

## Going wild FOR WILLIAMS

**BLOCK X BLOCK** This month Athena Wooters visits the bustling Williams business district and finds Kayoko and Matt Kaye serving up authentic, Osaka-style, Japanese cuisine at Kayo's Ramen Bar. **PAGE 10**



**TREASURED TREE** Concordia neighbor Sherry Wagner sculpts a life-size boy in clay to fill a gap in the branches of a parking strip tree, honoring both childhood and her own now grown sons. **PAGE 13**



**BAR NONE** Jenny Nguyen plans to open The Sports Bra, a sports bar for for women, on Broadway. **PAGE 14**



**SAVING SEATS** City council will consider extending outdoor seating permits granted during COVID. **PAGE 8**



**GOOD IN THE HOOD** Family-friendly, multicultural event plans to return this summer. **PAGE 5**



**MAKING LEMONADE** Project Lemonade plans a Super Hero event to support foster kids. **PAGE 12**

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THREE EASTSIDE SCHOOLS WILL SEND TEAMS TO D.C. FOR CIVICS COMPETITION

Grant, Central Catholic and Parkrose high schools will all have teams in the national "We the People" competition, displaying knowledge about the U.S. Constitution, conducted April 22-26.

This year's competition, like the 2021 event, will be conducted virtually. However, Grant and Central Catholic students will travel to Washington, D.C., to visit the National Archives, Lincoln Memorial and other sites, school officials said.

Grant's 30-member team, coached by 13 volunteers, is Oregon's state champion in the program, sponsored by the Center for Civic Education in Calabasas, Calif. Angela DiPasquale is the teacher coordinating the team's work.

The Central Catholic team, under teacher Geoffrey Stuckart, came in second in state competition and enters the nationals as a "Wild Card," said Beth Cook, director of programs for Oregon's We the People program.

The Parkrose High team, which teacher Richard English has directed for 18 years, is one of only two schools in the country



BY JANET GOETZE

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given a John Lewis Award, which goes to outstanding teams from schools with diverse enrollments.

Having three teams in the national competition, Cook said, indicates the high quality of the civics and constitutional programs in Oregon schools. Grant has had teams in the national competition for 22 years, and usually finishes at or near the top.

In the national competition, the students participate in simulated

congressional hearings. They become "constitutional experts" before panels of judges, who act as congressional committees while scoring the students on their knowledge and reasoning.

"Students wrestle with the philosophical foundations and influence on our constitution, with the framers' central arguments about the balance between too little or too much government," said DiPasquale.

Other issues, she said, include changes to the constitution, the bill of rights, civil liberties and challenges to constitutional democracy facing the country in the 21st century.

TOP STUDENTS FILL ROSE FESTIVAL COURT

The 15 members of the 2022 Rose Festival Court have been selected, including five from North and Northeast high schools. Virtually all the princesses are honor roll students. They must have at least a 3.0 grade point average and complete 20 hours of community service.

The 2022 court includes Reba Booze, a Benson junior; Naima Smith, a Grant

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Modernization work continues at Benson High School, which is scheduled to reopen in 2024. (Portland Public Schools)

junior; Jayilee Sloan, a Jefferson senior; Stella Jackson, a McDaniel junior, and Maria Mizee, a Roosevelt senior. In May, the court will visit community events, businesses, hospitals, senior living centers, youth organizations and civic groups.

The Rose Festival Queen will be crowned in a ceremony from 11 a.m. to 12 noon on June 10 in the Piedmont neighborhood's Peninsula Park Rose Garden. The queen will represent Portland and the Rose Festival at events around the country. For more information, visit [www.rosefestival.org](http://www.rosefestival.org).

**BENSON WORK CONTINUES; JEFF BEGINS PLANNING**

Modernization is continuing at Benson High School, which will reopen in 2024, and planning is beginning for Jefferson High School, where community members may apply to join a master planning committee at [www.pps.net/jeffersonbond](http://www.pps.net/jeffersonbond).

The two schools are the latest in the PPS effort to provide modern technical and design standards for aging buildings. The goal for Jefferson, a district news release says, "is to develop a comprehensive,

equitable, integrated and visionary high school campus design with authentic school community engagement."

Community members, alumni, teachers, students, administrators and a school board member are expected to be on the planning committee. Members can expect to meet at least one evening a month for six months. Those who don't join the committee may participate in a public design workshop or attend town hall meetings during the process.

Voters approved bonds in 2012, 2017 and 2020 to pay for modernization of several schools, including Roosevelt, Grant, Franklin, McDaniel and Lincoln. Work also was completed at Kellogg Middle School and Faubion K-8 School.

At Benson, steel beams and new shear walls have been added to the original 1917 building for modern seismic standards. Excavation has also begun for a basement in a new building that will include a library, media center, health occupation space, and a counseling and career wing.

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

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Billy Webb Elks Lodge in the Eliot neighborhood was damaged by fire in September, 2021. (Star file photo)

**SWING DANCE TO AID BILLY WEBB LODGE**

Spend an evening swing dancing and, at the same time, raise funds to help restore the fire-damaged Billy Webb Elks Lodge, which has been important in the African American community for a century. The building was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2021.

