



**GOT MILKWEED?**  
Sow seeds to save monarch butterflies, other pollinators. **PAGE 12**



## End of an ERA

**A GEM ON SANDY** The Nguyen family says farewell to their Van Tin Jewelry customers after 40 years of operating their Northeast Sandy Boulevard store. **PAGE 5**



**ALL FOR KIDS** Enjoy bands, floats and more at the annual Fred Meyer Junior Parade. **PAGE 6**



**HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD** Movie Madness to relocate to blossoming film district. **PAGE 4**



**2 COOKS IN THE KITCHEN**  
At Javi's in Rose City Park, father and son put a Mexican spin on breakfast and lunch classics. **PAGE 9**



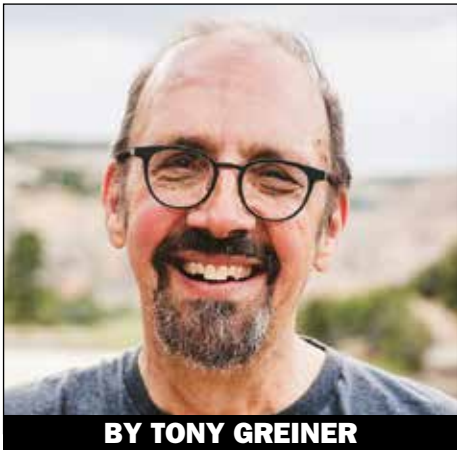
**NEVER A DULL MOMENT**  
Mississippi neighborhood is full of mirth, magic and more. **PAGE 13**



**TOTEM OF TOYS** For local conceptual artist Josh Sin, play represents some serious fun. **PAGE 11**



★STAR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



BY TONY GREINER

TONYGREINER@STAR-NEWS.INFO

JOIN A NEIGHBORHOOD EMERGENCY TEAM

Earthquake. Flood. Ice storm. Wildfire. In the event of a major disaster, Portland will rely on first responders such as firefighters, police and paramedics. But what happens if the roads are gridlocked and first responders are overwhelmed by calls for help? That’s where the city’s Neighborhood Emergency Teams come in.

The Portland Neighborhood Emergency Team program is a city-supported volunteer initiative that trains community members to assist in disaster response. Managed by the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management, NET volunteers are trained in basic disaster skills, including first aid, light search and rescue, fire suppression and communication. In the event of a major emergency, NET members support their neighborhoods by providing critical assistance until professional responders can arrive. Learn more or volunteer at [PortlandPrepares.org](http://PortlandPrepares.org)

DE LA SALLE HIGH HIRES NEW PRINCIPAL



Michael Bartha

De La Salle North Catholic High School has announced the appointment of Michael Bartha as its next principal, effective July 1. Bartha replaces Deirdre Perkins, who stepped down this winter.

Prior to his current position as K-12 director of mathematics

at Franklin Road Academy in Nashville, Tennessee, Bartha served as assistant principal and principal in two Nashville-area charter schools. He also has a private consulting practice for schools and education nonprofits.



Working on a project and need a tool you might only use once? Borrow one for free from a neighborhood tool library, instead of buying it.

(Northeast Portland Tool Library)

NO EXIT © Andy Singer



Bartha attended Bowdoin College and earned a master’s degree in education leadership from Christian Brothers University in Memphis, Tennessee.

“Michael’s zeal for the art and science of teaching, his student-centered approach to instruction, and his proven results in teacher development made him the clear choice to be DLSNC’s next principal,” said DLSNC President Ashleigh de Villiers.

NEED TOOLS? BORROW THEM AT THE LIBRARY

Everyone, homeowners in particular, will have a time when they need a particular tool, but don’t want to buy it because they may never need it again. That’s where the Portland Tool Library comes in. There are four of them in the city. You can become a member, at no charge, after signing two forms and presenting proof of identity and that you live in that particular library’s district. Members can check out up to seven tools at a time for one week. There is a late fee for not returning the tool on time.

The Northeast Tool Library service area covers North Williams Avenue east to Northeast 82nd Avenue, and most residential areas from the Columbia River south to Burnside Street. Their website lists available tools, grouped by categories, and is also searchable by tool name.

The tool libraries are run by volunteers and donations and have limited hours. The Northeast library is found in the basement of the Leaven Community Center of the Salt

and Light Lutheran Church, 5431 N.E. 20th Ave. Details and available tools can be found at [www.neptl.org](http://www.neptl.org). Look for the occasional “garage sale” where excess tools are sold.

LEARN ABOUT HISTORY OF PALESTINE, ISRAEL

The Eastside Jewish Commons is presenting a five-week series on the history of Palestine and Israel presented by Joel Beinin, a retired history professor at Stanford University.



Joel Beinin

Every Monday in June the class will meet in person from 7-8:30 p.m. The idea is to “Grapple with the history, engage with difficult ideas, and process complex questions in a respectful environment.” The five sessions are “The Crisis of Eastern European Jewry,” “The Palestinian National Movement,” “The Nakba,” “The 1967 War” and “Gaza.” Registration is \$18, but no one will be turned away. 2420 N.E. Sandy Blvd. <https://ejcpdx.org/events/>

PICK THE NEXT CITY AUDIT

Each year, Portland’s Audit Services Division selects topics for performance audits that assess how city government is working and where it can do better. These audits help ensure city programs and services are efficient, effective and equitable. Here is your chance to give input into what parts of city government you would like them to audit next. <https://tinyurl.com/PDXAudit>

HELP PORTLAND QUIET DOWN

Beginning Jan. 1, 2026, Portland will ban gas-powered leaf blowers. This will lead to less noise, better air quality and healthier working conditions for garden and landscape workers. Quiet Clean PDX is a group working to make this transition a success. They provide postcards and flyers to distribute and provide information on the problems associated with gas-powered blowers, and are also putting out a series of newsletters.

The more people know about this, the quieter and safer 2026 will be. Visit [qcpx.org](http://qcpx.org) for more information and links to materials.

CUSTOMIZED SKIN CARE FOR CANCER PATIENTS

Ruby Violet Skincare, a woman-owned esthetics boutique at 1829 N.E. Alberta St. is offering specials for cancer patients in June and July. Owner and licensed aesthetician Sarah Szper is a cancer survivor and is offering specials for those undergoing cancer treatment. Email [sarahrubyskincare@gmail.com](mailto:sarahrubyskincare@gmail.com) or call 503-282-8877 for details.

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Places to pick up the Hollywood Star

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

Stores: New Seasons on Interstate, Williams and Broadway/33rd, Fairley’s Pharmacy, 42nd Street Station and other sites

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## ★ STAR DEVELOPMENT NEWS



BY PHILL COLOMBO

PHILLCOLOMBO@STAR-NEWS.INFO

### BUSINESSES REMAIN OPEN DURING 82ND AVE. REPAVING

Portland's Bureau of Transportation has begun safety and maintenance upgrades on Northeast 82nd Avenue. The objectives include providing new, smooth pavement and replacing failing roadway sections. The work began May 27 and will continue on weekdays this and next summer.

The first section on 82nd between Northeast Beech and Fremont streets will be followed by contractors paving additional segments of the corridor between Siskiyou and Thompson streets. In these sections, existing pavement is severely deteriorated and cracking, allowing water infiltration below the roadway surface.

Deputy City Public Works Administrator Priya Dhanapal is asking the public for patience "as our contractors remove and replace large sections of failing pavement to create a durable road surface that will serve the community for decades to come."

The work adds to other safety and maintenance updates implemented since 2022. "Please use caution when traveling near our work zones, and do what you can to support area businesses," Dhanapal added.

Members of the 82nd Avenue Business Association appreciate the planned road improvements according to association President Jacob Loeb. "This vibrant and diverse business community looks forward to more people visiting our establishments and sampling our foods from around the world. However, we hope people will not wait until crews complete the work. Our small businesses depend on customers showing up throughout the year, and continued patronage during construction would be the best way to show support."

To learn more about the 82nd Avenue Project, including updates on construction, and to sign up to receive email or text message updates, visit <https://tinyurl.com/323ev8vw>

### TRIMET MOVES AHEAD WITH BUS STOP PROTOTYPES

In mid-May, Portland's Design Commission gave TriMet the green light to install prototype Next Generation Bus Shelters on city streets. The transit agency outlined three classes of new bus stop weather protection that will use many interchangeable parts for more efficient maintenance. GK Machine Inc., an Oregon company, will manufacture the test shelters and plans installation to begin at the end of June.

After an evaluation period and some public engagement, modest design updates could occur, and TriMet intends to start



A rendering of a prototype TriMet bus shelter approved by Portland's Design Commission to be installed at selected sites. (TriMet)

replacing its approximately 1,000 shelters with the new units as needed. Although the Design Commission can exempt new shelters, each shelter will require a Portland Bureau of Transportation permit. Based on sidewalk or platform space, structures can face toward or away from traffic. TriMet plans to introduce larger shelters for high-ridership locations, but presenters did not include them in the May 15 request for approval.

