

# Star NEWS

LEARN ABOUT MONARCH BUTTERFLY CORRIDORS IN OUR SPECIAL HOME AND GARDEN SECTION. PAGE 8

★ SERVING NORTHEAST AND NORTH METROPOLITAN PORTLAND NEIGHBORHOODS ★ APRIL 2020 ★ 37, NUMBER 10 ★

# #NEPDX STRONG!

**NORTH AND NORTHEAST NEIGHBORHOODS MAKE THE MOST OF LIFE AT A DISTANCE**



FRONTLINE HEROS. PAGE 10



25 YEARS FOR VAN DAMME. PAGE 14



ARRANGED ANNIVERSARY. PAGE 15



GARDEN IS A GO. PAGE 9

(Cover photo by Jane Perkins)

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THE HOLLYWOOD STAR NEWS  
NORTH AND NORTHEAST METRO NEIGHBORHOODS  
2000 N.E. 42ND AVENUE PMB 142  
PORTLAND, OREGON 97213

★ STAR EDITOR'S NOTE

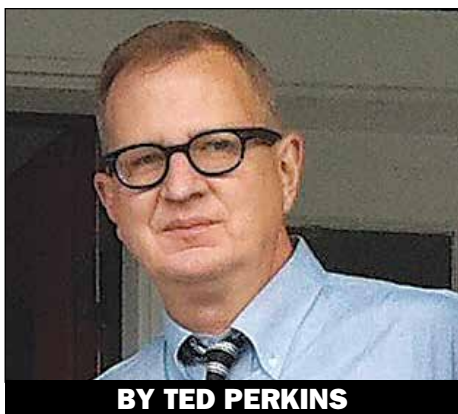
STAR PLANS TO GO FORWARD WITH AN EYE TOWARD RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE

Since our publisher Mary DeHart founded this newspaper more than 36 years ago, our mission at the Star has remained the same: to advocate for vibrant and inclusive neighborhoods in North and Northeast Portland and to promote a strong and sustainable economy through our locally-owned, small businesses.

Our goals haven't changed. These are challenging times, but our neighbors need reliable community news now more than ever and our small businesses remain the heartbeat of our neighborhoods, the spine of our local economy and the invincible spirit of our city.

Continuing to publish a newspaper in the face of shifting technology has been challenging. This month has been especially difficult. Almost all of our regular drop spots – libraries, coffee shops, retail and community gathering spaces – will be shuttered for the foreseeable future. Many of our good friends – and our primary source of revenue – have been forced to close their doors, reduce their hours, slash their staff and face unimaginable uncertainty going forward.

I've been bolstered by conversations I've had with several of our longtime business leaders and I've been inspired by their courage and creativity as they scramble to keep their doors open and develop new and innovative strategies to care for their customers. Sue Mautz at The Arrangement in Beaumont Village reminded me that "this too shall pass." Sue usually knows what she's



BY TED PERKINS TEDPERKINS@STAR-NEWS.INFO

talking about and, after 40 years at the helm, I'm inclined to believe her.

I'm also inclined to believe our neighborhood business owners possess the fortitude and the resourcefulness to weather this storm. After this is over, I look forward to working with them to rebuild our community and our local economy. My hope is that together we can build something that will be even stronger and more resilient.

This month, The Star will continue to mail thousands of copies to our regular subscribers and, for readers who rely on our store copies, we will be stocking the rack at 42nd Street Station, 2000 N.E. 42nd Ave., which is open from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday. We will also have digital copies available at www.star-news.info and will explore every pathway we can find to continue to connect our readers with their community and their dollars with the businesses that form the lifeblood of our local economy. Our website will be the best source for information on our strategies going forward, as this fluid situation continues to evolve.

We will get through this, but we'll need to do it together and we'll need to look out for one another. Our country may be weakened on a national level, but Northeast Portland is strong and always has been. I believe our local leadership is capable of rising to this occasion and that we can all strengthen our resolve to do what we need to do. Stay home. Stay smart. Treat each other with kindness and compassion. Wash our hands. Be on the lookout for ways we can assist the vulnerable, whether that be an elderly neighbor or a struggling small business. Together, we can do it.

Here are five things we can all do now to help support our local businesses until we've put these difficulties in our rear view mirror:

1. Buy gift cards.
2. Shop local online.
3. Take advantage of local discounts.
4. Order take out from restaurants.
5. Tip extra if you can afford to.

On a personal note, I pressed "pause" on the Star's evolving digital efforts last year when I was hospitalized with complications from some pretty nasty chemotherapy. I have been waiting until I fully recovered to revive those efforts. I'm done waiting. I'll fire that machine back up as soon as this paper goes to press. Our website will be updated regularly and our electronic newsletter will return to its regular Friday morning schedule. You can visit www.star-news.info to subscribe.

In closing, if this pandemic is our once-in-a-lifetime challenge, let's rise to meet it together? In the future, we will look back at this time as an exercise that made us stronger, that showed our grit and that made us proud. ★

The Hollywood Star News

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★ STAR LIFE AT A DISTANCE

# MAKING THE MOST OF LIFE AT A DISTANCE



In late March, with schools closing and no jacket orders on the horizon, Settlemier's Jacket factory in Beaumont Village was on the brink of shutting down. Before closing the doors, founder Gloria Settlemier and her son Aaron, who runs the shop, teamed with their hardworking employees – who volunteered their time and skills – to produce much-needed sanitary masks for healthcare workers and first responders. The masks will be donated to Multnomah County which will distribute them as needed. (Ted Perkins)

By Janet Goetze and Ted Perkins  
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tedperkins@star-news.info

Even in quarantine, life goes on. Neighbors are meeting neighbors – at appropriate distances – and hunting for “treasure,” writing letters, reading books, streaming music, shopping curbside or taking virtual tours. More walkers, runners and bike riders are venturing outside, too, at safe distances, as traffic diminishes on the streets and the air is cleaner. We’ve gathered a few stories of how some neighbors and local businesses are making the best of their time in quarantine, turning “social distancing” to “distant socializing.”

## PLAN TO VISIT

Alameda neighbor Caroline Greger, inspired by quarantined Italians who sang from their balconies at the end of coronavirus days, invited her neighbors by email and Facebook to come outdoors at 5 p.m. one day and visit with one another at an appropriate distance.

“It was a huge hit,” reported her husband, David Greger. “What we expected to be a few minutes turned into an hour as people circled in the middle of the block, on both sides of the street, wine glass or cocktail in hand, and struck up conversations.”

The block on Northeast 32nd Place, south of Fremont, agreed to make the meeting a daily ritual during quarantine, Greger said. Residents expected to add songs to their daily event. Greger, a violinist, was practicing with the hope of adding instrumental music to the ritual, too.

“We ended up meeting new neighbors,” he said. Drivers passing the neighbors during their evening visitation seemed intrigued. “One of the drivers walked over from her house,” Greger said.

His violin teacher told him about Oregon Symphony musicians who are unemployed in the quarantine. “They are just playing on their porches,” Greger said.

