bread at Enjoni Cafe. **PAGE 8**



**BOLLYWOOD THRILLER** DJ Prashant leads an online dance class for Multnomah County Library. **PAGE 13**



**KNIGHT NATION** De La Salle North celebrates opening of new gym in Cully neighborhood. **PAGE 2**



**CARING COMMUNITY** NECC in Hollywood provides safe space for all kids to learn and thrive. **PAGE 14**



**PET CONNECTIONS** Humane society's Holly Primiano shows off a bouquet of foster kittens. **PAGE 7**



**HOORAY!** Hollywood Theatre is open again, as progress on facade renovation continues. **PAGE 8**



**KIDS KORNER** Penny Baimbridge talks to Nico Vergara, who has a new ice cream business. **PAGE 7**



**ONE MILLION SERVED** The Northeast Emergency Food Program continues to feed hungry neighbors. **PAGE 4**



## ★ STAR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### CITY ASKS NEIGHBORS TO IDENTIFY SAFETY ISSUES FOR FREIGHT MOVEMENT

The Portland Bureau of Transportation is asking residents to help identify what is needed for the safe, equitable, efficient and sustainable movement of goods within the city.

A survey, which closes Jan. 14, is available for neighbors to help the bureau identify the intersections, streets, curbs, bridges, ramps and neighborhoods where they experience safety and mobility concerns with freight movements.

Information is at [www.2040freight.com](http://www.2040freight.com).

The 2040 Freight Plan is an update of a master plan adopted by city council in 2006. Urban freight includes commercial items or goods that are moved throughout the city. Goods may be delivered by bikes, handcards, trucks and delivery vans.

As the city's population and economy grow, so will the distribution of goods and vehicles that move them.

"As a consequence, transportation related problems including safety concerns, greenhouse gas emissions, congestion, air and noise pollution will increase if no action is taken," a release from the bureau says.

### DE LA SALLE NORTH DEDICATES NEW GYM

The Michael Kelley Gymnasium has been dedicated at De La Salle North Catholic High School, which moved at the beginning of the school year to a building by St. Charles Catholic Church, at Northeast 42nd Avenue and Killingsworth Street.

The high school had leased the Kenton Elementary School, at North Fenwick



BY JANET GOETZE

JANETGOETZE@STAR-NEWS.INFO

Avenue and Lombard Street, since 2001. Its new home was remodeled from an elementary school.

The gymnasium is the first home for the boys' basketball team, which has won two state championships. It's also

a home gym for the girls' basketball and volleyball teams, according to a news release from the school.

The high school aims to provide a rigorous, faith-based education to students who otherwise might not have access to a college-preparatory education. An average 98 percent of graduating seniors have been accepted at colleges, according to the school.

Students attend classes four days a week and work for a local company one day a week as part of a work-study program. This provides students with experience and business contacts. It also helps offset students' educational costs. At graduation, each student will have the equivalent of a full year of work experience.

The high school is a member of the Cristo Rey Network, sponsored by the Lasallian Christian Brothers. It is part of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Portland and Western Oregon.

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Nuhamin Belay, a senior guard for De La Salle North Catholic High School, heads in for a layup during the opening game on Kelley Court, the school's new gymnasium in the Cully neighborhood. (De La Salle North Catholic)



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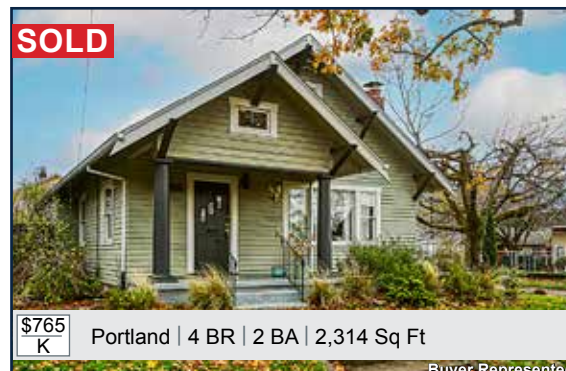
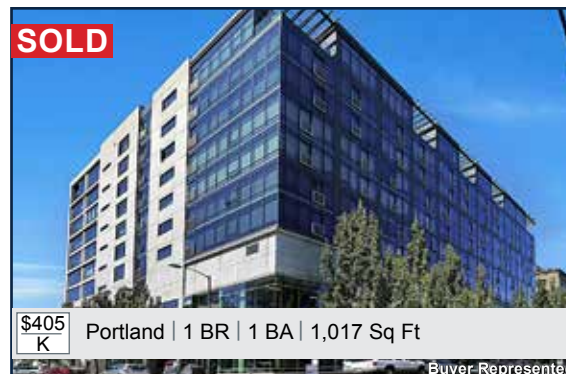
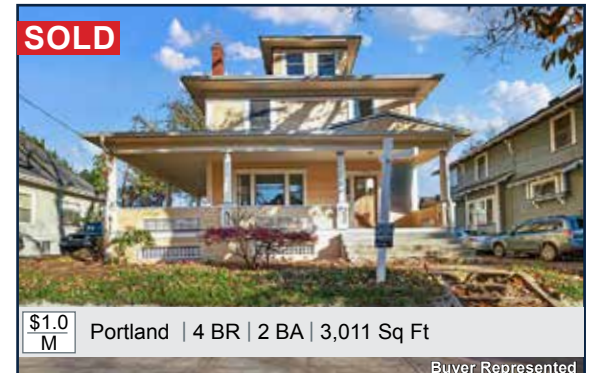
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Krista Trask will serve as the first executive director for Portland Open Studios in its 23-year history. (Portland Open Studios)

### OPEN STUDIOS NAMES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Portland Open Studios has selected Krista Trask as the first executive director in its 23-year history. Funds awarded by the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust have made the appointment possible, according to a news release.

The organization arranges the region's largest and oldest free tours of artists' studios on the second and third weekends of October. Over the past few years, Portland Open Studios has transitioned from an event-only, nonprofit to offering professional development services to help artists create businesses in the digital age.

The grant for a paid staff person is necessary to ensure the organization's long-term stability and growth, said George Thorne, a Regional Arts and Culture Council advisor who has been training the non-profit leadership since 2019.

Trask, who has been board president for the past year, joined Portland Open Studios as a participating artist in 2018. She volunteered to be the volunteer marketing director on the board before moving to the board presidency. She helped develop an educational program to help artist members move to online selling early in the pandemic.

She and board members Leah Kohlenberg, the new president, and Jolinda Miller, now vice president, recognized that artists needed more support. Trask and Ohlenberg enrolled in a leadership training program, funded by RACC, to expand the organization's scope.

After the pandemic arrived, the arts organization decided to stay as an online event. Artists gained training to update websites, work with social media, run online digital sales and create business plans.

