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**YOUTH ORCHESTRA BUYS HISTORIC IRVINGTON CHURCH**

The Portland Youth Philharmonic is moving into a new home: a historic church in the Irvington neighborhood.

For decades, the orchestra has practiced in rehearsal spaces in schools, churches and community centers throughout the city.

In November, the organization purchased a permanent space in Northeast Portland — an architecturally significant midcentury building formerly owned by Central Lutheran Church at 1820 N.E. 21st Ave.

Musical Director David Hattner called the move “transformative” for the philharmonic, which plays four major concerts a year at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.

Over the next two years, the building, designed by renowned architect Pietro Belluschi, will undergo substantial renovations.

“There is a lot of work ahead to make this space everything our musicians and families need,” Hattner said. “But this moment marks a powerful beginning.”

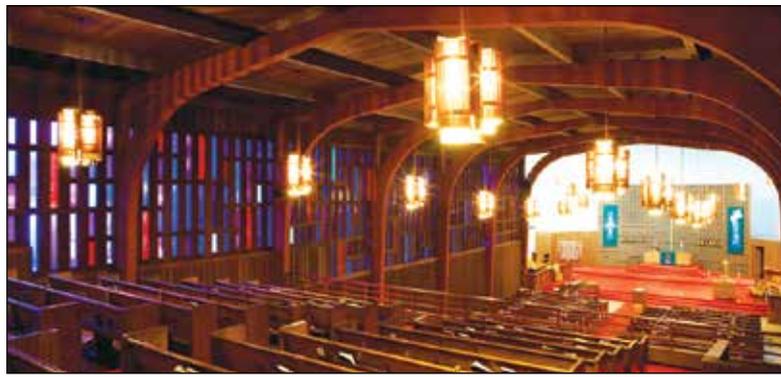
The redesigned space will serve as a hub for music education in the community. Planned improvements include acoustically designed rehearsal and performance spaces.

The move to Irvington is a homecoming of sorts for the philharmonic, recognized as the nation’s oldest youth orchestra.

The organization’s founder, Mary V. Dodge, was the music teacher at Irvington School.

In the 1920s, the original Portland Junior Symphony rehearsed in nearby public schools just blocks from the new site, according to the philharmonic.

The Irvington Community Association assisted with the transaction.



The Portland Youth Philharmonic is moving into the Central Lutheran Church on NE 21st Ave. (William C. Tripp Architect)



Kyler Martz loved Beverly Cleary books as a kid and now, as an artist, gets to design a tribute. (Multnomah County Library)

**NE ARTIST CHOSEN FOR BEVERLY CLEARY TRIBUTE**

A Northeast Portland artist is creating fresh artwork to honor Beverly Cleary as part of the Hollywood Library renovation.

Kyler Martz, a muralist and sculptor, was chosen in November as the lead artist for the project.

His job is to reimagine a street map referencing local landmarks from Cleary’s beloved books, which often took place in Northeast Portland.

Martz says he has fond memories of Cleary’s books from growing up, and will draw on those memories to fuel his artwork.

“My desire to build my own worlds like that of Henry Huggins was a huge part of why I began drawing,” Martz said.

The new Cleary map is part of a larger library refresh.

When the library reopens in 2026, visitors will find a reinvigorated space, with a new children’s area, a tech bar, new reading room chairs and an automated system for handling check-ins and check-outs.

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**Other locations:** 42nd St. Station, Community for Positive Aging, Northeast Community Center and Matt Dishman Community Center

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Julz Clementine's mural, above, highlights the Lloyd District's transportation system and natural environment. It's one of five new outdoor, public artworks unveiled in the area. (Photos courtesy of Go Lloyd)



**MURALS COME TO LIFE IN LLOYD DISTRICT**

The Lloyd District gained a vibrant splash of color in November as artists unveiled five fresh murals.

A trio of local groups commissioned artists to spruce up the area and combat graffiti.

The new murals can be found in five spots: the FedEx building at Northeast Seventh Avenue and Weidler Street; the Quality Inn at Northeast Multnomah Boulevard and Grand Avenue; the Goodyear Building at Northeast Grand and Pacific; the SEIU building on Northeast Oregon Street and the steps at Peace Memorial Park along Northeast Lloyd Boulevard.

One of the artists, Julz Clementine, whose contribution highlighted the area's transportation system and natural landscape, said she's been touched by the early response from neighbors.

"There have been tears of gratitude from people that live here, and it has been such a beautiful experience to meet so many people in the community," Clementine said.



The project is a collaboration between Go Lloyd, Portland Street Art Alliance and the Regional Arts and Culture Council.

**COUPLE MOVES AHEAD WITH HOLLYWOOD DEVELOPMENTS**

The Alameda couple renovating a historic Hollywood building say they're hoping to open to the public early next year.

Chad and Dana Rennaker, who operate the development firm Palindrome Communities, purchased the property at the corner of Northeast Sandy Boulevard and 40th Avenue with plans of opening a brewery and series of food stalls.



The renovation is modeled on The Zed development in the Lents neighborhood, which is home to Zoighaus Brewing. The Hollywood development will be called The Q — a nod to moviegoers lining up for films at the nearby Hollywood Theatre. The project will include a brewery, plus a wide range of food options, Chad Rennaker said.

In addition to The Q project, the Rennakers are proposing to construct a separate, five-story building next door on Northeast 40th Avenue. That building, which is still in the permitting process, would house apartments, ground-level retail and a top-floor penthouse.

**WATCH OUT FOR COYOTES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

Don't leave any food out. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife had to euthanize a coyote after reports it bit a 9-year-old in the Alameda neighborhood.

The incident happened in late October as two children were playing hide-and-seek in the yard. Investigators said the coyote approached the 9-year-old and bit around their sock. The youth managed to slide their foot out of the sock and ended up with minor injuries.

A dad emerged on the scene, yelled at the coyote and scared it away.

The agency ended up capturing a coyote a few days later and its DNA matched that found on the youth's sock. The animal was killed Oct. 31.

Experts advise staying on alert because residential Portland is a hotspot for coyotes. Consider keeping your pets inside or on a leash. If you encounter a coyote, make a lot of noise and scare them away.

— Star News staff

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★ STAR FEATURE

# Adopt One Block

## Volunteers keep neighborhood streets, sidewalks clean

By Tony Greiner

tonygreiner@star-news.info

There are people who make things better, pulling all of us up by their efforts.

One of those people is Liz Hay, a Rose City Park resident who organizes volunteers to clean up trash across the neighborhood as part of the Adopt One Block program.

Hay is one of 10,569 Adopt One Block volunteers across the city. If you've seen someone carrying a five-gallon paint bucket and a pair of grabbers walking with their head down, you're likely looking at an Adopt One Block volunteer.

Hay moved to Portland from Phoenix 12 years ago after a career in nursing. An active person, and someone bothered by trash, Hay first joined Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism, or SOLVE, which had roots in Gov. Tom McCall's environmental efforts. Later she joined Adopt One Block.

Hay says she feels better after supporting these efforts and finds the work a "natural anti-depressant."

Adopt One Block started in the fall of 2020 when Portland was largely shuttered due to COVID-19, and just catching its breath after the long summer of protests and riots. Trash was everywhere. So Frank Moscow, a local businessman, launched the program.

Belonging to the group is simple: Volunteers pick a block in the city — not necessarily the block where they live — and commit to picking up trash in the area. There isn't a schedule, people just do it when needed and they have time. Belonging to the group gives residents a chance to have a bit of control over where they live, and the agency to make things better.

The most common way of participating is as a block ambassador, the title given to those who sign up to keep a block or two clean. There are also block brigades, groups of ambassadors who clean up particularly messy streets on a regular basis. The group also does twice-yearly large area cleanups with dozens of volunteers.

Hay, being something of a free spirit,



Liz Hay demonstrates her technique for picking up trash. (Tony Greiner)



Adopt One Block volunteers stand with a big pile of litter they picked up in Northeast Portland. (Adopt One Block)

gets together with friends Lori Hastings and Bill Bradford to take on some of the biggest messes, such as public spaces along Columbia Highway and Sandy Boulevard. They often encounter illegally dumped construction debris, car tires, furniture and restaurant garbage. Before starting, they contact local businesses to ask if they can use their dumpsters, and Hay says, "We've never been turned down."