### NORTH TABOR'S AMERICAN DREAM PIZZA REOPENING

The original American Dream Pizza, which served its first pies in Northeast Portland nearly 40 years ago, but closed suddenly almost a year ago, will be back in business at 4620 N.E. Glisan St. as The Original Dream. Amy and Daniel Northrop said they will attempt to replicate the pizza and old-school vibes that made the original restaurant a lasting hit.

The Northrops want to keep the pizzeria's recipes and signature braided crust. But the name had to change due to "partnership stuff" with separately owned American Dream Pizza in Corvallis, a spinoff of the Portland pizzeria back in 1989 but under separate ownership.

### PLANET FITNESS GETS READY TO OPEN HOLLYWOOD GYM

Coming soon to Hollywood, Planet Fitness chain's newest Oregon location, 1814 N.E. 41st Ave. (a former Rite-Aid store), promises a gym with state-of-the-art equipment, a PF Black Card Spa, clean locker rooms and friendly team members. The stated aim of the facility is to make it easy for members to get started with free fitness training. An exact opening date has not been announced.

### PERMITS ISSUED

**In Montavilla at 992 N.E. 70th Ave.,** a land use review is underway to allow three new cottage units to complement an existing 850-square-foot, single-family residence built in 1950 on one of the four lots. The new single-family residences will be two stories with no garages.

**In Sabin at 4776 N.E. 18th Ave. and 1840 N.E. Wygant St.,** DEZ Development of Clackamas secured permits to enlarge the existing building footprint, expanding living space and reconfiguring south-facing windows, to make way for a three-unit, two-story cottage cluster with attached garages.

### APPLICATIONS FILED

**In Alameda at 4010 N.E. 24th Ave.,** Julia Torresan and Allyson Klein have filed to build a retaining wall with a fence on top to level the yard with new gates and new

stairs with a railing to the front porch.

**In Concordia at 4911 N.E. 25th Ave.,** Anissa and Kieran Lee wish to build a 468-square-foot, single-story detached garage.

**In Grant Park at 1809 N.E. 32nd Ave.,** Denise and Craig Boline want to construct a detached, 336-square-foot garage.

**In Humboldt at 34 N.E. Ainsworth St.,** SGP Development Inc. seeks to deconstruct a 2,462-square-foot, single-family residence built in 1906.

**In Kenton at 7939 N. Delaware Ave.,** Senta Inc. of Milwaukie wants to construct a two-story, single-family residence with a garage.

**In Madison South at 8251, 8253, 8255 and 8257 N.E. Hancock St.,** Steven and Ngoc Nguyen are looking for permission to construct a four-unit, three-story townhouse on a shared lot with garages.

**In Roseway at 3538 N.E. 65th St.,** Loren Wampler and Christopher Williams are seeking to deconstruct a detached garage built in 1913 and replace it with a



Medians and wider sidewalks will complement a new road surface being worked on this summer along sections of 82nd Avenue. (PBOT)

detached, two-story accessory dwelling unit with a garage and extended driveway.  
**At 4014 N.E. 70th Ave.,** Dwane and Alicia Paulsen have filed for a permit to build a detached 480-square-foot garage.

**Heads up! Construction happening along NE 60th Ave between NE Halsey and NE Holladay streets.**

Learn more and sign up for project email updates at [Portland.gov/60thHalsey](https://Portland.gov/60thHalsey)



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# Lights. Camera. Development.

*Hollywood Theatre outlines big plans to relocate Movie Madness, create film district*

By Michael Aviña  
michael@star-news.info

The Hollywood Theatre, the long-standing main attraction in the Hollywood District, is about to get some welcome co-stars. In addition to the Hollywood Theatre's recently opened Bar Hollywood, Movie Madness announced plans to relocate from the Belmont neighborhood to Sandy Boulevard, directly across the street from the theater.

Movie Madness, originally opened in 1991 by Mike Clark, has been owned and operated by the Hollywood Theatre since 2018, and told its members that the physical media rental store plans on expanding its current size, including a larger screening room. A new restaurant and bar are also anticipated to join Movie Madness, which are slated to occupy the former Blackwell's Pub and Grill building located in the heart of Hollywood.

The move is part of the Hollywood Theatre's plan to recast the vacant buildings in the heart of the Hollywood neighborhood as a "vibrant film district," according to Doug Whyte, Hollywood Theatre's executive director.

"We envision a vibrant hub of community life that will draw movie lovers together from all over the region and beyond," Whyte said. "Portland's Hollywood Film District will combine everything a great film experience



This is a conceptual image of the film district, showing the Hollywood Theatre and the future home of Movie Madness on Northeast Sandy Boulevard. (Hollywood Theatre)

can offer: rare movie screenings, festivals, gathering spaces for classes, social spaces for movie lovers to connect with each other." In short, the film district will be a "film-lover's dream neighborhood."

The new developments include renovations to the nearly 100-year-old theater's restrooms, relocating concession stands for improved accessibility, and adding seats to the upstairs theater. Whyte said the theater is wrapping up a feasibility process and preparing to launch a quiet campaign phase that calls for meeting

with stakeholders and ensuring resources are in place to realize the Hollywood Film District vision. Whyte added that the project could take up to three years to complete.

Belmont neighborhood resident and Hollywood Theatre member Julia Peattie says when she first heard news of Movie Madness relocating she wasn't happy, but ultimately realized the relocation would allow for the business to survive.

"I donated to Movie Madness when it almost went under, so hopefully it can thrive at its new location," she said. "As a film lover, the idea of a film district focused around the fabulous Hollywood Theater is pretty cool!"

After years of downturn, the Hollywood neighborhood appears poised to undergo a renaissance of sorts. The film district joins a growing list of new developments in the neighborhood. Blackwater recently relocated to the former Laurelwood Brewing on Sandy

Boulevard, a food hall is in development to occupy the former Magnolia wine bar across from the theater, the shuttered Rite Aid along Sandy Boulevard is slated to transform into a Planet Fitness, and a new apartment complex is in the works near the Hollywood Max Station.

"The concentration of buildings being redeveloped at one time is the most significant that I can recall in this neighborhood in the last 60 years," says Paul Clark, secretary of the Hollywood Boosters Association. Clark, who some residents regard as the "unofficial mayor of Hollywood," says the new developments are positive signs that the neighborhood, and Portland, are turning around.

"After years of nothing it seems like all these activities have happened within the last few months," he says. "It's like if one person paints their house on the street, then everyone on the street paints their house."



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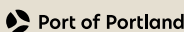


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# Van Tin Jewelry to close after four decades

*Multigenerational owners have been witness to personal and professional changes over years*

By Tony Greiner

tonygreiner@star-news.info

Whenever a long-standing store closes, that event becomes a time of reflection, not only for the owners and people who worked in the store, but for neighbors and customers for whom the store had become a part of their life.

So it is with Van Tin Jewelry at Northeast 48th Avenue and Sandy Boulevard.

But this isn't just a story of a successful business. It is a story of integrity, history, fate and grit. Chuc Nguyen was raised in Hai Duong, a midsize city halfway between Hanoi and Haiphong in northern Vietnam.

At that time, Vietnam was a colony of France, but the defeat of the French Army in 1954 led to the division of the country into two parts. The northern part, where Nguyen's family lived, became communist. The family, devout Catholics, decided to move to the south, to the Republic of Vietnam, settling in the highlands.

After the move, Nguyen's father saw an attractive young woman, Ong Vu, on a bus. He asked around, and learned that her family had also moved south for their religion. The families began talking marriage. Nguyen liked the idea and thought Ong Vu had "beautiful hands." Ong thought Chuc was nice-looking, and agreed to marry him.

The couple started in business by carrying a few goods to a marketplace to sell. That humble start led to a retail store, then a wholesale business, a jewelry store, and tea and coffee farms. They and their four children did well, but the long civil war, and the loss of U.S. support led to South Vietnam's collapse.

As areas began to fall to the communist forces, the Nguyen family, an uncle and grandparents joined the flood of people going to the coast in hopes of finding a passage to safety. Luckily, a friend arranged passage on a fishing trawler that left on April 29, 1975, the day before the capital, Saigon, fell.

The boat sailed around the southern tip of Vietnam to Thailand. Refugee camps had not been established yet, so they stayed on the boat for several weeks. While there, Nguyen's daughter, Robin, and her family saw the best and worst of humanity. Some people would bring food to the people on the boat, and others would come and offer to buy their valuables with American dollars.

Her parents sold some things, and then



Above: The Nguyen family is closing Van Tin, their jewelry store on Sandy Boulevard after four decades. (Robin Nguyen)

Below: Siblings Robin and Jason Nguyen in the store. (Tony Greiner)



found out they had been paid in counterfeit bills, which they later burned. After a refugee camp was established, they lived there for several months before being transferred to the refugee center at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas.