### STATE WILL VOTE ON HEALTH CARE FOR ALL

Oregonians will vote in November 2022 on a proposal to amend the state constitution to guarantee health care for all residents.

An organization called Health Care for All Oregon (HCAO) has been working on the proposal for several years, and the 2021 Legislature referred the question to voters, according to Tom Sinic, HCAO president and a retired family nurse practitioner.

Sinic and Dr. Rick Staggenborg, faith caucus chair of HCAO, have been speaking to faith-based organizations in recent months. One was the Interfaith Alliance on Poverty, which includes 14 congregations and other groups counted as partners in the metropolitan area.

The question on the 2022 statewide ballot is called "The Hope Amendment," Sinic said in a November virtual meeting of the alliance.

"A 'yes' vote supports amending the state constitution to require that the state ensure that every resident of Oregon has access to cost-effective, clinically appropriate and affordable health care as a fundamental right," the ACOA website (acoa.org) says.

Medicaid is intended to provide health care for low-income people, Sinic said, but it comes with paper work outlining multiple requirements and the need to report any changes, for instance, to earnings, household numbers and illnesses that may end employment.

Half of personal bankruptcies are a result of health issues, he said. Poor health care is both a cause and a result of homelessness, he continued, and those without housing have difficulty getting jobs and finding care for tuberculosis, diabetes and other illnesses that need continuous attention.

Sinic said HCAO envisions a system that could lead to a national health plan in which cost wouldn't be a barrier to care, individuals could choose their providers and the system would be transparent to the public.

### ONE MILLION SERVED BY NORTHEAST FOOD PROGRAM

During December, The Northeast Emergency Food Program served its one-millionth individual since the beginning of the pandemic. The program also averaged 40,000 people served each month, compared to the 4000 to 8000 served before the pandemic, according to information from A'Jay Scipio, the program manager.

The program, part of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, is housed at Luther Memorial Church, 4800 N.E. 72nd Ave. Food boxes are distributed between 12 noon and 3 p.m. on Thursdays and Saturdays. Information is available at [www.emoregon.org/nefp](http://www.emoregon.org/nefp).

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A partner agency of the Oregon Food Bank, the Northeast Emergency Food Program helps feed families with children, the unemployed, the underemployed, the disabled, the elderly and refugees. (Northeast Emergency Food Bank)

The program, a partner agency of the Oregon Food Bank, serves primarily families with children, the unemployed and underemployed, the disabled, the elderly and refugees. According to Scipio, more than 40 percent of recipients are children. Churches, businesses, civic organizations and individuals support the program. Volunteers and those who wish to donate may visit the website or call 503-284-5470.

LIVING ROOM ANNOUNCES LOVING ROOM PARTNERS

Living Room Realty has announced its Living Room Partners for 2022-2024. They will be the African American Alliance for Homeownership, Rose Haven and Taking Ownership PDX.

The partners have the opportunity to benefit from the Loving Room Fund, a charitable giving program started by realty agents in March 2016 to “foster abundance and joy within the

community,” according to a news release.

At the end of each real estate transaction, agents donate a portion of their commission to one of the partner organizations selected by the client. Over the past five years, agents have donated more than \$421,000 to partner organizations. In the past, they have included Oregon Wild, p:ear, Hoffman Center for the Arts and Urban Gleaners.

Liz Starke, development director for Rose Haven, a partner since 2019, said the program has helped the agency grow at a critical time as homelessness has increased in Oregon. Rose Haven is a day shelter and community center serving women, children and gender non-conforming people experiencing trauma, poverty and physical and mental health challenges.

“As we see the increase in housing insecurity escalate in our community,” Starke said, “it is so cool to see realtors putting their

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## ★ STAR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

own money into making social change.”

Another partner, African American Alliance for Homeownership, is a non-profit, HUD-approved, housing counseling agency to increase homeownership and economic stability for African Americans and other under served individuals.

Taking Ownership PDX is a collective of contractors, realtors and businesses brought together by musician and activist Randal Wyatt to repair and renovate Black-owned homes. The goal is to enable Black homeowners to age in place, generate wealth, deter predatory investors and deflect the gentrification process.

### GRAPHIC NOVEL SELECTED FOR ‘EVERYBODY READS’

The 2022 “Everybody Reads” book selected by the Multnomah County Library is “Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversations” by Mira Jacob. Using a graphic format, the book presents a period in Jacob’s 6-year-old son’s life when he has questions about everything.

It was named a New York Times Notable Book and it was short-listed for the National Book Critics Circle Award. Copies are arriving in neighborhood libraries and online, thanks to support from The Library Foundation.

The author will appear in “An Evening with Mira Jacob” at 7:30-9 p.m. March 10 at Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, 1037 S.W. Broadway. The sponsor, Literary Arts, has tickets from \$18 to \$65 at literary-arts.org.

Neighborhood libraries have lists of events and discussions planned between January and March based on themes in the book. Discussion questions and further reading are available on the library website: [www.multcolib.org](http://www.multcolib.org).

### ALBINA ROTARY CLUB HELPS FEED 65 FAMILIES

Members of the Albina Rotary Club have spent about 20 years serving North and Northeast Portland families with holiday feasts, sometimes at Thanksgiving and sometimes at Christmas.

Thanksgiving 2021 was the holiday the members chose this year to serve 65 families, who also received additional groceries for a week, according to

information from the club. Members had help, too, from the Wood Village Fred Meyer store, which provided a discount, club members said, plus “a space for the packing, a mountain of empty banana boxes, and the assistance of employees.”

The packed boxes for each family included canned vegetables, bags of flour, sugar, fruit juice, pancake mix, cooking oil and a ham. The members also support Meals on Wheels, pick up trash, supply bilingual dictionaries to local schools and look for other opportunities to help their neighbors. The club’s Facebook page is [www.facebook.com/albinarcpxd](http://www.facebook.com/albinarcpxd).

### NECN OFFERS GRANTS FOR NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

The Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods is accepting applications for small neighborhood grants through Jan. 15. The coalition office is at 4815 N.E. Seventh Ave. The grants coordinator can be reached at 503-388-5004 or [grants@necolition.org](mailto:grants@necolition.org).

Past years’ recipients have included urban gardeners and community cooking events that bring together people of many cultural backgrounds. Arts and culture events also have been organized in the past.

Most grants are about \$2000 but may be up to \$3000. The money goes to projects that engage, uplift and educate our communities, according to the coalition website at [www.necolition.org](http://www.necolition.org).

### DONATE CANS, BOTTLES FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Community members can save cans, donate funds or link a Fred Meyer rewards card to support the Al Forthan Memorial Scholarship, which helps students impacted by family addiction to attend college.