## HUNT FOR TREASURE

In Grant Park, neighbors have created Treasure Hunt Tuesdays. On that day of the week, families with children create colorful shapes of a particular object or symbol. March 17 was a shamrock, of course. Kids and adults drew the shape several times, colored or painted the drawings, then taped the shapes to windows visible from the street.

Even small children, accompanied by their adults, could take a walk around the neighborhood, seeing how many shamrocks or other shape-of-the-day they could find. All the while, of course, they kept a proper distance from other treasure hunters.

The Grant Park treasure hunters have decided what they will search for in coming weeks: a bunny on April 7, the sun on April 14, an emoji of choice on April 21 and a heart on April 28.

## CHEER THE WORKERS

In Outer Kerns, Kath Robinson encouraged her neighbors to stand on porches, at open windows or come out on balconies at 8 p.m. each evening to cheer and clap for health care workers, grocery shoppers, food deliverers and others supporting those in quarantine.

“It feels really good, as gratitude always does, and is such a small thing for those that are doing so much,” Robinson said.

## WRITE FOR HISTORY

The Oregon Historical Society wants to make a record for the future of what Oregonians are experiencing in this time of Covid-19. The historical organization is asking residents to write a letter, perhaps saying which stories of Oregonians from the past or present are giving them courage.

The letters also might outline how the writers are spending their days. The writers could explain what they have learned about themselves, their friends or their families that is giving them strength in the “new normal.”

More information is at the website: [www.ohs.org](http://www.ohs.org). Letters may be sent to the Oregon Historical Society, 1200 S.W. Park Ave., Portland, Or. 97205.

## MEET A STRANGER

An exchange of thoughts and events through a letter is called “Dear Stranger.”

The letter project is intended to connect Oregonians through the mail to share experiences, beliefs and ideas. The recurring letter exchange started in 2014 by Oregon Humanities, an independent, nonprofit affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Everyone, regardless of place of residence, age or other circumstances, is welcome to write a letter to a stranger, and to receive a letter, too, according to information from Oregon Humanities.



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## ★ STAR LIFE AT A DISTANCE

Oregonians confined to their homes might find time to write a letter. In exchange, they could receive a letter and learn about a new perspective or experience.

Originally, the letters this year were expected to focus on elections. However, the Covid-19 pandemic has arrived, and different communities, elected leaders and institutions have responded differently to it.

A letter could answer a couple of questions: What have you learned from the response to the virus? Has your understanding changed of the values your community holds or the systems that support it?

Those who want to participate must sign a Dear Stranger release form and read other details at [www.oregonhumanities.org/](http://www.oregonhumanities.org/) programs. The letter and signed form should be mailed to Oregon Humanities, 921 S.W. Washington St., Portland, OR 97205.

### FOOD BANK NEEDS YOU

The Oregon Food Bank is adjusting staffing and increasing the frequency of deep cleaning and sanitization beyond its usual standards as it works to provide food for a growing number of families, seniors and people with chronic conditions who need assistance.

CEO Susannah Morgan is asking Oregonians to spread the word that food remains available for those experiencing challenges. The agency also is seeking more volunteers who are under the age of 60 and don't face higher risks for Covid-19.

And, of course, donations are needed.

"Financial contributions go much further than food donations in moments like these," said Morgan. "Your support will help to bolster food distribution in hard-hit communities across the state."

Visit [www.oregonfoodbank.org/](http://www.oregonfoodbank.org/) to make a contribution.

### STREAM LOCAL MUSIC

The Alberta Rose Theatre, 3000 N.E. Alberta St., has closed because of the statewide quarantine. However, it is offering live music to subscribers of "Portland Music Stream." For a subscription fee, it will provide 20 concerts with new shows five nights per week and available on demand.

Information at press time says shows will continue through April 16.

"Your subscription will help keep a vital venue alive, sound engineers at work, musicians able to perform, and foster community in this time of social distancing," according to theater information.

Portland Music Stream also will donate money to the Jeremy Wilson Foundation, a health care non-profit that supports local musicians with vital services. Information is available at [house@albertarosetheatre.com](mailto:house@albertarosetheatre.com).

If the stream isn't of interest, the theater also is asking patrons to donate to continue theater operations at a time when income is curtailed. The website [www.albertarosetheatre.com](http://www.albertarosetheatre.com) has a page with a donation button.

### PAINT POTTERY AT HOME

Mimosa Studios at 1718 N.E. Alberta St. in the Vernon neighborhood is now offering neighbors the opportunity to paint pottery projects at home.

"Even though our in-store painting is not an option now, we still wanted to offer the Mimosa experience to our customers and community," said shop owner Austin Raglione. "People can create art in a clean and safe environment. These are tough times and families are looking for things they can do together.

ur hope is that this provides a creative

and fun outlet for those who might feel cooped up or isolated. Everything is disinfected before going out the door to ensure the safety and well being of our customers and staff."

Neighbors can order to-go kits through the shop's website or over the phone. The sanitized take home kits come complete with ceramics, paints, brushes, pallets and instructions. Mimosa offers free delivery within ten miles of the studio.

"We are answering phones Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and making deliveries Monday, Wednesday and Saturday afternoons," said Raglione. "With the current situation of schools being closed and families being at home for an extended period, we wanted to make sure families had some options for art projects to do together during these uncertain times."

Call 503-288-0770 or visit [www.mimosastudios.com](http://www.mimosastudios.com) for more information.

### BUNNY BAGS IN BEAUMONT

Just in time for Easter, The Arrangement, at 4210 N.E. Fremont in Beaumont Village will offer "Bunny Bag" online shopping with local delivery and curbside pickup.

"We have morphed what we are doing to respond to the stay at home orders," said Deena Spang, store manager. "We do not have an e-commerce site yet, but we've been taking photos and are posting them on our website for people to browse so that they can call or email us with what they want."

For 40 years, The Arrangement has offered a place to shop for gifts, home decor, women's clothing and jewelry, and has one of the best greeting card selections in town.

For more information, call 503-287-4440 or visit [www.thearrangementtpdx.com](http://www.thearrangementtpdx.com).

### ENJOY DRIVE-BY BOOKS

Broadway Books temporarily closed its shop at 1714 N.E. Broadway and cancelled authors' readings and other activities for April. However, the owners devised ways to put books in the hands of readers and curbside pick-up became one plan.

Staff members are expected to be on duty from 12 noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday, to take telephone orders at 503-284-1726, prepaid by credit card. Pickup times are between 2 and 4 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. An employee takes the order to the curb. If customers encounter someone else picking up an order, the proprietors ask that they observe the 6-foot distance.

The shop also delivers some pre-paid orders in nearby neighborhoods and arranges to mail books in other cases. For more information, visit [www.broadwaybooks.net](http://www.broadwaybooks.net).

### SEE DISJECTA ART

Individuals and small groups are welcome by appointment only to view "What Needs to Be Said: Hallie Ford Fellows in the Visual Arts" and the upcoming "Dimensions of the Sacred" at the Disjecta Contemporary Art Center, 8371 N. Interstate Ave.

In addition, photographs of work by the 13 Hallie Ford Fellows are on the center's website, [www.disjecta.org](http://www.disjecta.org). By early April, a video of the show, including links with artist interviews, is expected to be on the website. For more information, call 503-286-9449 or email [info@disjecta.org](mailto:info@disjecta.org).