When faced with objects too big to haul away, Hay relies on Metro's Regional Illegal Dumping program, known as RID Patrol.

Anyone can call in a request to RID Patrol, and the initiative's website

### Get involved

To volunteer or learn more, visit [www.adoptoneblock.org](http://www.adoptoneblock.org)

features a map of cleanup sites complete with before and after photos.

The AOB website has information on how to join, and a handy resources section. There is an online

map to show which blocks have been adopted, and which are up for grabs.

Anyone can join, and picking up trash is like maintaining a garden — there is always something to do. There are no mandatory meetings and no dues, although there are occasional social gatherings, and contests for the oddest finds in a cleanup. Recent discoveries include a set of dentures and the book "How to Talk to Your Cat About Gun Safety."



Go online to find out which blocks are available for cleanup. (Adopt One Block)



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★ STAR COLUMN

# It's all happening at North Portland's insect zoo

**MIKE**  
*on a*  
**BIKE**



Michael Wright

**O**n my ride over to meet Jessica Szabo at her new Insectarium in North Portland, I was humming the Simon & Garfunkel tune "At the Zoo." I had read everything I could on the organization's website, but I didn't really know what to expect.

To be candid, I'm a little afraid of spiders, more than apprehensive about tarantulas and downright terrified of scorpions.

Szabo greeted me warmly at the door just as she was preparing for visitors. She put my mind at ease by letting me know I would not be holding a tarantula or scorpion in my hand. While many insects in her charge were indeed poisonous or had venomous bites, she assured me that they never wanted to do that as a means of defense. Their venom is too valuable a resource, she said, and they need it for subduing and capturing prey. In fact, she told me, their main mode of defense is to run and hide.

In the category of "you learn something new every day," I learned that insects belong to the animal kingdom and the class called Insecta, which is the most diverse group of creatures on Earth. This is because they share common animal characteristics, such as being multicellular, breathing oxygen and reproducing sexually.

So yes, it turns out the Insectarium is both a museum and a zoo.

In 2016, Szabo and her business partner, Molly Radany, conceived the idea of having a zoo and museum right here in the community.

While taking a museum curation class at Portland State University, they lamented that Portland did not have a natural history museum nor any small insectarium. They decided to change that and now have a wonderful space at 5429 N. Moore Ave., just south of Northeast Killingsworth Street.

This is a place young and old can visit to see hundreds of bugs, and all sizes and types of creepy-crawlies. You can get up close and personal to dozens of different beetles — from tiny flea beetles to scary-looking giant rhino beetles. (Since we're talking about beetles, they bear no resemblance to the Fab



*This large millipede curls up and hides much of the time. Contrary to popular belief, they don't have a thousand legs, more like 200 or so.*



*Scorpions are well-hidden until illuminated by a black light.*

Four, although John was inspired to name The Beatles by an early mentor, Buddy Holly, whose band was called The Crickets.)

If you love butterflies, you will be fascinated to know there are almost 200,000 species of Lepidoptera around the world. Moths are part of that order of winged insects. And you can check out the largest moth on the planet, the Atlas moth from Thailand, in one of the dozen display cases mounted on the walls of the museum.

Surprisingly, not all moths are pale in coloring. Some are more colorful than the brightest butterflies. I found it fascinating that one of the most dangerous insects is the beautiful monarch butterfly. Its brightly colored wings are a warning sign to predators that they will be poisoned if they eat the marvelous creatures.

As I departed, I asked Szabo if she met many people who shared her passion.

Her answer floored me. "Hundreds," she said.

In fact, just recently she attended an entomology conference at the Oregon Convention Center. More than 3,000 attendees gathered over three days. I bet it was buzzing with excitement!

It's all happening at the zoo.

I do believe it. I do believe it's true.



*Jessica Szabo has a passion for insects. She loves to share information and explain the inner world of bugs to all who visit her Insectarium. (Photos by Michael Wright)*

*This tarantula, a very large spider, is surprisingly docile when handled quietly and slowly.*



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# Little libraries deliver big fun

## Northeast residents build quirky, free installations

By Fawn Morosky  
Star Contributor

Adrienne Cardiel, a resident of the Rose City Park neighborhood, loves puzzles. She will even say that she is obsessed with puzzles.

Cardiel's love for puzzles inspired her to create the Rose City Puzzle Library, one of a growing number of creative, quirky libraries popping up along sidewalks and front yards throughout Northeast Portland.

"I've met so many people because of the library," Cardiel said of her installation, which is along Northeast 56th Avenue between Alameda and Stanton streets. "I've been so pleasantly surprised by how popular the library is and love hearing everyone's stories about how they use the library."

Cardiel's library can be found on the online Portland Sidewalk Joy Map. The map lists "interactive sidewalk installations and exchanges around Portland."

Cardiel, a clinical social worker, said she modeled her project on the little free libraries where neighbors bring books to take and trade. She thought it would be fun to have a similar library but for puzzles.

After doing some research she found that



there were no puzzle libraries in Rose City Park. With help from her dad, she designed and created the puzzle library over three weekends in 2024.

"Growing up I spent a lot of time with my grandma who was a big puzzler, so they were always around," Cardiel said. "About three years ago I discovered speed puzzling, which is a competitive sport where people try to put together a jigsaw puzzle as fast as possible. It felt so random and fun that I couldn't resist looking into it more. This is what catapulted



A lifelong jigsaw puzzle fan, when Adrienne Cardiel discovered there were no puzzle libraries in Rose City Park, she set out to do something about it. Now her unique little library draws regular visitors and the accidental fans-in-the-making.  
(Adrienne Cardiel)

my love for puzzles even more and therefore my puzzle supply."

Cardiel said she's "not the type of person who typically does a puzzle more than once" so the library became a way for her to "offload" her extras.

The puzzle library has regular visitors. Some come once a week to pick out a puzzle. Others might be walking in the neighborhood and find it accidentally.

"There is a woman who comes every week to pick out a puzzle for her and her adult grandson to do together over the weekend. Another regular visitor has an elderly mom who isn't able to leave the house often, so he comes by to exchange puzzles for her," Cardiel shared. "I love that the puzzle library is helping make puzzles more accessible to people and allowing others to connect with each other."

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★ STAR FEATURE



Cathy Schmitz's art library will bring a smile to your face, and might spark your own creativity. (Cathy Schmitz)



Chris Druck's love of movies and nostalgia for video store visits were the impetus for his film library. (Chris Druck)

**Free Little Art Library of Arbor Lodge**

When Cathy Schmitz retired from her career in government and hair styling, she began considering what she would do with her extra time now that she didn't need to go into the office each day. One day she was clearing her basement and came across an heirloom wooden cabinet. She stripped it down, painted it, put doors on it — and shortly after, the Free Little Art Library of Arbor Lodge was born.

"You can walk up, roll up or drive up," Schmitz said. "We have regulars who come by several times a week to add or look at the art. There is a 4-year-old who will bring her artwork and put it in the library. Sometimes a piece will leave and be returned after someone has enjoyed it."

As curator, Schmitz includes not only her own work but the creativity of others from across the country and world.

Schmitz encourages people interested in participating to carry small items in their pockets on their walks so they can add to the library if they'd like. "We just celebrated our one-year anniversary and we couldn't be happier," she said.

**Little Free Blockbuster in Montavilla**

Relive that feeling of renting a movie by visiting the Little Free Blockbuster at Northeast 74th Avenue and Burnside Street.

Chris Druck, who created the library along with his wife, Rachel, and dog Finn, said he wanted to share his love of movies and the nostalgia of going to Blockbuster with his neighbors and community.

"We use the phrase, 'Take a movie, leave a movie.' Folks are more than welcome to enjoy a video and then return it too," Druck said.

When he's not curating the library, you can often find Druck frequenting one of the independent screens in Portland. He's a member of the Hollywood Theatre,

and says he takes a trip to the cinema at least once a week.

"While our Blockbuster Library has not been open long, the feedback from the community has been overwhelmingly positive. I have had neighbors come up to me and express how much they love the new video library and how they stop by to see what is new each time they walk by."