Forthan once was involved in drugs, but in 1991 he entered the Volunteers of America Men’s Residential Center and turned his life around. He entered a Portland Community College program to become a certified alcohol and drug counselor. In 1992, he became the first graduate of the residential center to return as an employee and worked there for 10 years.

After Forthan’s death in 2006, Greg

Stone, the center’s program director, donated \$500 to start the scholarship program. By 2021, the funds had grown to \$60,000 to help 29 Oregon high school seniors go to college.

Applications for the next scholarships are due Feb. 7. Information is at [www.alforthanscholarship.com](http://www.alforthanscholarship.com)

Checks for the scholarship fund may be sent in care of Greg Stone at 2318 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Recyclable cans and bottles may be donated for scholarship funds at that address. Vehicles and boats also may be donated. Information about the scholarship and more ways to support the fund are at [www.voar.org](http://www.voar.org).

### MOVIE MADNESS BOOK CAPTURES MEMORIES

Celebrating the 30th anniversary of Movie Madness with a virtual event in early 2021 brought out so many memories, from past and present customers and employees, that a book has been developed to keep them alive.

Titled “Movie Madness: 30 Years Behind the Counter of Portland’s Iconic Video Store,” the book has interviews, articles, photographs, original art and more, said Joe Bolenbaugh, the marketing manager.

The book, priced at \$15, is available at Movie Madness, 4320 S.E. Belmont St., Powell’s Books and Floating World Comics. Online orders are at [www.moviemadness.org/book](http://www.moviemadness.org/book).

Alison Hallett, the theater’s community engagement director, edited the book. She described it as “not just about Movie Madness, but also about the video stores many of us grew up going to, and about Portland 15 or 20 or 30 years ago. I realized there were a lot of incredible stories connected to Movie Madness – and that if we didn’t tell them, they might never get told.”

The video store is a lost world, except for those who know about Movie Madness, the one-of-a-kind shop with more than 80,000 titles in its collection and an array of props from past films. Mike Clark founded the shop in 1991. When he was ready to retire in 2017, he approached the nonprofit Hollywood

Theatre about a potential purchase.

The theater, which preserves and promotes the art of film, saw the purchase as aligned with its mission. A crowdfunding campaign raised more than \$315,000 and the theater took ownership of Movie Madness in January 2018.

### WOMEN WRITERS OVER 50 SEE WORK PUBLISHED

An anthology of plays and screenplays by women over 50 has been produced by ARTEMIS Arts, a Portland-based, national organization founded to assist women in overcoming obstacles in arts careers. The book is called “Wisdom Anthology” to underscore the experiences and knowledge of the artists.

Many of the women who have received ARTEMIS grants in the past seven years haven’t been able to share their work with the public or have had to postpone their dreams and creative lives, said Sam Hull, the founder of the organization.

“When we had an opportunity to create an anthology, we unanimously agreed that a wisdom anthology should be where we begin this work,” Hull said.

ARTEMIS serves women in the visual arts, performing arts and literature. Information about the organization and ordering the anthology is at [www.artemisarts.org](http://www.artemisarts.org).

### URBAN FORESTRY OFFERS LESSONS IN TREE CARE

Urban Forestry, a program of Portland Parks and Recreation, has informational sessions in January on fruit tree pruning and how to keep tools sharp.

A sharp blade is less likely to damage tree bark and branch collar than a dull one. Keeping tools sharp for clean cuts will be outlined from 9 a.m. to 12 noon Jan. 22 at East Delta Park, 10910 N. Denver Ave. Sign up at [www.portland.gov/trees](http://www.portland.gov/trees).

Participants may learn wintertime fruit tree pruning, which has objectives different from summer pruning, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 5 at the Delta Park Orchard. Sign up at [www.portland.gov/trees](http://www.portland.gov/trees). ★



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## ★ STAR KIDS KORNER

## All scream for Nico's Ice Cream!

By Penelope Baimbridge

For the Star News

Who is Nico? Nico is the owner of an ice cream shop. It's called Nico's Ice Cream! It's on Fremont and 57th and they just opened. Their ice cream is the best! Here's my interview with Nico Vergara:

**Kids Korner:** Okay, so the first question is why did you start this business?

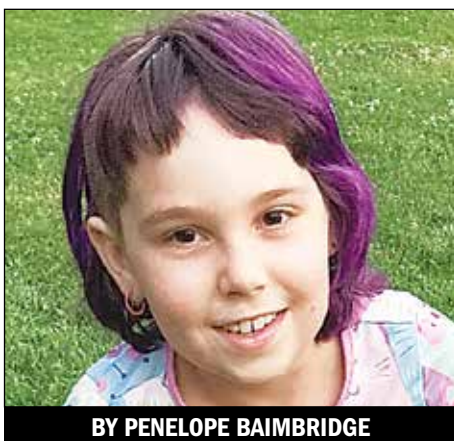
**Nico Vergara:** I started Nico's ice cream because, for me, it's a lot bigger than ice cream. I like to make people smile. I like to make people laugh and be happy. Making ice cream is making people happy. You could put blueberries in the ice cream; you could put sprinkles on the ice cream and make people smile. So that's the reason why I started Nico's, to bring brightness and to bring happiness to this area.

**Kids Korner:** Why did you choose this street to open your ice cream shop on?

**Nico:** Because I actually grew up real close to here and I went to Grant High School. Do you know the high school?

**Kids Korner:** Yes! My friend's big brothers go there.

**Nico:** I graduated from there. I mean, we could walk there. It would be a long walk, but it's like two miles away. I graduated



BY PENELOPE BAIMBRIDGE

from that high school. I actually live a mile away from here. My mom lives a mile and a half away from here so a lot of my family live in this area and I grew up in this area. Fremont and this area means a lot to me.

**Kids Korner:** Do you have any pets?

**Nico:** I do. I have two dogs. I have one named Penny. It was Penelope but then it was a little too long to create a dog tag. So now she's Penny. Penny and a little boy dog named Bandito. I don't know what he is but he looks like a golden retriever but he's super small.

**Kids Korner:** What's your favorite ice cream flavor?



Nico's Ice Cream has opened at Northeast and Fremont in the Cully neighborhood. (Sally Miller)

**Nico:** My favorite flavor is the Marion berry, which is the purple one. That's my favorite flavor.

**Kids Korner:** How did you come up with the idea for Nico's?

**Nico:** I tried real fruit ice cream a couple years ago. It was something like I've never tasted before. It was a kind of ice cream that there wasn't a lot of here in the United States. There are only a couple places here. So I wanted to bring it to people who live here and have them be able to try it. That's how I kind of found out about it and brought it here.

**Kids Korner:** It definitely is delicious!

**Nico:** Good! I'm glad you like it. I don't like sweets that much. I'm kind of weird that way. When I was about your age, growing up, everybody would get their desserts and I was the weird one that said, "Can I just have a bowl of fruit for dessert?" So that's what I wanted instead and that's why I also love this ice cream, because it's fruit and it's ice cream blended together.

