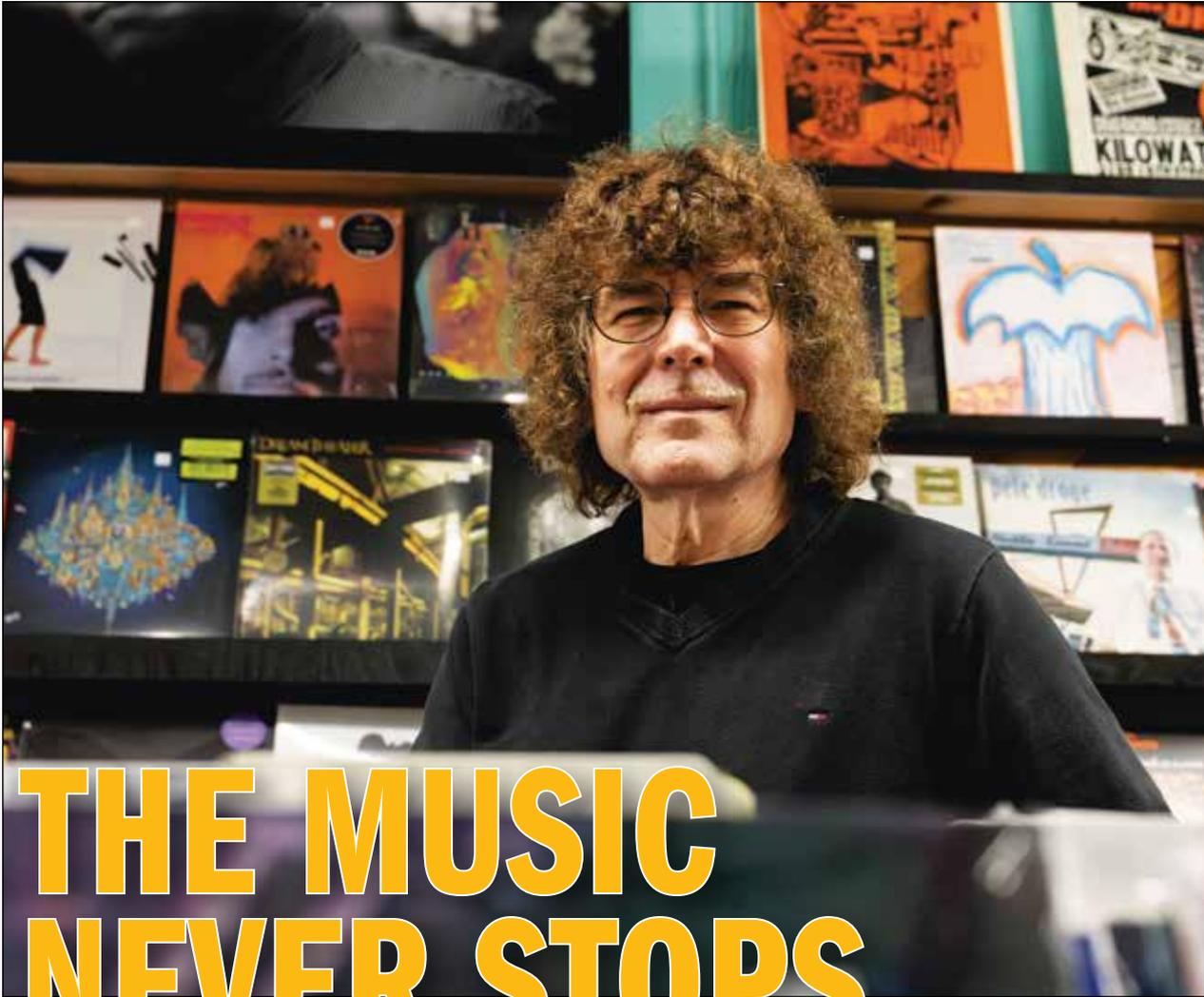


THE HOLLYWOOD Star NEWS



DINING OUT
Northeast restaurants offer affordable March specials. **PAGE 11**

★ SERVING NORTHEAST AND NORTH METROPOLITAN PORTLAND NEIGHBORHOODS ★ MARCH 2026 ★ VOLUME 43, NUMBER 9 ★



THE MUSIC NEVER STOPS

at Music Millennium

CHANGING HIS TUNE
After 40 years, owner Terry Currier seeks a buyer for the Burnside record store, but he plans to stay involved. **PAGE 4**



FAITH IN ACTION Cully church, partners create resilience center for when disaster strikes. **PAGE 2**



NEW CHAPTER
The Hollywood Library's ambitious makeover is complete, and patrons are invited to see what's new. **PAGE 6**



NEIGHBORHOODS SHINE North, Northeast artists light up night for Winter Lights Festival. **PAGE 12**

CULLY PROUD

Cultural diversity, strong community connections and residents who know how to have fun make this historic neighborhood worth a visit.

PAGE 16

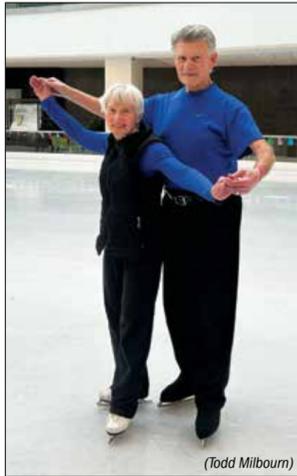


THE RIGHT NOTE All-ages, substance-free music venue The Off Beat opens in North Portland. **PAGE 14**

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★ STAR BULLETIN BOARD



(Todd Milbourn)



(Mark McClure)

SKATE WHILE YOU STILL CAN AT LLOYD CENTER ICE RINK

Head down to Lloyd Center and lace up your skates one last time — the legendary ice rink won't likely be around much longer. The rink has been a Northeast Portland family and date-night tradition since 1960. But it's proposed for demolition later this year as part of a larger redevelopment of the property.

Owners of the site say the mall is "no longer economically sustainable" and are proposing to remove the building, reconnect the property to local streets and build new structures featuring a mix of housing and retail. The company leading the effort, Urban Renaissance Group, which has offices in Seattle and Portland, mentions including some form of ice-skating rink, but it might not be year-round.

As plans move forward, a group of business owners and shoppers who've come to adore Lloyd Center's nostalgic, semi-abandoned charm have banded together to offer an alternate vision with a focus on preservation, especially for the beloved, historic ice rink.

Figure skater Tonya Harding honored her Olympic skills at Lloyd in the 1980s.

The ice has also been the 40-year skating home for "skating sweethearts" Jerry and Tally Leonard of Irvington.

Four times a week, with support from current ownership, rink managers clear the ice so the married ice dancers can give a short performance. With a jazzy love song playing on the loudspeakers, the couple gracefully twists, swerves and twirls for small crowds.

After stepping off the ice following a recent performance, Tally told a Star News reporter that all these years skating at Lloyd have been a "blessing" and she'd be heartbroken to see the rink go.

"Skating has been our common thread," Jerry added.

The rink remains open seven days a week — for now.

Winter admission is \$20, plus \$5 for skates, with discounts for kids and seniors.

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Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church leaders in Cully are transforming their church into a community resilience hub along with support from the Portland Clean Energy Fund. From left: Jean Norwood, Dr. Rev. Kenneth Ransfer, Karen Smith, Raffaele Timarchi and Elizabeth Stover. (Todd Milbourn)

RESILIENCE CENTER COMING TO CULLY CHURCH

Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church in Cully is working with partners to create an on-site resilience center neighbors and congregation members can use in an emergency.

Longtime Cully resident Jean Norwood, who serves as the church's executive director of projects and programs, said neighbors often have to travel as far as downtown for basic support when disasters strike.

So the church decided to play a larger role during catastrophes, and help out people next time there's a heat dome, snow event, earthquake or air-quality crisis.

With support from a grant from the Portland Clean Energy Fund, the church is embarking on a range of improvements: new solar panels for electricity, a kitchen and pantry for food prep and a new centralized heating and cooling system. The work comes after the church, working with local nonprofit Depave, tore out an underused parking lot in 2024 and replaced it with a veggie-producing garden and a playground for kids.