Again, family connections provided opportunities. The friend who had arranged for the trawler had a cousin whose husband worked at a paper mill in Toledo, Oregon. That cousin contacted a minister of a local church, which agreed to serve as the Nguyens' sponsor. After moving to Toledo, Chuc Nguyen worked as a dishwasher and Ong as a hotel maid. Robin, in her early teens, had learned a little English in school and served as translator. She recalls finding foods they normally ate was

difficult at the local Safeway, but "people were very kind." Thrift store owners, for example, wouldn't charge them for items they needed.

Meanwhile, Bud Morrison, a reporter for the Salem Statesman-Journal, became interested in Vietnamese refugees. He drove to Toledo to talk to the family, and ask them if they wanted to move to Salem, where they could train for better jobs. The family moved to Salem and Chuc Nguyen learned upholstery.

Completing that program, they moved to Portland and opened a Vietnamese grocery where the current Hollywood Library now stands. It was open for two years, but the work was hard and it made little money, so they shut it down and moved to Aloha, where the parents took jobs doing assembly work at Tektronics. But running a business beckoned, and in 1983 they opened a fabric store on Northeast Broadway, with a side line of jewelry, across the street from where New

Seasons now stands.

Van Tin means "very trustworthy" and the family made sure they held to that standard. Most of their customers in those early days were other Vietnamese refugees, who would buy 2-pound parcels of fabric to mail back to family in Vietnam. As time went on, the jewelry business took on greater importance. As jewelry sales rose, the store moved to a bigger location on Sandy Boulevard and phased out the fabric business.

That commitment to service and quality led to repeat customers, and not just people of Vietnamese ancestry. Eventually they had customers from all over the world, some who made trips back to Portland to buy gifts for important occasions. Robin Nguyen, in particular,

is moved when people who had a piece given to them when they were young would show up years later to select something for another youngster about that same age.

Nothing lasts forever, and the family has decided to close the business. It is a bittersweet experience, saying farewell to a store and customers who supported them for so many years. As word of the closure spreads, many of those loyal customers are stopping in to wish them well, purchase a piece or two, tell a story and sometimes leave flowers or a cake.

The Nguyens will close the store after they bring their inventory to a manageable level. At press time they were still open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursdays through Mondays at 4845 N.E. Sandy Blvd., [www.vantinjewelry.com](http://www.vantinjewelry.com), 503-282-3419.

After it closes? They look forward to exploring the beauty of the Pacific Northwest, reading, gardening and cooking. They deserve it.

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Rose Fest Junior Parade marches into 117th year of family fun

By Maggie Grainger  
[maggiograinger@star-news.info](mailto:maggiograinger@star-news.info)

It's June, which means the Portland Rose Festival is officially underway. This year, the theme is "All Together Now," which highlights the festival's commitment to unifying the community.

A city tradition for 117 years, this year's event promises once again to be full of family fun and festive favorites, including the coronation of the 2025 festival queen and the beloved Fred Meyer Junior Parade.

The fuzzy Fred Bear will cut the ribbon to



start the parade at 1 p.m. Wednesday, June 4. Children in costumes, elementary and middle school bands, young dance teams, decorated bicycles and wagons decked out with flowers will line up around Northeast 52nd Avenue and Sacramento Street for more than an hour before the parade starts.

"It's all about the kids," says Linda Spaulding, Portland Rose Festival Foundation director and Junior Parade committee chair. "It's a fun and creative way to involve kids, families and youth groups and gives middle school bands and dance groups the opportunity to march before hitting high school."

With sidewalks and curbs lined with onlookers, the parade will travel west on Sandy Boulevard, turn right on 40th Avenue, left on Tillamook Street and end at Grant High School.

Spaulding encourages spectators to arrive early and plan for the weather. There will be portable toilets along the route this year



(Photos courtesy of Portland Rose Festival)

thanks to a contribution from the Hollywood Boosters.

Families can create pint-size floats to enter in the parade for a chance to win the Best Float award. Judges will take into consideration creativity, originality and how participants best interpreted this year's "All Together Now" theme.

In addition to hand-made floats, the parade

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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## ★ STAR FEATURE

# Queen of Rosaria to be crowned on June 6

On Friday, June 6, the Queen of Rosaria will be crowned at Oregon Square, near Northeast Eighth Avenue and Holladay Street.

The 2025 Rose Festival Court includes 15 outstanding students from metro-area high schools.

The court members represent Portland as they visit community events, hospitals, senior living centers and business organizations. Each receives a \$3,500 scholarship from The Randall Group to attend any accredited college, university or trade program.

In choosing the queen, judges consider each court member's leadership and scholarship achievements, school activities, civic involvement, volunteer services and communication skills.

The queen and court will ride atop a flower-covered float in the Grand Floral Parade, which will leave Memorial Coliseum at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 7. The two-mile route includes a couple blocks of Northeast Broadway outside the coliseum's north exit. Then the procession turns right on Weidler Street, right on Martin Luther King



Avari Bocker  
La Salle



Eleanor Isles  
Grant



Brenda Martinez de Jesus  
Benson



Kathy Nguyen  
McDaniel



Meerali Patel  
Central Catholic

Jr. Boulevard, takes a jog and travels on Lloyd Boulevard to Multnomah Street and the disband area at Lloyd Center.

For more information on the parades and other Rose Festival events, visit [www.rosefestival.org](http://www.rosefestival.org).

— Maggie Grainger

## — CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

will include 18 marching bands, equestrian units, cultural organizations, dance and drill teams, vintage vehicles, dancers and special guests waving from convertibles. A recurring favorite character in Rose Festival parades is Angel, the Clown Prince, who will wave from his throne to the citizens of Rosaria.

Interested parade participants are encouraged to visit the Decoration Station at Northeast 52nd and Sandy Boulevard on parade day to decorate bikes, scooters, floats — whatever! Free materials are provided

by Visit Seaside Oregon and volunteers will direct parade participants to their space in the formation.

The Junior Parade was started in 1918 by six kids who were sad the Rose Festival was canceled due to World War I. They took matters into their own hands and started their own parade. It officially became a Rose Festival event in 1936 and continues marching today.

Says Spaulding: "We are the oldest and largest children's parade in the nation. It's inclusive and welcoming to everyone and truly embodies this year's theme."

# Happy Jr. Rose Festival Parade Day!

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## Hollywood Soccer Club Saluting our Coaches and Teams



Dustin Harris



Ryan Hook

Hollywood Soccer Club would like to highlight the contribution of two of our coaches: **Ryan Hook and Dustin Harris**. Dustin began with 5th graders and Ryan began with 1st graders and they are now ending their run with their 8th grade team: The Red Flames. Great job! They are real contributors to the community so please join us in saluting their efforts and making the Hollywood neighborhood more connected and fun.

And thanks to all our Fall and Spring 24/25 school year coaches: Phil Chadwick, Katherine Weeks, Lindsay Malin, James Stillman, Ainsley Sundberg, George Kapilani, Sarah Drescher, Jeshe Burch, Jeff Stanley, Phil Denton, Amanda Bivona, Grant Malin, James Jacobsen, David Turnbull, Marie Weston, David Valenzuela, Jill Golata, Samantha Smith, Brad Day, and Darren Stowell.

And all the players and families, keep up the hard work! See you in Fall 2025!



**REGISTER NOW FOR FALL 2025!**  
[www.hollywoodsoccerclub.org](http://www.hollywoodsoccerclub.org)



# Calling all bookworms!

*It's summer reading season for book lovers of all ages*

By Maggie Grainger

maggiegrainger@star-news.info

Portland bookworms rejoice! It's summer, and there are numerous literary events, readings, contests and celebrations in the next few months for readers of all ages. Happy reading!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR: BOOK WEEK IS JUNE 6-15

Explore more than 60 independent bookstores throughout Portland (and a few in Vancouver), play bookshop bingo and compete for books and prizes during this 10-day book lover's extravaganza. There will be numerous literary events and author signings at various venues—including a Bookshop Crawl—throughout the week with the fun culminating at the Rose City Book and Paper Fair. Be sure to pick up your own exclusive PBW tote bag at participating stores.

Visit [portlandbookweek.com](http://portlandbookweek.com) for details.

## TREASURES AT ROSE CITY BOOK AND PAPER FAIR

Browse for new finds and old favorites at the Rose City Book and Paper Fair, going on from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, June 14-15. Fair representative Scott Givens says there will be 62 dealers on-site, each showcasing their unique collections.

"In a lot of ways, a book fair is like a farmers market. Dealers travel from near and far to sell for a short period of time. They will



Inspire a love of reading in a welcoming space. Bring your child to storytime and other events at A Children's Place. Celebrating more than 50 years, it is Portland's oldest independent kids' bookstore.