The dance is planned from 7-9:30 p.m. April 8 in the Great Hall of Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1624 N.E. Hancock St. Beginners can get into the swing of things with a dance lesson from 7 to 7:30 p.m. The Hot Lovin' Jazz Babies will supply the music. A donation of \$10 per person is suggested. Masks and proof of vaccination are required.

Swing dance is a group of lively social dances developed from the 1920s to 1940s with the music of jazz. Different styles have evolved in different parts of the country.

The lodge at 6 N. Tillamook St., in the Eliot neighborhood, was damaged by fire in September, 2021. Lodge officials have been working with an insurance company, but some costs may not be covered. Lodge income from renting the ballroom and other facilities had declined during the pandemic and essentially ended after the fire.

The non-profit Restore Oregon, which works to preserve historic places and the state's diverse cultural heritage, has helped the lodge consult with historic preservation experts for repairing the building.

**CROP WALK TO HELP NORTHEAST FOOD PROGRAM**

The Northeast Emergency Food Program will receive a portion of local funds raised in this year's CROP Hunger Walk, which supports projects aimed at reducing hunger in less-developed countries and local communities. The walks are a program of Church World Service. Urgent needs in Ukraine will also be supported by the walks.

In Portland, teams and individuals will gather donations as incentives to complete a three-mile walk on April 24, beginning with an inspirational gathering at 12:30 p.m. downtown at First Christian Church. Walkers will begin at 1 p.m. and head to the Willamette waterfront before returning to the church.

Local churches are forming walk teams, including Augustana Lutheran and Westminster Presbyterian in Irvington.

The emergency food program operates at Luther Memorial Church, 4800 N.E. 72nd Ave. and provides food boxes from 12 to 3 p.m. Thursdays and Saturdays. A program of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, it has been providing food for more than 40,000 people monthly. For more information, visit [www.emoregon.org/nefp](http://www.emoregon.org/nefp).

Walk registration and donations may be made at [www.events.crophungerwalk.org](http://www.events.crophungerwalk.org).

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The 'Good in the Hood,' family-friendly celebration of multicultural music, art and food, plans to return June 24-26 in the King School park. Volunteers, sponsors and musicians are needed. (Star file)

GOOD IN THE HOOD WANTS VOLUNTEERS

The "Good in the Hood," family-friendly celebration of multicultural music, art and food, is planned June 24-26 in the King School park at 4906 N.E. Sixth Ave. Volunteers, sponsors and musicians are invited to sign up at www.goodinthehood.org.

Nikki Brown Clown will be Grand Marshal of the annual parade, scheduled June 25. A kids' area and community information tables are also planned. The Hood is a non-profit organization founded in 1990 by parents and staff of Holy Redeemer Catholic School to raise funds for the school and celebrate diversity.

IRVINGTON PTA SEEKS DONATIONS FOR AUCTION

Do you have a beach house to loan, or a piece of art to donate or a gift certificate from a local business? The Irvington School PTA is interested in all such items for its annual auction to help students with literacy programs, field trips, arts education, school supplies and more.

The auction is planned May 14 at Steeplejack Brewing, Northeast 24th and Broadway. The PTA is a non-profit organization and donations are tax deductible. For more information, visit www.irvingtonauction.net.

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Sunday Parkways events are returning to neighborhood streets this summer. The first event will be Sunday, June 26 in Cully, followed by Sunday, August 21 in East Portland. (City of Portland)

## SUNDAY PARKWAYS RETURN IN SUMMER

Sunday Parkways are returning for walking, biking and rolling on streets without cars, so neighbors can enjoy the city's largest public space – its streets. The summer's first event will be Sunday, June 26 in Northeast Cully, followed by Sunday, August 21 in East Portland.

Volunteers can sign up to be part of the events sponsored by Kaiser Permanente. Community organizations and small businesses that want to provide information along the routes also may register. Information is available at [www.portland.gov/sunday-parkways](http://www.portland.gov/sunday-parkways). Those interested in performing should email [portlandsundayparkways@portland.gov](mailto:portlandsundayparkways@portland.gov).

## PBOT SEEKS IDEAS FOR STREET PLAZAS

Outdoor dining is expected to continue on rights-of-way outside restaurants and other businesses this year. In addition, a program to develop Portland Public Street Plazas needs community ideas for creating the neighborhood gathering places.

The Portland Bureau of Transportation expects to work with local groups to create five to 10 plazas in city streets, beginning in the summer. Whether the plazas continue later in the year will depend on the budget the city council develops in coming

months, according to a PBOT news release.

"Every neighborhood should have a welcoming place where community members can come together," said Jo Ann Hardesty, the city transportation commissioner.

Healthy Businesses permits began at the beginning of pandemic to enable restaurants to serve customers outside, generally at curbside. Permit extensions were set to expire June 30. They will continue through Aug 31 without charge to enable the city and businesses to transition to the next phase of the program. Permits starting Sept. 1 will continue through Dec. 31, 2023.