**Learn more**

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★ STAR FEATURE

# With 'Sole City,' jazz musician Brown finally takes lead

By Michael Aviña  
michael@star-news.info

As a child growing up in Northeast Portland, Christopher Brown remembers not liking jazz music at first. Despite having a local jazz legend, Mel Brown, as a father, he didn't see enough kids his age playing the music to inspire him to take an interest in the art form.

Now, at 48, Brown is slated to perform Dec. 3 with the Christopher Brown Quartet at North Portland's The 1905 jazz club. The record-release party will celebrate his debut recording as a bandleader. The record is a culmination of decades of lived experiences that inform Brown's musical approach.

"My band members and I are at a point in our lives where we have had time to translate our life experiences through musical emotion," Brown said. "This is the first time I can honestly say I translated real-life emotions into a musical expression." In the past, Brown says he felt like he was posturing when he played, but now he can justify why he does what he does when striking a certain note, something he credits to "the residue of your experiences."

Born and raised in Portland, Brown started playing piano at age 6, then moved to saxophone at age 11, and drums at age 12. He left Portland in 1995 to join the U.S. Marine Corps and moved to New York City in 1999.

Brown is excited to finally have a record out under his own name and musical direction.

"While this is a long time coming, it feels like it's right on time. After being a sideman in other bands, I'm supported by life experience when I give direction. There's practical wisdom



The Christopher Brown Quartet performs at TEDxPortland in April. Christopher Brown, on drums, celebrates his debut recording as a bandleader at a record-release party for his album "Sole City" on Dec. 3 at The 1905 jazz club.

(Andrew Wallner)

that you are getting with this record, distilled by time and experience, and there is a greater degree of emotion," he said.

When recording his latest album, "Sole City," Brown considered what it would be like to play in a room with high ceilings, wanting the space to be versatile enough to accommodate different styles.

Brown recorded at Southeast Portland's

Hallowed Halls studio to achieve a sound reminiscent of the 1980s and '90s records that inspired him.

"I want the music to feel like it's breathing. When you listen to old records, there are a lot of mistakes on them, and no one cared because it felt honest," Brown said. "I wanted this record to feel like a live performance. There is a certain point where you over-rehearse the spontaneity out of things."

With his upcoming show at The 1905, Brown says his barometer for success is that people leave feeling like he cared about them being there.

"The difference between a gig and a show to me is that a gig says, 'You're welcome that I'm here,' and a show says, 'Thank you for coming.' A show is a full wrap-around experience. I want people to see me as someone whose gigs feel like shows. I want people to see that I have a show mentality for every performance that I deliver, that the audience is cared for throughout the show," he said. "I think often

we play for the ghost of Miles Davis or Charlie Parker and hope their spirits will show up and give us a thumbs-up, and sometimes we forget to play for the audience."

Brown, who currently lives in the same

Northeast Portland home he was raised in, says Portland still has a solid music hub, with a growing jazz scene fueled by the energy of the younger generation.

He holds a monthly "behind-the-scenes" program at The 1905 on the first Sunday of every month, which captures the spirit of the NYC jam session for Portland musicians, particularly high schoolers. The event is sponsored by the Montavilla Jazz

Organization.

"It's my opportunity for people locally to get that same education that I got without having to pay money to fly to New York City."

The Christopher Brown Quartet will have their record-release show at The 1905 jazz club, 830 N. Shaver St., at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3.

"While this is a long time coming, it feels like it's right on time. There's practical wisdom that you are getting with this record, distilled by time and experience, and there is a greater degree of emotion."

— Christopher Brown

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★ STAR FEATURE

# Star sighting



Amazing dogs, dog owners and dog parks — that's what Northeast Portland is all about. Case in point: the crew of regulars who meet at 9 every morning at Normandale Dog Park. The pups show up rain or shine to run, wrestle and tug while their people sip coffee, trade stories and refill the water bowl. Here's to Arrow, Artemis, Axle, Bailey, Bjorn, Cody, Mercy, Mochi, Moose, Roland, Skyla, String Bean, Wagstaff — and all dogs who dig the Star News!  
— Todd Milbourn

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

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★ STAR COLUMN

# Flashlights, camera, action

*Usherettes powered the Hollywood Theatre for decades*

**HISTORY MYSTERY**



ASK THE HISTORIAN  
By Doug Decker

Working at the Hollywood Theatre in the 1960s was the easiest job Laurel Crissman ever had, even though standing around in the dark for four hours every night watching the same movie over and over again is not as easy as you might think.

Crissman, born and raised in Northeast Portland where she lives today at age 78, has fond memories about the summer of 1965 when she worked as an usherette at the Hollywood for 85 cents per hour. Most nights that summer, the then-18-year-old Madison High School graduate would don a glittery gold skirt and scoop-necked ruffle top, grab a flashlight, and report to her post at the top of the aisle in the theater's auditorium.

Moviegoers would hand her their tickets — printed with the row and seat number — and Crissman would escort them down the aisle, gesturing with the flashlight to show the way. Later, when the movie was underway, she was assigned to the balcony where she stood motionless, hands behind back, flashlight at the ready, in case a patron had a complaint or a question, which almost never happened. That summer, the balcony was a quiet place.

Crissman was participating in a time-honored tradition with earlier generations of Northeast Portland young women who powered the Hollywood Theatre, from ticket sellers and ticket takers, to concession stand operators and usherettes. Dating back to the theater's opening in 1926, smartly dressed young women welcomed movie patrons with a smile and a flashlight, and kept the theater running smoothly and the patrons in order.

Joan Gillison Sinclair, who worked at the Hollywood as an usherette in 1948 and 1949, recalled wearing multiple types of uniforms, and the theater manager — Mr. Hopkins — who was a stickler for having everyone looking good.

"One of the uniforms was new when I worked there and I remember that each of us were measured carefully so our new uniforms would look good on us," wrote Sinclair after a visit to the Hollywood in 2017. "The new one was a sailor suit style blue satin top with long-



The concession stand at the Hollywood Theatre, circa 1950. (Al Monner - The Oregon Journal)

collared blue gabardine pants. It was a spring and summer uniform. The other spring and summer one had a white satin top and long Peach colored pants." When the Doris Day film "The Pajama Game" came to the Hollywood in 1957, the usherettes wore pajamas.

Sinclair and the usherettes of her day began their connection with the Hollywood Theatre by responding to a help-wanted advertisement in The Oregonian like this one from Aug. 15, 1950:



Crissman remembers the theater manager as being intent on having everything just so, including the cadre of young women who worked with the public.

"All of the girls tended to be attractive. I think we knew we had to be in tune with the loveliness of the theater itself," remembered Crissman, who even today reflects on the elegance of the neighborhood landmark. "It's a beautiful theater and I always loved working in such a plush place. It was so cool to work there."

Crissman's favorite place to work in the old Hollywood Theatre was the balcony, which was closed in 1975 and remodeled into several smaller theaters. As a self-described quiet person at the time, Crissman appreciated that

she was assigned to the balcony rather than staffing the busy concession counter.

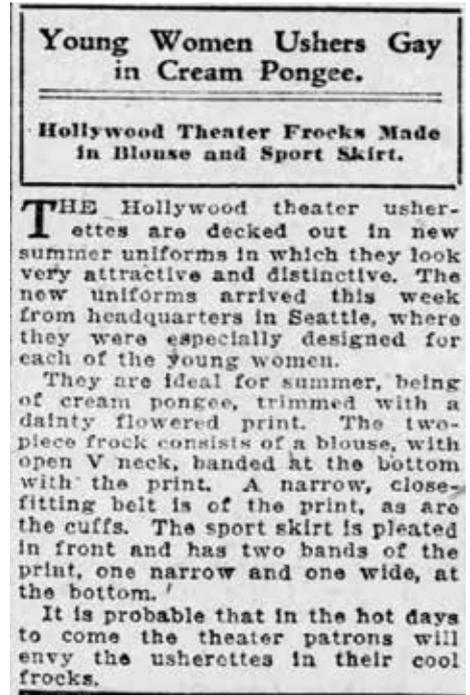
"There were six of us who worked each night and our shift started at 6 p.m.," she recalled. "Two of us would work at the concession stand, but I was shy and making change would not have been my thing, so I was glad to be up in the balcony." After the show, all usherettes pitched in with theater cleanup duty.