### GUARDINO POSTS ART

The Guardino Gallery at 2939 N.E. Alberta St. has cancelled an artists' reception but will post pictures online, with sizes and prices, all month long. Call the gallery from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays, 503-281-9048, to purchase or ask for an appointment. The website is [www.guardinogallery.com](http://www.guardinogallery.com).

The current artists include Rogene Manas, who creates art with inventive mixed media techniques; Stan Peterson, a wood sculptor, and Karen Thurman, who works with fiber, transforming it into felt with pattern, shape and whimsy.

### GULCH KEEPS GOING

To help keep our neighborhood restaurants and businesses going, the Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association has compiled a spreadsheet of restaurants and businesses on Northeast Broadway between 14th and 33rd avenues that are offering takeout or amended services during covid-19 restrictions. Most offer online ordering and home delivery for an additional fee. Visit [www.sullivansgulch.org](http://www.sullivansgulch.org) to check it out.

### BUSINESS ASSOCIATION OFFERS RESOURCE

The Beaumont Business Association has prepared an online listing of Beaumont Businesses offering up-to-date information on modified hours, take-out, delivery options and other social distancing concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic. One listing mentions takeout service at Sabiang Thai, a new restaurant in the former Tuk Tuk space. Watch for more about this eatery in a future edition of the Star.

"The list will be updated as we hear from businesses," said District Organizer Kathy Madore. "If you have information about a Beaumont business, please let us know by emailing [beaumontbusinesses@gmail.com](mailto:beaumontbusinesses@gmail.com)."

Visit [www.beaumontvillagepdx.com](http://www.beaumontvillagepdx.com) to check it out. ★

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★ STAR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

**FAUBION HAS A FUTURE**

Faubion School won't close just because its neighbor and partner, Concordia University, will close in May, Principal Karmin Williams told an overflow crowd at a March meeting of the Concordia Neighborhood Association.

Most of the questions asked at the Kennedy School meeting were about the future of Faubion and Concordia's 24-acre campus.

Faubion, Concordia and other community supporters had cooperated on a "3toPhD" program to break down barriers to learning. Faubion is one of the most diverse schools in the state and about 80 percent of its students receive free or reduced price lunch.

Williams said Faubion would continue to cooperate with Kaiser Permanente for medical and dental care, Trillium Family Services for mental and behavioral health, and Basics, a natural food grocery, for nutrition.

Affiliated with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, Concordia is across 29th Avenue from Faubion and the university sent student teachers and volunteers to work with Faubion students. The university also leased office space in Faubion, which reopened in 2017 after a two-year rebuilding project.

Concordia was supporting about 40 percent of Faubion's budget, Williams said, and school district officials are brainstorming on how to fill that gap.

Other educational groups have expressed interest in the property, said Shawn Daley, executive vice president at Concordia. The denomination and the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, a lender, want to maintain the property in good condition for a potential sale. Declining enrollment and financial conditions were cited for the closure, which affects both the Portland campus and its law school in Idaho.

"We don't want to get to the point of putting up a chain link fence," Daley said. He added that security would be maintained on the campus.

Some neighbors cited losses they felt with the closure. These include opportunities to use the university library and sports fields and the destruction of homes to create those fields.

A Concordia student, Kelvin Hall, suggested that HotChalk, a Silicon Valley marketing company, make up the 40 percent of Faubion's budget that had been expected from the university. A federal prosecutor said arrangements between the university and HotChalk appeared to violate laws related to recruitment. However, Concordia and HotChalk denied



**BY JANET GOETZE**  
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accusations and signed a \$1 million settlement in 2015 that admitted no wrongdoing in the case.

**DARCELLE HOME LISTED**

The Eliot neighborhood home of Walter Cole, known professionally as Darcelle XV, the entertainer and supper club owner, has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places, according to Robert Olguin, National Register coordinator for the Oregon Parks Department.

The house is notable for its distinctive Queen Anne architecture, including a tower ending in a peaked roof. The style was popular in the United States from 1880 to about 1910. The house was constructed in 1896 for Elmer and Linnie Miller. Cole purchased the house in the 1970s.

"A plaque will be ordered and we will have a celebration in front of this magnificent house," said Don Horn, a friend of Cole who helped arrange to list the house on the register.

**PREPARE YOUR ART**

Artists who have seen changes in Northeast Portland neighborhoods are invited to create work to express their observations for a community show, including visual art, written poetry, spoken word and song.

The exhibit, called "Engage in the Change," is scheduled Aug. 9-23, but organizers are giving artists time to work on potential submissions, said Jordana Leeb, a spokeswoman for the organizers. The current schedule calls for taking submissions to the Alberta Street Galley, 1829 N.E. Alberta St., during open hours between July 31 and Aug. 2, Leeb said.

Guidelines on size of work and artists' information are at [tinyurl.com/engageart](http://tinyurl.com/engageart). A submission fee is \$5 but no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



The Eliot neighborhood home of Walter Cole, known professionally as Darcelle XV, the entertainer and supper club owner, has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. (Don Horn)

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**IS THE BUDGET MORAL?**

When the Maasai people of Kenya exchange greetings, they don't ask, "How are you?" said the Rev. Bill Sinkford, pastor of First Unitarian Church. They ask, "How are the children?"

They are seeking a measure of how society and the world are faring, Sinkford told a meeting of the Interfaith Alliance on Poverty. The five-year-old organization heard ideas from faith leaders about "State Budget as a Moral Document" at its March meeting at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

The principals of faith can influence decisions for governing even as church and state remain separated, Sinkford said. The idea is that what happens to one of us affects all of us.

At what point, he asked, did we want to live as a society in which children live in cars and go without food?

The corporate contribution to the state budget has declined from about 19 percent in the 1970s to about 7 percent today, Sinkford said. Proceeds from the Oregon lottery, which draws funds from low-income people and gambling addicts, are greater than corporate contributions, he said.

"I question the way the burdens are shared in the budget," Sinkford said.

Rabbi Barry Cohen, of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, said a concern for social justice is part of his faith. Jews often use the words "tikkun olam" or world repair, to connote social action and the pursuit of social justice.

We have to use governmental remedies to redress harm, he said, and that may mean building relationships with those in power.

The Rev. Dave Zegar, pastor of St. Andrew Catholic Church, said the common good requires social well being. "Jimmy Carter said that the test of a government is how honestly and fairly it deals with those who depend on it."

**NEW LANES DUE ON MLK**

The Central Eastside is expected have 7000 additional households and 8000 more jobs by 2035. That means changes are needed in the transportation system to support increased travel needs, according to the bureau of transportation.

Among the solutions is the addition of Business Access and Transit (BAT) lanes to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Grand Avenue between Southeast Mill Street and Northeast Broadway.

The project, which is under design, is expected to relieve a pinch point in the transit system, benefitting more than 5200 people who ride the streetcar loops, and more than 6300 people who ride TriMet line 6 every day. In addition, a transit, commercial truck and turn lane pilot from Mill Street to Broadway is expected to boost transit and freight movement, according to a news release.

