

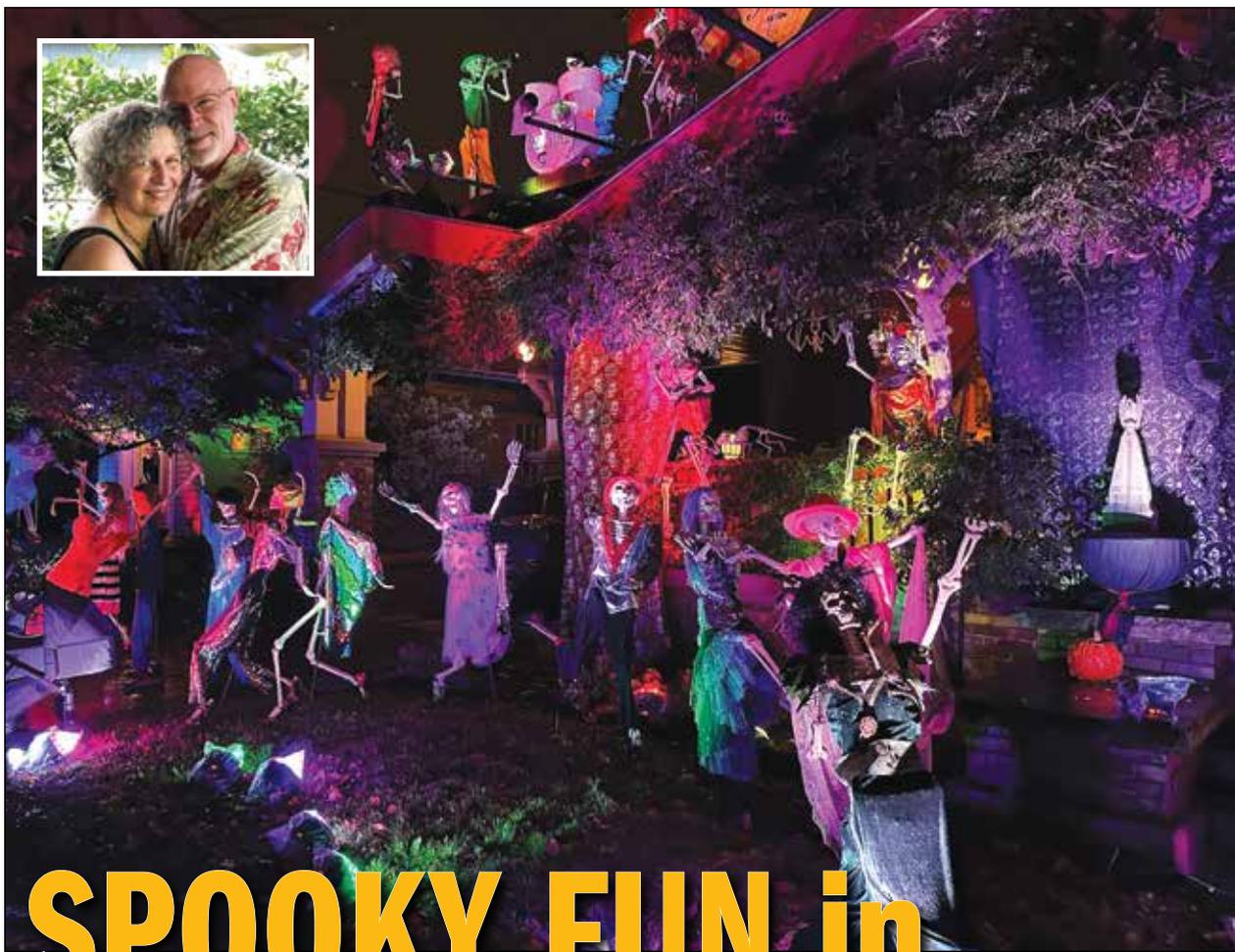
Star NEWS

THE HOLLYWOOD



WEIGHTY LEGACY
Story stones honor Black-owned media in Portland. **PAGE 2**

★ SERVING NORTHEAST AND NORTH METROPOLITAN PORTLAND NEIGHBORHOODS ★ OCTOBER 2025 ★ VOLUME 43, NUMBER 4 ★



SPOOKY FUN in LAURELHURST

SPIRIT OF THE SEASON Couple's band of bony musicians returns this Halloween, bringing fun for all ages. **PAGE 4**



PUBLIC TREASURE Revamped Albina Library offers knowledge, resources to all in the community. **PAGE 7**



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Longtime Star News reporter Phill Colombo doffs his journalism hat. **PAGE 3**



BUY NOTHING Neighborhood groups exchange goods for free, keep items out of landfill. **PAGE 6**

BEAT A PATH TO PARKROSE

It's time to check out all that's happening in this vibrant neighborhood. **PAGE 9**



LEND A HAND Volunteer for projects that aid local nonprofits during Community Impact Week. **PAGE 14**

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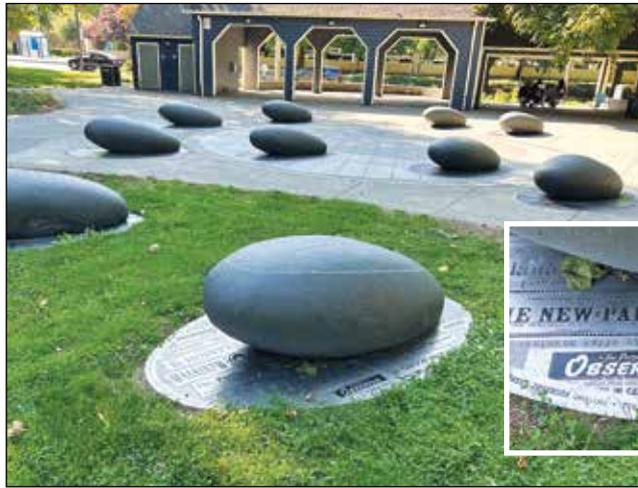
MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC OPENS IN HOLLYWOOD

A new clinic is open in Hollywood for young people facing mental health challenges.

Morrison Child & Family Services opened the outpatient facility Sept. 11 in the Hollywood Plaza building at Northeast 41st Avenue and Broadway.

The new facility is designed to be a “welcoming and healing space” and provides mental health and substance use services for families and youth ages 2-18.

Learn more about the services available at morrisonkids.org



The newest “story stone” at Dawson Park in North Portland commemorates the history of Black-led newspapers in Portland. The Skanner News, Portland Observer and other publications have kept the community informed for decades. (Todd Milbourn)



TAPROOM OPENS IN KERNS

For the past decade, Tobias Hahn and Nick Greiner have provided beer to some of the most popular establishments in North and Northeast Portland, including Pizzeria Otto, Moon & Sixpence and Wonderly Cocktail Bar.