Sinclair recalled an even earlier era, when working in the balcony involved selling tickets to the loges, the semi-private box seats at the front of the balcony that provided a more exclusive experience for an extra fee.

"There was always one usherette stationed at the top of the ramp that led to the loges in the balcony," wrote Sinclair. "If a patron wanted to upgrade his seat to a loge seat he had to pay extra to the girl holding the loge tickets. If we were stationed there, we held a little leather bag with loge tickets and extra change inside."

The loges were phased out before Crissman arrived on the scene in 1965. But she remembers the peace and quiet of the balcony that summer. She recalls the movie that showed every night the first half of the summer was "The Greatest Story Ever Told," starring John Wayne, Charlton Heston, Angela Lansbury, Telly Savalas, Sidney Poitier and Joanna Dunham — an epic, more than four-hour tale of Jesus of Nazareth.

Having spent an entire summer of evenings



An article in The Oregonian from May 27, 1927, notes a level of interest in the usherette uniforms at the new Hollywood Theatre.

with the same movie, could she still lip-synch the memorable scenes? Not really.

Later in life, when the adult Crissman — then a Portland elementary school teacher — was thinking about her old summer job at the Hollywood, she rented the film and realized that even though she had stood through the whole movie dozens of times, she had never seen the entire thing all the way through from start to finish. Too busy being an usherette.

Destynee Norwood, the present-day senior director of development and marketing at the Hollywood, applauds the young women of yesterday who ran the place, and explains that the usherettes and uniforms of the past are no longer. These days, theater staff and volunteers take care of the box office, concessions counter, and do rounds during the films to make sure there aren't any disturbances (sometimes flashlights might be used). They also clean auditoriums after showings and take care of any other customer needs.

"Our theater staff are amazing at customer service and really keep the theater going, similar to the usherettes in their day. Very important jobs today and then!"

Local historian Doug Decker shares insight that helps make the past more visible. Send history-mystery questions or topics you'd like to know more about to [doug@alamedahistory.org](mailto:doug@alamedahistory.org). Read more about local history on his blog, [www.alamedahistory.org](http://www.alamedahistory.org).

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★ STAR FEATURE

# Wine and food at Heavenly Creatures? Simply celestial

By Riley Stevenson  
Star contributor

Before you go to Heavenly Creatures, the cozy wine bar on Northeast Broadway, you should know that a glass of wine can cost upward of \$20.

It is, without a doubt, a bold proposition for a neighborhood locale. All the bolder, when you consider the ghosts of predecessors, like Chesa and Carne, that never quite found their footing with their modernist tapas and pricey steaks.

And yet, three years after opening, Heavenly Creatures remains. Prices more or less unchanged, and with a loyal following that extends beyond Sullivan's Gulch.

Its success is hardly accidental. Heavenly Creatures' founders cut their teeth at St. Jack, the ever-popular oyster bar in Southeast. Now, given a new space to play, owner and sommelier Joel Gunderson, along with chef consultant Aaron Barnett, built a winning blueprint: hard-to-find wines, candlelit seating and a tight food menu.

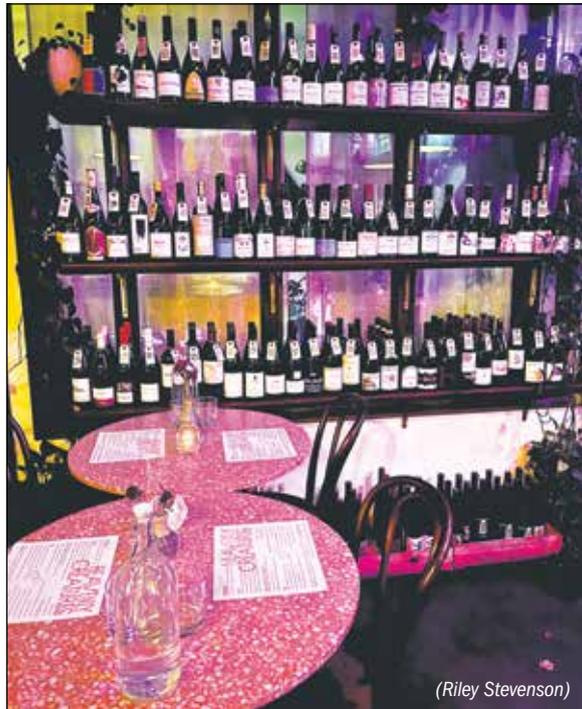
The bar's beloved wine collection — heavenly creatures, as they were — sit pretty on shelves ready to be taken home or corked for a fee of \$15. The rotating glass list features pours from Western Europe and the Willamette Valley; on their face, familiar, and yet everything I've tried manages to surprise and delight.

Take, for example, the Listán Negro from Tenerife, the tiny Canary Island off the coast of Spain where the rugged, volcanic terroir requires vines be buried in pits that shield

Clockwise from top right: Heavenly Creatures offers seasonal plates including Corned Lamb Terrine, Marinated Peppers and Peach Purée; Butternut Squash in parmesan Brodo, Farro and Gremolata; and Smoked Prawns, Romesco, Carrots and Radish.

The intimate, cozy space has seating for about 20.

The wine selection is impressive, with bottles to take home or corked on-site.



(Riley Stevenson)

against unforgiving winds and most grape harvesting be done by hand. It's a light-yet-structured red that traveled thousands of miles to get here. If I'm going to pay a premium for wine, let it be this.

It would be a shame to serve thoughtless charcuterie boards alongside wine this good. So, wisely, they don't, choosing instead to offer a selection of seasonal plates — like corned lamb terrine and butternut squash with farro and gremolata — in portion sizes larger than expected for an it'sy-bitsy wine bar.

The yellowtail toast has been a mainstay on the menu since Heavenly Creatures' opening. Thick cuts of Grand Central Bakery bread toasted on the grill, slathered with an

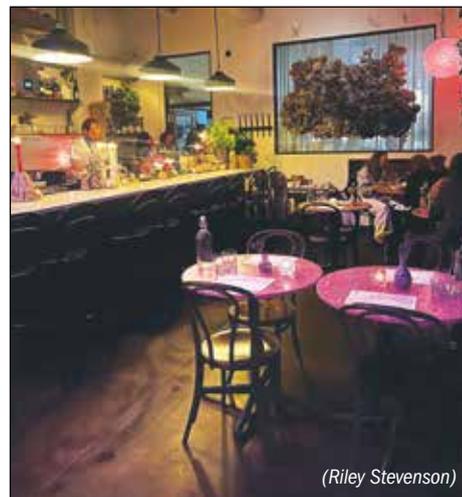
anchovy tonnato, and topped with buttery slabs of pink tuna. Salinous capers burst with each bite. All of it, in danger of becoming too salty, too fishy. But, instead, miraculously balanced and dialed in.

The whipped Camembert cheese is a must-order and my personal favorite. Aerated with nitrous oxide and dispensed like fancy Cheez Whiz alongside Tim's Chips, it is genre-defying and addictive.

Just as enjoyable as the food and drink is the space. The mood here is intimate, with room for about 20. Terrazzo tables cast in a pink glow are spaced close enough to feel snug but private enough to spark deep conversation. Candles are everywhere. I imagine Heavenly



(Heavenly Creatures)



(Riley Stevenson)

Creatures would make an ideal date night spot for a new couple looking to accelerate their connection — because, sitting here knee-to-knee, how could you possibly keep your guard up?

But, for those past the angst of early romance, let this be a place you turn to for the everyday: when

**If you go**

**Where:** 2218 NE Broadway

**Where:** 5-10 p.m. Monday-Saturday

**Eat:** Camembert, Radicchio & Apple Salad, and Young Yellowtail Toast

**Drink:** Fabio Ferracane Nero d'Avola and Julien Guillot Chardonnay

**Cost for two with tip:** \$121

you're feeling peckish or eager to catch up with an old friend. Or when you want to celebrate a special occasion on a Tuesday without leaving the neighborhood.