Construction on the \$1.8 million project is expected to begin in fall of 2020.

**SPAN TO EASE TRAFFIC**

North Rivergate Boulevard will be closed from Lombard Street to Time Oil Road as construction starts on a new bridge over Union Pacific and BNSF railroad tracks.

The span is called the North Rivergate Boulevard Overcrossing. It is expected to relieve drivers' delays and vehicle congestion that occurs when trains block Rivergate Industrial District businesses.

During the one-year closure, traffic will be detoured from North Burgard Road to North Time Oil Road. Local access will be maintained to properties with driveways in the closure area, using new access roads constructed during the building of the overcrossing.

The overcrossing is expected to reduce travel time and costs for freight and employees of the Port of Portland's Terminal 5 and businesses in the district.

The project cost is \$25.8 million. It is scheduled to be completed in spring 2021. Funding comes from Metro, Port of Portland, ODOT and the Bureau of Transportation.

**REMEMBER TO VOTE**

April 28 is the last day to register for Oregon's May 19 primary election. Ballots will start being mailed on April 29.

The elections division office at 1040 S.E. Morrison St. is closed to the public because of coronavirus concerns, but registration may be completed online.

The elections division advises that the last day to return ballots safely by mail is May 14. After that date, voters should use official drop boxes. The elections division drop box is on Southeast 11th Avenue. Ballots must be deposited by 8 p.m. May 19. The post mark doesn't count. For more information, call 503-988-3720 or visit www.multco.us/elections. ★

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★ STAR UPDATE

# Grant High murals face uncertain future

By Janet Goetze  
janetgoetze@star-news.info

According to a committee that raised funds to restore two murals at Grant High School, Portland Public Schools needs a panel with professional expertise to help evaluate art in its buildings.

The committee received the district's permission to raise funds in late 2018, but now it has learned the future is uncertain for the W.T. Fletcher murals, a memorial to the school's first principal that art historians regard as significant work.

The Indigenous Student Union says the mutual greeting of Native Americans and pioneers on facing panels in the school auditorium is historically inaccurate and is a source of distress for the students.

Nina Olsson, an art conservator familiar with the murals, has independently prepared a document she plans to provide to the school district. She has outlined the pros and cons of several ways to deal with the controversy, from destruction, removal and educational interpretation to obscuring the Native and pioneer figures. Her document also provides information about how other jurisdictions have dealt with controversial artwork.

Principal Carol Campbell agrees with the students that the murals should be removed. She said so Feb. 27 on the KOPB program, "Think Out Loud." That program included host Dave Miller, Olsson, student Annii Tate and Bob Erickson, a mural committee member with the school's Alumni Association.

The panels, painted on canvas affixed to the walls flanking the auditorium stage, are the work of Carl Hoeckner, a German immigrant who became part of the Chicago mural movement. A report from the Heritage Conservation Group of Portland said the murals are "the most significant and valuable cultural heritage asset at Grant High School." The report was sought in preparation for Grant's modernization, started in 2017.



Two W.T. Fletcher murals, flanking the auditorium stage at Grant High School, face an uncertain future as they've become a source of controversy between the school's Indigenous Student Union and an alumni committee raising funds to preserve and restore them. (Grant High School Alumni Association)

One 20-foot by 25-foot mural includes representations of young men rising in golden light toward Prometheus, the Greek god of arts and sciences. In the other panel, young women rise in the light toward Athena, the goddess of wisdom, inspiration and civilization. At the bottom of one mural is a group of Native Americans raising their arms toward the other panel where a group of pioneers returns the greeting.

Hoeckner was living in Chicago during World War I, but he was appalled by its brutality, Olsson said. A theme in his

work, she said, became his abhorrence of violence and support for efforts to achieve peace and harmony among all people.

Between December 2018 and early 2019, while the school was undergoing modernization, the alumni group raised \$100,000 for mural restoration and received matching funds from the Leo Lester Browne Fund.

The fund raising started after the committee received an email from the district's four-member Strategic Partnership Team: "Yes, you have a green light to fundraise for the Grant High School

mural restoration." The email continued: "...restoring the murals would be beneficial for Grant and the community."

In March, 2019, according to an alumni letter sent to donors in March 2020: "Two students from the Grant Native American Student Union (as it was then known) asked to speak with the association about their concerns that the murals are not historically accurate, creating negative and unwelcome feelings for Native students."

The alumni were sympathetic with the students' concerns, said Erickson. However, he said, the committee envisioned the murals as a way to begin discussions about artistic intent, historical events and a curriculum that meets the state's new direction for teaching Native American history.

The alumni association sought information about next steps and was told more information would be coming in a month or two. In late August, 2019, the alumni board toured the school shortly before it reopened and, according to the alumni letter, principal Campbell asked members not to discuss the controversy with anyone.

In early February, 2020, alumni learned that two students from the Indigenous Student Union had taken their concerns about the murals to the school board.

By mid-February the alumni were told district officials wanted small group discussions about mural concerns. The alumni met with two school board members, but no other appointments were made before coronavirus concerns ended gatherings. ★

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Corona Bunny says don't forget Easter Sunday, April 12!

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★ STAR HOME AND GARDEN

# Irvington neighbor restores monarch habitat

## HOME & GARDEN

By Janet Goetze  
janetgoetze@star-news.info

Ida Galash wants to create a monarch corridor through Northeast Portland. That means planting milkweed in more yards. It's the only plant the monarch caterpillars eat, once they hatch from eggs.

"Without milkweed, we have no monarchs," said Galash, an Irvington neighborhood gardener and butterfly protector. She has native varieties of the plant in her yard and has planted seeds in pots to share with others.

She also created what she calls a "monarch way station" in the parking strip along Northeast 24th Avenue and Klickitat Street, near the Madeleine Church and School, where she once taught art classes.

With temperatures rising, she's starting to add new milkweed plants to the strip, along with flowering plants that attract bees and other pollinators. The flowers also provide nectar for adult butterflies

"Since the 1990s," she said, "we've lost about 90 percent of the monarchs."

Another way to envision their plight is to look at a rock in the 24th Avenue way station. It has a cluster of monarchs painted on the dark stone. They are all white, except one. It is orange. That's the one survivor – the one out of 160 surviving since the 1980s.

Herbicides, other sprays and loss of habitat – development that removes milkweed – have contributed to the loss of the orange and black butterflies, distinguished by the white spots on the edges of their wings. Other butterflies may be mistaken for the monarch, such as the western tiger swallowtail, the painted lady and the red admiral, which, Galash said, often comes to her garden.

These butterflies are smaller than the monarch, which can measure three to five inches wide. The monarch also has a smoother flight pattern than other butterflies, which may appear to dart in the air in irregular patterns.

Galash became a monarch foster mother last summer. Through another



Ida Galash, wearing her blouse printed with monarch butterfly images, holds a container planted with milkweed seeds. The plant has a long tap root. Her monarch way station sign indicates her garden is planted to benefit butterflies. (Janet Goetze)

gardener, she learned of a woman in Brookings, along the southern Oregon coast, who realized she had an unusually large number of monarch eggs on the under side of her milkweed plants. She estimated the number at more than 580 eggs. She worried that her milkweed might be insufficient for the number of caterpillars that could hatch, and she asked for help.