(A Children's Place)

bring their best books, which might be the rarest, most popular, most topical, best value, most attractive... who knows?" Givens says. "The variety among the dealers is one of the strengths of a book fair."

Some unique booths this year include a dealer that specializes only in King Arthur books, a botanical book booth and several fine press books that can cost thousands of dollars when published.

The Rose City Book and Paper Fair will be at the DoubleTree Hotel at 1000 N.E. Multnomah St. Tickets are \$5. You can purchase them at [rosecitybookfair.com](http://rosecitybookfair.com).

## FOSTER EARLY LOVE OF READING

Come into A Children's Place Bookstore for storytime at 10:30 a.m. every Friday before heading over to Irving Park to play and read your newest finds. Be sure to check their calendar for upcoming author events and kid activities. You never know who will drop in.

Stop in at 4 p.m. Friday, June 6, to celebrate the release of Simone Dankenbring's newest book in her chapter book series, "Neecy and Nay Nay." There will be chocolates and a reading.

Author/illustrator Zoey Abbott will share

her newest book, "The Kite Collector," at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 7. This event will include crafts and art related to the book.

All events are free and open to the public. A Children's Place is at 1423 N.E. Fremont St. Visit [achildrensplacebookstore.com](http://achildrensplacebookstore.com).

## LEVEL UP AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

Multnomah County Libraries starts its popular summer reading game series on June 16. Kids of all ages are encouraged to visit their neighborhood library, grab a game board and earn prizes for building healthy reading habits with their friends and family. Be sure to check your neighborhood library for special events, including interactive performances, storytimes and arts and crafts throughout the summer.

Visit [multcolib.org/summer-reading](http://multcolib.org/summer-reading) for more information.

## BIBLIOPHILES UNITE AT ROSE CITY BOOK PUB

Whether you're looking to cozy up in a corner with a book, mingle with local authors or build your own book community, Rose City Book Pub has something going on every day of the week.

Looking for a new book club? The Book Pub Book Club meets from 7-9 p.m. Monday, June 9, to discuss "Tilt" by Portland author Emma Pattee.

Rose City Book Pub is 1329 N.E. Fremont St. Visit [rosecitybookpub.com](http://rosecitybookpub.com).

## RAISE A GLASS IN SOLIDARITY WITH BANNED BOOKS

Show your support—and enjoy some wine—during a banned book-themed tasting at Pairings Portland. The wine bar will be pairing wines with 11 historically banned books in honor of Portland Book Week.

Pairings Portland is at 455 N.E. 24th Ave. Visit [pairingsportland.com](http://pairingsportland.com) to reserve a spot. This themed event runs June 9-15 and is \$30.



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CONGRATULATIONS! CLASS OF 2025



★ STAR FEATURE

# Javi's Cafe blossoms in Rose City Park

By Michael Aviña

michael@star-news.info

Javier and Jovany Marcos share decades of restaurant experience between them. However, the father-son duo never experienced the dream of working together in a restaurant they could call their own until opening Javi's Breakfast and Lunch Cafe in Rose City Park two years ago.

Jovany says his father, Javier, was always working toward his goal of sharing his custom creations with diners. The menu at Javi's offers classic American cuisine reimagined as a harmonious hybrid of Mexican and Pacific Northwest flavors, resulting in savory standouts such as the chorizo omelet, salmon hash and churro waffles.

According to Jovany, all the ingredients at Javi's are sourced locally and made in-house.



Left: Churro Waffle and the Big Veggie Omelet. Right: Javi's owners Jovany Marcos (left) and his dad, Javier Marcos in front of the former A&W space.

(Michael Aviña)

"We pride ourselves on the freshness of our food," he says.

Jovany noted that the Chilaquiles and Tres Leches French Toast are fan favorites, and that they plan to add green chilaquiles and La Cherita French Toast featuring locally sourced cherries to the menu.

Originally from Estado de Mexico, just

outside of Mexico City, the Marcos family feel as though they have found a new home in the Rose City Park neighborhood after searching the city for the right location.

"We liked the neighborhood and could see the potential," Jovany says. "As a first-time owner, you don't get to have many options in where you can operate."

Located along Northeast Sandy Boulevard, Javi's opened in the uniquely shaped building that formerly housed an A&W restaurant and, most recently, Pho An Sandy.

"We're grateful that people in the neighborhood have responded positively to our food. When we opened, we were a little worried about being accepted, but from the first weekend, the community loved it and supported us," Jovany says.



## Javi's Breakfast and Lunch Cafe

Hours: 7 a.m.-2:30 p.m. daily

Address: 6236 N.E. Sandy Blvd., Portland

More: Javi's offers breakfast, lunch and a full bar; 503-841-6491; javisbreakfastcafe.com; Instagram: @javis\_breakfast\_cafe

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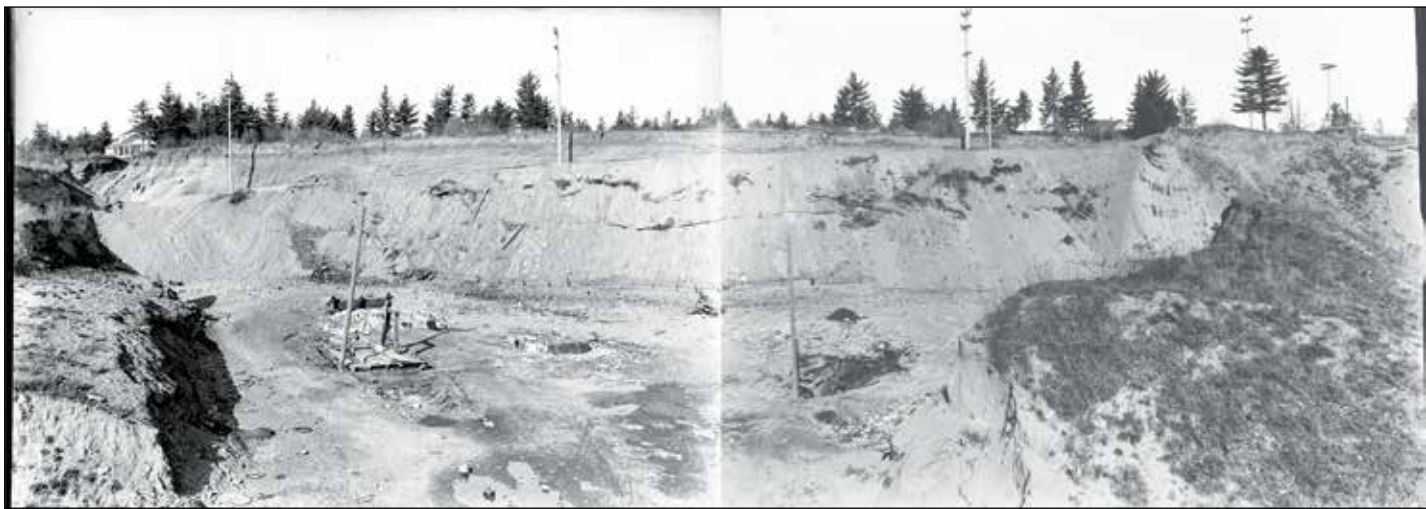
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Looking north into the gravel pit at Northeast 33rd Avenue and Fremont Street, December 1913. View today would be from between Siskiyou and Klickitat streets, looking uphill. The house at far left is today's 3251 N.E. Alameda Terrace. The house at far right is the top of today's 3305 N.E. Alameda St. A sign is visible at upper right for a new subdivision, placed in the cutbank on the northeast corner of 33rd and Fremont. Fremont Street runs across the photo midslope, parallel with the power lines and power poles. Today, filled up in the 1920s by garbage and landfill, the pit contains three city blocks and more than 50 homes. (City of Portland archives)

# Gravel pits, garbage dumps shaped early Northeast neighborhoods

During the early years of neighborhood building here in North and Northeast Portland,

the new grid of streets and houses had to contend with challenging leftovers from earlier years: gravel pits. Once mined for their raw materials to build roads, in the 1920s the big holes in the ground were filled with garbage as the city explored new waste management strategies like "sanitary landfills," designed to mix garbage and soil to address multiple needs. Clues to those days are evident when an old object works its way up through the soil in someone's backyard, located atop one of the former gravel pits turned garbage dumps. Or when we come upon historic photos like this one, showing the giant hole that once existed at the southwest corner of Northeast 33rd Avenue and Fremont Street encompassing the entire hillside, an area now covered by homes.

Known as the Fremont Sanitary Landfill, this pit received all of the eastside's garbage from 1923-24: 62 loads of garbage a day, spread down the hillside with a bulldozer and mixed with dirt.