Now the duo has opened a taproom of their own in the Kerns neighborhood.

Rosenstadt Brewing serves up German styles such as Kolsch, Pilsner and Helles alongside an array of pretzels and small bites. The taproom has 40 seats indoors and a heated patio for the winter months.

The new taproom is open from 4-9 p.m. Thursday-Friday and 1-9 p.m. Saturday-Sunday at 2117 N.E. Oregon St.

Learn more at rosenstadtbrewery.com



Mental health workers celebrate the opening of a youth-focused clinic in Hollywood. (Morrison Child & Family Services)

DAWSON PARK ARTWORK HONORS BLACK NEWSPAPERS

City crews placed a historical marker at Dawson Park to celebrate Portland’s rich history of Black newspapers.

The engraved marker is one of a dozen “story stones” now on display at the North Williams

Avenue park. The artwork commemorates the contributions of The Skanner News, Portland Observer and other Black-led publications that have kept the community informed for decades.

Bernie Foster, publisher of The Skanner News, said the project “is about the legacy of

Black-owned media, and how it’s been a part of Portland since we became a real city.”

“I’m humbled knowing that the story of Black storytelling will be told for generations, and through art,” he added.

Learn more about the history of Black publishing in Portland at pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/blacknewspapers

COFFEE SHOP SAYS GOODBYE

A beloved coffee shop on Northeast Sandy Boulevard has brewed its final cup.

Yigebe Ethiopian Coffee opened its doors in 2023 and brought an authentic Ethiopian brewing style to Northeast Portland. The shop — wedged on a triangle lot at Sandy and 58th Avenue, near Rose City Park United Methodist Church — also served as a frequent gathering spot for community groups.

Yigebe closed Sept. 19 and placed a sign on the door thanking the community for its support over the years.

The Star News would like to thank the Yigebe team for all their contributions to the neighborhood. We wish you well!

The Hollywood Star News

Published monthly in Northeast Portland.

Electric Heights Publishing Co.

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Editorial deadline: 15th of the month
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★ STAR FEATURE

Longtime development writer shifts focus

Phill Colombo bids farewell to monthly Star News column

By **Todd Milbourn**
todd@star-news.info

Veteran Star News reporter Phill Colombo is retiring from journalism after serving readers in North and Northeast Portland for more than a decade.

Phill enjoyed being among the “good people” at the Star News, where he’s published a regular development column since 2013. But at 83, he figured now was a good time to step back — even as his plate remains quite full. He holds leadership roles at East Portland Rotary Club and St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, and plans to spend more time with his family.

Phill was committed to his development beat, where he focused on uncovering and delivering fresh news for readers.

“When somebody tells me ‘That was a great story,’ I always respond by asking: ‘Did you learn something new?’ he said. ‘If I didn’t tell you something new, it’s not news — it’s olds.’”

Phill sat down for an interview about his contributions and career in the lounge of his favorite neighborhood establishment: Clyde’s Prime Rib on Sandy Boulevard. To say he is a regular is an understatement: He has been meeting a group of close friends there every Monday afternoon for more than 30 years.

Phill Colombo was born in 1942 in the Astoria section of New York City. His dad was a diesel mechanic and his mom served school lunches. Faith was important to the Colombo family, and they were raised in the Augustinian tradition of Christianity, which emphasizes the pursuit of truth, love and community service. The family lived those



Phill Colombo at the mic in 1968 at WWOW in Conneaut, Ohio. Phill had a long career in radio and public relations before joining The Star News in 2013. (Phill Colombo)

values, even working for a boys’ home where they supported up to a dozen youth in need.

After high school, Phill enrolled in the seminary at Villanova University near Philadelphia. He sharpened his writing skills in part through letters he sent to his parents, which often stretched to three or four pages.

“I provided them a whole week of reading enjoyment,” Phill said.

Ultimately, he decided the seminary wasn’t for him, so he took the communication skills he’d developed and shifted to a career in radio. Phill worked as a rock ‘n’ roll DJ and joined the SAG-AFTRA union for media artists. The organization required all members to have a distinct name and “Phil Colombo” was already taken, so he decided to add a second “l” to his first name — a move that ended up sticking for the rest of his professional career.

During a stint at WWOW radio in Conneaut,



Phill at a Star News event at Fremont Fest in August. Phill plans to remain active in East Portland Rotary Club and St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. (Todd Milbourn)

Ohio, Phill met a woman named Jackie, who also worked at the station and became the love of his life. They married and moved to Portland in 1973, where Phill took a job as a reporter and afternoon news anchor at KOIN radio.

For the bulk of his Portland career — 20-plus years — he worked as a TriMet public information officer, spearheading community

engagement efforts, cultivated extensive knowledge of city transportation systems and played a role in helping MAX extend the red line to the airport in 2001. He continued his lifelong pursuit of strengthening communities by serving on many boards, including the Roseway Neighborhood Association.

Phill joined The Star News in 2013. The newspaper needed a development reporter after the death of Lee Perlman, a well-known reporter and activist who covered Portland neighborhoods for decades. Phill recalled calling former Star News owner Mary DeHart and saying: “I might be a good fit for you.”

Through the development beat, he witnessed several significant changes firsthand, including the construction of the Hollywood Hub housing project, which is scheduled to open in 2026.

Phill’s beloved Jackie died in 2021, and he is close with his children and granddaughter, who remain in Oregon and on the West Coast.

He says he’ll still be plenty busy and expects his schedule to fill up quickly with friends, family, church and Rotary. But the one thing that won’t change? You’ll still find him in the red leather booth at Clyde’s every Monday with a glass of red wine

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★ STAR FEATURE

By Michael Aviña
michael@star-news.info

Things that go bump in the night

Laurelhurst couple brings spooky, fun display back for 13th year

Nancy Consecu and Mike Doolin have quite a few skeletons in their closet. Every Halloween, those skeletons relocate to their front yard, where the Laurelhurst couple stages a frightfully festive skeleton wedding party. The main event: the marriage of the King of the Skeletons and the Queen of the Dead, the latter being the only non-skeleton character in the display.