Galash's gardener friend drove south and brought back eggs, each about the size of a rice grain, still on the leaves. The eggs hatched into caterpillars with yellow, white and black stripes. They fed on milkweed leaves for about two weeks. Then each caterpillar stopped eating and formed into a "J" shape, hanging upside down from the milkweed.

Gradually, each caterpillar shed its exoskeleton and turned into a green pupa, followed by a chrysalis stage. In time, the chrysalis turned dark, then translucent and the monarch emerged. The stages from egg to emerging butterfly take about 25 days. Cool temperatures may slow some stages, Galash said.

Galash raised 60 monarchs from the eggs she received. She cautions others not to send away for monarch eggs that may come from a different part of the country

or be contaminated with parasites. Some scientific research indicates that butterflies raised in captivity may not navigate as well as those raised in the wild.

Since supporting habitat for monarchs would provide a better outcome for the butterflies, Galash hopes more neighbors will plant native milkweed, free of herbicides, even in small spaces or in pots.

It's important to know the characteristics of the plant. The narrow

"Without milkweed, we have no monarchs. Since the 1990s, we've lost about 90 percent of the monarchs."

– IDA GALASH

leaf milkweed (*Asclepias fascicularis*) has clumps of lavender or white flowers – appreciated by other insects – and it does well in small gardens. The showy milkweed, (*Asclepias speciosa*) a native perennial and nectar source for bees, has purplish, star-shaped flowers and a deep taproot that requires space to grow.

While planting for monarch caterpillars, gardeners should provide native, herbicide-free flowers that western butterflies need for nectar when migrating south to breeding grounds in California. Eastern monarchs migrate into Mexico.

The flowers that Galash selects for pollinators include bee balm, or wild bergamot, with fragrant foliage and blooms of red, pink, purple or white that attracts hummingbirds, butterflies and bees. Asters, daisy-like perennials, bloom in late summer to provide late season nectar for bees and butterflies.

Echinacea or cornflowers are daisy-like blossoms in shades of yellow or purple. Kinnikinnick, also called bearberry (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*), is a hardy, evergreen shrub with white to pink spring flowers and red fruit in the fall.

"Create, conserve and protect monarch habitats," Galash advises gardeners. ★



Ida Galash adds milkweed, the food for monarch butterfly caterpillars, to her monarch waystation along Northeast 24th Avenue. She also plants flowers that produce nectar for adult monarchs, bees and other pollinators. (Janet Goetze)



This way station sign shows a yard is growing milkweed, food for monarch caterpillars, and other flowers favored by adult butterflies, bees and pollinators. (Janet Goetze)



An adult monarch butterfly seeks nectar. The numbers of monarchs are declining because of herbicides and other sprays plus development that reduces milkweed. (Ida Galash)



The striped caterpillar eats milkweed for about two weeks until it undergoes the next transformation toward becoming a monarch butterfly. (Ida Galash)



A chrysalis is one of the stages, from egg to butterfly, taken by the bright orange monarch butterfly. (Ida Galash)



★ STAR HOME AND GARDEN

# Parks opens new garden at Glenhaven Park in Roseway

By Erica Somes

ericasomes@star-news.info, @thewritere

Portland Parks officially opened its 57th community garden on February 29 at Glenhaven Park in the Roseway and Madison South neighborhoods. The new quarter-acre site is directly north of the park's tennis courts and southwest of Siskiyou and 82nd. The Glenhaven Community Garden provides 32 garden plots – in various sizes – for neighborhood residents to grow their own organic food.

Grow Portland and the East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District partnered with the parks department to provide \$15,000 for the project. Grow Portland is a nonprofit that builds and maintains community gardens in 13 neighborhood schools as well as in low-income neighborhoods. The soil and water conservation district is a volunteer division of the county that serves the eastside and focuses on “keeping water clean, conserving water and keeping soil healthy”.

Community plots range in size from 32-square-foot raised beds, to 50- and 400-square-foot in-ground plots. The cost ranges from \$20 for the raised bed to \$124 for the largest plots. There is a scholarship program available that will cover 25 to 75 percent of the fees for gardeners who qualify with income verification.

Gardeners have access to water and onsite tool and equipment storage, but must provide their own soil amendments,



(Portland Parks and Recreation)

seeds and plants. Participating gardeners are also asked to contribute six hours of service to the garden per season and only use organic methods for fertilizing, control of pests and weed control.

All garden plots are currently claimed for the 2020 season, but you can email the parks department and request a spot on the fall 2020 waiting list for upcoming plot assignments and transfers.

For more information regarding the garden at 7900 N.E. Siskiyou Street, call 503-823-1612 or email kcomgard@portlandoregon.gov. ★



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## SOME HISTORY

I live in Roseway, and I love it. I moved here in August of 1999 and bought a 1924 teeny-tiny, one-bedroom house near 68th and Fremont for \$100,000. Crazy right? I loved this neighborhood so much that in 2015 I bought my next home about 250 feet away from my first house. I've raised my children, cross fenced the heck out of my property, thrown block parties, walked my goats and pig around and have no need to ever move again. Until my kids are both in college and I buy my own private island.

I'll build my own beach yurt, have a desalination unit, satellite phone and 30 bikinis. I'll fish with a handline from my kayak, raise free-range, island chickens for eggs, grow root vegetables that thrive in sandy soil, and motor my little aluminum boat three hours "to town" once a month for sugar, coffee and whiskey.

## BRASS TACKS

Now, before you try to visit me on the Island of Erica, my goal this month is to focus on our small businesses still open during the "coronapocalypse" by doing some of my infamous hardcore journalism, from a safe social distance of course. Here are the details you'll need to survive and thrive, without ever needing to drive.

## THE ESSENTIAL SHARIDONN AT SAFEWAY

While not a small business, Safeway has become the only destination away from home for many of us. And one of the brightest smiling souls you will find in Safeway is Sharidonn. I found her in check stand number one, with a name tag that read, "Essential". She knows everyone by name and writes her number on the receipts of elderly people who come through her line, telling them to call her with their grocery list and, "stay home!" Then she pleads, everyone should wash your re-useable bags, please, they need it. Inside tip: If you need toilet paper, come to the store at 7:00 a.m. when they first open.

**Address:** 6901 N.E. Sandy Blvd. **Phone:** 503-280-1200.



BY ERICA SOMES

ERICASOMES@STAR-NEWS.INFO

## PIZZERIA OTTO'S

My goats love this place. They always look for an open door when we walk by - and so do we humans. Call in to place your order and pay with a credit card. Then walk to their door-turned-counter to pick up your box of pizza gold. You can even get Sam's Secret Hot Sauce in a little to-go container. I highly recommend it. Happy hour Margherita pizzas are now available for takeout from noon to 5:00 p.m. Check out their Facebook and Instagram pages for daily specials. If you're in a financial place to help, visit the "Pizzeria Otto Employee Fund" on GoFundMe, raising money for employees laid off during the restaurant's closure.