I see a parallel path for a spot like this, with overthought food and snobbery on full display. But that wouldn't work on Broadway, would it? With its humble dives, sports bars, and breakfast cafes, there's no tolerance for vapid showiness. The neighborhood will tell you

what it wants. And it wants Heavenly Creatures.

Despite its history of fickleness, Broadway, it seems, has an appetite for more.

Find more places to eat and drink from Riley Stevenson at [www.pdxrecs.substack.com](http://www.pdxrecs.substack.com).

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★ STAR FEATURE



BY MAGGIE GRAINGER  
MAGGIEGRAINGER@STAR-NEWS.INFO

# Holiday season hot spots

Spread the love by visiting these North and Northeast Portland shops

Need some neighborhood gift inspiration this holiday season? Look no further. We've compiled a list featuring The Star News "Block by Block" highlights, reader recommendations and staff favorites. Happy holidays, neighbors — and shop locally!

## WINE, CHEESE AND CHOCOLATE, PLEASE

### Cherries and Figs Wine Shop

Looking for the perfect bottle for the wine lover on your list? Norman Medina over at Cherries and Figs can help you find a unique blend from anywhere in the world. He gets new bottles weekly so you never know what you might find.

ADDRESS: 1607 N.E. Alberta St. **INSTAGRAM:** @cherriesandfigswineshop

### Woodblock Chocolate Manufactory

All of the chocolate bars are made right in the Woodblock Chocolate Manufactory where customers are met with the warm smells of roasting cocoa beans the minute they enter the shop. The signature 10-pack comes with their 10 anchor bars, but you can also customize it and mix and match your favorite flavors, making a delicious gift. Resting chocolate, which absorbs ambient fragrances



like hops or Stumptown Coffee to create a unique flavor, makes a truly unique gift.

ADDRESS: 1715 N.E. 17th Ave. **WEBSITE:** woodblockchocolate.com **INSTAGRAM:** @woodblockchocolate

### Providore Fine Foods

This specialty market truly is a food lover's playground. Browse artisan cheese and charcuterie, imported sweets, wines and unique sauces and spreads from around the world. Fill your basket with host treats, then

treat yourself to one of their delicious deli sandwiches or bakery treats.

ADDRESS: 2340 N.E. Sandy Blvd. **WEBSITE:** providorefinefoods.com **INSTAGRAM:** @providorepdx

## UNIQUELY PORTLAND

### Reggie's Manga Shop

Reggie's Manga Shop in Kenton not only offers comics, but Japanese treats including stationary, specialty toys and convenience store finds like instant ramen, shrimp chips, onigiri and more. You'll definitely find a stocking stuffer (or two) for the anime fan in your family.

ADDRESS: 7015 N. Greeley Ave. **WEBSITE:** reggiesmangashop.com **INSTAGRAM:** @reggiesmangashop

### Rock Paper Scissor

Naughty or nice, if you want to add a little spice to your holiday cards,

look no further than Rock Paper Scissor. This stationary boutique is full of tongue-in-cheek card designs and unique gift ideas including journals handcrafted out of old novels and glassware you can have personalized at the shop.

ADDRESS: 3908 N. Mississippi Ave. **WEBSITE:** rockpaperscissor.shop **INSTAGRAM:** @pdxrockpaperscissor

### Midslumber Media

Who says the holidays have to be all warm and fuzzy? Visitors to Midslumber Media can browse a wide range of scary books and movies as well as "horror adjacent" titles like "Weird Girl Literary Fiction," gothic literature, sci-fi movies or spooky family-friendly films to find that perfectly macabre present for the horror fan in their life.

ADDRESS: 1609 N.E. Alberta St. **WEBSITE:** midslumbermedia.com **INSTAGRAM:** @midslumbermedia

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★ STAR FEATURE

Encourage the love of reading at an early age — find kids' classics to new favorites at A Children's Place Bookstore. (Maggie Grainger)



**Crafty Wonderland**

Autopia of local arts and crafts awaits at Crafty Wonderland. The brainchild of co-owners Cathy Zwicker and Torie Nguyen, the Alberta shop has been showcasing local artisans since it opened in 2018. Come by the store any time of year or head over to the Oregon Convention Center Dec. 12-14 for their annual holiday art and craft market.

ADDRESS: 2022 N.E. Alberta St. WEBSITE: craftywonderland.com INSTAGRAM @craftywonderland

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Dungeons and Dragons, customers are encouraged to explore, hang out, meet other gamers and, most importantly, have fun at this Montavilla spot. Preorder highly anticipated games and get ready to play.

ADDRESS: 7960 S.E. Stark St. WEBSITE: theboardbard.com INSTAGRAM @boardbardgamestore

**A Children's Place Bookstore**

Walking into Portland's oldest independent children's bookstore is like walking right into a warm hug. The beloved shop has been raising readers for more than 50 years and the friendly staff can help you find any book on your list — from new faves to children's classics and beyond.

ADDRESS: 1423 N.E. Fremont St. WEBSITE:

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



Head to Rock Paper Scissor on Mississippi Avenue for premier paper and stationery, unique gifts, cheeky greeting cards and more.

(Maggie Grainger)

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(Providore Fine Foods)

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achildrensplacebookstore.com **INSTAGRAM:** @achildrensplace

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**ADDRESS:** 3040 N.E. Sandy Blvd. **WEBSITE:** bricksandminifigs.com/portland-or **INSTAGRAM:** @bricksdpdx



Passenger Seat Records offers listeners a globe-trotting musical selection. (Maggie Grainger)

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**ADDRESS:** 8437 S.E. Stark St. **WEBSITE:** thewayhomeshop.com **INSTAGRAM:** @thewayhomeshop



Way Home Shop customers can find items like healing tools, crystals, tea, jewelry and books. (Way Home Shop)

**Clary Sage Herbarium**

This herbal specialty shop on Alberta has been comforting customers — one cup of tea at a time — since 2011. Find herbal extracts, essential oils, candles, crystals and more while browsing.

**ADDRESS:** 2901 N.E. Alberta St. **WEBSITE:** clarysageherbarium.com **INSTAGRAM:** @clarysageherbarium

**Passenger Seat Records**

From bossa nova beats to smooth jazz heat, take a trip around the world with the curated collection of vinyl at Passenger Seat Records. Owner Drew Brown encourages people to come in and peruse his unique collection and to not be afraid to ask questions. Impress the discophile with that rare track they've been hunting forever under the tree.

**ADDRESS:** 4922 N.E. 20th Ave. **WEBSITE:** passengerseatrecords.com **INSTAGRAM:** @passengerseatrecords

**Music Millennium**

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**ADDRESS:** 3158 E. Burnside St. **WEBSITE:** musicmillennium.com **INSTAGRAM:** @musicmillennium

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★ STAR FEATURE

# Stumptown Soul



The two-hour holiday extravaganza features more than two dozen local musicians and runs the gamut of seasonal songs—from secular to religious to pure rock ‘n’ roll. The show has grown so much in popularity that there will be two shows this year: a 3 p.m. matinee and a 7 p.m. evening show. (All photos by Norm Eder)

## NE neighbors take stage for 10th annual show

By Maggie Grainger  
maggiegrainger@star-news.info

Listening to one Portland musician is always a gift. But getting to witness a who’s who of local talent belt out holiday favorites together on one stage? Now that’s a reason for the season.

The 10th annual Stumptown Soul Holiday Spectacular returns Dec. 21 to the Alberta Rose Theatre and promises to be a truly festive affair. To meet demand, there will be two shows this year: a 3 p.m. matinee and a 7 p.m. evening performance.

Northeast Portland resident Julia Shaughnessy has been co-producing the event since 2014, the year it began.

“My late husband, Tim, was in a band called Level 2,” she said. “They were doing a show at Mississippi Pizza’s Atlantis Room and Tim wanted to do some Christmas songs. (Singers) Jennifer Smieja and Steve Kerin joined them on stage and that’s what started it.

“The next year we were like, ‘Let’s do this again and bring in more musicians.’”

So they did just that. And every year more and more musicians asked to get in on the fun, some flying in from as far away as Hawaii to participate. This year’s roster includes a mix of amateur and professional musicians, many of whom call Northeast Portland home.