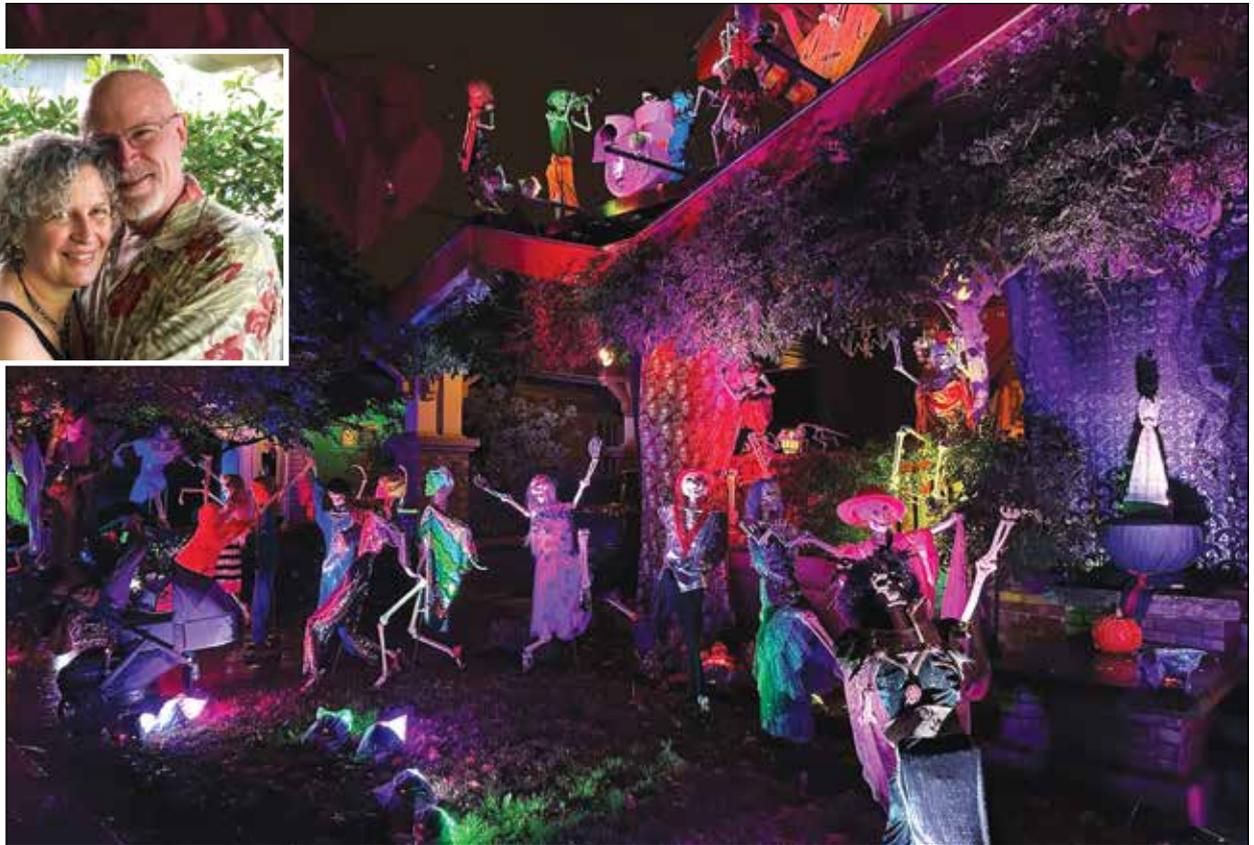
The elaborate yard display has been attracting friends and neighbors to the Royal Court home in Laurelhurst for 12 years, and will return again this Halloween. One highlight: the reception entertainment courtesy of The Skeletones, a band of bony musicians perched on the roof of their home.

"We just wanted a fun, slightly scary display with the idea for anyone to walk through life with the wonder of a child," Consecu said.

Consecu and Doolin call themselves a "bi-musical" family, and spend nearly the entire year preparing for this event. Doolin, a guitar maker, either builds or sources most of the band's instruments. Friends who teach music often donate broken or unplayable pieces, which he transforms for the dead. He modeled the bass after the one in "The Nightmare Before Christmas" and even built a custom drum kit.

But getting the dead to stay still isn't easy. Doolin zip ties about 50 skeletons to welded rebar. "It's a lot of zip ties," he said. He also handles lighting, installing nearly one spotlight per skeleton, with colors that make the macabre scene glow.

Consecu scours eBay year-round for affordable, durable instruments. She also dresses the skeletons in clothing found at vintage shops or donated by friends. When



Nancy Consecu and Mike Doolin's elaborate Halloween display, featuring a festive skeleton wedding party, has been drawing the curious to their Laurelhurst yard for a dozen years. (Photos courtesy of Nancy Consecu and Mike Doolin)

bones break, she recycles them into the graveyard display.

"This is incredibly labor-intensive; it takes a month to set it all up," she said. "Our house gets taken over by skeletons. Sometimes I arrange

them inside, playing poker and watching TV. We really do live with them. Our cat likes to sit on their laps."

The couple usually unveils the display a day or two before Halloween and leaves it up about a week after. During the pandemic, neighbors begged for its return after a year's pause.

"We found out during COVID how important this is to the neighborhood," Doolin said. "We put out a sign that said 'The world tour has been postponed due to COVID.' The next year, people came around begging for the display to be put up again."

The couple initially got the idea for the,

display after moving from their Hawthorne home to Laurelhurst. They noticed neighbors putting up large displays, and wanted to join in. Now entering its 13th year, the couple is humbled by the display's impact on the living.

One visitor told Consecu she had seen the skeleton wedding as a child and was bringing her own kids back to witness it. "One of the nicest things someone said to me was that our display was their favorite," she said. "They appreciated that it's not too creepy, scary or bloody. It's a party. The skeletons are having fun; a little scary, but mostly fun."

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Check it out

What: The Skeletones yard display
When: Oct. 31, typically display is up for one week)
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★ STAR FEATURE

The couple is mindful of keeping the display family-friendly and tries to avoid ideas and additions that may be too frightening for young ones. The display has grown into something of a minor phenomenon; one year attendance reached an estimated 1,500 people during one night. "Our friends have latched onto this, so they all come with costumes and help hand out candy due to the number of attendees," Consecu said.

While the display celebrates the spirit of Halloween, the couple sees it as a way to promote creative spirit and communal gathering. "It's been amazing the support people have shown for this," Consecu said. "In a way, it is a community project. Over the years, we have had neighborhood kids volunteer to help set up the display."



After pausing the display for a year during the COVID pandemic, neighbors came around the next year begging for its return.

Doolin, who views Halloween as one of the biggest holidays of the year, said the couple is also providing another service to their beloved city with the display. "We're helping to keep Portland weird."

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Fun, free and friendly

Neighbors exchange goods through increasingly popular Buy Nothing groups

By Fawn Morosky
Star contributor

If you ask Sarah Holloway why she joined her neighborhood Buy Nothing group in Roseway, she'll tell you: "I love the idea of communities coming together. One person's junk is another person's treasure."

Holloway, who joined about five years ago, says members are "full of generosity."

"When the world otherwise feels dark or scary, it feels good to be part of a group that is based on generosity," she said.