**Editor's note:** Last month Nico Vergara's cargo trailer was stolen from in front of his home in Northeast Portland. Vergara is raising money for a new cart and has started a GoFundMe account. The page can be found by visiting [www.gofundme.com](http://www.gofundme.com) and searching for "Nico Vergara." ★



## ★ STAR PET CONNECTIONS

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## Would your family enjoy fostering pets?



BY LISA LAKES

LISALAKES@STAR-NEWS.INFO

Many families enjoy fostering pets in place of or in addition to keeping their own. Annually, thousands of pets need foster care. In some cases, animals are too young to be placed for adoption. Some need medical care for temporary illnesses or are recovering from surgery. In a few cases animals need behavior training before they can be placed.

Families choose to foster because they want to live with the pet before deciding to adopt, are not ready for a fulltime pet, or enjoy assisting in the birth and nurturing of kittens or puppies, or those with medical needs. For some families, travel restricts them from fulltime pet ownership. Foster families know that they have provided an essential service in the life of the pet by helping it prepare for a forever home.



Holly Primiano shows off her bouquet of foster kittens. (Lisa Lakes)

Most shelters have application and training protocols for prospective foster families. Some shelters will cover the cost of food for the pet's stay. In most cases the foster pets need to be separated from other family pets – especially if there are medical issues.

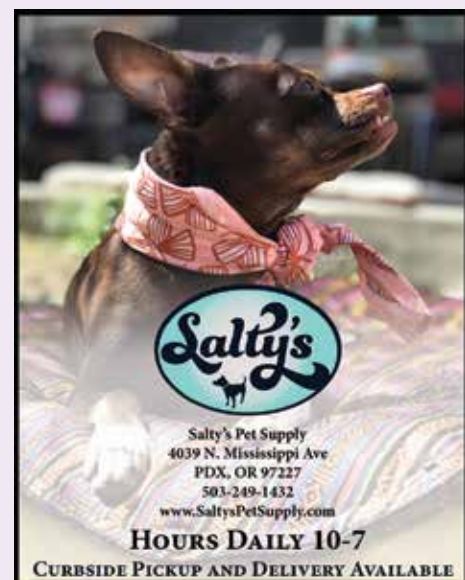
Holly Primiano, who works with the Oregon Humane Society's Customer Care Team and is a foster mom, shared her reasons for fostering.

"Having recently lost a beloved cat after eighteen years, I wasn't ready to adopt again," she said. "Fostering cats and kittens not only gives them the time they need before being ready to go to their forever families, but it also brings

joy and love into my home again."

The Oregon Humane Society has a robust foster program and welcomes online applications – especially families interested in helping pets with medical issues, large breeds, or pregnant and nursing dogs. If you love animals, consider becoming a foster family and check out the links below.

The following agencies all offer foster opportunities: The Oregon Humane Society at [www.oregonhumane.org](http://www.oregonhumane.org), Multnomah County Pets at [www.multcopets.org/foster](http://www.multcopets.org/foster), the Cat Adoption Team at [www.catadoptionteam.org](http://www.catadoptionteam.org) and Family Dogs New Life at [www.familydogsnewlife.org/join-us](http://www.familydogsnewlife.org/join-us). ★





## ★ STAR DEVELOPMENT NEWS

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## HOLLYWOOD THEATRE OPEN, FACADE WORK CONTINUES

Piece by piece, the restoration of the Hollywood Theatre to its original 1920s facade continues to make progress while the theater is again open for business. As is usual with restoration and reconstruction, some problems pop up and must be resolved before work can continue. The most recent is a "water issue."

"Now that we've taken down the 1965 walls, we can see water getting in between the surface-mounted terracotta and the concrete walls to which it's attached, said Facilities Director Virginia Durost. "The big question is, where?"

Pioneer Waterproofing has been brought in to run tests, and Durost said she will get roofers involved when the location of the flaw is pinpointed.

According to Marketing Manager Joe Bolenbaugh, the theater does not have "any planned closures in relation to the renovation work," but he cautioned against "best laid plans and all that."

For updates, visit [www.hollywoodtheatre.org](http://www.hollywoodtheatre.org).

## STAFFING SHORTAGE FORCES TRIMET TO TRIM BUS SERVICE

Calling its 2022 lack of staff "severe," TriMet will reduce service on January 9 to levels not experienced since April 2020. The reduction is mainly caused by the absence of three dozen bus operators needed to run buses efficiently on 2021 schedules.

Eight of the twenty lines affected serve North and Northeast Portland. TriMet said service reduction would be temporary on lines No. 4 Fessenden, No. 8 Northeast 15th, No. 12 Sandy, No. 17 Broadway, No. 70 Northeast 33rd, No. 71 60th, No. 75 Cesar Chavez and No. 77 Broadway.

The driver shortage stems from a combination of attrition and few applicants. TriMet has launched an aggressive recruiting campaign that



BY PHILL COLOMBO

PHILLCOLOMBO@STAR-NEWS.INFO

includes a \$2500 signing bonus and starting pay of \$21.36 per hour. Additional information is at [www.trimet.org](http://www.trimet.org).

## CITY ANNOUNCES 2022 PROJECTS WILL INCLUDE EASTSIDE IMPROVEMENTS

The city's bureau of transportation has announced projects for 2022 that include Northeast Couch, East Burnside streets and the Central Eastside. The bureau has prioritized transit, walking and cycling projects in the city's core. Improvements include new pedestrian crossings, bikeways and "Rose" bus lanes that give buses and streetcars priority in congested areas.

While projects may be physically located in the central part of the city, impact should be felt citywide, according to Transportation Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty.

"By making improvements to how buses travel through the city's core, we can make transit faster and more reliable for everyone along the route," she said.

The improvements are a financial collaboration between TriMet, Oregon

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



New lights restore glow to Hollywood Theatre's lower facade, changing character of front entry, especially when seen driving east on Sandy Blvd. (Hollywood Theatre)

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## ★ STAR DEVELOPMENT NEWS



East Burnside Street, looking east, after conversion of general-purpose traffic lane to a bus and turn lane. (Portland Bureau of Transportation)

Department of Transportation, Multnomah County, Metro and Prosper Portland.

A Northeast Couch Rose Lane project is anticipated to improve speed and reliability for westbound bus riders on lines 12, 19 and 20 with a new bus and turn lane along Northeast Couch Street from 12th to Seventh Avenue, upgraded traffic signal timing and a bike connection along Seventh Avenue between Southeast Washington Street and the new Blumenauer Bridge. A two-month construction schedule is expected to begin in summer of 2022.