“They are passionate and they are so talented,” Shaughnessy said. “There’s a lot of people on stage and they are just remarkable human beings.”

The two-hour event covers the gamut of seasonal songs — from secular to religious to pure rock ‘n’ roll.

“We use the same stage band throughout the show and bring on different singers,” she said. “We always end with everyone on stage singing a Beatles song”

Shaughnessy is the first to admit it takes a village to pull off such an incredible concert year after year.



**If you go**  
**When:** 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21  
**Where:** Alberta Rose Theatre, 3000 N.E. Alberta St.  
**Cost:** \$16.75-\$37  
**More:** albertarosetheatre.com

“This has always been a group effort, and I could not do this without the guidance and help of so many others,” she said. “Kathy Ware helps me bring in all the musicians and Steve Kerin is our musical director, and we couldn’t do this without Steve.”

Shaughnessy said many of the musicians have been with the show since the early days and they return because it’s such a fun and supportive environment.

“We love getting together to rehearse and laugh and it’s just great,” she said. “A stranger coming into this group would only experience good vibes and positive attitudes and that is really the best part of singing and playing music together.”

Shaughnessy says she and her husband felt that support in 2020 when Tim suffered an accident at work. He died in 2021.

“Tim often commented how fortunate he was to be surrounded by and able to play with so many kind and talented friends,” she said.



“And the fact that these kind and talented individuals keep coming back around to play this show is more than words can express.”

She continues: “This group has been through joys and heartaches over our time together. Some of us have suffered personal loss of a partner; others have lost parents, siblings and friends and others have gone through cancer treatments or lost jobs. Still



**Musical lineup**  
 This year’s Stumptown Soul Holiday Spectacular will feature performances by:

Arietta Ward	Michael Quinby
Kris Deelane	Anastasia Lang
Norman Sylvester	Aundria Lauren
LaRhonda Steele	Lucinda Savoie
Dan Berkery	Steven Savoie
Steve Kerin	Alan Spinrad
Jennifer Smieja	Jenny Spinrad
Katy Oberg	Joe Spinrad

The all-star back-up band includes:

Jason Asby	Gary Keeney
Mark Bowden	Mary-Sue Tobin
John Dover	Heidi Shuler
Peter Dammann	Bruce Withycombe
Lefty Head	

others are dealing with aging parents and loved ones, and I think we have all had at least one bout with COVID-19.

“The community and support for each other has been tremendous and it’s the music that keeps us all sane and focused when we need it most.”

★ STAR HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

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J. S. Bach: Highlights from *Christmas Oratorio*  
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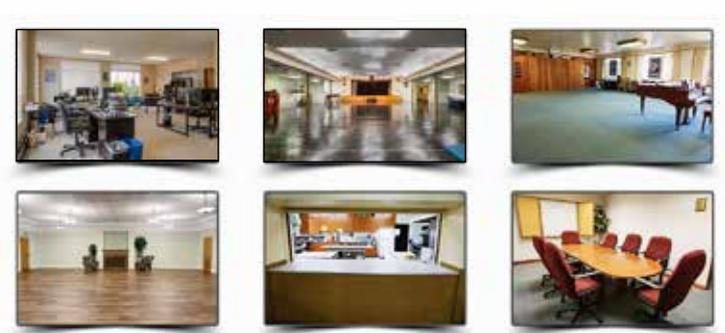
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**Contact Us Today!**  
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**Rose City Community Collective** located at:  
**Rose City Park United Methodist Church**  
5830 NE Alameda St., Portland, OR, 97213  
Email: [building@rosecitypark.org](mailto:building@rosecitypark.org) • Phone: 503.208.3547  
Website: <https://www.rosecitycommunitycollective.org/>

*Join Us in Making a Difference!*

★ STAR HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

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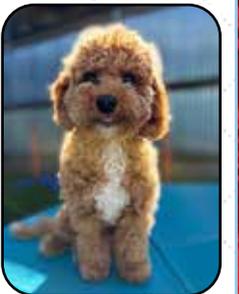
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★ STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS

To include an item in The Star Calendar, send an email to [calendar@star-news.info](mailto:calendar@star-news.info) and include the title, time, date, location and a short description (up to 50 words). Entries must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication month. Photos are welcome, but must be suitable for print: 300 dpi JPG. If sending from a smartphone, download the largest size. Events will be included as space allows.

### SANTASIGHTINGS

#### MEET SANTA AT KENNEDY SCHOOL

Dec. 6-7. 9 a.m. and noon. Jingle on over to the Kennedy School for a morning full of holiday magic. Eat breakfast with family and friends, then experience a visit from Santa himself. Cost: \$36 to \$265 for a table of eight, Kennedy School, 5736 N.E. 33rd Ave., 503-249-3983, [mcmenamins.com/kennedy-school](http://mcmenamins.com/kennedy-school)

#### PANCAKES WITH SANTA

Dec.13. 9-11 a.m. Santa's stopping by the Laurelhurst Club this month to visit kids for photo ops and eat some yummy pancakes. Please bring an unwrapped gift for the Toy and Joy Makers during your visit. Cost: \$20, kids under a year old are free. Everyone must have a ticket to attend. The Laurelhurst Club, 3721 S.E. Ankeny St. Space is limited so reserve your tickets at: [eventbrite.com/e/breakfast-with-santa-tickets](http://eventbrite.com/e/breakfast-with-santa-tickets)

#### SANTA VISITS SWAP AND PLAY

Dec. 13. 9-11 a.m. Santa is one busy guy this time of year! He's stopping by Youngson Hall over at Rose City United Methodist Church for food, fun, crafts and more photo ops. Cost: Free. Rose City United Methodist Church, 5830 N.E. Alameda St. [neswapandplay.org/](http://neswapandplay.org/)

### KIDSTEENSANDFAMILIES

#### WINTER BREAK DAY CAMP AT NE COMMUNITY CENTER

Dec. 22, 23, 29, 30. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Need child care during the holidays? Northeast Community Center has day camp options on select days over Portland Public Schools' Winter Break. Kids will participate in a variety of activities including sports, arts and crafts, swimming in the indoor pool and free time in the play rooms and gymnasium. Campers must bring a packed lunch and snack and wear comfortable clothes and shoes. You do not need to enroll for all days; pick the dates you would like your kid to attend. Ages: Grades K-5, Cost: \$90 a day. Northeast Community Center, 1630 N.E. 38th Ave., 503-284-3377, [necommunitycenter.org/break-camps](http://necommunitycenter.org/break-camps)

#### FREMONT HOLIDAY FEST

Dec. 5. 4-7 p.m. Get in the seasonal spirit at Fremont Holiday Fest, sponsored by the Beaumont Business Association. Enjoy wreaths for sale, drinks, snacks and an a cappella performance by the Grant High School Royal Blues, who will be caroling up and down the street. Santa and Mrs. Claus



Portland Revels celebrates the season, Dec. 12-21, through song, dance, story and ritual (Portland Revels)



Head to the Laurelhurst Club for pancakes and photos with Santa on Dec. 13. (Laurelhurst Club)



See the film version of Dr. Seuss' beloved children's tale about the grouchy, green Grinch at the Hollywood Theatre Dec. 12-18. (Wikimedia Commons)

will be at Nectar Frozen Yogurt for pictures with kiddos. Appointments required. Sign up at [bbapdx.org](http://bbapdx.org). Cost: Free. Northeast Fremont Street between 42nd and 50th avenues.