Buy Nothing neighborhood groups are community-based collectives offering an alternative to throwing away, selling and buying new things. They allow neighbors to connect, pass along items or gifts of knowledge for no charge and keep stuff out of landfills. Portland currently has nearly 100 local neighborhood Buy Nothing Groups with over a thousand members participating across the city, including many in North and Northeast Portland.

"The best item I received from the group was a pair of red Dr. Martens boots," Holloway said. "Several years ago my car was broken into and my boots were stolen. I have larger feet, and typically shoes that people pass on won't fit. One day someone on the Buy Nothing group posted a pair of the red Dr. Marten boots that were stolen and they were my size. I shared my story and they were gifted to me."

The Buy Nothing Project began in the Pacific Northwest, with the first chapter opening on Bainbridge Island, and has turned into a worldwide movement with groups in over 40 nations. The Buy Nothing Project is about sharing abundance, giving and receiving while building connections with the community.

Hannah Lewis, another member of the Roseway Buy Nothing, has been part of the group for nearly nine years. "I have met so many neighbors through this group. I feel safer and more connected to my community. I have made friends and been inspired by items people were gifting," she said.

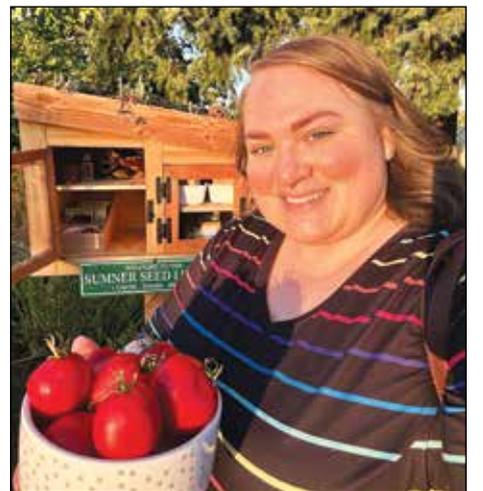
Lewis was given several plant starts from Buy Nothing, which were grown locally by a neighbor in the group. This gift sparked an idea in Lewis to build something that she could also share with the community. Lewis decided to build and create her own Little Seed Library in the Summer neighborhood.

"When I first received a plant start from the Buy Nothing group I was so impressed by the process of a woman growing so much food for her family and sharing the extra with her neighbor. This inspired me to create something community focused, and I built a Little Seed Library. Neighbors can bring seeds, take seeds and share seeds. Through the Buy Nothing group I realized how many other people were gardeners or looking for new hobbies," Lewis said.

Boundaries and groups can be found on



Sarah Holloway of Roseway used her local Buy Nothing group to score a free pair of Dr. Martens boots to replace her old ones, which were stolen. She praised the generosity of group members. (Sarah Holloway)



Hannah Lewis said her local Buy Nothing group inspired her to open a Little Seed Library in her Summer neighborhood. (Hannah Lewis)

Join the free-for-all

Visit buynothingproject.org or search "BuyNothing + your neighborhood" on Facebook to submit a member request.

Facebook by doing a search for "Buy Nothing Groups." When you find your neighborhood, you will submit a request and agree to follow the rules that the group abides by, which states everything is gifted freely and no cash will be exchanged for items posted on the group.

Once membership is approved by the group administrator, people can begin posting items to give away or ask for items they need. All trades and transitions are done through the Facebook pages associated with your neighborhood group. If you move out of the neighborhood you must leave the group and rejoin in your new area. When an item is gifted the giver and receiver will communicate on setting up a time to pick up the item.

"I have gifted furniture, rugs, plants and perfume. I have gifted big cardboard boxes for imagination play, hair and beauty products," Lewis said. She added: "It brings me so much joy to give things to my neighbors that most people would sell or take to the Goodwill."

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★ STAR COLUMN

Albina Library: A polished Carnegie gem

MIKE on a BIKE



Michael Wright

I was excited to cycle over to the newly reopened Albina Library last month. It is just west of what in 1912, the year it opened, was Union Avenue — since renamed Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. This is a library my wife, Sally, and I have used as our primary source of books since arriving in Portland 15 years ago. It is along a route I travel to downtown and I admire the building as I cycle past.

Stephanie Hope-Cochrane, the administrator of the Albina Library, took time from a very busy day to give me a guided tour of the entire facility. I marveled at how she said hello to patrons and introduced me to staff members by name. She is a force — in the nicest possible way.

The original entrance is easily recognizable. However, what lies inside is a feast for the eyes and comfort for the soul. Yes, I'm talking about a library, folks. One of the most delightful I have ever entered. The main entrance is now designated at 205 N.E. Russell St., but I prefer to enter through the century-old 216 N.E. Knott St. wooden doorway.

Let's begin at the beginning. I'm a student of Andrew Carnegie. My roots trace back to Scotland and I took an interest in this



The Albina Library's new main entrance at 205 N.E. Russell St., next to expanded off-street parking and numerous bicycle racks. (Michael Wright)

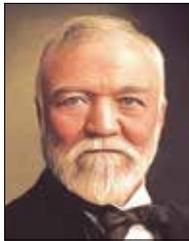


Steve Waite shows a patron how to book a small meeting room online. (Michael Wright)



The refurbished Carnegie Library building at 216 N.E. Knott St., complete with fresh landscaping. (Michael Wright)

fascinating man decades ago. Here was someone who rose from humble beginnings as a poor immigrant with no formal education. By a stroke of good fortune, at the age of 12, he connected with a retired businessman who offered his private library to the community.



Andrew Carnegie

Carnegie took him up on it, educated

himself and rose to be the wealthiest industrialist in the world by age 40. He decided to spend all his excess wealth to build libraries across the world saying: "The taste for reading is one of the most precious possessions of life."

The newly renovated Albina is a treasure itself. Each of the volunteers and librarians I met gushed over how privileged they felt being a part of this team that, "brings books and joy to people every day."

It is a welcoming space for all — from the

children's reading room to the teenage meeting and interactive area, meeting rooms accessible to the community, and wide-open spaces to settle in and read. The new floor plan includes a specially designated room for mothers to breastfeed their little ones. Heck, there is even a dedicated sensory room for those who need few distractions and noise. These rooms are designed to support self-regulation and decrease stress with calming interactive features. Wow!

I'm sure Carnegie, the steel magnate of the early 1900s, would appreciate the widespread use of Oregon's natural resources on display. Douglas fir beams are just one element of the building's dedication to environment-conscious building standards. No steel here! It's also designed to be resilient during earthquakes.