East Burnside bus and bike improvements are designed to improve speed and reliability for eastbound transit riders along East Burnside Street from MLK to 12th Avenue by converting one of East Burnside's general-purpose lanes to a bus and turn lane. Thousands of TriMet 12, 19, and 20 riders will get to destinations more quickly and a new traffic signal will be installed at Burnside and MLK to improve safety. A twelve-month construction schedule is slated to

begin in summer of 2022.

Central Eastside projects are planned to improve freight access and circulation by reducing traffic conflicts with new traffic signals at Northeast Irving and 16th Avenue. Accessible curb ramps will be installed alongside high visibility pedestrian crossings and bicycle connections to existing routes. Twelve months of construction will begin in summer 2022.

### PERMITS ISSUED

**In Concordia at 5265 N.E. 38th Ave.,** Northwest Properties of Southwest Portland secured a permit to build a new, two-unit townhouse on vacant property.

**In King at 495 N.E. Church St.,** Provision Group of Vancouver, Wash., has a permit to construct a new, two-unit town house on vacant property.

**In Overlook at 5235 N. Minnesota Ave.,** Aquiles and Julianne Montas acquired a permit to construct a new, single-story, detached accessory dwelling unit with no garage. ★

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## ★ STAR STREETWISE

## KILLINGSWORTH

**C**elebrate the New Year by exploring the bounty of treasures to be found along Northeast Killingsworth Street. Enjoy the retro vibe with a cocktail at Keys Lounge, a relaxing massage at Sacred Ground Massage, or try your luck at Portland Meadows Poker. Keep your animal babies healthy with a checkup at Overlook Veterinary Hospital, freshen up your personal outfits or business swag with custom embroidery at Pulp Stitchin' or choose from more than 59 varieties of sausage at Gartner's Meat Market. There's so much to take in on Killingsworth Street.

## E'NJONI CAFE

E'Njoni Cafe is an intimate East African restaurant. E'Njoni – meaning “welcome” – offers both Ethiopian and Eritrean cuisine, inspired by Mediterranean and North African influences. Healthy and wholesome dishes are prepared daily with the freshest meats and vegetables from local organic farms. Traditional herbs and spices are grown and prepared in a clean, earth-friendly environment. Beverages include imported African and Mediterranean beers, honey wines and authentic Ethiopian coffees.

Appetizers include fried plantains with spicy banana sauce, a stew of cooked fava beans, and a falafel plate. Soups include peanut yam and Moroccan split pea and spinach. Entrees feature fish, chicken, beef or lamb. Choose your spice level, then choose from a variety of sides. Doro Wot – chicken and eggs – is a popular choice. You'll find plenty of vegetable and vegan entrees as well, including Timtimo, a combination of greens in garlic and ginger sauce, or Alitcha, featuring cabbage, peppers and carrots in curry. The Alitcha is served with a traditional flat bread that is naturally gluten-free. Little bubbles in the bread aid in soaking up the delicious sauces and flavors.

Our server, Betty Estifenos, recommended a meal for two for my husband and me. We chose the lamb cubes, sauteed with mushrooms and onions, vegetable sides and sauces and injera bread. The dish arrived looking like a huge pizza of goodness. My husband used a fork and I tried the traditional style of tearing off injera to pick up the meat, veggies and sauces in bite size mouthfuls. We also shared a pot of African tea and a glass of traditional honey wine. Both were thick and flavorful. It was a wonderfully unique experience.

Chef and Manager Dawit Abera grew up cooking in Eritrea. Creating delicious food brings him joy. He says that when he's not cooking, he's watching shows about cooking on YouTube.

E'Njoni Cafe is open Monday through Thursday from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., Friday from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m., Saturday from noon to 2 a.m. and Sunday from noon to 10 p.m. Give your taste buds a welcome Mediterranean and North African treat at E'Njoni Cafe.

**ADDRESS:** 910 N. Killingsworth St. **PHONE:** 503-286-1401. **DON'T MISS:** Stop by the restaurant and check out the menu. You can eat in the cafe and enjoy African art or order takeout. Plenty of delicious entrees are available for vegans and vegetarians, like the five-veggie combo or veggie feast.

## PORTLAND GAME STORE

The Portland Game Store was founded in 2015 and aims to create a community space that is inclusive and welcoming to all who love tabletop games, card games, miniature games and role-playing games in a safe, clean and inviting environment.

In store and open play is currently scheduled with proof of vaccination required. Check the online calendar for upcoming games, including Magic the Gathering tournaments, Dungeon and Dragons Adventure League and Star Wars X-Wing. Quench your thirst with beverages that include three beers and a cider on tap, or munch on snacks to keep you going while you play.



BY BARB HUGHES  
BARBHUGHES@STAR-NEWS.INFO



Dawit Abera at E'Njoni Cafe. (Barb Hughes)

With paint and hobby supplies in stock, creators who like to build and paint their own game pieces will enjoy Warhammer and those who like out-of-the-box games might prefer X-Wing. From Magic the Gathering to Pokemon or a brand new strategy card game from New Zealand called Flesh and Blood, you'll find a trading-card game that speaks to you in stock.

Browse board games, role-playing books and miniatures, living card games, family games, casual card games and lots more. If you are curious or just need a game for the week, Portland Game Store offers a popular rental program for \$10 per week and, if you like the game, your rental fees can go toward purchase price.

Owner Noel (or Knoll) Gambone says that, during the pandemic, more people have been spending time in their safe bubble groups. Community games are a good way to connect and enjoy active camaraderie. Plus, because the game store recognizes the

– CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



Noel, Nathan and Jamie at Portland Game Store. (Barb Hughes)



Pilar Palos, Andrea Guedes, and Carolina Castaneda del Rio at Hacienda CDC. (Barb Hughes)



## ★ STAR STREETWISE

importance of community, they often fundraise for local charities, while providing a space for neighbors to gather, play and connect.

Open Monday through Friday from noon to 9 p.m., Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. with up to three events every day, it's time to get in the game at Portland Game Store, open for curbside pickup and retail shopping.

**ADDRESS:** 922 N. Killingsworth St. **PHONE:** 503-289-6373. **WEBSITE:** www.theportlandgamestore.com. **DON'T MISS:** Starting again on the second weekend in January, the store will be open for board game nights on Saturdays from 4 to 9 p.m. Visit with any of the knowledgeable and friendly staff – including Noel, Nathan, Jamie and Steve – to get ideas for your next play or purchase. Enjoy strategy games, drink and snack, browse, make friends and spend time relaxing in a fun, safe environment.

### HACIENDA CDC

Hacienda CDC – a community development corporation – is a Latino-led organization that strengthens families by providing affordable housing, support toward homeownership, economic advancement and educational opportunities. Headquartered on the corner of Killingsworth and Cully, the central office provides housing to over 1500 people each year in nine affordable communities in Cully, North Portland and Molalla.