Morning Star church leaders are well-positioned to lead neighborhood resilience, especially since they've overcome challenges before. Morning Star moved to the building on Northeast 55th Avenue in 2007, after a fire devastated the church's 70-year home in

Albina.

Rev. Dr. Kenneth Ransfer described the project as extending the notion of "sanctuary" — from the sacred interior of the church out into the wider community.

ROSE CITY PARK HOUSING COMPLEX TO GET MAKEOVER

A housing complex in Rose City Park where hundreds of families live is about to get a major renovation.

The federal government is planning to invest \$2 million into upgrades at The Ellington, a complex of nearly a dozen buildings at Northeast 66th and Halsey, near the Rose City Park golf course.

The makeover will include the demolition of seven older apartment buildings and the construction of two larger ones as well as creation of a community center, outdoor play area, community garden and additional

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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(Todd Milbourn)



Bernie Foster

The Skanner, owned by Bernie and Bobbie Foster and with headquarters on North Killingsworth Street, is shuttering after four decades. The newspaper leaves a rich legacy of contributions to the Black communities of Portland.

parking.

The Ellington was built in the 1940s and purchased by the Portland Housing Bureau in 2017 in an effort to make housing more affordable in Northeast Portland. Rent for a three-bedroom, two-bath apartment at the complex is currently going for about \$1,700 a month.

NORTH PORTLAND-BASED BLACK NEWSPAPER CLOSES AFTER 40 YEARS

Community members are paying tribute to a legendary, long-running Black newspaper headquartered on North Killingsworth Street.

The Skanner recently published its final issue.

For more than 40 years, The Skanner informed readers, pushed for civic change and challenged the people of Portland to "shape a better future now."

The newspaper published its first issue in 1975, with founder Bernie Foster writing in his opening editorial: the "status quo cannot and must not remain." Bernie, along with his wife, Bobbie Foster, invited neighbors to drop by the newspaper office and share stories and information related to local schools, churches and businesses.

"We are here to be of service to the community, and we welcome your ideas," Bernie wrote.

The Skanner's legacy includes a leading role in renaming North Union Avenue as Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in 1989. Foster used the paper's circulation to distribute campaign petitions.

For years, The Skanner hosted a popular MLK Jr. breakfast event. Its reporters collected oral histories of Black people displaced by the Vanport Flood, many of whom later moved to Albina.

The Skanner stopped printing a physical edition in 2020 as challenges facing the wider newspaper industry deepened. Now it has ceased online operation as well. Back issues of The Skanner are available through the Oregon Historical Society and the University of Oregon's Historic Oregon Newspapers project.

The Star News salutes The Skanner for so many positive contributions to our community over 40 years.

Clarifications

The Star News would like to clarify the following information from our January and February issues.

Kitty McLeod-Martinez, co-owner of Field Day Books & Bottles in Roseway, uses they/them pronouns.

Cee Webster, a broker with Neighbors Realty and listing agent on a turret house in Alameda, uses they/them pronouns.

Obituaries

GORDLY REMEMBERED AS 'CONSCIENCE OF THE SENATE'



Avel Gordly

Avel Gordly, a community activist who represented North and Northeast Portland for decades in the Oregon State Legislature, died Feb. 16.

Gordly was born Feb. 13, 1947, and grew up in the heart of Albina, Portland's thriving Black community, along North Williams Avenue.

After graduating from Portland State University, Gordly advocated for community improvement through leadership roles with the Black United Front and the Urban League.

She was appointed to fill a vacancy in the Oregon House of Representatives in 1991 and then won the seat outright a year later. She was elected to the Oregon State Senate in 1996 and held the position until 2009.

Gordly focused her work on advocating for better schools, greater access to mental health care, social justice and environmental protection.

Although much of the historic Albina neighborhood was demolished during

urban renewal projects in the 1950s and 1970s, Gordly's childhood home still stands on North Williams Avenue and houses the Gordly-Burch Center for Black Leadership and Civic Engagement. In 2008, Oregon Health & Science University renamed its behavioral health center after Gordly.

SULLIVAN'S GULCH LAUDS ACTIVIST DAVE BROOK



Dave Brook

Neighbors in Sullivan's Gulch are remembering Dave Brook as a mentor, friend and a "true neighborhood connector."

Brook, a longtime member of the Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood

Association, died Feb. 7, at age 79. Association members shared a touching tribute to Brook's service and dedication on their website.

"He didn't just talk about change — he built it. And he did it with a quiet humility that made him beloved," they said.

Brook will be remembered for founding CarShare Portland, a program aimed at reducing pollution and helping people get around easier. Brook launched the program in Portland with two cars in 1998. It eventually grew to 25 cars and 500 members, and

became the first program in the U.S. to prove car sharing can be a viable business.

In recent years, Brook sought to highlight the rich history of Sullivan's Gulch by taking up a blog and posting pictures on the neighborhood website.

As neighbors recalled in the tribute, Brook especially loved getting outdoors to hike, ski and be in the presence of nature.

"He taught us that 'living in the moment' doesn't mean ignoring limits — it means finding wonder," they wrote. "He set a standard that we all strive to follow."

— Todd Milbourn

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★ STAR FEATURE

TERRY CURRIER'S LAST SPIN

Outgoing Music Millennium owner reflects on 40 years of music and community

By Todd Milbourn
todd@starnewspdx.com

Music Millennium on East Burnside Street is the oldest record store in Oregon.

For the first time in 42 years, it's up for sale. Terry Currier saved the shop from near-bankruptcy when he purchased the business from Don and Lauren MacLeod in 1984 and transformed it into one of the most beloved local businesses in East Portland.

Now 70, Currier says the timing is right to find a new owner — a music fan with "business sense and some common sense." "I want that building to be a part of Portland's landscape forever. Plus, I want Music Millennium to be in it for just as many years," he said.

Currier talked with The Star News about the history of the store, the sale process and his vision for its next era.

How many people have told you they want to buy the business?

I'd say some 100 to 120 different people. It varies because some people don't read everything they're supposed to be reading before they respond. I had an 18-year-old kid contact me, and I told him, 'I think you'll need a larger allowance.'

Is there a certain kind of person who's showing interest?

It's all over the map. But we're on the lucky side of things. There's a lot of people interested in the record store. If I would have done this 10 years ago, I wouldn't have had the same kind of response, just because the vinyl market has changed so much.

What are you looking for in a buyer?

They've got to have the passion for music, the passion for community. They've got to have some decent business sense and some common sense.

How's the store been doing?

CDs are through the roof right now. Most record stores got out of CDs. We never did. In fact, piece-wise, if you put vinyl against CDs last year: it's 55% vinyl sales, 45% CD sales. No kidding.

What's the attraction with CDs?

They're cheaper than streaming. Vinyl



Terry Currier is selling Music Millennium after 40 years on East Burnside Street. (Maria Weyne)

was once the nostalgic thing that jumped generations. Now CDs are doing the same thing.

How many people work at Music Millennium? What are their jobs?

Between 35 and 40 people. Most of them are floor staff. Half a dozen supervisors. Two co-store managers. I have an assistant buyer, a bookkeeper and a full-time promotion person who does our socials. We do a twice-a-week email and a lot of events, in-store live performances and listening parties. She takes care of doing all that stuff.

Something that sets Millennium apart is how you celebrate music fans, neighbors and customers. How did that develop?

When I came to Millennium in '84, I said to (Don MacLeod) 'The community has supported Music Millennium, and we need to

support the community.' And he was all about that. I mean, that was part of his philosophy.

We have customers that come in and they latch on to an employee. That employee understands what that customer's looking for. And they can come in and go, 'What's the new thing that I should hear?'

How did you get your knack for business?

My dad was probably my biggest inspiration. He worked hard all his life. When we were young, he was working multiple jobs to keep the family household together. He worked hard and he did well. He ended up with his own company and he never graduated from high school.

I get in the store at 5:30 in the morning. It's like there are things that need to be done, and I guess I'm the one left raising my hand going,

'I'll do that.' That's paid off in the long-term, it seems.

You've faced some tough challenges at the store over the years as well ...

I remember we were at a low point in 2010. We had a bookkeeper who went to prison for embezzlement. It could have been curtains. I talked to a friend of mine who's a financial whiz and he goes, 'Well, the best thing at this point would be just to file bankruptcy.'