**Address:** 6708 N.E. Sandy Blvd. **Phone:** 971-373-8348. **Web:** www.pizzeriaotto.com. **Instagram:** @pizzeria\_otto.

## EL BURRITO AZTECA BAR & GRILL

In the mood for some amazing burritos and tacos? Burrito Azteca opened its second location in March of 2017 and it is awesome. Order by phone and pick up or use one of four meal delivery services: Uber Eats, GrubHub, Postmates, or DoorDash. I love this place because they can make their menu items for carnivores, vegetarians and vegans. If you're on a "coronacation" budget get Azteca on Tuesdays when tacos are \$1.55 and burritos are \$4.95. Owner Roberto Diaz is even in talks with OLCC to sell takeout Margaritas, hey they are doing it in California and it's the "coronapocalypse." It's about survival!

**Address:** 6728 N.E. Sandy Blvd. **Phone:** 503-432-8073 **Web:** www.elburritoazteca.com.



The essential Sharidonn Underwood at Safeway's check stand number one. (All photos by Erica Somes/@theWriterE)

## NAM PHUONG MARKET

Discouraged you can't find something at Safeway? Walk across Sandy to a plethora of canned goods, fresh and frozen meat and seafood - as well as dry goods. Some of the things they had in stock when I went on March 26 were canned sweet and sour lotus rootlets, quail eggs, minced prawns in spices, minced crab in spices, mackerel, clams, mango, banana sauce, and coconut-toddy palm seed slices. They also have lots of rice vermicelli, rice paper and produce like potatoes, carrots, lettuce and ginger. Try a Ramune Marble Soda, made with sugar and not high fructose corn syrup. If your one destination away from home is for groceries, try this market. You'll be amazed and entertained.

**Address:** 6834 NE Sandy Blvd. **Phone:** 503-284-3549.

## MEKHA VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIAN CUISINE

Needing some Pho on these rainy apocalyptic evenings? My neighbor Jonathan actually loves Pho for breakfast. Apparently, it's an all-day appropriate meal. Call ahead and walk over to pick up your order. Or order online with Postmates and enjoy a fantastically flavorful meal delivered to your door that you don't have to cook or clean up after.

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- Easter Vigil, April 11: 8:30pm Mass**
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Clayton and New York visit with Joe Van Haverbeke at Annie's Donuts.



Roberto Diaz at El Burrito Azteca.



Clayton and New York visit the team at Otto's Pizzeria.

**ROSE CITY LIQUOR**

With everyone either out of school, unemployed, or working from home, happy hour starts at noon now. So, don't be fooled that all of those walkers out there cradling coffee mugs are drinking caffeinated beverages. They've been to Rose City Liquor, which is open everyday except Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Feel good about going, because they only allow seven people inside the store, including employees, and the owner built hanging plexiglass barriers between his employees and customers. There are even pink neon taped x's on the floor to show you where to stand to

keep a safe social distance. I am awarding Rose City Liquor with my official "Coronapocalypse Social Distance Award." When I find \$29.95 in change in my house to rationalize buying another liter of Crown Royal, I'll go back and give them the award.

**Address:** 7253 N.E. Sandy Blvd. **Phone:** 503-284-7591.  
**Web:** www.rosecityliquor.com. **Instagram:** @rose\_city\_liquor.

**ANNIE'S DONUTS**

If you follow me on Instagram, you saw that I took my goats Clayton and New York to Annie's when I saw it was open again on March 27. I met my good friend Joe

there, who was kind enough to buy a box of donuts for the teenagers I was physically distancing myself from at home. I pantomimed and thumbs-upped from outside where I stood with the goats, and Joe emerged with a box of yumminess that I took home to bribe my children into doing chores - a win-win for everyone.

**Address:** 3449 N.E. 72nd Ave. **Phone:** 503-284-2752.

**ROSE CITY GOLF COURSE**

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is one of my writing haunts and a place for morning coffee. You can eat all three meals here and get beverages of the "over 21" variety if you want. Who knew? Well I did, but I didn't know if y'all did. If you're taking a "coronation" from work, the golf course could be open for play by April 1. You'll need to sign up and pay online and it will be BYOB until the restaurants are allowed to reopen, but you can get out of the house and social distance yourself from the ones who are driving you crazy at home.

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★ STAR DEVELOPMENT NEWS

DE LA SALLE NORTH BEGINS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN, HOPES TO BREAK GROUND IN MAY

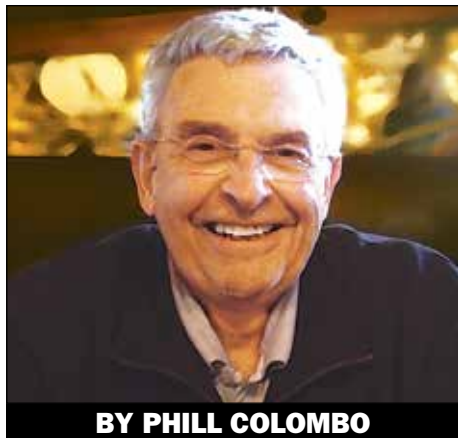
De La Salle North Catholic High School President Oscar Leong has announced a capital campaign to complete Portland's first new Catholic high school building in over 50 years.

"With 85 percent of the project's \$21.7 million cost in hand, we only need to raise another \$3.5 million to include a competition gym in the initial construction," said Leong.

When the permitting process is complete, groundbreaking at St. Charles Borromeo Church is planned for May, with doors to open in August 2021.

For its almost 280 students, the school has leased space at Kenton School, but PPS will not renew the lease beyond June 2021, as it plans to host students in the building during Benson High's renovation next year.

Boora Architects is currently working on permits to renovate most of St. Charles' existing 51,000-square-foot building with seismic reinforcements for a science and



BY PHILL COLOMBO PHILLCOLOMBO@STAR-NEWS.INFO

visual arts center, offices and classrooms. The new 21,000-square-foot gym, commons, kitchen, driveway with parking and student courtyard will complete the project. A 732-square-foot covered walkway will connect the old and new buildings.

De La Salle North's five-year plan gradually expands the student body to as many as 360.

"All that depends on how many student jobs are available," said Leong. "How many more firms we'll engage to make



Closed during COVID-19 restrictions, funds to maintain Columbia Pool will be included in the city's 2020-21 budget. Mayor Ted Wheeler is looking for \$490,000 to make up for the pool's fiscal shortfall. (Portland Parks & Recreation)

student jobs available."

Students work one day a week and attend classes the rest of the week.

"Our students are a celebration of developing business talent in the city and returning them here after college," Leong said.

One example is Nik Tucker, class of 2014. Nik worked at Boora Architects while in school, attended Columbia University on scholarship and graduated with honors in 2018.

"He returned to Portland, accepted a job at Boora as a designer and is currently helping supervise current student workers building architectural models."

"We are grateful for the full support and welcome of the Cully community's businesses and associations and aim to be a cooperative part of the community," said Leong. "Our new School won't just be an isolated school, but a true community center."

COLUMBIA POOL TO REMAIN OPEN FOR ANOTHER YEAR

In his proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year, Mayor Ted Wheeler included funding for Columbia Pool at 7701 N. Chautauqua Blvd.