The architects went the extra mile to preserve the building's rich history, even as that work required the destruction of the cornice moldings to reinforce walls with cement, a master plaster craftsman was engaged to restore them to their early 1900s glory. Throughout all these spaces you will find a tremendous collection of local and Indigenous artwork, commissioned specifically for each space.

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★ STAR COLUMN

Northeast neighbors fought for old street name in 1930s

Vernon Avenue was among the street names that vanished amid Portland's Great Renumbering

Last month, we explored the chaos of Portland's pre-1931 street address system and how the Great Renumbering simplified navigation of our city streets. But it also erased some long-held names neighbors were reluctant to let go — places like Vernon Avenue.

The 1931 address overhaul clarified things for most Portlanders — particularly postal employees — but not everyone was

thrilled. One feature of the readdressing ordinance required all north-south streets to use numbers instead of names. That's

how we lost street names such as Glenn, Marguerite, Vernon and others, though the names can still be seen set into many curbs.

I've always been impressed with the residents of Northeast Vernon Avenue who

History mystery



Ask the historian
By Doug Decker

continued to use the name of their street for more than a decade after the city changed it officially to Northeast 14th Place. Many living on that six-block stretch between

Northeast Prescott and Killingsworth didn't want to lose their local identity and continued to tell the world they lived on Vernon well into the 1940s. Place names are important, after all.

In January 1933 neighbors along Vernon Avenue, angry about the change and still using their original addresses, presented a petition to the City Council protesting the switch to 14th Place. Commissioner of Public Works Asbury L. Barbur (who, by the way, has a boulevard named after him) reviewed the protest, but was not moved.

I haven't yet come across anything on the

Protest Is Overruled.—The house-numbering ordinance requires that all streets which are between consecutively numbered streets must take the name of "place." Commissioner Barbur will report to the city council Wednesday with the recommendation that protests against the change of the name of Vernon avenue to Northeast Fourteenth place be overruled. He said the council would not be justified in making an exception in this instance.

Neighbors on Vernon Avenue protested the proposed name change to Northeast 14th Place as part of Portland's Great Renumbering in the early 1930s. Commissioner of Public Works Asbury L. Barbur overruled the neighbors' objection and Vernon Avenue eventually vanished. (The Oregonian, Feb. 26, 1933)

record about how neighbors responded to Barbur's decision. Eventually the passage of time dulled the loss as Vernon Avenue families grew old, grew up and moved on — but it's worth noting that articles in The Oregonian well into the 1940s referred to addresses on Vernon Avenue when reporting births, marriages, deaths and social occasions.

Out in the Woodstock neighborhood of Southeast Portland, neighbors welcomed the change with relief. By 1931, all of Southeast Portland's east-west streets south of Division were assigned numbers as names and called "avenues," counting south from Ankeny (north-south roads were called "streets"). Also of confusing note, most of the east-west streets north of Division stuck with their names because they had an established named counterpart on the west side of the river.

Just when folks in Southeast Portland were getting used to the New York-style of numbered streets and avenues, the Great Renumbering came along and mercifully put an end to it. You win some and you lose some.

Long live Vernon Avenue!

Local historian Doug Decker shares insight that helps make the past more visible. He serves as vice president of the Oregon Geographic Names Board. Send history-mystery questions or topics you'd like to know more about to doug@alamedahistory.org. Read more about local history on his blog, www.alamedahistory.org.



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★ STAR BLOCK X BLOCK



BY MAGGIE GRAINGER

MAGGIEGRAINGER@STAR-NEWS.INFO

It's time to join the *Party in Parkrose*

NE neighborhood is on rise with disc golf depot, new coffee shop, other businesses

In addition to offering a warm and welcoming space, the coffee shop has a large back patio with seating and a play area for kids. Inside, families can sit and relax while the kiddos play in a specially designed corner full of games, books and a play kitchen.

Burnett said she envisions the business as more than a coffee shop, but a place where the community can come, mingle, study, play and interact. The shop has already hosted a movie and a poetry night and there are plans to host a "Hocus Pocus"-themed outdoors event this month, so long as the weather cooperates.

The shop has art on the walls from an artist who lives just three blocks away.

Although Burnett is new to the world of coffee, she says she loves coming up with fun, creative drinks with her five-person staff, all of whom live in the area.

She is especially proud of their current fall-forward options, including their take on the pumpkin spice latte, which they call the PSL, as in Please Support Local.

"We also have a Mexican Orange Mocha that's like a spiced chocolate with orange-infused milk," Burnett said. "It's really good — that's my favorite."

Cider-inspired drinks on the menu include the Apple Chai-der, ginger-spiced chai and apple cider, and the Bobbing for Apples, which is a caramel cider. Both are perfect to enjoy on a crisp Portland fall day.

Burnett also recommends their signature latte, the Parkrose Pistachio, which can be

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



Lily Burnett decided to open Parkrose Coffee Shop to bring the community together. (Maggie Grainger)

Customers can sip on drinks like the Parkrose Pistachio — a pistachio and rose-infused latte — while relaxing in the cozy space. (Parkrose Coffee Shop)



(Ryan Meyer)

Visit this historic neighborhood in Northeast Portland and discover a community working hard to build bonds, create welcoming spaces and have fun doing it.

PARKROSE COFFEE SHOP

Lily Burnett and her husband, Peter Irby, opened Parkrose Coffee Shop in May after Burnett realized the need for a community gathering space in the East Portland neighborhood.

"Last fall I was doing a lot of canvassing for the Parkrose teachers levy and one of the things that I kept hearing from neighbors was how much people love being out here and love East Portland, but wish we had something you could walk to," she said. "And that just stuck in my brain."

Burnett continued: "You know, we don't have a library here. We don't have a community center here. There's nowhere for high school kids to go after school. I've always wanted a community space — coffee was the vehicle."

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Disc golf enthusiasts of all ages come into the store to browse gear and talk shop. Disc golf is a great way to get outside, have fun and exercise with a purpose says owner Valerie Holtz. There are a number of leagues and courses throughout Portland. (Valerie Holtz)

served hot or cold, and encourages visitors to try their array of food items, including bakery bites, bagels and other pastries.

Opening the shop marks a big career shift for Burnett, who recently left her job in the nonprofit sector to focus on the shop full-time. She says she loves chatting with customers and has the ability to talk with folks all day.

“I am an extrovert. I love being around people,” she said.

ADDRESS: 4826 N.E.105th Ave. **WEBSITE:** parkrosecoffeeshop.com **INSTAGRAM:** @parkrosecoffee
DON'T MISS: Vibe PDX is hosting a kid craft hour from 10-11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 4, at the shop.

DISC GOLF DEPOT

Disc golf enthusiasts from around the world come to Parkrose to visit the Disc Golf Depot.