I said, 'Oh, I don't want to do that!' So I sat down and explained to him what it would take to keep us going and what I was prepared to do.

He goes, 'Well, if anybody can do it, you can do it.' And he came in the next day and says, 'I'm not going to loan you any money. But I am going to buy \$10,000 in gift certificates.'

That \$10,000 was so important for me at that moment. It helped me make payroll. We made it through that time. There's been many times we could've went under.



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★ STAR FEATURE

Want to own a record store?

Want to take Music Millennium into its next chapter or know someone who might be a good fit? Currier says you can email him — but do your homework first — at terry@musicmillennium.com

What's kept you going?

Well, I'm a music fan. I think as a music fan. I want the record store to be the best record store it can possibly be. All these other things came out of that kind of philosophy. I mean, I was that energetic kid who would call record labels up and go, 'This record is great. We got to do something with it!'

Sounds like you always had a promoter's mindset.

Yeah. I mean, I get excited about it.

What made you think now is the right time to sell?

I've been working six days a week all my life. And up until my wife got sick, I was there from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

I mean, I love coming to work. This is going to be hard for me to step away. But it was like, OK, I'm 70 years old. It's the first time age ever came into my mind and I go, 'Do I have 30 years left? Do I have 25? Do I have 20? Do I have 15?'

There's some things I would like to do while I'm mobile and healthy. But when you're working six days a week, it doesn't happen.

What's your timeframe for selling?

I'm hoping it's this year. I'm not in a super hurry.

What advice would you have for the person or people who take over?

We have a great staff. I would say do not



Terry Currier as a senior at Ridgefield High School in Washington. (Ridgefield School District)

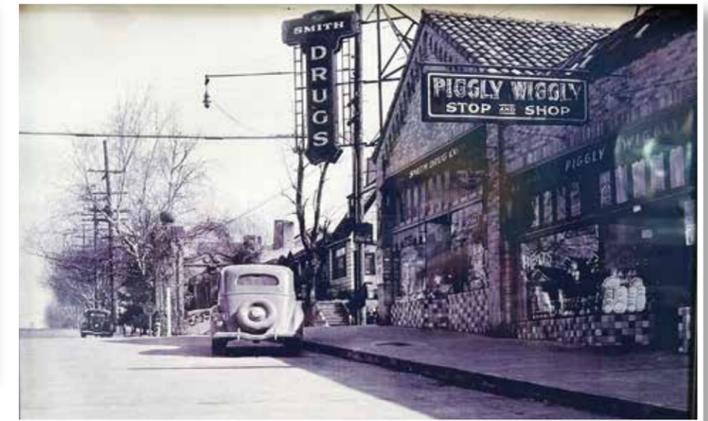
mess with the staff. Come in here, see what we're all about. See the whole operational stuff. And down the road, make changes if changes need to be made. But only make changes if they're going to make it better.

I could go to work for the new owners for a year or two and try to bring them up to speed on what makes Music Millennium tick.

It's not like you can write it down in a manual and go, 'OK, this is what you do.' They got to work in the trenches and understand that.

Do you think you'll truly retire or still come by the store?

I can picture myself being 85 years old and going to the next owner and saying, 'Can I work the holiday season for you?' I just want to be on the floor. I just want to talk to people about music all day long. That was my greatest joy ever working in a record store — asking customers about music. Still is.



The building at East Burnside and 31st Avenue was a drugstore and Piggly Wiggly before becoming Music Millennium in 1969. (Music Millennium)



Terry Currier coined the Keep Portland Weird slogan that adorns the building. (Maria Weyne)

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The story continues ...

Hollywood Library reopens

Reimagined public space features new mural, improved services



**MIKE
on a
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Michael Wright

I cycled down to the corner of Northeast 41st Avenue and Tillamook Street in February to be one of the first in line to visit the renovated and reimagined Hollywood Library. Happily, there were no ladders left behind following the seven-month effort to refresh the library and bring it into the future in style.

When I arrived, I found a queue of two dozen people, who were all gathered to rush in once the doors opened at 10 a.m. I saw retirees like me, preschoolers and all ages in between. Kids were excited to see the newly redesigned children's area, replete with every imaginable Beverly Cleary book and hundreds more. Even more interesting for the little ones was the exciting reading area with interactive games and moveable, child-sized furniture.

Every person involved in this project —



The new check-out and return system at the renovated Hollywood Library. (All photos by Michael Wright)

the 11th and final bond-funded renovation of Multnomah County libraries — was beaming as they encountered eager guests keen to get back to their local meeting place. When I spoke to library director Annie

Lewis about the effort, she said she was so proud of how the redesign has improved equity and access for library patrons, and created adaptable spaces for people while still creating opportunities to connect

through physical books. "We are so excited to welcome the community back to a beautiful, updated

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Workers put the finishing touches on Beverly Cleary mural at the revamped Hollywood Library in February.



Neighbors are greeted as the library doors open. At least two dozen patrons lined up early, eager to get their first look at the improved space.

Hollywood Library complete with new artwork that highlights Beverly Cleary's work and the place that the library holds in her world," Lewis said.

In the redesigned space, Cleary's imprimatur now greets patrons as they enter through the main lobby. Local artist Kyler Martz and Michael Day, the owner of Graphic Print Solutions, collaborated to transform a glass wall into a gorgeous mural. While Martz created the art, Day brought the mural to life by printing it on enormous colorful acrylic vinyl transfer sheets, which his skilled team installed to perfection. Portland Street Art Alliance partnered on the project along with Cleary's estate and HarperCollins. I suggest you take your time as you enter and exit, you won't regret it.

The library refresh includes physical space changes to make room for a new automated materials handling area near the library entrance. This technology



The mural at the Hollywood Library depicts local connections to Beverly Cleary stories with images of Ribsey, Ramona, Beezus and more.

makes checkouts and returns easier and is a boost for Hollywood, since the branch processes the highest number of holds in the system. Other changes include: more natural light, more meeting spaces, better sight lines, improved shelf height, refreshed

restrooms, new LED lighting throughout the building and a tech bar with access to a copy machine, scanner and computers. The reinvigorated space is a gem for the Hollywood District and our entire community.

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We have already raised \$1,985 from neighbors like you in our campaign to digitize and preserve one-of-a-kind back issues of the Rose City Herald, a weekly newspaper that documented life in Northeast Portland in the 1920s and '30s.

Help us reach our goal of \$2,500. With your support, preservation can begin this summer.

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The preservation project is a partnership between The Star News, Alameda Old House History and the Oregon Digital Newspaper Program at the University of Oregon.



HIDDEN HISTORY

The 1920s were record years for new home construction in Northeast Portland, spurred by an improving economy, growing population and a steadily expanding infrastructure of streets, streetcars and utilities.

That means many of our houses are celebrating a 100th birthday these days. And a century is a long time to accumulate layers of stories — and stuff.

We might think these are our houses and neighborhoods, but really they have been known, loved and lived in by so many people before us. People and ways of living that we know so little about. But we should wonder.

As an old house researcher based in Alameda, I help homeowners understand the time-travel journey our homes have experienced. Sometimes, that means coming across artifacts, secret spaces and things left behind by past generations. Sometimes it means coming across stories and clues about how our homes came to be or were changed by the people

HISTORY MYSTERY



ASK THE HISTORIAN
By Doug Decker

who came before us. Here in our 115-year-old Arts and Crafts bungalow, past builders, homeowners and their families have surrendered all kinds of items, lost to the crack at the edge of the floor, the space behind the plate rail trim, or that hole where the radiator pipe goes

downstairs.

Finding hidden treasures like these reminds us about the passage of time and gives us a glimpse into people's lives.

Because I've tracked down family members or descendants from just about every owner since 1911, I'm at a bit of an advantage in knowing how the story of this old house goes. But the artifacts and leave-behinds always help.

For instance, it sure was fun to find the engraved silver locket given by a grandfather to his granddaughter, slipped down in the cracks of the plate rail in our dining room.

Or the big diaper pin jammed underneath the quarter-round baseboard trim in the bedroom where one of the

From old marbles and lockets to diaper pins and morphine bottles, what treasures have you found in your old home?