#### 'THE GRINCH' 25TH ANNIVERSARY SCREENING

Dec. 12-18. Various showtimes. It's hard to believe that it's been 25 years since Jim

Carrey first played the famous green meanie determined to ruin Christmas for the citizens of Whoville. Experience the magic anew with your family during a screening of Dr. Seuss' "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" at the historic Hollywood Theatre. Hollywood Theatre, 4122 N.E. Sandy Blvd. <https://hollywoodtheatre.org>

### ENJOYARTS

#### VARIETY SHOW RETURNS

Dec. 4-6, 11-14. Various times. Triangle Productions is bringing back their popular variety show, "OMG! It's ... the Donnie Show!" Stand-up comedians, singers, popular Portland personalities — you never know who might show up as founder and director Don Horn's special guest. Cost: \$20. Triangle Productions, 1785 N.E. Sandy Blvd. 503-239-5919, [trianglepro.org](http://trianglepro.org)

#### CELEBRATE THE SCOTTISH WINTER SOLSTICE

Dec. 12-21. Various show times. After practicing for months at Grant Park Church, the intergenerational cast of Revelers is

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Tickets required for ages 3 & up

Saturday and Sunday,  
December 6 & 7

### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

9am & noon · \$36 per person · \$265 for table of 8  
Includes breakfast and non-alcoholic beverages

Wednesday, December 10

### DRAG QUEEN BINGO w/ POISON WATERS

7pm · \$23 adv, \$28 day of · 21 & over

Saturdays, December 13 & 20

### OPERA ON TAP PORTLAND CAROLERS

7pm · Free · 21 & over

Sunday, December 21

### LOOSEWIG JAZZ SERIES

hosted by BRENT FOLLIS  
7pm · \$20 adults, \$10 students

Thursday, December 25

### WHITE ELEPHANT CHRISTMAS BINGO

Noon, 2pm & 4pm · \$5

Wednesday, December 31

### NEW YEAR'S EVE BASH

THE SALOON ENSEMBLE PRESENTS:  
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**★ STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR**



Watch Olivia Nogueira-Wheaton demonstrate the art of traditional letterpress printing, and for those who want to get inky, create one-of-a-kind cards to share this season. (Guardino Gallery)

set to celebrate the winter solstice with Portland Revel's midwinter performance. "Highland Hearth - A Celebration of the Solstice" features traditional Scottish music, dance and storytelling for a truly transformative experience. Cost: \$17-\$81. The Scottish Rites Center, 709 S.W. 15th Ave. portlandrevels.org

**POSTCARD SHOW AT BRASSWORKS GALLERY**

Dec. 13. 5-9 p.m. Come by the studio and check out a diverse range of designs during the 3rd annual Postcard Show. Stay and browse works by local and international artists. Brassworks Gallery, 3022 N.E. Glisan St., brassworksgallery.com

**TATAS FOR TOYS SHOWCASE**

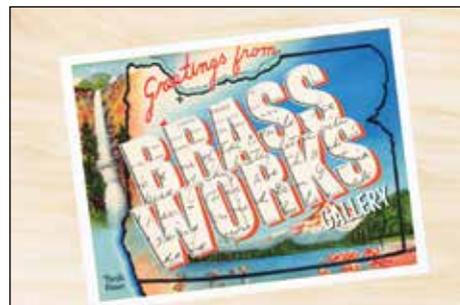
Dec. 16. Doors at 6 p.m., show at 7 p.m. Join Portland's finest entertainers for an unforgettable evening of "holiday cheer, beer and rear" benefiting Doernbecher Children's Hospital. Hosted by comedian Aaron Ross and entertainer extraordinaire ToX!c, the event promises performances by the Northwest's sexiest variety acts, music and an auction. This event is 21+. Cost: \$25.75-\$139.50 Alberta Rose Theatre, 3000 N.E. Alberta St., 503-719-6055, albertarose theatre.com

**PRINT YOUR OWN HOLIDAY CARDS**

Dec. 20. 11 a.m. Get inky as Olivia



Ira Temple, left, and Michael Winograd bring their vibrant Klezmer and Yiddish music from New York to Portland on Dec. 6. (Eastside Jewish Commons)



Brassworks Gallery's third annual postcard show is a celebration of art and creativity, showcasing a diverse range of postcard designs. (Brassworks Gallery)

Nogueira-Wheaton demonstrates the historic process of setting type and printing cards on a 1920s cast Kelsey iron clamshell tabletop press. Watch the process — or print your own cards. Choose from preset lettering and vintage images — all ink and paper included. Cost: \$5 per press/squish, 20 cards for \$55, 50 cards for \$100. Guardino

Gallery, 2930 N.E. Alberta St., 503-281-9048, guardinogallery.com

**STARK STREET STUDIOS HOLIDAY SALE**

All month. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Find the perfect gift for that special someone in your life while supporting local artisans. It's a win-win. Stark Street Studios, 2809 S.E. Stark St. Instagram: @starkstreetstudios

**GIVE THE GIFT OF ART AT ALBERTA STREET GALLERY**

Daily through Dec. 29. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Transform your holiday giving with one-of-a-kind creations from Alberta Street Gallery. Discover paintings, sculptures, ceramics and more that speak to the heart. Alberta Street Gallery, 1829 N.E. Alberta St. 503-954-3314, albertastreetgallery.com

*Worship the season*

**CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US!**



**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**4 PM FAMILY SERVICE**  
with Nativity Play & Choristers

**6 PM FESTIVE HOLY EUCHARIST**  
with Saints & Singers Choir & Carols

**8 PM MISA EN ESPAÑOL**  
with El Coro & Incense

**10:30 PM MIDNIGHT MASS**  
with St. Michaels Singers & Incense  
10:30 pm - 11pm: Prelude & Carols

**10 AM CHRISTMAS DAY**  
Festive Holy Eucharist with Carols

**Westminster Presbyterian Church**  
1624 NE Hancock ♦ (503) 287-1289 ♦ www.westprespdx.org

**Wednesday December 24**

5:00pm ~ Christmas Eve Family Worship  
9:00pm ~ Christmas Eve Candlelit Worship Service

**Sunday December 28**

10:30am ~ Worship Service



**Celebrate**

**THE HOLIDAYS AT ST. MICHAEL'S**

Advent Services: Dec. 3, 10, and 17, 7pm  
Christmas Chorale: Sunday, Dec. 21, 2pm  
Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols: 7:30pm  
Christmas Day Feast of the Incarnation: 10am

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★ STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MUSICNOTES

ENJOY KLEZMER, YIDDISH MUSIC

Dec. 6. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Accordionist and songwriter Ira Temple and clarinetist Michael Winograd are touring the West Coast this winter, bringing Klezmer and Yiddish music with them. All ages. Cost: \$18 in advance/\$20 at door. Eastside Jewish Commons, 2420 N.E. Sandy Blvd. ejcpdx.org

MESSIAH SING-ALONG

Dec. 21. 3:37 p.m. Get ready to sing your heart out to Handel's masterpiece during the 27th annual Portland Sing-Along Messiah. No professional singing experience necessary. Bring your own score or borrow one during the event. Cost: Free. Westminster Presbyterian, 1624 N.E. Hancock St. blueprintarts.org/singalongmessiah/

BAROQUE HOLIDAY CONCERT

Dec. 19. 7:30 p.m. The Bach Cantata Choir of Portland will present its annual Baroque Holiday Concert featuring selections from J. S. Bach's beloved Christmas Oratorio along with the reading of the Christmas Story from the Gospels of Luke and Matthew. Under the direction of conductor Ralph Nelson, this concert features the 50-voice Bach Cantata Choir, 18-piece orchestra and vocal soloists. Cost: \$40. Rose City Park Presbyterian Church, 1907 N.E. 45th Ave. www.bachcantatachoir.org

NORTHWEST VOCAL ARTS HOLIDAY CONCERTS

Dec. 20 at 2 p.m. Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. Vocal Arts is celebrating the holiday season with



Lions Club members will be ringing the bells again this season. Drop some money into the red kettle to support the Salvation Army's efforts. (Hollywood Lions Club)



Have fun browsing more than 700 hand-painted rocks with a variety of themes on Dec. 6. All proceeds go to support monarch butterflies and their habitats. (Portland Monarchs)



Always wanted to try your hand at pickleball? Now's the time — head to the Northeast Community Center on Dec. 5 for a one-day workshop.

two unique concerts. Highlights include Benjamin Britten's "A Ceremony of Carols," featuring harp accompaniment and Nigerian traditional "Oba Ti De" ("Here Comes the King"), arranged by Jeffrey Ames, and "I Am the Light" by India Aire, a lyrical and spiritual affirmation of inner peace and identity. Cost: \$15 for students, \$35 for general admission, Rose City Park United Methodist Church, 5830 N.E. Alameda St. 503-804-8251. www.nwvocalarts.org.

resolution early and pick up the game of pickleball during this one-day workshop. You'll learn etiquette and safety, shots and strategy, rules and scoring, then play real games to integrate your new skills. This clinic is suitable for new players and those who have already taken a beginner class and want to repeat the session. Cost: \$45 for members/\$60 non-members. Northeast Community Center, 1630 N.E. 38th Ave., 503-284-3377, necommunitycenter.org

Club. Community for Positive Aging (formerly Hollywood Senior Center), 1820 N.E. 40th Ave.