Hacienda believes community works best when we work together to create livable communities that include good jobs, healthcare and affordable housing for all ages. Hacienda provides services to all, including homeownership counseling, youth programs, family programs and small business support. Hacienda's newest community, Las Adelitas, is under construction across the street from their headquarters and will open 142 new homes in fall of 2022.

If you are interested in owning a home, you can contact Hacienda about their support classes, counseling and financial services. If you already own a home but are afraid you might lose it, Hacienda offers default intervention programs for those struggling or at risk of foreclosure.

Hacienda supports children and families through Portland Ninos, Expresiones and SUN youth advocacy programs, providing academic support and enrichment for kids and families.

For entrepreneurs, Hacienda has a team of business advisors, financial coaches and marketing professionals who work to support entrepreneurs as they start their own business. A centerpiece of the program is the Portland Mercado, 7238 S.E. Foster Blvd., with businesses displaying diverse cultures through food, art and entertainment. Neighbors can shop these start-ups and permanent businesses from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week. A fully licensed and accessible commercial kitchen is onsite, supporting more than 60 businesses. Hacienda CDC is making a positive difference in our community. Visit their website for details on how you can help.

**ADDRESS:** 6700 N.E. Killingsworth St. **PHONE:** 503-595-2111. **WEBSITE:** www.haciendacdc.org. **DON'T MISS:** Free COVID vaccinations on Friday January 7 from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. – including first, second and booster for Pfizer or Moderna and Pfizer pediatric for ages 5 to 11. Vaccinations will be outside, under the covered area at 6700 N.E. Killingsworth St. Check website for details on webinars, Winter Soup Festival, Dia de Reyes and more.

### KILLINGSWORTH STATION FOOD CARTS

The motto of the Killingsworth Station Food Cart Pod is "Eat, Drink, Visit." You can do all three at this friendly pod, one block east of the North Interstate MAX station. Hang out and enjoy a variety of beers, covered seating – with heaters, pool table and restroom – and international cuisines that can satisfy a variety of cravings and dietary needs.

Carts for carnivores include Wonderboy's Smokestack for barbecue plates and sandwiches, and Eurodish for Polish pierogis, sausages, cabbage rolls, blintzes and organic salads. Vegans will enjoy V3 PDX for vegan food, tacos and seasonal eats. For south of the border tastes, there's La Puerta PDX, offering Salvadoran food, including pupusas, micheladas, tamales, carne asada, mimosas, beer and wine, or try Tehuana Oaxacan for Mexican cuisine, featuring tlayudas, memelitas, entomatadas and enchiladas. Take your taste buds on a trip to the orient at Thai Bungalow PDX for simply delicious Thai cuisine. For breakfast or dessert there's Mardi Gras Beignets and Jam to satisfy your French pastry and coffee desires.

You can eat, drink and visit in person at the Killingsworth Station Food Cart Pods seven days a week. Winter hours are Monday through Saturday from noon to 8 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5:30 p.m. You can also learn more about each food cart on the Killingsworth Station website.

**ADDRESS:** 1331 N. Killingsworth St. **PHONE:** 503-550-5992. **WEBSITE:** www.killingsworthstationpod.com.

**DON'T MISS:** The pod's newest food cart, French Bakery Mardi Gras Beignets and Jam, offers pastries made fresh daily – get them before they're sold out! ★



Eurodish at Killingsworth Station. (Killingsworth Station Food Cart Pods)



Thai Bungalow at Killingsworth Station. (Killingsworth Station Food Cart Pods)

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## STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## KIDSTEENS AND FAMILIES

### FUN WITH BOOKS, SONGS

**Jan. 6. 9:30-10 a.m.** Story time on Zoom for children ages infant to 3, joined by a favorite adult. A Multnomah County librarian brings fun with books, songs, rhymes and more. Free. For more information, visit [www.multcolib.org/events](http://www.multcolib.org/events) and scroll to date and time.

### KIDS PRACTICE READING

**Jan. 7. 4:15-5:15 p.m.** "Follow the Reader" is a Zoom class for students in Grades K-2 or higher grades, too, who want to practice reading skills. Each week, participants listen to a story and practice reading with a teen volunteer. All abilities are welcome. Free. For more information or to register, visit [www.multcolib.org/events](http://www.multcolib.org/events).

## ENJOYARTS

### SEE PHOTOS, JEWELRY

**Jan. 1-31. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.** daily. Artists featured in January window display include photographer Erskine Wood, enamel jeweler Anne Johnson and steam punk artist Jason Winslow. 971-339-0945. [www.artisticportlandgallery.com](http://www.artisticportlandgallery.com). Artistic Portland Gallery, 4110 N.E. Fremont St.

### STUDY FILM FLOPS

**Jan. 4. 7 p.m.** Continues Tuesdays through Jan. 25. Movie Madness University film class focuses on "Revenge of the Flop: Sci-Fi B Movies and the People Who Made Them." With educator and filmmaker Kia Anne Geraths, explore how young filmmakers of flops went on to define the genre and gain fame. Tuition is \$75 for four weeks or \$60 for members. Registration required at [www.hollywoodtheatre.org/events](http://www.hollywoodtheatre.org/events). Masks and vaccination proof required. Movie Madness, 4320 S.E. Belmont St.

### HOW TO READ A COMIC

**Jan. 6. 6-7:30 p.m.** Join Jason Leivian of Floating World Comics with librarians Alicia Tate and Laural Winter for a crash course in getting the most out of comic books and graphic novels. Free. Register to join Zoom at [www.multcolib.org/events](http://www.multcolib.org/events).

### WOMEN IN FILM TRENDS

**Jan. 6. 7 p.m.** Continues Thursdays through Jan. 27. Movie Madness University film class examines women in documentary filmmaking. With educator and filmmaker Kia Anne Geraths, examine trends and genres in documentary filmmaking by women. Tuition is \$75 for four weeks or \$60 for Hollywood members. Registration required at [www.hollywoodtheatre.org/events](http://www.hollywoodtheatre.org/events). Masks and vaccination proof required. Movie Madness, 4320 S.E. Belmont St.

### PAIN OFFERS REVELATION

**Jan. 8. 7:30 p.m.** Michael Namkung offers an evening of poetry, storytelling and total bodily collapse titled "Good Pain: The Art of Being Hurt." Stop running from pain, listen to it and receive a gift of revelation, he says. Opening music by Steven Gosvener. \$25-\$40. Masks and vaccination proof required. 503-764-4131. [www.albertarosetheatre.com](http://www.albertarosetheatre.com). Alberta Rose Theatre, 3000 N.E. Alberta St.