A mason's sketch of possible brick patterns for the exterior firebox of our chimney, drawn directly on underlying adjacent wall boards. (Doug Decker)



A silver locket from grandpa found in a crack between the plate rail and the wall. (Doug Decker photos)

babies lived. The Indian Head nickel that rolled behind the radiator and down into the subfloor.

When working on a kitchen renovation, we removed an old panel to reveal the handwritten name of the homebuilder — W.B. Donahue — scrawled on the back of a wainscot panel. Maybe that was his postcard to the future. Or maybe the guys at the lumberyard did it when they put that wood with his name on it at will-call.

Pulling up the floor during the kitchen project exposed an old wood lift dumbwaiter that brought firewood upstairs into the kitchen from the woodstove that once dominated that



The name of our homebuilder — W.B. Donahue — written in longhand with blue chalk 115 years ago on the inside of a wainscot panel.

space. A siding repair on the exterior wall next to the chimney revealed Donahue's sketches made in pencil on the underlying wood as he contemplated decorative brick patterns.

Morphine bottles hidden in the walls. Marbles and toy soldiers long buried in the backyard. Copious wadded up old newspapers from the 1920s used as insulation

Treasure hunt

Have you found any forgotten treasures or mysteries in your old place? I'd like to collect and share stories about the unintentional hand-me-down clues or mysteries you've found in your old place. Drop me a note and send me a photo, which I'll assemble into a future old house artifact roundup column: doug@alamedahistory.org

and in at least one case to prop up an electrical box (yikes!). A leftover bag of peanuts sealed into a wall cavity by a carpenter in a hurry. Even after 37 years in this home, we still find clues to

our predecessors here that make us smile or wonder.

In a blink, these houses we think of as ours will be part of someone else's story, reminding us of our temporary stewardship role today,

Clip of the month

Each month we're serving up a nugget from the Rose City Herald newspaper, which covered life in these neighborhoods a century ago. This one is from Feb. 27, 1930.

Boys Want Street Roped for Hockey

Efforts of a group of boys to get Siskiyou street from East 28th to East 29th streets roped off so they could play roller hockey after school and Saturdays failed Wednesday when the city council denied the petition. The council declared that it would endeavor to work out some plan whereby these youngsters may have a place to play their games but refused to be a party to let them use the street. The petition had been signed by Dan Gardner and 18 playmates.

and the importance of doing our best to pass forward to the future insights from our time and times that have come before.

What items have you found, and how has finding them changed the way you think about your house?

Doug Decker is a neighborhood historian and writes the Alameda Old House History blog.

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★ STAR FEATURE

Rose City Park church opens doors to local groups

Office space, collaboration opportunities available to nonprofits, organizations

By Maggie Grainger
Star News correspondent

Nestled off of Northeast Alameda Street in the heart of Rose City Park, you'll find the Rose City Community Collective, a space that thrives on "community, cooperation, collaboration and connection."

Housed within the historic Rose City Park United Methodist Church, the collective is made up of a variety of community nonprofits and programs — from permanent partners like the Northeast Swap and Play, a community-run play space and swap shop, to Rose City Neighborhood Preschool, which has called the space home for more than 50 years.

Elsa Johnson serves as facilities manager for the building and makes sure everything runs smoothly.

"My role was created around the time the church decided to be more intentional and open about sharing space, specifically with nonprofit organizations and community outreach and supportive groups," Johnson said. "Everything has to flow and work well together. We all have to cooperate together with so many different things going on."

The space currently serves as a home base for eight building partners — with capacity for up to 10 — and hosts as many as 30 weekly events for various organizations and private events such as birthday parties.

If a new group is interested in sharing space on a regular basis, the collective makes sure



Rose City Community Collective offers office space and partnership opportunities for local nonprofits in the Rose City Park United Methodist Church. (Rose City Community Collective)



there's alignment with their core values, which are to serve marginalized or vulnerable people, extend and nurture a sense of community and provide safe spaces for interaction.

"We have the whole span of age diversity," Johnson said. "It's cool because when you look at the building and everything going on, it's like from zero to infinity."

In addition to permanent programs, the collective hosts a variety of organizations for elementary school kids, middle schoolers and high schoolers.

"Within those programs, there's specific programs from play in preschool, to mentoring, music, theater, arts, after-school programs and LGBT youth programs," Johnson said.

"There's a Scout troop that has been there for close to 95 years, and the preschool's been there over 50 years, so there are some longstanding groups," Johnson says. The church itself was built in the 1920s.

Need somewhere to meet?

Are you a nonprofit or community group looking for a home base? The collective currently has availability for permanent partnerships as well as weekly or monthly options.

Contact Elsa Johnson at building@rosecitypark.org or 503-208-3547.

Current members include: Coalition of Black Men, Great Good NW, National Association for Black Veterans, NE Swap and Play, Northeast Village PDX and Northwest Vocal Arts, orland Outdoor Explorers

For adults, there's everything from enrichment and spiritual programs to musical programming, mental health support, Alcoholics Anonymous, houseless services, adults with special-needs programming and veterans groups.

"We intentionally created this community in the building where everybody is able to connect with each other, support each other

and, if somebody has resources or knowledge that somebody else needs, that we're bringing it together versus everyone being siloed," Johnson said.

A huge example of the collective coming together was when several immigrant families showed up in need.

"One of them literally drove straight from Chicago and just found us somehow," Johnson said. "I think they just showed up because it was a church, but then we kind of put out a call to the building like, 'Hey, here's this situation. Who can help?'"

Johnson said people from the collective jumped to action, donating everything from clothes and baby supplies to helping the families find temporary housing.

"It was just this building rallying around people that needed support right at that moment, and it's really cool to see," Johnson said.

"Human kindness — it's a nice reminder."

★ STAR FEATURE

Neighborhood hot spots offer meal deals during March celebration

Portland Dining Month returns

3 courses
2 price options
1 month



Restaurants participating in Portland Dining Month include, from left, Alma, Canard, Laurelhurst Market, Campana and Xiao Ye. (Portland Dining Month)

By Riley Stevenson
Star News correspondent

We lost a lot to COVID-19 — the ability to trust that a cough is just a cough, the Buffalo Wild Wings on Northeast Broadway, our minds. But one of the lesser-known casualties was the fall of Portland Dining Month, the citywide event where more than 100 restaurants offered three-course meals for \$35.

Sure, there was Ticket to Dine, a confusing reincarnation that ran from 2023-25, but the legacy event felt permanently kaput (perhaps a relief to overwhelmed servers and chefs).

Now, Dining Month is back. And with it, new spots and price points. This year, restaurants can offer a \$35 option, a \$55 option or both. The unit economics don't always net out as a "deal," but, if you choose wisely, Portland Dining Month offers Portlanders a way to try high-end restaurants without totally breaking the bank.

Here are five of my favorite participating spots in Northeast Portland. Reserve a table and go!

Laurelhurst Market

ADDRESS: 3155 E. Burnside St.
CUISINE: Steakhouse
DISH I'M MOST EXCITED ABOUT: American Wagyu coulotte carpaccio with black garlic anchovy aioli, crispy onions, capers and arugula
COST: \$55
This is my nostalgia pick. Laurelhurst Market

was my first ever Dining Month destination and, at the time, a rare gateway to high-end food on my unpaid intern "salary." A steak, normally \$30-plus, was mine for the evening. I savored every bite. I still frequently go to Laurelhurst Market for their killer lunchtime sandwiches, but I'm excited for an excuse to be back in the minimalist dining room to eat Wagyu carpaccio, slow-cooked pork coppa with five-hour creamy polenta, and olive oil cake with vanilla Chantilly.

On a chilly March evening, does it get better?

Canard

ADDRESS: 734 E. Burnside St.
CUISINE: French
DISH I'M MOST EXCITED ABOUT: Chai Paris-Brest with honey anglaise, spiced graham crumb and pear
COST: \$55

Canard, and its sister restaurant Le Pigeon, made foie gras cool in this plant-eating, vegan-friendly city of ours. Owner and executive chef Gabriel Rucker is spectacularly talented at pairing high-end technique with approachable service and setting. Out of his two restaurants, Canard is the more informal, bistro-type spot. Although they're famous for steam burgers and soft serve, you'll still find dishes like braised rabbit, oeufs en mayonnaise and, yes, foie gras on the menu. Canard's Portland Dining Month spread showcases its cooking caliber, and is an excellent way to experiment with fine dining. I'm thrilled for an excuse to return to this cozy, big-windowed restaurant on inner Burnside.