"Columbia Pool is treasured by the community for swim lessons, water fitness and as a neighborhood gathering place," said Wheeler. "I'm pleased we're able to keep the pool open through June 2021 and appreciate the community's passion."

The pool is currently closed, during COVID-19 precautions.

Used by about 60,000 annually, the pool still has significant funding challenges. A new roof, heating system and other major capital repairs could cost up to \$5 million to fix. This year, the pool spent \$800,000 to operate but generated only \$310,000 in user fees, so an additional \$490,000 is needed to keep the doors open through June 2021.

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



De La Salle North Catholic High School's new campus at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Cully will include a new 21,000-square-foot gym and commons building connected by a covered walkway to renovated existing buildings. (Boora Architects)

★ STAR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NEIGHBOR FINDS 'SENSE OF SOUL' IN 'ERICA ON THE BLOCK' COLUMN

Hello!

I wanted to take a second and tell you how much I appreciate the Hollywood Star.

I have lived in Northeast Portland for twenty years and have always enjoyed the news and features in the Star. During this time when local newspapers are on the decline, it's refreshing to find a source of news and events specific to my neighborhood.

I also wanted to mention how much I've enjoyed Erica Somes' new column. Her portrayal of local merchants and

neighborhoods in the area have been really fun to read. I feel like when I read her column I get a real sense of the soul of the neighborhood, not just the headlines.

Thank you and keep up the good work.

Tami Parr, Beaumont-Wilshire

STAR MAKES CELEBRITY OF ST. PAT'S PARADE ORGANIZER

Hi Janet, Mary and Ted!

Wow! After the March edition of the Hollywood Star came out, my life has not been the same. There I am on the headline banner! You don't see that very often - and such a

great article on page five. Thank you so much!

The problem is I have become such a celebrity that the paparazzi won't leave me alone. It's hard to go outside to get the mail without the front porch being stormed by the media and fans lurking in the bushes.

After such a great piece, I'm thinking I might just put my hat in the ring to run for mayor or city council.

All joking aside, thank you guys very much! We both are part of a great community. While I just put on an annual parade, you guys do this the whole year. What a gift you bring to our town.

Cheers!

Steve Slavik, Grant Park



It's the people that make our neighborhoods special! Here's just a few favorites from previous editions.



**STAR DEVELOPMENT NEWS**

The bureau is studying the feasibility of repairing or replacing the pool. Council is committed to a solid financial footing for our parks," Wheeler said. "While work to find new revenue continues, I'm glad this pool will keep serving swimmers year-round. Expenses have outpaced revenues for years, resulting in a citywide backlog of deferred maintenance and closures. The bureau has worked for more than a year to realign and adjust operations to create a more sustainable funding model for the future of our parks system. For more information on fees and schedules, visit [www.portlandoregon.gov/parks](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks).

**APPLICATIONS, PERMITS, UPDATES**

In **Arbor Lodge**, Lucid Ventures of Vancouver was issued a permit to deconstruct an 1125-square-foot, single-family residence and detached garage built in 1916 at 7156 N. Greenwich Ave. An application is under review to build a new, three-story, 18-unit apartment building.

In **Eliot**, CNS Properties has plans under review to construct a new 27,752-square-foot brick office building with an adjoining parking lot at 2148 N.E. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. An 8276-square-foot warehouse has occupied the property since 1926.

At 1835 N. Flint Ave., Michael Nyland of West Linn has requested early assistance with an application to construct a new, seven-story, 134-unit residential building in four townhouses, structured parking and ground-floor courtyard. Upper stories include a mix of studios, micro-studios, two- and three-bedroom units with spaces for 25 vehicles and bicycles. A 700-square-foot garage has stood on the property since 1943.

In **Kenton**, Habitat for Humanity has been issued a permit to construct a new, three-story, 18-unit apartment building on the east end of its 1400 N. Kilpatrick St. property. A permit was granted last May to deconstruct the 1925, 900-square-foot, single-family residence on the property.

At 2133 N. Argyle St., Reach Argyle of Southwest Portland has been issued a permit to build a new 151,550-square-foot, four-story, 189-affordable-housing-unit apartment building with two community rooms.

At 8727 N. Peninsular Ave. and 3009 N. Hunt St., SDB Investments of Southeast Portland has permits to construct two, new, two-story, two-unit town houses with single-vehicle garages on two vacant lots.

In **King**, Alberta Street Development of Seattle has a permit to demolish a 2,400-square-foot 1952 commercial structure at 1130 N.E. Alberta St. Plans are under review to construct a new, five-story, mixed-use building with

underground parking, commercial space and gym on the first and second floors and hotel rooms on the second through fifth floors.

In **North Tabor**, Homma of Hayward, Calif., has been issued a permit to deconstruct a 2430-square-foot, single-family residence built in 1905 at 5143 E. Burnside St. Plans are under review to construct 16 new townhouse units in multiple buildings.

In **Sabin**, Christopher Dawkins and Allyson Bourke of Northeast Portland have a permit to build a new, two-story, single-family residence an empty lot at 3116 N. 20th Ave. with an accessory dwelling unit in the basement and no garage.

In **Vernon**, Killingsworth PDX Partners NW has applied for a permit to construct a new, four-story, mixed-use building at 5470 N.E. 16th Ave. with a retail storefront on the ground floor and 39 residential units on the upper three floors. ★

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**Meet your neighbor, Sarah.**

*Sarah lives in the Rose City Park neighborhood of Northeast Portland. She's a podcast geek who spends her time reading to her daughter, drinking coffee at the New Deal Cafe, and practicing personal injury law at Forum Law Group.*

**If you ever find yourself needing legal representation, contact Sarah and Forum Law Group for a free legal consultation:**



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**Sarah Feldman**  
Northeast Portland Mom,  
Attorney at Law

**★ STAR BUSINESS BUZZ**

**VAN DAMME'S AUTOMOTIVE CELEBRATES 25 YEARS IN ROSE CITY PARK**

In January, Ken Van Damme marked 25 years of business for Ken Van Damme's Automotive shop at 6143 N.E. Sandy Blvd. in Rose City Park.

"We are very proud to have served Northeast Portland, with great service and a fair price to our customers, for 25 years," said Van Damme. "Many of our customers have become part of our family."

Van Damme's is a full-service shop; doing work on engines, drive axles, rear ends, electrical systems, air conditioning and computerized diagnostics. They also handle factory maintenance, will do a pre-purchase vehicle inspection and can keep you posted on recalls and other updates from manufacturers. They sell tires, will do minor bodywork and offer discounted towing rates to their customers. They have a 24,000-mile or two-year warranty on all their parts and labor.

"I remember starting out in this neighborhood, seeing a lot of well-established areas and not a lot of turnover of residents," said Van Damme. "Now we see younger families coming in and revitalizing the area. It was a big Volvo



In January, Ken Van Damme, second from left, marked 25 years of business for Ken Van Damme's Automotive shop in Rose City Park. (Jane Perkins)

clientele then and now it seems like more Subaru's and SUV's. I had worked in the service station business in North and Northeast Portland for 26 years and had used Lackman's Automotive and Towing for a long time. One of their drivers told me that they were looking for an automotive technician. At the time, I had been looking at starting my own business and the long and short of the story is that Lackman's was looking to sell. After some

negotiation, we came to an agreement and here we are."