## EXAMINE 'ALIEN' FILMS

**Jan. 10. 7 p.m.** Continues Mondays through Jan. 31. Movie Madness University film class follows the evolution of Ellen Ripley through four "Alien" films. Led by Anthony Hudson, Hollywood Theatre community programmer. Tuition is \$75 for four weeks or \$60 for members. Registration required at [www.hollywoodtheatre.org/events](http://www.hollywoodtheatre.org/events). Masks and vaccination proof required. Movie Madness, 4320 S.E. Belmont St.

## WHAT ARE OUR HOPES?

**Jan. 11. 7 p.m.** Oregon Humanities presents an onstage conversation with writer Omar El Akkad as part of the series "American Dreams, American Myths, American Hopes." His books are "American War," about a near-future nation riven by climate change and civil war, and "What Strange Paradise," which explores the lives and desires of displaced people seeking safety. Masks and vaccination proof required. Tickets \$15 or \$30. 503-764-4131. [www.albertarosetheatre.com](http://www.albertarosetheatre.com). Alberta Rose Theatre, 3000 N.E. Alberta St.

## TECHAIDE

### IMPROVE EXCEL SKILLS

**Jan. 8. 1-2:30 p.m.** Brush up on Microsoft Excel skills or learn new skills. Zoom class covers creating, formatting and sharing spreadsheets, entering and sorting data and understanding basic formulas and functions. Free through the Multnomah County Library. Register at [www.multcolib.org/events](http://www.multcolib.org/events). Scroll down to the date and time.

### NAVIGATE WINDOWS 10

**Jan. 11. 6-7 p.m.** Learn how to navigate and customize a Windows 10 computer in a Zoom class through the Multnomah County Library. Class includes Microsoft Office for free, keyboard shortcuts for improved efficiency, and safety and updated tips. Free. Register at [www.multcolib.org/events](http://www.multcolib.org/events). Scroll down to the date and time.

## FORSENIORS

### YOGA ON A CHAIR

**Jan. 6. 9-10 a.m.** Chair yoga, with instructor Hayley Meader, offered Thursdays by Zoom through Community for Positive Aging. For information and registration, email [michael.murphy@hollywoodseniorcenter.org](mailto:michael.murphy@hollywoodseniorcenter.org).

### JOIN VILLAGE PDX

**Jan. 11. 2-3:30 p.m.** Learn about activities and services offered by Northeast Village PDX for seniors choosing to remain in their own homes and engaged in the community. Member led organization serves Northeast neighborhoods with lots to enjoy as a member, volunteer or both. Join an introductory session via Zoom. Visit [www.nevillagepdx.org](http://www.nevillagepdx.org), events, calendar and "Introduction to Northeast Village PDX" to get a Zoom link by email. For additional information call 503-895-2750.

### FUN WITH ZUMBA GOLD

**Jan. 12 and 26. 10 a.m.** Zumba Gold offers exercising to fun music. Information about event is at [www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org](http://www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org) or 503-288-8303. Masks and vaccination proof are required. Hollywood Senior Center, or Center for Positive Aging, 1820 N.E. 40th Ave.

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

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## STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR



DJ Prashant will lead a Multnomah County Library online dance class Jan. 22, featuring a Bollywood-style mashup to Michael Jackson's "Thriller." (Multnomah County Library)

### BOOKS IN DISCUSSION

**Jan. 12. 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** Book lovers discuss their current reading and hear what others are reading on the second Wednesday of the month. Free through the Center for Positive Aging. For information about joining via Zoom visit [www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org](http://www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org) or call 503-288-8303.

### IMPROVE TECH SKILLS

**Jan. 14 and 28. 11 a.m. to 12 noon.** Free senior technology workshop with Portland Youth Builders via Zoom on second and fourth Fridays of month. Learn or improve Zoom skills or gain help with smart phones, tablets or laptops. For information visit [www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org](http://www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org) or call 503-288-8303.

### INGENERAL

#### PRACTICE ENGLISH

Jan. 5. 3-4:30 p.m. Practice speaking English with other English language learners in an online session through Multnomah County Library. This is not a class but an opportunity to meet new people, share culture and have fun. Only English is spoken. Free. For registration, email [mcl.adult.liberacy@multco.us](mailto:mcl.adult.liberacy@multco.us) or call or text 503-577-9984.

#### EAT VIKING PANCAKES

Jan. 9. 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Enjoy all-you-can-eat Viking pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage links, fresh fruit,

strawberry compote, lingonberries, juice, coffee or tea. Adults \$8, children ages 3-10 \$4, children under 3 free. Free parking. Show proof of vaccination and wear a mask when not eating. Sponsored by Sons of Norway, Grieg Lodge. Bergen Dining Room at Norse Hall, 111 N.E. 11th Ave.

### CREATE A RESUME

Jan. 16. 2-3 p.m. Create resume content in free Zoom class from Multnomah County Library. Learn how to build a "menu" of accomplishments and skills, using LinkedIn, job postings and online resources. Build a resume to best reach potential recruiters and hiring managers. Free. Register at [www.multcolib.org/events](http://www.multcolib.org/events).

### DRAW CONVERSATIONS

Jan. 20. 6-7:30 p.m. "Drawing Conversations" is a workshop with Mira Jacob, who has produced "Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversation," the 2022 Everybody Reads selection by the Multnomah County Library. She has "drawn" conversations with her young son in a comic book format. Could this work for others who feel political and ideological division within our families and communities? Free. Register at [www.multcolib.org/events](http://www.multcolib.org/events).

### DANCE TO 'THRILLER'

Jan. 22. 2-3:30 p.m. Learn some new moves with DJ Prashant in dance mashup of Michael Jackson's "Thriller," Bollywood style, through Multnomah County Library. On Zoom, so no need to be shy about dancing ability. Free. Register at [www.multcolib.org/events](http://www.multcolib.org/events). ★

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## ★ STAR SPECIAL FEATURE ON FITNESS

# Neighborhood kids find safe space to learn and thrive at NECC in Hollywood

By Carreen Maloney

For the Northeast Community Center

For parents of young children, one of the most difficult aspects of dealing with the pandemic has been the challenge of putting it into perspective. Explaining why in-person schooling wasn't safe anymore – and why sports and all other extracurricular activities had to be canceled – made for tough conversations. Days that used to be rich in stimuli and social interaction had suddenly become still and quiet.

For some children with special needs, the public health crisis was practically impossible to comprehend. Northeast Portland parents Kim and Eoin Bastable recall their two daughters longing for their old routines, but for their nine-year-old middle child, Seamus, it was devastating to his development when school cancelled classes indefinitely following spring break in March 2020.

"As a family, we were already struggling with this isolation that we feel within our American culture having a child who is different, who is not communicating verbally," Kim said.

The Bastables knew that finding daily enrichment for Seamus (pronounced Shay-mus) was crucial for his quality of life. Both Kim and Eoin are highly knowledgeable when it comes to education. Eoin has a PhD in special education, and Kim has worked in the field of service learning. Desperate to help their son, Kim and Eoin spent a significant amount of time online looking for somewhere Seamus could go to get the interaction he needed.