Campana

ADDRESS: 901 N.E. Oneonta St.
CUISINE: Italian American
DISH I'M MOST EXCITED ABOUT: Bucatini amatriciana
COST: \$35

You can't go wrong with a plate of pasta at this Italian joint at the tippy-top of the Dekum Triangle. For Dining Month, Campana is offering a selection of their greatest hits, like bucatini amatriciana, fusilli alla vodka or cacio e pepe. The main course is bookended by comforting appetizers (classic Caesar salad, chickpea fritters, meatballs marinara) and desserts (scoops of Pronto Gelato ice cream or Campana's signature cannoli). If you're not already drooling, best to move on to other pastures. But for pasta fans, this is a ticket to heaven for the low, low price of \$35.

Xiao Ye

ADDRESS: 3832 N.E. Sandy Blvd.
CUISINE: First-generation American food
DISH I'M MOST EXCITED ABOUT: Tea Leaf Salad with lightly fermented chrysanthemum, chopped lettuces, fried garlic and crunchiness
COST: \$55

Xiao Ye has a reputation for unlikely pairings and surprising flavors. Their Portland Dining Month menu is no different. It features dishes like tofu with scallop dashi and roasted leeks in a Meyer lemon and mustard vinaigrette. You'll savor every second in their dining room, which feels more like a friend's kitchen than

one of the best restaurants in town (co-owner Jolyn Chen worked at famed Jessica Helgerson Interior Design before opening Xiao Ye). Although the restaurant can be somewhat hard to find — Xiao Ye is located on the corner of Northeast 38th and Sandy across the street from the Northeast Community Center — you'll be hard-pressed to drive through that intersection again and not think of their mouth-watering pastas and appetizers. Parking is available in the lot across 38th.

Alma

ADDRESS: 5237 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
CUISINE: Balkan
DISH I'M MOST EXCITED ABOUT: Grilled mackerel with cucumber herb relish, pepper and onion slaw
COST: \$55

Tucked between an improv comedy theater and a coffee shop, this unassuming restaurant on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard is cooking up big flavors from the Balkans, a region influenced by Mediterranean and Turkish cuisine. Think: pickles, brothy soups, bread, kebabs, tinned fish, potatoes and lots of white cheese — a salty, crumbly variety that lies somewhere between cotija and feta. This kind of comfort cooking is traditionally served in large quantities, but at Alma, plates are small and tidy. Filling, yes, but delivered with refinement. The move? Go with at least one other person, order everything, and sneak bites off of each other's plates. And do not let any pickle go uneaten.

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★ STAR FEATURE

★ STAR FEATURE



Community spirit shines at Winter Lights Festival



All photos by Jonathan Potter



Local events illuminate city's creative side

By Jonathan Potter
Star News correspondent

Artists of all kinds made colorful contributions to the Portland Winter Lights Festival in February, which this year included events and illuminated installations across North and Northeast Portland. Festival-goers lit up Parkrose Hardware

on Northeast Sandy Boulevard for a kickoff celebration. Artist Bobbi Killer (aka Bobbi Backwards) transformed an empty lot in Parkrose into the Little Lights Playground. And artists from The Haven art collective took over a large space in the old Pepsi Blocks and offered festival visitors an escape from the rain and a chance to discuss their work in intimate

settings. The festival is "a testament to how deeply this community responds to authentic, in-person experiences of art and creativity," said Alisha Sullivan, executive director of the Willamette Light Brigade, which organizes the event. "The Light Festival reminds us of the important role of play and levity in our community."



★ STAR FEATURE

Young people find their rhythm at The Off Beat

North Portland venue opens as music-focused 'third space'

By Eleanor Price
Star News correspondent

After a decade of putting on concerts and workshops for young musicians in Portland, Friends of Noise held a grand opening event in February at The Off Beat, its new all-ages, substance-free music venue.

Friends of Noise is a nonprofit that aims to increase access to live music and music production for young people in Portland.

André Middleton, Friends of Noise's executive director, founded the organization in 2016 after realizing Portland did not have an inexpensive place for teens, including his own teenage daughter, to enjoy live music. The nonprofit started by putting on quarterly concerts, but Middleton quickly decided it needed to expand.

Under his direction, Friends of Noise began hosting more frequent concerts and running sound engineering workshops. However, it was still searching for a venue of its own.

"It was important for us to have a space to plant our flag," Middleton said. "It's kind of hard to do your own workshop when you're doing it in an art gallery one day or the firehouse community center the next."

After years of grant-writing and saving money, Friends of Noise signed a lease for a building on North Interstate Avenue in 2024.

According to Middleton, the group had to raise almost \$800,000 for remodeling and permitting for the space, which they named The Off Beat partly in reference to a Seattle grunge-era venue called the Off Ramp Cafe.

"The real hope is that this is going to be a



Clockwise from left: At The Off Beat's grand opening, Friends of Noise Executive Director André Middleton accepted a commemorative flyer and flowers from members of the Board of Directors.

Teen grunge band Adnauseum, who performed first at The Off Beat's opening, says the North Portland venue is like a "home away from home."

Brown Calculus, a duo featuring André Burgos on keyboard and Friends of Noise board member Vaughn Kimmons, began performing in Portland in 2017. (Maya McCollister photos)



third space for young people. ... It's not school, it's not home, but it's a place where you can explore," Middleton says. "That's an important part, we think, of transitioning from youth through adulthood."

At the grand opening Feb. 13, The Off Beat saw performances from teen grunge

band Adnauseum, "emotional rock" band Spiderling, Brown Calculus, a duo exploring the post-soul movement and '90s punk queercore band Team Dresch.

Teagan Groves, who attended the first unofficial concert at The Off Beat, said that the venue was "packed" compared to the first event. Fellow attendee Roya Manchester appreciated the potential for community-building at The Off Beat. Jorge Terrell praised the new venue for being substance-free.

"It's important that these places exist so that people can understand that creativity and substance are not one," he said.

Aside from being an inclusive concert venue, The Off Beat will be a location for future workshops hosted by Friends of Noise.

"We really want to expand our programming when it comes to workshops, to be able to offer workshops on stage fright versus stage presence, how to make your own merch, how to make your own T-shirts, buttons, what have you," Middleton said.

Fox Newey, a sound engineer who began working with Friends of Noise in her senior year at Ida B. Wells High School, appreciates the impact these workshops and classes have had on her life and those of her peers.

"It's great to ... see people that I started with have success, and us ... move in different directions, but then all of us (are) able to still come back and work for Friends of Noise," she said. "André has meant so much for me in my career. He's always supported me and uplifted me, and everybody else who I've met through here, and he's always a positive person."

For youth concert-goers, Middleton highlights an initiative called the Season Pass, which allows adults to buy a subscription to The Off Beat for young people in their community.

"For \$250, that young person gets three prepaid concerts a month for a year," he said. Middleton invites youth to apply for a scholarship to receive the Season Pass on the Friends of Noise website.

According to Terrell, the opening of The Off Beat and the opportunities it offers to youth will bring Portlanders together.

"There's going to be people that are going to remember playing together in the bands, and they'll say, 'Oh, I met you at The Off Beat,'" he said. "This right here is part of Portland's history."

Eleanor Price and Maya McCollister are student journalists at Grant magazine.

★ STAR NEWS

Star sighting

It takes a neighborhood to bring The Star News to the homes, apartments, libraries and community centers of North and Northeast Portland every month. One of the behind-the-scenes heroes who helps get all 15,000 copies to the right locations is Sherri Molfetta. Molfetta lives in Parkrose and handles delivery and shipping at Signature Graphics. Signature, which runs a state-of-the-art printing press near Northeast Sandy Boulevard and 148th Avenue, has printed The Star News for decades, along with many of your favorite local publications. Thank you, Sherri, for all your hard work and dedication!