“We are close to the airport, which means we get to meet a lot of travelers from other states and countries,” said owner Valerie Holtz.

The specialty store has called the neighborhood home for three years but has been serving the disc golf community for more than four decades.

“I know people from ages 3 to 82 who have taken up the sport to just get outside and exercise with a purpose,” Holtz said. “It’s an easy sport for anybody to have fun and get moving.”

For those who need a quick lesson: disc golf follows the same basic principles of regular golf except players sub in golf discs — think: round Frisbees — in place of golf balls. The object is to throw the disc from the tee to the basket in as few throws as possible. Just like golfers use a variety of clubs to get the shot, disc golfers rely on four different types of discs during the game — distance drivers, fairway drivers, midrange discs and putters to make their shots count.

Holtz’s staff helps customers with grip adjustment and picking out the right disc for their game.

“There are many different skill levels in disc golf, ranging from the casual disc golfer to the occasional competitive player to the hard-core PDGA professional,” Holtz said.

Interested in taking up the sport? Holtz recommends starting slow.

“Do not get a distance driver right out of the gate,” she said. “Get a midrange or a fairway driver and go from there. Higher speed does not equal more distance.”

Holtz wants everyone who comes by the depot to leave with the best disc for their needs. She’s more than happy to share tips and favorite disc golf spots.

“Timber Park in Estacada is a beautiful well-maintained park for an entire family to enjoy, and Rockwood Central Park on 179th and Main Street was the first basket course to be installed in the state, plus they also have two playgrounds for the kids,” she said.

Holtz said she loves having her business in historic Parkrose and appreciates all the support from her fellow business owners.

“All of the businesses around us really care about all of the people who come to patronize our businesses as well as the people who live in the area,” Holtz said.

ADDRESS: 10618 N.E. Sandy Blvd. **WEBSITE:** discgolfdepot.com **INSTAGRAM:** @discgolf_depot

DON'T MISS: The Rockwood Winter Series starts Nov. 8. Interested in joining the fun? Go udisc.com/events/rockwood-winter-series-rockwood-winter-series to learn more and sign up.

EL SOMBRERO MEXICAN RESTAURANT

Move over pumpkin spice lattes. It’s all about spooky spirits at El Sombrero Mexican Restaurant.

“October marks the return of our Spooky Margaritas, a tradition our guests look forward to every year,” said restaurant spokesperson Flor Guitron Navarro.

In addition to their eerie take on the



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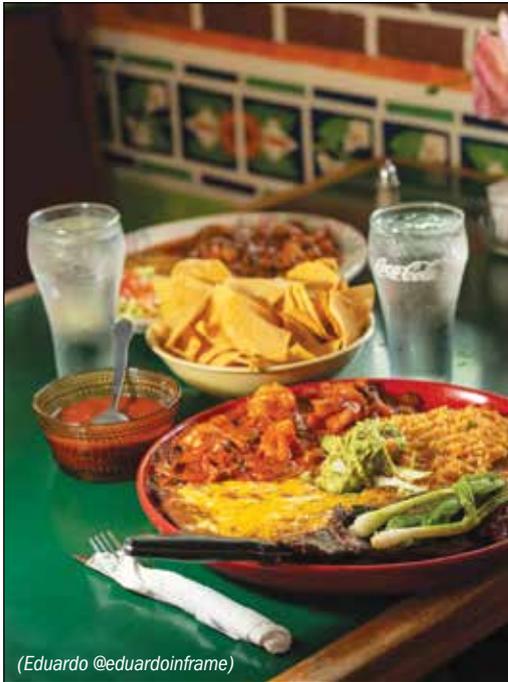
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★ STAR BLOCK X BLOCK



(Eduardo @eduardoinframe)



(Savannah Sheley @savscottphoto)



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Clockwise from above: Guest return to El Sombrero again and again for authentic Mexican dishes like mole, burritos and enchiladas. Mama Elvira has been with the restaurant since it opened. It's October, which means it's Spooky Margarita season.

signature Mexican cocktail, Navarro says El Sombrero is introducing their Beary Pumpkin Horchata, a seasonal twist that includes creamy house-made horchata infused with pumpkin spice and reposado tequila served in a hollowed-out pumpkin and topped with whipped cream and cinnamon.

"Each one comes with a custom El Sombrero teddy bear pumpkin sugar cookie — the perfect sweet companion for this cozy autumn cocktail," she said.

Creative takes like these encourage customers to continue coming back time and time again. So do the refried beans.

"Our customers rave about them," Navarro said. "The secret is that we dedicate two to three hours daily to making them."

Navarro said it's hard to pick a favorite dish because "Mexican cuisine is so rich and layered." However, she says you can't go wrong with Mama Elvira's Mole — a sweet-yet-spicy chocolate-based sauce full of depth. She also recommends their Jalisco-style birria — slow-cooked beef and pork marinated in adobo with bold spice.

"Each dish is meant to bring comfort to our guests, whether guests are celebrating a special moment or simply need a warm hug on a

tough day," she said. "Many of our customers feel like extended family and having them be part of our journey is incredibly meaningful."

The same goes for the staff, which includes four family members and three employees who've been with the team for over a decade.

"We treat our entire staff like family and, in turn, that spirit radiates out to our guests," Navarro said.

She says another secret to El Sombrero's success is the aforementioned Mama Elvira, who has been with the restaurant since it opened more than 20 years ago. She started as a busser, worked her way up to server and eventually stepped into the kitchen.

"The food was already good, but Mama Elvira gave the kitchen a true home feel. Every dish carries more than just spices, it carries amor."

Another source of pride, according to Navarro, is the support of the Parkrose community.

"We wouldn't be where we are without the love and support of our community," she said.

ADDRESS: 10820 N.E. Sandy Blvd. **WEBSITE:** elsombrotopdx.com **INSTAGRAM:** @elsombrotopdx **DON'T MISS:** Sip on their Vira Rita, the house margarita mixed with orange liqueur.

Star NEWS PRESENTS

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Thanks to Benjamin and Darcy for organizing our Emergency Response Team for their street!

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS

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

HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS

Parkrose Trunk-or-Treat

Oct. 18. 3:30-6 p.m. Head to Parkrose Middle School for a spooktacular event. Kids can enjoy food and fun in a safe environment. Parkrose Middle School, 11800 N.E. Shaver St.

Trick-or-Treat Montavilla

Oct. 26. All day. Take your little ghosts and goblins trick-or-treating. Grab an event map of participating businesses. Free, metba.org/montavilla-events/trick-or-treat-montavilla

Trick-or-Treat on Fremont Street

Oct. 31. 4-6 p.m. The Beaumont business district will hand out treats to kids in costume. The district is along Fremont Street from 40th to 50th avenues. Look for orange balloons at participating businesses.