Similar sanitary landfills filled up old gravel pits at Northeast 37th and Klickitat, and at Northeast 39th and Alberta. Neighbors were not wild about this practice, but the landowners and city thought it was the best way to handle the pressing of garbage disposal while also transforming unusable land

into buildable lots. In October 1927, mothers fed up with the smelly landfill at 39th and Alberta rallied at City Hall to protest the stench, and they got results. That landfill was closed not long after.

Local historian Doug Decker shares insight that helps make the past more visible. Send

## HISTORY MYSTERY



ASK THE HISTORIAN  
By Doug Decker

## WOMEN RAP COUNCIL FOR SANITARY FILL

Delegation Storms Hall to Protest Stench.

NIGHT DECLARED WORST

City Fathers Decide Finally to Sniff for Themselves to Determine Action.

Infuriated women, driven from their homes at times by the stench of an alleged sanitary fill being built at East Thirty-ninth and Alberta street by the city, yesterday stormed the city council and demanded that something be done to protect their homes from offensive odors.

The women were so angry that they all talked at once, telling the council how they had to cover their heads at night to shut out the odors, how they had to keep an incense fire burning to make them forget the garbage dump next door and how the odors from the garbage tormented their families when any members were sick.

After the women had fired their barrage at the council, and particularly at Commissioner Bigelow, the other members of the council suggested that the fill be closed at once. Commissioner Bigelow said he was willing to close down the fill if the council demanded it but thought that the work would be completed if he could have until November 1.

Clipping from The Oregonian, Oct. 20, 1927.

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



Josh Sin with his plush toy totems in front of his Northeast Portland home. (Josh Sin)

## Artist Josh Sin isn't just playing around

By Tony Greiner  
tonygreiner@star-news.info

For a couple of days in April, foot and vehicle traffic came to a halt on Northeast 14th Avenue. It wasn't a fallen tree or the never-ending curb cut project. Placed on the driveway of a house were two artfully arranged sculptures made of plush toys.

These delights turned out to be the work of artist Josh Sin, who made them and a third one — entirely of Beanie Babies — on commission by the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at Portland State University. The museum was featuring an exhibit with the theme "Just Playin' Around," so Sin went to local Goodwill stores, picked up over 100 stuffed animals and went to work. He skillfully interlaced them on metal frames to create the work he calls "Power Up." Sin said it was a joy for him to visit the museum and see people react to the sculptures, with children,



in particular, inclined to hug the animals.

Their appearance at Sin's home came about after the exhibit closed and PSU returned the sculptures. The weather was good, so he decided to leave the plush toy totems out for people to enjoy for a couple of days.

Sin isn't just playing at art, however. He has displayed work beyond the Rose City in Lahore, Pakistan; Cannes, France; and Toronto, Canada.

It is a leap from his earlier career as a gymnast, where he competed in the world championships in 2003 and 2005. Sin likes to work with found materials and created African-inspired costumes for the play "Satire," put on by Shaking the Tree Theatre last year, as well as the exhibit "Glean," which he created using half a ton of recycled materials.

Many fine photographs, including some styled as National Geographic covers can be found at his website, joshsin.com.

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★ STAR COLUMN

# Sowing seeds to create a butterfly effect

## MIKE on a BIKE



Michael Wright

You may know that Oregon's motto is "Alis volat propriis" translated from Latin as, "She flies with her own wings." Last week I coasted past what looked like a poetry box with a twist. In keeping with the Pacific Northwest weather, an umbrella was affixed to protect the contents from spring showers. Upon further examination, I discovered this was no ordinary box on a post, rather I was delighted to see the box was filled with small packets of flowering plant seeds. Zinnias, lisianthus, Tweedia and showy milkweed filled each shelf.

As I was investigating, Ida Galash enthusiastically bounded down her steps to greet me. Galash is a force of nature who

has undertaken a mission to help save the western monarch butterflies, a species that has been suffering for decades from the effects of climate change, insecticides and dwindling habitats.

Galash exudes enthusiasm for all things natural, with a focus on helping our pollinators survive and thrive. Let's face it, our own survival depends upon these tiny creatures.

Galash explained to me that milkweed plants are an essential part of helping monarchs to propagate. Finding a place in private gardens to grow some of these plants will help encourage monarchs to stay awhile and lay their eggs.



While talking with Galash, I learned that she began her journey to help the monarchs over two decades ago. At that time, she was a volunteer at the Madeleine School, where her daughter Emily was in first grade. She convinced the school to allow her to create a natural wildlife habitat beside

the sidewalk across from the sports fields. Students helped to maintain the garden while discovering all about native plants and their importance to our ecosystem.

That strip is now home to a second seed box along with hundreds of thriving milkweed



Left: Ida Galash stands beside her seed box at her Northeast Portland home.

Below: A box that offers free seeds on the parking strip adjacent to the playing fields at The Madeleine School on Northeast 24th Street.

(Michael Wright)

Far left: One of Ida Galash's hand-painted rocks at the habitat she created at the Pittock Mansion.

(Ida Galash)

plants. It is a haven for the colorful winged beauties, in addition to dozens of other species.

How does Galash fund this and other projects, which include her support of Portland Monarchs, a not-for-profit that benefits butterfly and pollinator conservation? It turns out she is a very talented artist and photographer. She creates and sells greeting cards adorned with monarchs along with colorful painted rocks with images and inspirational quotations.

You can learn all about the charity at [Monarchcorridor@gmail.com](mailto:Monarchcorridor@gmail.com). Or you can meet Galash on Saturday, June 7, visit her seed box, and if you are inclined, purchase some flowering plants, painted rocks or colorful cards at her home, located at 2218 N.E. 22nd Ave.

How about this for a fun fact? Western monarchs undertake a 3,000-mile migratory journey from the Canadian Rockies to winter in sunny California and back to the Pacific Northwest each year traveling between 50 and 100 miles each day. Makes me tired just thinking about it.

The "butterfly effect" is the scientific theory that small things can have a huge impact. Scientist Edward Lorenze proposed in the



1960s that a butterfly flapping its wings can set in motion a chain of events that can cause a tornado hundreds of miles away.

Perhaps if enough gardeners get behind a Got Milkweed? campaign we can live up to our state motto with a butterfly effect of our own. Led by a monarch butterfly woman named Ida Galash — she flies with her own wings.

*Alis volat propriis.*  
One butterfly at a time.

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# MAKING MAGIC ON

There's never a dull moment on this fun, vibrant street

# Mississippi



BY MAGGIE GRAINGER

MAGGIEGRAINGER@STAR-NEWS.INFO

**M**ississippi Avenue is totally a vibe. The popular area is known for its music scene, funky shops, endless bars and original restaurants ... and we're just getting started.

Mark your calendars now: The Mississippi Street Fair, one of Portland's biggest and most beloved summer events, is going down from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, July 12. The bustling street will be closed for a day of music, food and family fun. It's guaranteed to be a good time for all — and it's free!

In the meantime, come catch some positive vibes while wandering up and down the street. You never know who you might meet or what you'll encounter.

## REBUILDING CENTER

**A**re you ready to get scrappy? The ReBuilding Center on Mississippi has been helping people rethink their trash since 1999 through community outreach, DIY classes and volunteer opportunities.

"It's the heart of low-cost, community-based reuse and repair in Portland," says the center's executive director Jackie Kirouac-Fram. "It makes home repair and creative reuse affordable, sustainable and accessible for all."

Visitors to the 30,000-square-foot warehouse will find low-cost, reclaimed home repair and improvement materials and a treasure trove of Portland architectural history.

"Lots of our customers are also sourcing materials for DIY projects that range from swapping out a light fixture for one of our cool vintage or antique finds to building a garden box, fence or deck with our lumber," she says. "Lots of people end up changing their repair or renovation plans once they see all the variety and value we have in our store."

The center also offers a wide range of DIY classes, ranging from home repair and maintenance to woodworking and sustainable crafting. She says the center's most popular class is called "Tiny Tables" and introduces beginners to the basics of woodworking.



The ReBuilding Center makes home repair and creative reuse affordable, sustainable and accessible for all. Customers visiting the 30,000 square foot warehouse will find low-cost, reclaimed home repair and improvement materials and a treasure trove of Portland architectural history. The center also offers classes for DIYers. (Jay Fram)



And just like the center helps people breathe new life into old items, Kirouac-Fram says Mississippi has also seen a lot of change since they first opened their doors more than 25 years ago.

"We've always been an anchor business for the neighborhood," Kirouac-Fram says. "We love that we continue to be a community space for people whose families have lived in the neighborhood for decades."

Looking to donate some household items? Kirouac-Fram says there's multiple ways to donate items, starting with checking their list of accepted items. You can either drop the item off during operating hours (9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday) in the alleyway off of

Fremont Street.

If your item is too large to transport, send an email or fill out the online form to schedule a free pick-up

Unsure if your item is acceptable? Shoot the team an email and some photos to [driving@rebuildingcenter.org](mailto:driving@rebuildingcenter.org).