— Todd Milbourn



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Sarah Denae of First Light Estate Sales helps families navigate some of life's most difficult transitions — downsizing, relocation and settling a loved one's estate. Sarah helped me with an estate sale in Laurelhurst, at the home of a dear friend. It was a deeply personal situation and her care, steadiness and empathy made an enormous difference during what could have been an overwhelming experience. Sarah understands estate sales are about far more than objects; they are about people, history and transitions and she approaches each one with real respect and humanity.



— Nominated by Barbara Wexler of Laurelhurst

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★ STAR BLOCK X BLOCK

GET CONNECTED

IN

CULLY

Plug in to all the positive vibes this playful pocket of Portland offers



BY MAGGIE GRAINGER

MAGGIEGRAINGER@STAR-NEWS.INFO

Cully is more than a neighborhood: It's a vibrant community of artists, businesses and restaurants that aren't afraid to take risks — and have fun. This historic pocket — bordered by Concordia, Sumner, Roseway, Rose City Park and Beaumont-Wilshire — is one of the larger neighborhoods in Portland, and perfectly blends historic roots with a playful, true-to-Portland edge.

THE BACK PATIO

A new eatery wants everyone to come in and "live like a European for just a couple of hours."

Nicknamed Portland's Secret Garden Eatery, owner Jennifer Usselman, along with

Mike and Jennifer Usselman opened The Back Patio restaurant in Cully in 2025. They say they want it to serve as a neighborhood hangout spot.

(The Back Patio)

her husband, Mike, opened The Back Patio in late 2025 as a place where neighbors could come and enjoy one another's company.

"We want to be a place where the community can hang out and connect and take a break," Usselman said. "We deserve it."

Mike owns the neighboring Appliance City store and had been renting out part of

the parking lot for storage when a unique opportunity presented itself.

Says Usselman: "He said, 'This seems too good to be true but we can turn it into something really cool.' It was one of those 'let's give it a shot' moments."

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 17



★ STAR BLOCK X BLOCK



Whether watching a game on TV, listening to music or hanging out with friends for drinks, snacks and games, The Back Patio is a place where it doesn't take long for everyone to know your name.

(The Back Patio)

Usselman said they currently have two rotating trucks in the lot — serving up pizza and tacos respectively — with the hopes of having five permanent vendors soon. Inside, customers can enjoy a variety of beer, wine and nonalcoholic drinks as well as charcuterie boards, live music, foosball, arcade and board games.

"A lot of people have said, 'Wow, it feels like we're in a living room,'" Usselman said. "It's really cozy and intimate and chill. It's not too fancy and very family-friendly."

In addition to rotating food trucks, they've also had a rotation of local musicians and bands play inside for tips.

"People have been really supportive and they want to help us grow and thrive," she said. "And we want to do that for them, too."

ADDRESS: 3944 N.E. Cully Blvd. WEBSITE: thebackpatio.info INSTAGRAM: @backpatio DON'T MISS: Check their Instagram for food truck rotations, drink specials and other events.

JAVELINA

Javelina, Portland's first restaurant offering Indigenous cuisine, started to gain traction as a pop-up back in 2023. Since then it has found acclaim around the country and a permanent home on Northeast 42nd Avenue.

"Representation is important to us because being an urban Native person can feel incredibly isolating," said Alexa Numkena-Anderson, Javelina's owner and chef. "We strive to make this a place where the region's Indigenous people can come and connect

with others." Every detail from the menu to the decor pulls inspiration from her own life experience. Numkena-Anderson grew up teaching herself how to cook for her little sisters. After graduating high school in Spokane, Washington, she moved to Portland to attend Le Cordon Bleu culinary school.

"The blue enamel mugs, the curtains in the space, the huckleberries are all callbacks to my grandmother," she said. "The mirrors behind the back of the bar are an homage to my dance regalia; the murals on the wall are specifically designed to honor elements of my family."

According to the Javelina website, Numkena-Anderson was born in the city of Yakima, and grew up on the Yakama

Reservation. Her grandfather hails from the Hopi, a sovereign nation and tribe in northeastern Arizona, where they are both enrolled.

She says when she and her husband, Nick, were brainstorming names for the space, they kept returning to javelina, the term for a piglike mammal.

"Nick threw out javelina and I knew that was the one to stick," she said. "Nick grew up in Arizona, where the javelina runs free and it was a perfect tie into my Hopi connections and our business began."

She said one of the biggest inspirations to open Javelina was the opportunity to "highlight first foods from this area in one of

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

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★ STAR BLOCK X BLOCK



Javelina in the Cully neighborhood is the city's first restaurant focused on Indigenous cuisine. (Javelina)

the biggest foodie cities in the United States." "First foods" refers to Indigenous foods that are native to the North American continent and pre-date European contact.

At Javelina, customers get to experience rich, vibrant and historically significant Native food through a variety of innovative small- and large-plate options.

Visitors can start with a variety of fry breads, including one topped with apple and onion braised elk shoulder, huckleberry BBQ sauce, arugula, pickled red onion and puffed amaranth or the Hopi blue corn bread, which is a unique blend of three different nixtamalized corn.

For the main course, Numkena-Anderson recommends their signature R&R Relleno, which is a fire-roasted poblano pepper stuffed with rattlesnake and rabbit sausage then dredged in duck egg wild rice batter. It comes on a bed of white tepary beans and salsa verde with cilantro and pickled red onion.

Round out your meal with a fry bread dessert flight. Enjoy three pieces of fry bread — one topped with cinnamon, a second with maple sugar and huckleberry wojapi and a third with powdered sugar and honey.



The restaurant is also open for lunch Thursdays, Fridays and Mondays and serves brunch on weekends.

Numkena-Anderson said you can pair any of their dishes with Naabaahii (Na-bah-hee) tea, which has medicinal properties.

"For our Indigenous diners that join us, we

Javelina serves up Indigenous flavors in Cully. With small and large plate options, diners can sample a wide range of "first foods" — foods that are native to North America and pre-date European contact. Diners can indulge in dishes ranging from savory and sweet frybreads to braised elk shoulder, smoked quail, bison chili and their signature rattlesnake and rabbit sausage.

(Javelina)



Tiny Moreso on Northeast 42nd Avenue is a 100% plant-based, vegan, gluten-free cafe focused on healthy treats that taste delicious and are beautiful to look at. (Tiny Moreso)

want them to feel like they have received the medicine we're cooking up and for our non-Indigenous diners, we hope they catch the spark for first foods and begin to understand how knowing about the foods from the Pacific Northwest can enrich our understanding of place," she said.

She added they're loving the Cully location, especially having resources like the Mamook Tokatee development and NAYA close by. "It has been so amazing getting to be surrounded by so many Native people," she continued. "With Mamook and NAYA next door, it really feels like we're working to create an Indigenous cultural center in Portland.

"And as far as the neighborhood goes, we truly feel embraced and celebrated by the neighbors here. So many people are excited with us and keep coming."

ADDRESS: 4636 N.E. 42nd Ave. WEBSITE: javelinapdx.com INSTAGRAM: @javelinapdx DON'T MISS: Inisha is Javelina's multicourse tasting menu experience. Available Tuesday nights.

TINY MORESO

The owners of this cozy neighborhood cafe believe everyone should indulge in a sweet treat, no matter their dietary preferences.

Tiny Moreso has found a devoted following for its 100% vegan and gluten-free desserts. Their offerings feature everything from cookies and muffins to trifles and creative cakes. Many of the dessert options are made without refined sugar; instead they rely on agave and maple syrup as sweeteners.

"One of the biggest misconceptions about vegan and gluten-free desserts is they are dry, bland or somehow compromised compared to traditional baked goods," said owner Sean Carey. "People often assume that without butter, eggs or wheat flour, desserts must lack richness or satisfying texture. In reality, our vegan and gluten-free desserts are just as indulgent, flavorful and beautifully textured as classic treats."

Fans can't get enough of their famous "rawdacious" cashew-based cheesecake, which is available in a variety of flavors like peanut butter chocolate chip, one of their more popular options.

"It's amazing to see how people light up



when they sample our cheesecake at events, especially folks who can't tolerate dairy or gluten and miss having cheesecake," Carey said.