Van Damme purchased the building that had previously housed Lackman's in 1995 and purchased the Tune Rite business across the street from Henry and Rosemary Franklin in 2011.

"We had worked closely with the Franklins for many years, which made the transition for them to sell to us easier and comfortable for their clientele," said Van

Damme. "The Franklins have lived and attended schools in Northeast Portland all of their lives. Rosemary helps run our office now and is a real plus with our customers."

Connecting with community is an important part of Van Damme's business model.

"We have treats for our neighbor's dogs when they drop by and, believe me, those dogs do not forget to remind our staff to go get them," said Van Damme. "We have donated funds to Ken Lee's after-school basketball program for many years and have donated and repaired vehicles for the Ronald McDonald house. We have also worked with the Knight Cancer Center to help them raise funds for expansion."

Van Damme has worked in the area for over 36 years now, with 11 of that at 33rd and Broadway near Grant Park

"My favorite neighborhood business is probably Sam's Billiards," said Van Damme. "The owner Val and her husband Eugene have been close friends of mine for 25 years and Val's dad started that business many years ago. The Prescott Cafe is another favorite business. I have known the owner, Rose, for over 30 years, since she worked at the Village Inn on Weidler."

For more information, call 503-278-5549 or visit [www.kensautomotive.com](http://www.kensautomotive.com).



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**★ STAR PET CONNECTIONS**



BY LISA LAKES  
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**CUTE 'MEXICAN WALKING FISH' MIGHT BE RIGHT PET FOR YOU**

Kenton neighbor Heather Perkins has interesting and unusual pets. She keeps Axolotl Salamanders. Axolotls, also known as Mexican Walking Fish, differ from other amphibians in that they never develop lungs, remain aquatic and breath through gills.

Perkins has kept Newts and Salamanders in the past. Last year an opportunity arose to purchase an Axolotl. She jumped at the chance and adopted Trixie. Six months later, entranced by Trixie, she adopted a second one, Rajah. Both are male and share a forty-gallon fresh-water tank.

Perkins suggests about twenty gallons per Axolotl. She describes them as "goofy, sweet, and endearing."

They enjoy cooler temperatures between 60-68 degrees, and as adults eat worms, which can be dug from the garden or purchased online. The water must be kept scrupulously clean and tested for the proper chemical balance weekly. Axolotls may live up to 15 or more years.

Axolotls in pet stores are not caught in the wild, but are bred. Breeders have developed color variations. Now Axolotls can be found in shades of pink, black, grey, and even piebald. According to Wikipedia, Axolotls were endangered in 2010 due to urban growth, water pollution and the expansion of invasive fish species. Axolotls are used in laboratories throughout the world because they are able to regenerate limbs and other body parts, including portions of the brain.

Trixie and Rajah's cute pictures generate lots of comments on social media and



Axolotls, also known as Mexican Walking Fish, differ from other amphibians in that they never develop lungs, remain aquatic and breath through gills. (Heather Perkins)

provide many hours of enjoyment for the Perkins family. As is the case with adopting any pet, make sure you research what these interesting little creatures require, to ensure that they are the right pet for your family. Axolotls are available at some pet stores in the area.

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**★ STAR BUSINESS BUZZ**

**THE ARRANGEMENT MARKS 40 YEARS IN BEAUMONT VILLAGE**

One way or another, Sue Mautz and her friends and family at The Arrangement will celebrate 40 years of business at 4210 N.E. Fremont Street in Beaumont Village next month. A special, anniversary sale had been planned for Saturday, May 14, but may need to be postponed due to concerns with social distancing requirements and the coronavirus pandemic. Call the store or check its website for details, but plans are in place to offer refreshments and a 25 percent discount, on all purchases, for everything in the store.

"We used to offer a discount for the percentage of the anniversary we were celebrating," said Mautz. "But once we got over 30, that got to be a bit much."

After 40 years of business, Mautz has seen her share of bumps and bruises along the way.



Sue Mautz, second from left, and her friends and family at The Arrangement will celebrate 40 years of business in Beaumont Village next month. (Jane Perkins)

"Mount St. Helen's erupted three weeks after we opened in 1980," said Mautz. "That also required people to stay inside and to wear masks. It's funny to think

about now, but it was very hard on a new business. We got through that and we got through the financial crisis of 2008 and we'll get through this. Life, and business,

has a way of working out." The Arrangement opened across the street from its current location in 1980, in the space that is now Americana Frame. The restaurant next door at the time was Hamburger Patty's, which was owned and operated by the Perry family. After three years in that original space, Mautz made the decision to purchase and renovate a 1924 gas station.

In the new building, The Arrangement initially shared retail space with a coffee shop and wallpaper store. Over the next several years Mautz expanded her retail footprint to the entire building and continued to develop her well-loved lifestyle boutique, growing into an essential Beaumont neighborhood gathering place by carrying a line of gifts, clothing, home decor, candles and one of the best greeting card selections in town.

For more information, call 503-287-4440 or visit [www.thearrangementpdx.com](http://www.thearrangementpdx.com). - Ted Perkins ★

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### “THIS TOO SHALL PASS”

Replacing fear with facts can help us navigate this difficult time for our country, our world and specifically our market place.

I thought it would be helpful to share/summarize some thoughts & comments from an interview between NAR's (National Association of Realtors) Chief Economist, Dr. Lawrence Yun and Brian Buffini, one of the country's leading real estate coaches.

<p>“We have faced many many different crisis in the past as a country.”</p> <p>“Housing is on very solid ground, yet we are running into this economic quarantine that is shutting down the economy temporarily.”</p> <p>“The banking industry is in a completely different spot than it was going into the last recession.”</p> <p>“No matter what, this is going to be a shorter-term situation than what we faced in the last recession.”</p>	<p>“We had a housing shortage going into this virus situation.”</p> <p>“If it's a short duration, one can anticipate quite a strong real estate rebound after say 1-2 months of somewhat lower activity. It will just mean a delayed spring buying season.”</p> <p>“Less buyers out in the market during this crisis, means less competition &amp; better price negotiation potential.”</p> <p>“If the duration of this virus negative impact is short...we will run into a housing shortage right away, again.”</p>	<p>“Mortgage rates may be at historic lows, half of Americans don't have exposure to the stock market so they will just be looking at low interest rates &amp; a good time to buy.”</p> <p>“The real estate business is poised to still perform pretty well.”</p> <p>“Housing is on very solid ground if we go into a recession.”</p> <p>“REAL ESTATE IS ALWAYS GOING TO BE THIS SAFE HAVEN WHERE PEOPLE ARE PUTTING THEIR INVESTMENT.”</p>
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As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to develop, I am sure many of you are wondering what is going on in the real estate industry. For the time being under the Governor's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order business is allowed using strict social-distancing and disinfecting practices. The Coon Team and many other realtors are continuing to work responsibly and as safely as possible during this crisis. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions. *SUE AND JAMES*

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