There is also always a need for volunteers. Email the center to learn more about individual and group opportunities.

**ADDRESS:** 3625 N. Mississippi Ave. **WEBSITE:** [rebuildingcenter.org](http://rebuildingcenter.org) **INSTAGRAM:** @rebuildingcenter **DON'T MISS:** The center offers a variety of free youth classes for kids ages 12-18. From building their own lamps to learning power tool basics, young people can earn important life skills throughout the week.



## BLACK WAGON KIDS BOUTIQUE

**B**lack Wagon Kids Boutique has been offering up edgy threads and distinctive toys to parents and their offspring since it first opened its doors in 2006.

Current owner Carey Deza says she worked at the boutique for several years before deciding to take the leap and become owner six years ago.

"I was ready for a new adventure," she says. "It's been an amazing opportunity."

The shop offers customers colorful, thoughtful, sustainable, quality goods in



★STAR BLOCK X BLOCK



Carey Deza is the owner of Black Wagon, a children's boutique that sells unique clothing, toys, games and books from all over the world including Sweden, Norway and Denmark. Deza says she loves shopping for bright, interesting patterns and items you can't find in other stores.

(Maggie Grainger)



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sizes newborn to 14 from all over the world. And Deza says it's not just the cut of the item that's different from other stores, but color combinations and attention-grabbing prints that make her clothes stand out.

"My clothes come from Sweden, Denmark, Spain ... all over," Deza says. "I have one brand from Finland that makes angry animals that have grumpy faces — it's just so different and your kid is going to stand out."

Deza sources her unique pieces through reps and trade shows and makes sure to stay on top of the toddler trends. This year's hot patterns? Strawberries, watermelons, kittens and capybaras, a large rodent native to South America.

"A source of joy is definitely buying all the stuff," she says. "It's really fun. I enjoy mixing and matching and finding prints and colors

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



**Lori Bennett, Broker**

Cell: 503.473.5201

Email: loribennett@

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## ★STAR BLOCK X BLOCK



that work together."

Deza admits aside from ongoing tariff stress, she constantly has to appeal to the next generation of shoppers.

"Your audience is always changing. They grow out of the style, they grow out of the size and you always have to swoop in and find the next group of parents," she says.

Thankfully, Deza says Mississippi attracts many tourists and locals alike.

"I love the street," she says. "Mississippi is such a vibe. It's very cool."

**ADDRESS:** 3964 N. Mississippi Ave. **WEBSITE:** blackwagon.com **INSTAGRAM:** @black\_wagon\_shop **DON'T MISS:** Sign up for their email list and get 10% off.

### EL CUBO DE CUBA

It's a party every day of the week at El Cubo de Cuba.

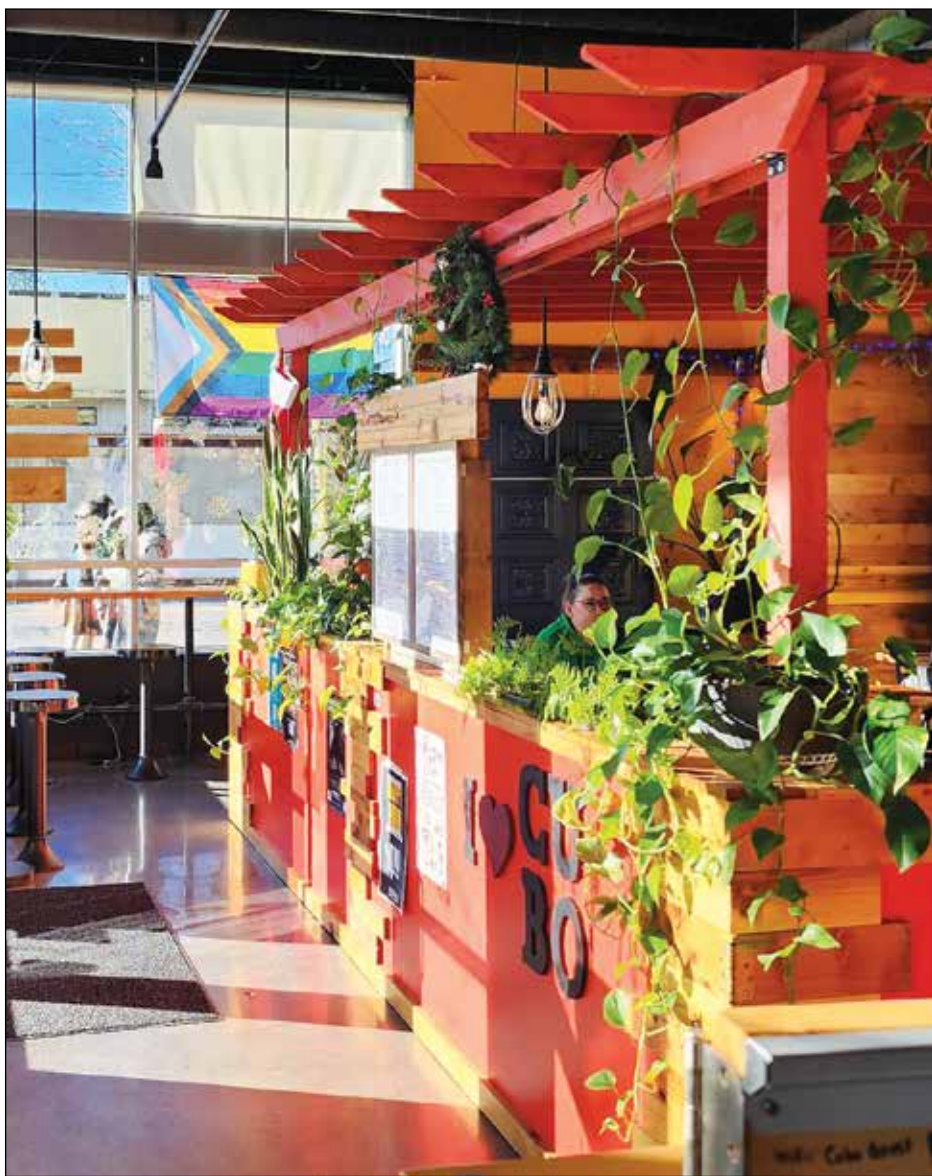
The popular restaurant started as a food cart back in 2010 and quickly gained in popularity when its Hawthorne location opened in 2013. The Mississippi, or 'CuboSippi' restaurant location, has been serving up vibrant Cuban meals and tasty cocktails since 2023.

Co-owners Milko Vigil Escalera and Emily Roskam want customers to feel their tropical, unpretentious, vibrant and easygoing vibe the second they walk in the door — which is a little bigger than the food cart that started it all almost 15 years ago.

"El Cubo de Cuba literally translates into 'Cuban cube,'" Roskam says. "It's a reference to us serving food out of a tiny box-shaped food cart where my head almost hit the ceiling and we served the food in literal cube-shaped boxes."

Popular dishes include the Cuban sandwich, which is slow-roasted and shredded pork shoulder, ham, Swiss cheese, caramelized onion and pickle, and the Havana Bowl, which is pork shoulder on top of rice or mixed greens topped with the house citrus, garlic and onion mojo sauce. Like sweet? Go for the guava chicken with maduros.

"Add on any extras or sauces you want, and you have yourself a party bowl of Cuban flavors," Roskam says.



Diners get to enjoy a party of Cuban flavors with each dish including traditional sides like rice and black beans, plantains and tropical fruit. Mojitos, a classic Cuban cocktail made with rum, mint, sugar and soda water, pair perfectly with any dish. In addition to making delicious food, owner Milko Vigil Escalera has been a regular performer at Mississippi venues for decades. (Cubo de Cuba)



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#### Facts on SMOKE CHAMBERS

*In Masonry Chimneys*

- 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).
- The smoke chamber is required to be sealed smooth with refractory mortar to protect exterior combustibles from igniting.
- Wood can be found inside smoke chambers, which can lead to house fires.
- Heat can transfer through masonry and actually ignite combustibles on the other side of a row of brick without actually touching it.

**BEFORE** **AFTER**

Fire investigators estimate that 40% of house fires that start from the chimney, start in the smoke chamber.

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA): 211 Standard for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents, and Fuel-Burning Appliances 2019 Edition. 11.2.1.13 The inner surface of the smoke chamber shall be parged smooth, with an insulating refractory mortar.

#### Facts on WOOD BURNING FIREPLACES

*Flues in Masonry Chimneys*

**HOLES IN FLUE LINING**  
Gaps between flues will allow heat and gases to escape the flue and potentially get into your home.

**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.

A 2000° chimney fire can transfer heat through brick and ignite combustibles in your home.

A stainless steel lining with insulation is essential to protecting your home from fires. Liners come with a lifetime warranty and are tested to withstand 2000° chimney fires.