Looking for something a little more savory? Tiny Moreso also has extensive breakfast and lunch menus that include smoothies, soups, sandwiches and hearty bowls like the Moreso Mac, which comes with a butternut squash cheese sauce, BBQ soy curls and kale.

Says Carey: "Being part of the 42nd Avenue community is incredible, especially with the support of Our 42nd Ave. and NAYA (the Native American Youth and Family Center)."

Carey adds that he lives in the neighborhood himself, and one of his favorite things about the cafe is "seeing how many familiar faces come through the door each week — neighbors stopping in after a walk, families grabbing a treat together, and regulars who have made Tiny Moreso part of their routine."

ADDRESS: 4520 N.E. 42nd Ave. WEBSITE: tinymoresopdx.com INSTAGRAM: @tinymoreso DON'T MISS: Find their cheesecake slices in all neighborhood New Seasons stores, the Alberta Co-op, People's Food Co-op and several local restaurants.

★ STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS

To include an item in The Star Calendar, send an email to editorial@starnewsdpdx.com and include the title, time, date, location and a short description (50 words or less). Entries must be received by the 15th day 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.

KIDSTEENS AND FAMILIES

THE ADDAMS FAMILY TAKES OVER MCDANIEL HIGH

March 5-14. Various times. They're creepy and they're kooky and they're taking over McDaniel High School's theater department. Join Morticia, Gomez and the rest of the gang during a production of "The Addams Family Musical: School Edition." Cost: Students under 18: \$11. Adults: \$16.75. bit.ly/addamsfamily26. McDaniel Mainstage, 2735 N.E. 82nd St.

STORYTIME AND ART PROJECTS AT CHILDREN'S PLACE

March 6. 10:30 a.m. Join author Amy Ajaz as she shares her new book, "Crocodile Parade," then stay for a special Crocodile Parade art project. Cost: Free. A Children's Place Bookstore, 1423 N.E. Fremont St., childrensplacebookstore.com

'THE LAST UNICORN' AT HOLLYWOOD THEATRE

March 14. 3 p.m. Family Pictures returns with a screening of the animated cult classic, "The Last Unicorn." When a unicorn (Mia Farrow) learns that she is the last of



Alberta Street Gallery is showcasing artwork in March with a unique theme: Each piece must be 6x6 inches.

(Alberta Street Gallery)

her kind, she leaves her enchanted forest and discovers a world of memorable characters. Cost: \$9. Hollywood Theatre, 4122 N.E. Sandy Blvd., 503-493-1128, hollywoodtheatre.org

MUSIC TOGETHER AT HOLLYWOOD LIBRARY

March 14. 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. sessions. Come experience Music Together, a music and movement class for children and their favorite grown-ups. Enjoy songs, rhythm chants, egg shakers, dancing and more. Cost: Free. Space is limited, registration required. Hollywood Library, 4040 N.E. Tillamook St., 503-988-5123, multicolib.org

CLIMATE ACTION NIGHT

March 18. 6-8 p.m. See what Grant High School's Climate Action Team is doing to help protect the environment and fight climate change. Come listen to talks from Portland's climate leaders and climate team members. Cost: Free. Grant High School Library and Upper Commons, 2245 N.E. 36th Ave. Learn more and RSVP at catteam.me/CAT-website

ADDAMS FAMILY SCHOOL EDITION
Book by MARSHALL BRICKMAN and RICK ELICE
Music and Lyrics by ANDREW LIPPA
Orchestrations by LARRY HOCHMAN
Based on Characters Created by CHARLES ADDAMS
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MCDANIEL MAINSTAGE
2735 NE 82nd Ave. Portland, OR, 97220
March 5th - March 14th
BUY TICKETS:
<https://bit.ly/addamsfamily26>

The Addams Family School Edition is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide, 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. www.theatricalrights.com

Portland's Original Wing Joint
4225 N Interstate Ave. - 3443 NE 57th Ave. - 1708 E Burnside St.

ENJOYARTS

ARTIST SHOWCASE

March 5. 4-8 p.m. Stop by Artistic Portland Gallery for a special gallery event. More than 20 local artists will be present for conversation and to share their latest pieces. Cost: Free. Artistic Portland Gallery, 4110 N.E. Fremont St., 971-339-0945, artisticportlandgallery.com

OREGON CONTEMPORARY GALA

March 7. 7-10 p.m. Enjoy a fun night of musical performances, amazing artworks for sale, raffle prizes, great food from a

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

SELF STORAGE

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★ STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

KENNEDY SCHOOL
McMenamins

Every Saturday and Sunday
HISTORY & ART TOUR
Sat: 2pm & 4pm, Sun: 4pm - \$15
Tickets required for ages 3 & up

Sunday, March 8
In celebration of International Women's Day
SONG SUFFRAGETTES PNW
A celebration of female singer-songwriters
6pm - \$22.25 adv, \$11 student

Sunday, March 15
ACADEMY AWARDS w/ POISON WATERS
Red carpet coverage 3pm - Awards at 5pm

Sunday, March 15
LOOSEWIG JAZZ SERIES
hosted by BRENT FOLLIS
7pm - \$20 adults, \$10 students

Saturday, Sunday & Tuesday,
March 14, 15 & 17
ST. PATRICK'S CELEBRATIONS
Live music, Irish Stout, food & drink
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while supplies last!

Saturday, March 28
McMENAMINS WEDDING SHOWCASE
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10am, noon, 2pm - \$11

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mcmenamins.com



Learn more about Northeast Village, a program offering a mix of social activities and essential services for seniors. (Northeast Village PDX)

selection of favorite Portland restaurants and carts, a hosted bar and more — all in support of Oregon Contemporary and Third Angle. Dress up or down in celebration for a night to remember. Cost: \$150. Oregon Contemporary, 8371 N. Interstate Ave. <https://www.oregoncontemporary.org>

BASKET WEAVING USING NATURAL FIBERS

March 8. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Instructor Rose Covert will teach participants how to work with hand-harvested and processed plant materials, including willow, cedar bark, iris leaves and daylily leaves, to construct a one-of-a-kind small basket. Leave with some basic basketry techniques and practical knowledge of harvesting and gathering plant materials for future work. Cost: \$245 (payment options). Go Gallery (formerly Guardino Gallery, now online). To sign up, go to <https://tinyurl.com/skjdndsk>

FLASH MEMOIR WORKSHOP

March 8. 1:30-4:30 p.m. Writer, illustrator and performer Leanne Grabel presents "In Spilling Your Guts," an introductory workshop focused on the art of the flash memoir. The goal is one page per story with the hopes of inspiring writers to eventually build out a full-length anthology. Cost: \$36-

\$72. Eastside Jewish Commons, 2420 N.E. Sandy Blvd., 503-208-5425, www.ejcpdx.org

6X6 ART SHOW

Through March 26. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. daily. The premise is simple: Artists can choose any subject matter or medium, but every piece must be 6x6 inches in size and under \$100. Come browse and see what treasures you'll find during this unique exhibit. Alberta Street Gallery, 1829 N.E. Alberta St., 503-953-3314, albertastreetgallery.com

MUSICNOTES

FREE PIANO CONCERT

March 6. 6 p.m. Concert pianist and internet star Filippo Gorini is coming to Northeast Portland. Gorini has selected Portland to join Vienna, Hong Kong, Cape Town, Medellín and Milan as one of his "Sonata for Seven Cities" — an ongoing project where he spends a month in each location teaching and performing at unconventional locations like prisons and senior centers, in addition to traditional venues. Cost: Free. St. Philip the Deacon Episcopal Church, 120 N.E. Knott St. sonatafor7cities.com/portland

'SHE'S SPEAKING LIVE' — CELEBRATE WOMEN'S VOICES

March 7. 8 p.m. In honor of Women's History Month, the "She's Speaking LIVE" concert aims to amplify women's voices through song. The show will feature seven Oregon-based singer-songwriters, special guest artist Lady A and the Americana rock band The Riveters. Cost: \$25.75-\$39. Alberta Rose Theatre, 3000 N.E. Alberta St. albertarosetheatre.com

CONCERT CELEBRATES BRAZIL

March 15. 3 p.m. Experience the sounds, rhythms and soul of Brazil without leaving Portland during Northwest Vocal Arts concert, "Cordilheira: Range of the Americas" showcase. More than just a concert, Cordilheira is a cultural celebration blending choral music, Brazilian percussion and community connection. After the performance, enjoy a reception with more music, food and drinks. Cost: \$15 for students, \$35 for general admission. Rose City Park United Methodist Church, 5830 N.E. Alameda St. Learn more at www.nwvocalarts.org.