"We were just searching for anything that would be in person," Kim said, recalling how panic started to set in when every door seemed to be closed.

And so it was nothing short of a godsend when the Bastables learned the Northeast Community Center had figured out a way to operate its kids' programs safely. The NECC welcomed Seamus into the facility five afternoons a week for the entire 2020/21 school year, altering his pandemic-era world in a tangible, meaningful way. Before they discovered NECC, all Kim and Eoin could do was take Seamus for a walk to their neighbor's house to play basketball. It wasn't nearly enough.

"What we experienced here in our small



Programs that the Northeast Community Center provided during the pandemic gave nine-year-old Seamus Bastable, left, with somewhere to go and get the interaction he needed, altering his world in a meaningful and tangible way. (NECC)

pocket of the country is that NECC was the only one open for him," Eoin said. "It was disappointing and disorienting, especially for kids with special needs. The school didn't seem to have anything for us at all. We just knew he needed something in person. And that's exactly what NECC provided during the pandemic. They never got scared off like other institutions. They had a commitment to the kids that no one else did."

NECC staff put protocols in place to keep kids safe. They limited their programs to small groups of children. They conducted contact tracing, installed large hand sanitizing machines and made certain children wore masks consistently. Activities offered at the center included floor hockey, soccer, basketball and board games.

The Bastables' nine-year-old son,

Seamus, has Angelman syndrome, a rare genetic disorder that affects the nervous system. Angelman's is characterized by developmental delays, speech impairment, and difficulties with movement and balance. Social interaction and routine are crucial to Seamus. His parents struggled to find the words to help him comprehend why his life had suddenly changed so dramatically.

"We didn't even really understand how to explain it to him," Kim said. "And it continues to be a bit of a wild ride. For Seamus, his learning style is a long, slow approach. It takes a lot of repetition, a lot of visuals, and so much patience. We couldn't even wrap our brains around it."

The Bastables' also have two daughters – Nuala, who is eleven years old, and

seven-year-old Eve. "Our girls did okay, they could handle being on the internet for a couple of hours," Eoin said. "But Seamus was lost. Even the library closed. It was profoundly difficult for him. He didn't have any of those places anymore. He didn't understand like our daughters did."

Typically, Seamus is a joyful child. In fact, a happy demeanor is one of the signatures of Angelman syndrome. But the pandemic forced Seamus to face changes to his life that were unsettling and anxiety-provoking.

"He was experiencing confusion, sadness, and anxiety," Kim said. "When Seamus gets anxious, his reaction is to bury himself on his devices, like many of us. When it was time to put the devices away, there would be this huge outburst. The devices and other things would get thrown at us. His emotional regulation was really off, and I think that was confusion and a lack of understanding of what's going on."

Kim and Eoin said the time and patience NECC staff devoted to helping Seamus was life-altering. Michael Fendall, the counselor who led Seamus' program day to day, and Nohea Waiwai'ole, the center's youth coordinator, spent the most time with him. Both employees communicated openly and frequently with the family and were always there to guide Seamus during his time at the center.

"I was just hopeful I was providing a safe, respectful environment for the kids to blow off some steam," Michael said. Working with them also became Michael's main activity outside the home during widespread lockdowns and business closures. "It got the kids out, but it got me out, too."

Both Michael and Nohea said the role they played helping the community during the pandemic was a deeply gratifying experience they will always remember fondly.

"It's added a lot of meaning to our lives and to the programs as well," Nohea said. "What a difference it can make if you put in the effort to make someone feel comfortable and safe. We tried really hard to focus on social and emotional wellbeing because we know everybody's going through a lot right now."

The special attention and care paid to

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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## ★ STAR SPECIAL FEATURE ON FITNESS

their young attendees paid off, she added. "When I first met Seamus at the camps, he didn't talk that much. We didn't know what his communication capabilities were."

As Seamus grew more comfortable at the center, staff noticed he began to blossom and grow more confident about expressing himself.

While outlining the magnitude of what NECC has done to help his family, Eoin was so overcome with emotion he took a pause from the interview.

"It's hard to explain how much their support meant. It was the consistency and knowing he was welcome there. He didn't always make it through the day, but the staff was so supportive. They never treated him differently and he felt included. He started to pick up a lot of skills that he never would have learned being home all day. They started teaching him games

that he came home and taught us as a family. If the day didn't go great, they would welcome him back the next day like nothing happened."

The Northeast Community Center was formed in 2005, but the facility first opened its doors in 1925 as a YMCA originally established to provide transitional low-cost housing for men and boys. In the 1930s, the organization began offering co-ed programs. When YMCA announced plans to close the location down in December 2004, the community worked together to save it. They formed a 501(c)3 organization, appointed a board of directors, and purchased the building. They hired employees, developed programming, and sold memberships. With a \$1 million budget, the organization serves 3000 people each year and employs 50 staff and instructors. ★



The Northeast Community Center is an independent non-profit center in the Hollywood neighborhood where people of all ages exercise, swim, play, learn and share good times. (NECC)

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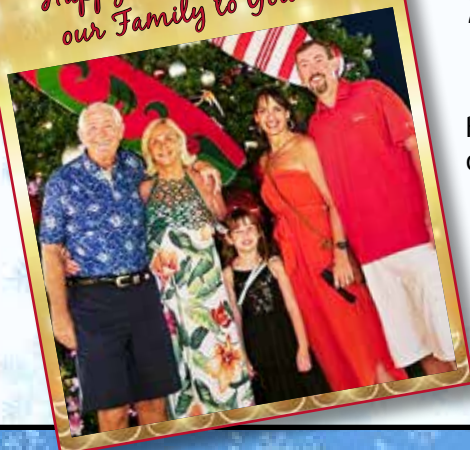
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our Family to Yours*



### My thoughts as We End 2021 and Look Forward to 2022... 2021 Real Estate Market Did Not Disappoint if Selling Your Home.

My heart goes out to the many buyers and their dedicated agents that have made multiple offers on homes in this crazy market. It hasn't been fun for them or their agents and it has been difficult to stay positive. As a strong listing agent, I thank all of you for your perseverance and effort!

With less than one month's inventory through the end of November, I do not see an immediate change in our NE Portland's inventory but of course, I do not have a crystal ball.

Interest rates are projected to rise but still remain very competitive!

Average Sales price comparing 2021 to 2020 through November, Portland Metro increased by 16.1% - from \$492,000 to \$571,000 per RMLS statistics. Average price increase in NE is 13.8%.

I am projecting 2022 to continue to be a very robust market and a great time to sell! The Coon Team is happy to assist in determining your home's market value if thinking about selling.

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