#### INDUSTRY GUIDELINES

Chimney Safety Institute of America (csia.org) According to the CSIA (csia.org) problems such as gaps, cracks, and spalling in your chimney's flue can present serious risks to your home and family, because your chimney can no longer perform its intended function — to safely contain and vent the products of combustion to the outside.

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) "If the flue liner in a chimney has softened, cracked or otherwise deteriorated so that it no longer has ability to contain the products of a combustion (i.e., heat, moisture, creosote, and flue gases), it shall be removed and replaced, repaired or relined..." NFPA 211-Standard for Chimney, Fireplaces, Vents, and Solid Fuel-Burning Appliances (2006)

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Friday, June 13  
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Sunday, June 15  
**LOOSEWIG JAZZ SERIES**  
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7pm  
Suggested donations: \$20 adults, \$10 students

Tuesday, June 17  
**OMSI SCIENCE PUB**  
7pm • \$5 suggested donation

Thursday, June 19  
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THE 4TH ANNUAL HISTORY OF  
BLACK DRAG IN PORTLAND**  
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hosted by Lawanda Jackson & Isaiah Esquire  
7pm • \$28 adults, free w/ RSVP for kids 12 & under

Monday, June 30  
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★ STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR



The intimate 90-seat Siren Theater allows the audience and performers to really connect. The Siren also offers ongoing standup comedy classes and occasional sketch comedy and improv sessions. (Siren Theater)

And don't forget to wash everything down with a refreshing mojito, which comes in classic, mango, spicy and coconut flavors.

"Mojitos are the go-to, and the sangria is dangerously refreshing," Roskam says. "We have kept our bar limited to just rum (because it is a Cuban place), tequila (for all the folks that kept asking for margaritas), sangria and beer.

"It ALL goes with the food!"

**ADDRESS:** 3746 N. Mississippi Ave. **WEBSITE:** cuboportland.com **INSTAGRAM:** @cubodecuba **DON'T MISS:** Sip on \$7 cocktails, save on draft beer and enjoy discounted prices for some food items every day during happy hour.

## SIREN THEATER

You'll never see the same show twice at the Siren Theater on Mississippi.

Named for the mythical siren of the sea, the comedy hub adds new shows daily. One evening you might find yourself watching an emerging local standup's set and the next you're fully immersed in a performance by a visiting sketch comedy troupe.

It's all part of the fun.

Creative director and owner Shelley McLendon first started performing in local improv shows in the early 2000s before starting her own production company, Bad Reputation Productions. Friends approached her about having her own space in 2014 and the Siren opened its doors in Old Town in 2015 before finding a home at its current location in 2023.

"Mississippi Ave is thriving, and it's great to have so many bars, restaurants and shops

that our audiences can visit before and after shows," McLendon says. "The neighborhood is still discovering that we are on the street, so it's fun to see people stop in and be surprised to find us."

The cozy, intimate 90-seat theater not only plays host to a variety of productions, but is also a classroom for budding comedians.

"We have ongoing standup comedy classes from beginners to experienced taught by Arlo Weierhauser, who is a fantastic comedian and who has performed all over the country," McLendon says. "We also occasionally offer classes in sketch comedy. That is usually taught by me, and improv that is taught by a few different instructors."

Interested in getting onstage? McLendon says it's crucial to always be workshopping new material and to get in front of audiences that aren't just filled with friends.

"Go see live shows!" she says.

**ADDRESS:** 3913 N. Mississippi Ave. **WEBSITE:** sirentheater.com **INSTAGRAM:** @sirentheater **DON'T MISS:** The 7th annual Portland Sketch Comedy Festival kicks off in July. Check out the website for special events and shows.

## ROCK PAPER SCISSOR

This isn't your grandma's greeting card store.

Kevin Esselstrom is the owner of Rock Paper Scissor, a stationery boutique that thinks outside the envelope.

"I have a lot of language in my cards that gets a little salty," he says. "I'm not afraid of that, and people love it."



Kevin Esselstrom worked for corporate greeting card companies before deciding to make the jump and open his own shop during the COVID pandemic. Rock Paper Scissor showcases local card makers and artists. From edgy to elegant, there's a card for every season, reason and holiday. (Maggie Grainger)

Esselstrom says he had always wanted to open his own space and turned his dream into a reality in September 2021.

"Whenever I would transition between jobs, I would pull out my business plan and then I'd get recruited and shelf it," he says. "During the pandemic I was like, 'if not now, when?'"

In addition to a wide variety of cards and notepaper from local and international artists, the shop also has gift wrap, tiki-inspired glassware and custom-etched cocktail glasses that Esselstrom does in store.

"I feel really embraced by everyone. My business is a great mix of the community, tourists and Portland at large," Esselstrom says. "Our community really supports each other."

June is Pride Month and Father's Day — two



big greeting card events — but Esselstrom stresses that you don't have to have an excuse to send someone a letter.

"I think more people should send cards," he says. "It doesn't take anything to send or give a card or write a letter and make someone's day."

**ADDRESS:** 3908 N. Mississippi Ave. **WEBSITE:** rockpaperscissor.shop **INSTAGRAM:** @pdxrockpaperscissor **DON'T MISS:** Browse unique Father's Day and Pride cards all month long.



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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 (50 words or less).

Entries must be received by the 15th of the month preceding the 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.

### KIDSTEENSANDFAMILIES

#### PRIDE-THEMED STORYTIME AT HOLLYWOOD LIBRARY

June 7. 10:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Children from birth to age 6 (with a favorite adult) enjoy books highlighting LGBTQ+ families, along with songs, rhymes and movement activities in an identity-supporting environment. Attendance is limited. Free tickets are available 15 minutes before storytime. Hollywood Library, 4040 N.E. Tillamook St., 503-988-5123, [multcolib.org](http://multcolib.org)

### ENJOYARTS

#### ARTISTIC PORTLAND GALLERY SIDEWALK SALE

June 14. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (weather permitting). More than 20 artists will display their work at Artistic Portland



Rocky Butte Farmers Market, open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, collaborates with neighboring food pantries, nonprofits and gardens to provide services to underserved community members. (Rocky Butte Farmers Market)

Gallery's monthly sidewalk sale. Second Saturdays of the month through July and in September. Free. Artistic Portland Gallery, 4110 N.E. Fremont St., 971-339-0945, [artisticportlandgallery.com](http://artisticportlandgallery.com)

#### SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK KICKS OFF AT MOUNT TABOR

June 20. 9 p.m. Original Practice Shakespeare Festival kicks off its free Shakespeare in the Park series with a performance of "A Midsummer Nights Dreame" at Mount Tabor. The company uses the original practice techniques of Elizabethan England, which means the actors use scrolls and rely on audience interaction and an onstage prompter. Visit the website for show dates at parks throughout Northeast Portland through August. Free. Mount Tabor Amphitheater, Southeast 60th Avenue and

Salmon Street, [opsfest.org](http://opsfest.org)

#### NEW EXHIBITS OPEN AT ALBERTA STREET GALLERY

June 26. 6-9 p.m. There are two new exhibits opening at Alberta Street Gallery. "Pressed" highlights Pacific Northwest printmakers and traditional printmaking and "Forest and Fantasy" is a three-person exhibition that showcases the interweaving of nature and imagination. Both shows run through July 28. Gallery open from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. daily. Free. Alberta Street Gallery 1829 N.E. Alberta St., 503-953-3314, [albertastreetgallery.com](http://albertastreetgallery.com)

#### TURKISH RAMBO TAKES OVER HOLLYWOOD THEATRE

June 27 at 7:30 p.m. June 28 at 1 p.m.



The 2019 cast of "Darcelle: That's No Lady" returns for an encore run of the musical at Triangle Productions.

and 7:30 p.m. Part cult film screening, part theatrical spectacle and part rock concert, "Turkish Rambo" is an outrageous multimedia performance experience. Audiences will witness the notorious 1980s Turkish action flick, "Rampage," like never before with live voice actors, Foley sound artists and an original score by Portland-based composer Justin Ralls, performed live. \$20-\$30. Hollywood Theatre, 4122 N.E. Sandy Blvd., 503-493-1128, [hollywoodtheatre.org](http://hollywoodtheatre.org)

### MUSICNOTES

#### TRIANGLE SHOW HONORS DRAG LEGEND DARCELLE

June 5-22. Thursday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m. June 15, 22. Triangle Productions is closing its 35th season with an encore run of "That's No Lady," a musical tribute to Portland drag queen Darcelle and their iconic drag show,

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

# TURKISH RAMBO

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## STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

COMMUNITY  
CALENDAR

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To include an item in The Star Calendar, send an email by the 15th of the month preceding the publication month to [calendar@star-news.info](mailto:calendar@star-news.info) and include the title, time, date, location and a short description (50 words or less).