BACH LECTURE, PERFORMANCE

March 22. Lecture begins at 2 p.m. followed by the concert at 3 p.m. International Bach scholar Daniel Melamed will be giving a pre-concert lecture on Bach's masterpiece B Minor Mass, followed by a complete performance. Cost: \$42.25. Rose City Park Presbyterian Church, 1907 N.E. 45th St., Purchase tickets at tickettailor.com/events/bachcantatachoir.

LENTEN SOUP AND SONG

Wednesdays through March 25. 5:30-6:45 p.m. St. Michael & All Angels invites the community to share in a simple soup-and-bread supper, followed by sung prayer in the sanctuary. You will learn to sing the service together, with time for meditation and some Lenten readings. Cost: Free. St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church, 1704 N.E. 43rd Ave., 503-284-7141

FOR SENIORS

GRANT PARK WALKING GROUP

Tuesdays and Saturdays. Approximately 10:30 a.m. Join the Community for Positive

★ STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Aging Grant Park walking group to make friends and see the neighborhood. The group meets Tuesday and Saturday mornings at the northeast corner of Grant Park, at the intersection of Northeast 36th Avenue and Brazeo Street. Cost: Free. 503-288-8303, communityfpa.org

NORTHEAST VILLAGE PDX INTRO

March 16. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Interested in becoming a member of Northeast Village PDX? This intro session answers all your questions. Learn about the Village, a program that provides social events, activities and essential services to adults 60 and older. Cost: Free. Rose City Park United Methodist Church, Conference Room, 5830 N.E. Alameda St. 503-895-2750, info@nevillagepdx.org

INGENERAL

TRANSPORTATION OPEN HOUSE

March 3. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Join the conversation about local transportation funding and weigh in on a variety of options and opportunities at an open house focused on Northeast Portland. Learn more about coming cuts to TriMet and give your feedback on how you want the city to spend money. Cost: Free. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School cafeteria, 4906 N.E. Sixth Ave.

NEIGHBOR PROTECTION TRAININGS

March 11 (virtual), March 28 (in-person). Learn how to safely and accurately monitor activity by federal agents in your neighborhood so you can support any neighbors in need. Event led by Portland Immigrant Rights Coalition. Cost: Free.



Learn how to harvest native plants for making baskets at a hands-on workshop March 8. (Go Gallery)

Reservation and location information released one week before each training at linktr.ee/pirc_pdx

33RD ANNUAL TORSK DINNER

March 14. Bar opens at 4 p.m. Dinner at 5 p.m. Enjoy an elegant five-course dinner from the local Daughters of Norway. The menu generally includes pickled herring and flatbread, cucumber salad, split pea soup, cod with a shrimp sauce, along with carrots and potatoes served with butter. Dessert is riskrem with red sauce. Cost: TBD Norse Hall, 111 N.E. 11th Ave., 503-972-3329, norsehall.org

VEGAN POTLUCK

March 15. 5-7 p.m. Each month Northwest Veg hosts a potluck followed by an educational presentation or cooking demonstration. Explore delicious food and meet others within the community. Cost: Free. Stone Tower SDA Church, 3010 N.E. Holladay St.

ST. PATTY'S DAY PARADE

March 15. 1:30 p.m. Throw on some green and celebrate the luck o' the Irish during

this beloved Portland event. Marching bands, kids, dogs, bagpipers and more come together to walk the 1.2-mile route. It starts behind Beverly Cleary Elementary School at

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

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Bach Cantata Choir
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J. S. Bach: B Minor Mass
Sunday, March 22, 2026, 3pm

Pre-concert lecture 2pm by Dr. Daniel Melamed, Indiana University

Johann Sebastian Bach's *B Minor Mass* is considered Bach's greatest choral masterpiece. Written as a 2-hour concert work, this masterpiece was never performed during Bach's lifetime. Come and hear it performed live!

Featuring choir of 55 members; 20-member chamber orchestra, and soloists Arwen Myers, Laura Beckel Thoreson, Leslie Green, Jacob William Herbert.
Tickets: \$40 available, general admission seating.



Rose City Park Presbyterian Church NE 44th and Sandy Blvd.
Complete info at: www.bachcantatachoir.org

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MARCH SCHEDULE

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MARCH 2ND VS.
HAPPY HOUR HOOPS

WEDNESDAY 8:00 PM
MARCH 4TH VS.
BINGO NIGHT

FRIDAY 6:30 PM
MARCH 6TH VS.
REMIX ROBOO

SATURDAY 3:00 PM
MARCH 7TH VS.
BLOCK PARTY

SUNDAY 3:00 PM
MARCH 15TH VS.
CAPES & CROWNS

TUESDAY 6:00 PM
MARCH 17TH VS.
TRIVIA TUESDAY

FRIDAY 6:30 PM
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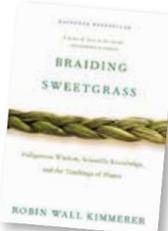
Marching bands, bagpipers and more will be featured in the 37th annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, happening March 15. It begins at Beverly Cleary Elementary School.

(Portland St. Patrick's Day Parade)

Northeast 32nd Avenue and Hancock Street and proceeds west to Northeast 17th Avenue before heading back to the school. Cost: Free. Learn more at portlandstpatrickparade.com.

'BRAIDING SWEETGRASS' AUTHOR EVENT

March 25. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Botanist, professor and best-selling author Robin Wall Kimmerer will read from and discuss her book "Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants." A book-signing will follow her presentation. Cost: Free. University of Portland Buckley



Center Auditorium, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd. 503-943-7702, up.edu

TOUR VOLGA GERMAN HOMES OF ALBINA

March 28. 10 a.m.-noon. Join Volga German historian Steve Schreiber and Professor of Architecture Tom Hubka as they guide you on a two-mile walking tour highlighting the remaining churches and homes of the area. Cost: \$15 members, \$25 general public. Learn more and register at visitahc.org

MCMENAMINS WEDDING SHOWCASE

March 28. noon-2 p.m. McMenamins has brought nine of their amazing venues together in one convenient showcase at the Kennedy School. During the 90-minute showcase, you'll get the chance to sample

food and beverages from their specialty banquet menus, walk through a mock ceremony in the courtyard and chat with sales coordinators from all the venues. While you're there, don't forget to ask about 2027 booking incentives. Cost: \$11. McMenamins Kennedy School 5736 N.E. 33rd Ave., 503-249-3983, mcmenamins.com/events

LIFELONG LEARNING CLASSES AT OSHER CENTER

Begins March 30. Days and times vary. The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Oregon is an educational and social community for knowledge-hungry adults. Open to people age 50 and older. Classes range in topics from creative writing critiques and film series to "How Railroads Transformed the World" and the "Bill of Rights." Cost: \$250 per year, \$140 for six months or \$75 per quarter. osher.uoregon.edu

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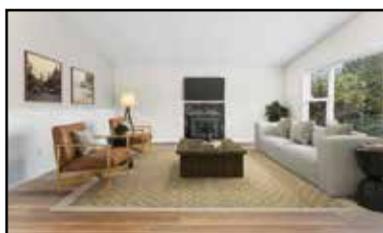
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COLORING CONTEST WINNERS!



Ages 1-5: **Reed**



Ages 6-8: **Maddie**



Ages 9-12: **Miela**



13 plus: **Hattie**

Ages 1-5 Winner: Reed
Kai
Damian
Zander
Evelyn

Caroline
Millie
Anggie
Miles
Marguerite
Ada
Alice
Nesa

Melanic
Annabelle
Abbey
Olivia
Rose
Amelie
Killian

Ages 6-8 Winner: Maddie
Lana
Sora
Penelope
Nina

Ages 9-12 Winner: Miela
Eva
Nao
June

13 and older Winner: Hattie
Laurel
Delilah

Thank you to all who participated

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