Trick-or-Treat Alberta Street

Oct. 31. 3-6 p.m. Alberta Street businesses will hand out candy, stickers and more to kids in costume. lastthursdayalberta.org

Fall Crawl in Montavilla

Oct. 31. All day. The Montavilla East Tabor Business Association is sponsoring a pub and restaurant crawl. At the end of the event, customers will turn in their "passports" for a prize drawing. Email info@metba.org.

Trick-or-treat for canned food

Oct. 31. 5-8 p.m. Help those in need this Halloween by trick-or-treating for canned goods. Items will be donated to the Sunshine Division, which offers food aid to Portlanders. Volunteers will get a tote bag and route assignments. Check in at Sylvan Learning at 4300 N.E. Fremont St. To volunteer, email bbaboardpresident@gmail.com. Sponsored by the Beaumont Business Association.

Wear a costume, get free treats

Oct. 31. All day. Kids in costume will receive a free corn dog or ice cream cone at Mike's Drive-In. 3233 N. Lombard St. mikesdrivein.com/n-portland

Halloween, Kennedy School-style

Oct. 31. 4-8 p.m. Kids are invited to trick-or-treat around the property between 4-6 p.m. followed by an all-ages party with free music by Tallulah's Daddy. McMenamins Kennedy School, 5736 N.E. 33rd Ave., 503-249-3983, <https://tinyurl.com/yby97ppn>

KIDSTEENS AND FAMILIES

NECC, Blazers Jr. League join forces

Oct. 7-9. The Northeast Community Center Youth Basketball League is partnering with the Blazers Jr. NBA program. In this co-ed program, players, ages 5-8, will have the opportunity to build new skills, compete against other teams, and even wear official

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★ STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Blazers Jr. NBA jerseys they'll get to keep. All skill levels welcome. Registration opens at noon Oct. 7 for members and Oct. 9 for non-members. Northeast Community Center, 1630 N.E. 38th Ave., 503-284-3377, necommunitycenter.org

Registration opens at Parks & Rec

Oct. 9. 9:30 a.m. Register for classes, programs and Winter Break Camps that take place Nov. 3 to Jan. 4. Cost varies. Register online, by phone, in person, or by mail. 503-307-4131. https://tinyurl.com/ma2th84r

NE Swap & Play Social Hour

Oct. 10. 10 a.m.-noon. School may be closed, but the NE Swap & Play is open! Members are encouraged to bring the kids for a morning of fall crafts, storytime and tasty snacks. Parents can sip fresh coffee, connect with other members or catch up on work with free WiFi while the kiddos play. *This is a member event. Learn more and sign up for a 3-month membership at neswapandplay.org. 5830 N.E. Alameda St.

ENJOYARTS

Laugh through '80s aerobics class

Oct. 4. noon. comedian Jasmine Rogers will warm you up and teach you an easy, fun combo. Dress in your '80s aerobics best and get ready to move and laugh. Cost: \$20. Tickets limited. The Siren Theater, 3913 N. Mississippi Ave., sirentheater.com

Latin American Film Festival

Through Nov. 12. Various times. The Portland Latin American Film Festival brings the best of contemporary Latin American

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

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★ STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Saturday, October 11
OPERA ON TAP PORTLAND
7pm · Free · 21 & over

Thursday, October 16
THE POWER OF PLACE ROADSHOW: WHERE WE GOIN?
A Black filmmaker from Portland explores the meaning of home & the future of Black identity
7pm · Q&A to follow
\$12 adults, \$8 kids 12 and under

Sunday, October 19
LOOSEWIG JAZZ SERIES
hosted by BRENT FOLLIS
7pm · \$20 adults, \$10 students · Tix at the door

HALLOWEEN
Saturday, October 25
HALLOWEEN BASH
w/ LIVE MUSIC by SNAPSHOT
8pm · \$20 adv, \$25 day of · 21 & over
..... *Friday, October 31*
HALLOWEEN PARTY
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Trick-or-treating: 4-6pm
Halloween party: 6-8pm

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cinema. This year's program showcases 11 feature films and one short film from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Puerto Rico and Venezuela. For individual ticket sales and to learn more, visit <https://tinyurl.com/32p3deat> Hollywood Theatre, 4122 N.E. Sandy Blvd., 503-493-1128, hollywoodtheatre.org

Musical drama with a message

Through Nov. 2. Various times. "Paradise Blue" follows Blue, a talented but tormented trumpeter, who must decide if he wants to fight to keep his jazz joint, the Paradise Club, alive. The drama explores the cost of ambition, history and what it means to fight for music in a community on the brink. Portland Playhouse, 602 N.E. Prescott St., 503-488-5822, portlandplayhouse.org

MUSICNOTES

'Hocus Pocus' drag show

Oct. 12. Doors 6 p.m. Show 7 p.m. Could the Halloween cult classic "Hocus Pocus" get any more fabulous? The answer is yes. This comedy parody features RuPaul's Drag Race stars Tina Burner, Scarlet Envy and Alexis Michelle. Cost: \$40-\$100. 18+. Minors OK if accompanied by a parent or guardian. Alberta Rose Theatre, 3000 N.E. Alberta St.,

503-719-6055, albertarosetheatre.com

Free classical music masterpieces

Oct. 26. 2 p.m. The Bach Cantata Choir of Portland will present a free classical music concert featuring Handel's "Ode to St. Cecilia's Day" and J.S. Bach's "Cantata 139." All works feature the 50-member choir, vocal soloists and a 12-member orchestra, under the direction of conductor Ralph Nelson. Free. Rose City Park Presbyterian Church, 1907 N.E. 45th St. bachcantatachoir.org

INGENERAL

Cruelty-free fragrance expo

Oct. 5. noon-5 p.m. Try Vegan PDX and NW Veg present AromaKind, the city's first-ever cruelty-free fragrance expo to celebrate ethical and independent perfumery. The event aims to bring greater visibility to vegan and cruelty-free scent-based artisans. \$5 suggested donation. Jupiter Hotel NEXT, 900 E. Burnside St., <https://tinyurl.com/ync6ht8m>

Community Impact Week

Oct. 7-11. This week offers opportunities for individuals, groups and companies to participate in hands-on volunteer projects that deliver real benefits to local nonprofits. From planting community gardens to repairing kids' books to organizing closets,

there is a wide variety of projects to get involved. Participate through volunteering, sponsorship, or sharing this information. Register at unitedway-pdx.org/community-impact-week

Fix broken household items for free

Oct. 11. noon-3 p.m. Volunteers will fix small appliances, repair bikes and mend clothing at the Repair PDX: Repair Cafe. Tool and knife sharpening also available. Visit the website beforehand and fill out a form telling them what you are bringing in to get fixed. Free. Leaven Community House, 5431 N.E. 20th Ave., 503-893-9656, repairpdx.org/about-us

Citizen's Climate Lobby to meet

Oct. 11. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Join the Citizen's Climate Lobby chapter meeting every second Saturday of the month. Meet like-minded people working together to get climate laws passed. Fremont United Methodist Church, 2620 N.E. Fremont St., citizensclimatelobby.org/chapters/OR_Portland/

Zen pruning class

Oct. 17. 10 a.m.-noon. Learn to shape and nurture small shrubs and trees in your garden while cultivating a sense of serenity and beauty. Free. Space is limited. Enroll by emailing Laurelhurst.contact@gmail.com. Willing to offer your yard as the host and classroom? Get some free pruning done.