FOR SENIORS

BEGINNING PICKLEBALL WORKSHOP

Dec. 5. 9-11 a.m. Start your New Year's

GRANT HIGH ROYAL BLUES ENSEMBLE HOLIDAY SHOW

Dec. 10. 4 p.m. Enjoy a lively holiday concert by the Grant High Royal Blues Ensemble at the Community for Positive Aging. Cost: Free. Sponsored by the Portland Hollywood Lions

INGENERAL

CHRISTMAS TREE LOT SUPPORTS SCOUTS

Dec. 5-7, 12-14. Fridays, noon-6 p.m., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. on weekends. Scouting America is teaming up with Rose City Park United Methodist Church to host their annual Christmas tree sale in the parking lot. Come by 5803 N.E. Alameda St. and find the perfect tree for your house.

LIONS CLUB TO RING SALVATION ARMY BELLS

Dec. 6. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Members of the Hollywood Lions Club will be ringing bells

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

**Christmas** 12/14 & 12/15  
 Traditional Nutcracker & French Christmas music  
 6 Oregon Symphony Cellists  
 7pm @ Polaris Hall  
 635 N Killingsworth

**Cellos**

12/16  
 8-10pm  
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 Duke Ellington Nutcracker  
 Charlie Brown Christmas  
 Singer Songwriter Jim Brunberg  
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★ STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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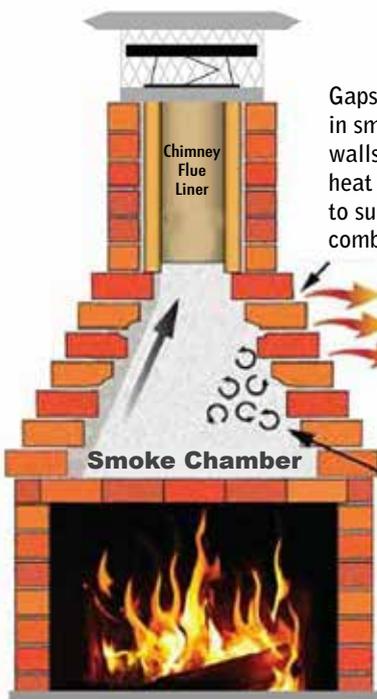
### LEVEL 1

#### Inspections/cleanings:

A basic, visual inspection of accessible areas, suitable for routine annual maintenance. The inspection is conducted during routine cleaning.

#### THE SMOKE CHAMBER

funnels smoke and heat from your firebox to your flue lining. The smoke chamber can reach temperature of 2000 degrees during a high heat event (chimney fire).



Gaps and defects in smoke chamber walls allow heat transfer to surrounding combustibles

Turbulence caused by uneven surfaces slows draft which reduces efficiency and promotes excessive creosote buildup

### LEVEL 2

#### Buying or selling a home, or a Chimney Fire:

A more detailed inspection that includes using video cameras to examine the flue and is required for the sale or transfer of property. An inspection is also required after a chimney fire, seismic event, or other incident likely to have caused damage to the chimney.

#### CRACKED TILES



Cracked tiles will also allow heat and gases to escape the flue and potentially get into your home. These can be caused by a high heat event.

#### UNLINED FLUES



Unlined flues are not capable of protecting the combustibles\* of your home from high heat events.

\*Materials that can be ignited and burned.

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Rose City Bluff Restoration volunteers gather every Sunday morning year-round for a work party to restore the city's fragile bluff area to its native ecosystem. (Rose City Bluff Restoration)

to raise money for the Salvation Army at the Fred Meyer grocery store entrance. Come by and say hi. Fred Meyer, 3030 N.E. Weidler St.

### ROCKS FOR BUTTERFLIES FUNDRAISER

Dec. 6. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Shop more than 700 hand-painted, resin-sealed rocks, from frogs to butterflies, snowmen to landscapes, crows to koi ponds and more. All proceeds will benefit monarch butterfly and pollinator habitat creation through the nonprofit organization, Portland Monarchs. 2218 N.E. 22nd Ave.

### GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET

Dec. 6. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Enjoy a traditional German Christmas Market with a Portland twist. This year's Weihnachtsmarkt features craftspeople and artisans from around the region, local entertainment, food vendors, baked goods and plenty of homemade Glühwein. Authentic crafts and ornaments from Germany will be available for purchase along with Lebkuchen Herzen — heart-shaped gingerbread cookies. Cost: \$5, plus processing fee. [www.germanamerican.org](http://www.germanamerican.org)

### HANUKKAH NIGHT MARKET

Dec. 13. 5-8 p.m. Nosh, sip, dance, mingle and shop at the Hanukkah Night Market. There will be live music, plenty of seating and wonderful gift items. Plus, free child

care provided in their kids' room! Cost: Free. Eastside Jewish Commons, 2420 N.E. Sandy Blvd., 503-208-5425, [www.ejcpdx.org](http://www.ejcpdx.org)

### 41ST ANNUAL SCANFAIR

Dec. 13-14. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Stroll through a festive marketplace of handcrafted gifts and Nordic treasures, savor traditional Scandinavian food and drink, and enjoy live music, dancing and family activities that celebrate the season. Be sure to get a photo with Joulupukki, aka Finnish Santa, and sign up for one of the eating contests (pickled herring, anyone?) Portland Convention Center, 777 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. [nordicnorthwest.org/scanfair](http://nordicnorthwest.org/scanfair)

### WEEKLY ROSE CITY BLUFF RESTORATION MEET UP

Every Sunday. 9:30 a.m.-noon. The Rose City Bluff Restoration meets every Sunday morning, rain or shine, to remove invasive plants and restore the native ecological system and beautify the Rose City Bluff. The team is always looking for volunteers who have expertise in native plants, invasive species, birding, pollinators, trees, volunteer organizations, neighborhood history or anything related to Rose City Golf Course that they can share with the group. Meet at Northeast Sacramento Street and 66th Avenue.

## SHARE YOUR STORY IDEAS



**We want to hear from you!**  
 Tell us about the people and events that make up our unique Northeast Portland Community. Share your ideas with us by contacting:  
[editorial@star-news.info](mailto:editorial@star-news.info)

★ THE STAR NEWS



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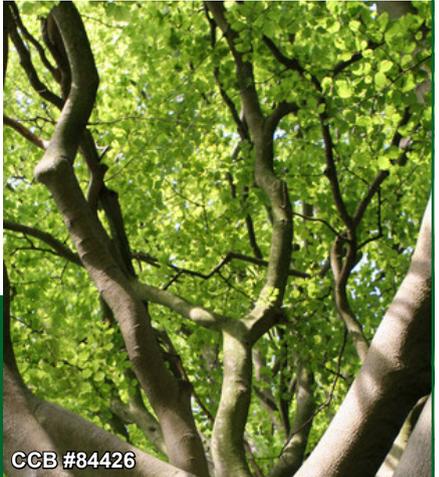
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### REMODELED WOODSTOCK OLD PORTLAND FOUR SQUARE



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As part of Windermere's long-standing commitment to help those in need, our offices throughout Oregon and Southwest Washington will be collecting coats, blankets, and other warm winter necessities **NOVEMBER 3 THROUGH DECEMBER 19**, M-F, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 2045 NE Martin Luther King Blvd. Portland OR 97212

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The perfect blend of classic charm and modern updates in this beautifully remodeled Woodstock Old Portland Four Square. High-end finishes in the kitchen and bathrooms, featuring marble, soap stone and designer tile. 4 bedrooms upstairs with an ideal layout to take one and make it into a primary bathroom suite.

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5624 SE 44th Ave ~ \$829,900 ~ 4 Bedrooms ~ 2 Bathrooms ~ 3088 Sq. Ft.

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