Darcelle XV Showplace. Songs by Tom Grant, Storm Large, Marv and Rindy Ross. Kevin Loomis as Walter/Darcelle and James Sharinghousen as Roxy. \$5-\$40, The Sanctuary, 1785 N.E. Sandy Blvd., 503-239-5919, [trianglepro.org](http://trianglepro.org)

## MUSICIANS FETE PARTON

June 7. Doors at 7 p.m.; show at 8 p.m. Portland's finest musicians are gathering at the Alberta Rose Theatre to pay tribute to country music icon Dolly Parton. In honor of Parton's literacy advocacy, a portion of each ticket goes to support the Willamina Public Library in Willamina. \$25 general admission, \$25 livestream. Alberta Rose Theatre, 3000 N.E. Alberta St., 503-719-6055, [albertarosetheatre.com/](http://albertarosetheatre.com/)

LEARN WEST AFRICAN SONG,  
DANCE AT GREGORY HEIGHTS

June 15. 2-2:45 p.m. Join Habiba, a native of Ghana, in learning the richness of West African culture through song and dance. Habiba offers an interactive, multicultural performance with authentic West African costumes, singing and movement. The audience gets involved in simple dance steps,

call and response, greetings and phrases and rhythmic drumming. First come, first served. Free. Gregory Heights Library, 7921 N.E. Sandy Blvd., 503-988-5123, [multcolib.org](http://multcolib.org)

## FOR SENIORS

JOIN NORTHEAST VILLAGE PDX  
AS MEMBER OR VOLUNTEER

June 16. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Interested in learning about membership and volunteer opportunities with Northeast Village PDX? This intro session answers all your questions about the Village, a program that provides social events, activities and essential services to adults 60 and older. Free. Community for Positive Aging, 1840 N.E. 40th Ave., 503-288-8303, [communityfpa.org](http://communityfpa.org)

DROP OFF GLASSES, HEARING  
AIDS AT FARMERS MARKET

June 28. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The Portland Hollywood Lions Club will be gathering unused eyeglasses, hearing aids, cell phone and e-tablets during the farmers market. Free. Hollywood Farmers Market, Northeast Hancock Street between 44th and 45th avenues, [hollywoodfarmersmarket.org](http://hollywoodfarmersmarket.org)

## IN GENERAL

## RIDE TO CULLY BIKE FAIR

June 6. 2:30-5 p.m. There's something for every skill level at the Northeast Cully Neighborhood Bike Fair. There will be guided community rides in the neighborhood, helmet fittings, bike repairs, prizes and a learn-to-ride clinic for adults and kids. Bikes of various sizes will be available for children and adults to borrow



Join Ghana native Habiba in learning the richness of West African culture through song and dance on June 15 at the Gregory Heights Library. (Multnomah County Library)

for the clinic. Free. Rigler Elementary School, 5401 N.E. Prescott St., <https://tinyurl.com/4b43khaf>

EASTSIDE JEWISH COMMONS  
MARKS FOUR YEARS

June 8. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Help the Eastside Jewish Commons celebrate its fourth birthday during the EJC Unplugged gala. Enjoy a South American brunch, an appearance by Pink Martini's China Forbes and a special surprise performance during the festivities. All ages. \$108 for general admission. Child care is available for \$18. Eastside Jewish Commons, 2420 N.E. Sandy Blvd., 503-208-5425, [www.ejcpdx.org](http://www.ejcpdx.org)

FIND TREASURES AT ANNUAL  
LAURELHURST GARAGE SALE

June 21. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Head over to the Laurelhurst neighborhood for its annual garage sale. Enjoy the summer weather, hunt for treasures and make friends. Free. <https://>

[laurelhurstpdx.org](http://laurelhurstpdx.org)

BLOOD DRIVE HELPS THOSE  
WITH SICKLE CELL ANEMIA

June 28. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. The Alberta Abbey, in partnership with the American Red Cross, is hosting a blood drive to help people living with sickle cell anemia. While this drive is intended to increase donations from African Americans in Portland, it is open to all donors. All participants will receive a \$15 Amazon gift card for donating, plus a chance to win \$7,000. Free. Alberta Abbey, 126 N.E. Alberta St., [albertaabbey.org](http://albertaabbey.org)

## EXPLORE CULLY BY FOOT, BIKE

June 29. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Join the community for a fun-filled day of family-friendly activities and the opportunity to explore the Northeast Cully neighborhood on a 6-mile route. Participants are welcome to join at any point and head in any direction. There will be vendor marketplaces, community booths, free family-friendly activities and live entertainment at various parks along the way. Free. Various locations. Text "Cully" to 888-520-0526 for event updates. [portland.gov/sunday-parkways/northeast-event-2025](http://portland.gov/sunday-parkways/northeast-event-2025)

ROCKY BUTTE FARMERS  
MARKET RETURNS

Saturdays through Oct. 25. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. More than just a market, Rocky Butte Farmers Market strives to be an impactful community resource by collaborating with neighboring food pantries, nonprofits and gardens to provide services to underserved community members. Free. Northeast Siskiyou Street between 79th and 81st avenues, 503-915-1438, [rockybuttemarket.com](http://rockybuttemarket.com)

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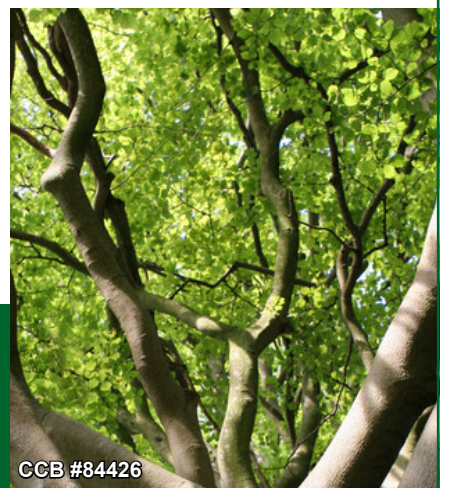
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### Rare Hidden Gem



A rare hidden gem awaits tucked away into Alameda Ridge. This 1924 European style cottage sits atop an oversized, .29-acre private and secluded lot with city views. The large lot also provides the flexibility to add an ADU or divide and develop...buyer to do their own due diligence. The home has a warm, cozy, and comfortable environment, boasting unique architectural details with high-quality craftsmanship and artisan materials. The distinctive details inside the house include a Juliet balcony, inglenook w/ a fireplace, barrel rolled ceilings, French paneled windows, & a spiral staircase. The main floor is flanked by many windows bringing in tons of natural light and framing in different views of the many green spaces. Updated kitchen with stained concert countertops. Warm & inviting sunroom that could be used as an office or sitting space. Chalet style basement with family room, 4 BD, 3 BA, laundry, & a cool flex space with a shop area & full-sized access door to the yard. Step outside & enjoy the 2 decks offering spectacular views to the west & south towards downtown Portland. The oversized lot offers lovely year-round foliage, stone walls and grave pathways, a true gardeners' paradise. Conveniently located close to restaurants, shops, and freeway access.

2783 NE Wiberg Ln • \$1,350,000  
4 BD / 3 BA • Total Sqft: 3071

### Move in Ready!



Welcome to this meticulously maintained Tri Level home, loved by the same owner for many years. Situated on an oversized corner lot with amazing curb appeal and beautiful, mature landscaping. Warm and inviting living/dining room combo with plenty of natural light coming from the bank of windows across the back of the house. Updated kitchen with eating bar, newer appliances and access to the half bathroom. Refinished hardwood floorings throughout the main and upper levels. Finished basement with family room, newer carpet and featuring a 2nd fireplace and exterior entrance, bonus room with closet, could be used as a 4th bedroom and combo laundry/full 2nd bathroom. Private, fully fenced backyard with room for everything. Gorgeous patio for entertaining, large lawn, tuff shed, dog run and extra parking pad that could be used to store a trailer, boat or small RV. Upgraded systems include: new Rheem furnace in 2025, new roof in 2024, new exterior paint and gutters in 2024, new garage door in 2024 and new hot water heater in 2023. Move in ready!

1935 SE 142nd Ave • \$549,900  
3 BD / 2.1 BA • Total Sqft: 1744

### Remodeled Traditional



1988 remodeled traditional situated in the neighborhood of Morning Hill, a few short blocks away from Summerlake City Park. Entry with open staircase, nice size living room with a bay window and adjoining dining room. Updated kitchen with quartz countertops, subway tile backsplash, stainless steel appliances and adjoining family room with shiplap accent wall, gas fireplace and slider with access to the backyard. Half bath, laundry combo on the main floor. 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms + bonus room (could be non-conforming 4th bedroom) upstairs. Primary suite with attached bathroom and walk in closet. Fenced backyard with tool shed and raised gardening bed. Don't miss out!

13338 SW Shore Drive • \$624,900  
3 BD / 2.1 BA • Total Sqft: 1922

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