Arbor Day Nature Book Exchange

Oct. 18. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Love nature books? Come by the Sacajawea Head Start annual Arbor Day Celebration for their tree-themed book exchange. In addition to finding great reads, enjoy food, arts and crafts, and help plant 15 trees at the event. Free. Sacajawea Head Start, 4800 N.E. 74th Ave., 503-200-9366, portland.gov/trees/arbor-day

Lions Club semi-annual blood drive

Oct. 22. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The Portland Hollywood Lions will host its semi-annual blood drive at Rose City Presbyterian Church. There is a very critical need for blood this year. Call Dan Norton at 503-720-6557 to make an appointment. Free. Rose City Presbyterian Church, 1907 N.E. 45th Ave., RedCrossblood.org

Protecting your financial security should take more than 15 minutes.

What's the rush? You work hard for your money and deserve professional advice. We're independent agents, we do the shopping for you. Your financial future depends upon thoughtful risk evaluation and recommendations, not somebody's hasty decisions concerned about a stopwatch!



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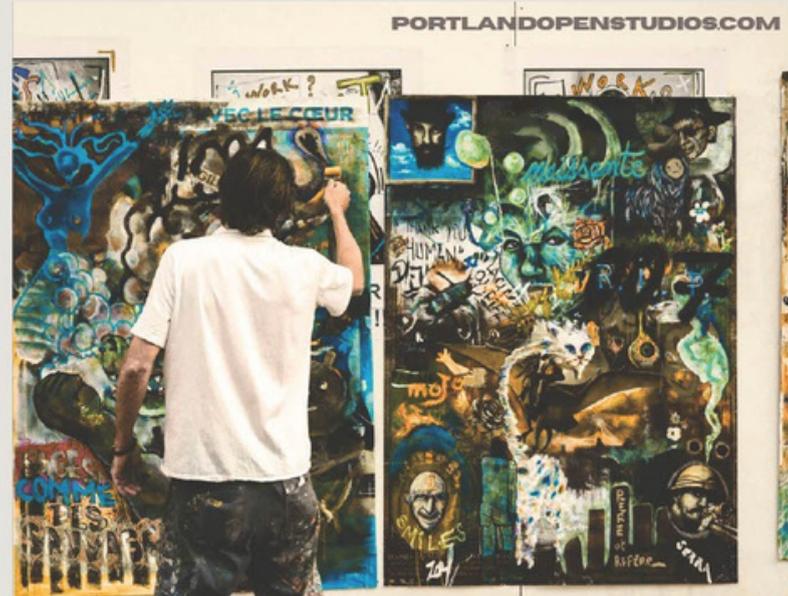
Sunday, October 26, 2025, 2pm

Carlo Grossi: Cantata ebraica
J. S. Bach: Cantata #139
Handel: Ode to St. Cecilia's Day

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

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OCTOBER 11, 12, 18, 19
10AM-4PM

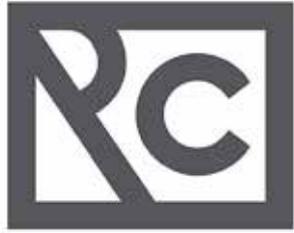
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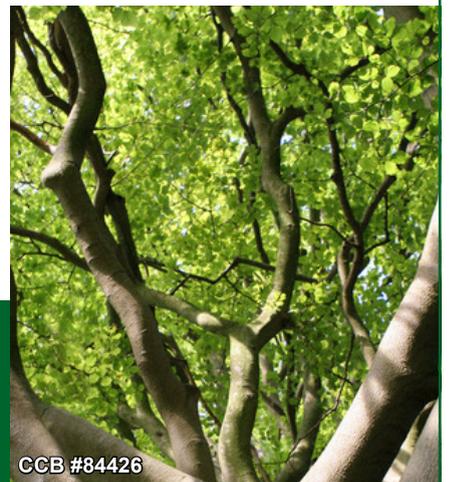
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SqFt: 3071

NEW PRICE
\$1,125,000



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 with a fireplace, barrel rolled ceilings, French paneled windows, and 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

MARKET ANALYSIS

PORTLAND METRO AREA / AUGUST 2025

MIXED SIGNALS WITH BUYER STRENGTH

August saw a dip in new listings, down 7.2% from July and 15.5% below last August, with 2,476 homes hitting the market. While seller activity slowed, buyers stepped up--pending sales rose 10.9% year-over-year and 4.5% from the previous month, reaching 2,275. Closed sales also climbed, with 2,021 homes sold in August--up 3.3% from last year and 0.8% from July. Inventory tightened slightly to 3.5 months, though homes spent more time on the market, averaging 62 days.

Year-to-date, 2025 remains ahead of 2024. New listings have increased 3.2%, pending sales are up 1.4%, and closed sales have risen 1.0%. Prices continue to show modest growth: the average sale price is up 0.7% to \$616,200, while the median rose 0.9% to \$550,000.

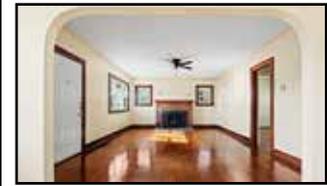
In short: Buyer demand remains strong, closings are up, and prices continue to edge forward--even as seller momentum eases heading in to fall.

Reach out if you'd like the latest data and insights for the areas you are most in!

WINDERMERE REALTY TRUST

Based on information from Trendright. Windermere Realty Trust does not guarantee accuracy.

MONTAVILLA BUNGALOW



37 SE 81st Avenue

3 Bedrooms
2 Bathrooms



SqFt: 2464

\$450,000

Charming Montavilla bungalow conveniently located close to restaurants, shopping, mass transit and freeway access. Well-built and well-maintained home in need of cosmetic updates. Formal living and dining rooms with hardwood floors and original built-ins. Mostly newer windows, lots of closets and storage space. Unfinished basement with potential, awaiting a buyer's vision to add additional living space.



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