"Applications for the Sept. 1 program will be accepted starting this summer, after council decides, in the 2022-23 budget process, how much funding should come from the city and how much from a new fee businesses would pay for the new permits – and whether the program will continue at all," the bureau says in a news release.

## KEEP PORTLAND COOL WITH HEALTHY TREES

Trees can help cool neighborhoods during hot summers and they contribute to clean air and water, but the city's tree canopy declined between 2015 and 2020, according to the Urban Forestry section of

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The bureau encourages residents to keep and care for the trees they already have. Urban Forestry offers tree care resources and workshops. Neighborhoods have tree teams. Local tree care providers also are available. Free and subsidized trees are available periodically for yards. Information is available from Urban Forestry at trees@portlandoregon.gov or 503 823-8733.

**HOUSING THE HOMELESS ISN'T EASY, ACCORDING TO 'BUILT FOR ZERO' SPEAKER**

Getting the homeless into housing isn't always easy, and ways of working effectively with people are likely to change over time, Angie Walker, the homeless program coordinator for Rockford, Ill., told the Interfaith Alliance on Poverty.

The alliance, a community of local congregations with a mission "to mitigate the injustices that cause poverty," met virtually in March to hear about Walker's program. It is aligned with Built for Zero, a national movement of more than 90 cities and counties working to end homelessness.

Portland, Gresham and Multnomah County have joined the effort, which tracks those assisted through a "by name" list that includes any disability, income, last known address and follow-up after placement. The program also requires expanded "navigation teams" that seek out people on the street to offer housing, health and self-sufficiency services.

Walker recommended working with service agencies, the police, fire fighters, hospitals and other "partners" so that people aren't simply returned to the streets after receiving assistance

"It was fun in the early days," Walker said of a program started a half-dozen years ago. However, those were the easy cases, she said, "Now we are reaching people who have more barriers."

City Commissioner Dan Ryan, in charge of Portland's housing bureau, said he likes Built for Zero because it is a data-driven system that he believes will provide information about what actions work well and which to change in dealing with the city's homeless issues.

**NEIGHBORHOOD ROADS TO GAIN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS**

Safety improvements are planned on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and North Willamette Boulevard, thanks to federal grants distributed through Metro, according to the Portland Bureau of Transportation.

The \$17 million in federal grants also will bring improvements on Northeast 122nd Avenue, considered a high crash corridor, and the Southeast Stark and Washington Streets corridor. City council has agreed to match the federal funds with about \$11.8 million in city money.

The projects, identified in the transportation bureau's long-range planning documents, reflect community priorities for safety while walking, biking and accessing public transit.

On MLK, five new pedestrian crossing improvements are planned at Northeast Holman, Emerson, Mason, Failing and Cook Streets. Traffic signal changes and safety improvements are planned for Northeast Killingsworth and Fremont Streets.

On Willamette Boulevard, the project includes three miles of protected bus lanes, new pedestrian crossings and improved disability access. More accessible bus stops are also in the plans. ★



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**OMSI PLANS DEVELOPMENT OF ITS 18-ACRE EASTSIDE WATERFRONT PROPERTY**

After 14 years of planning and architectural design, the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry is hoping to see the city approve a master plan for the ten-year, 18-acre development of its waterfront property. Preston Greene, OMSI vice-president, described the plan at a March presentation to the Rotary Club of East Portland.

Planning for the parcel began in 2008, in support of the Tillicum Crossing, which now touches the east bank of the Willamette River on the south side of the acreage. Ten years later, OMSI selected Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects to further refine the plan. Edlen and Company was selected as master developer. In the same year, the city approved its 2035 Comprehensive Plan, adopted by the state.

In 2020, Portland Opera and PCC, both owning adjoining properties to the south, joined in the planning process. Last year, OMSI submitted the plan to the city. According to Greene, the pace of planning paperwork, hearings and funding sources should pick up in the second quarter of this year. The development agreement will face land use hearings this summer and fall.

OMSI's master plan calls for 1200 new housing units – 20 percent will be affordable – and a mix of educational, commercial and industrial facilities. A new, wider, Water Avenue, east of the development will accommodate traffic while looping walkways within the development will handle slower-moving bicycles and pedestrians.

It's expected that OMSI, private investors and the city will each provide one-third of the infrastructure costs. OMSI will then fund the remaining vertical development. Funding information should be available later this year.

**SUNDERLAND SITE WILL BECOME FIRST OF SIX EMERGENCY 'VILLAGES'**

With an emergency declaration in late February, Mayor Ted Wheeler gave the power to Commissioner Dan Ryan to "consolidate and coordinate the implementation of Safe Rest Villages and alternative shelters," to speed up the establishment of villages throughout the city.

Initially, six sites were identified, including a Bureau of Transportation property on Northeast Sunderland, just east of Columbia Edgewater and north of Riverside golf clubs. The village sites are intentionally spread around the city, to bring services and stability to people



BY PHILL COLOMBO

PHILLCOLOMBO@STAR-NEWS.INFO

where they are. The Sunderland site will be the first RV Safe Park Village.

The village concept is new and aims to quickly provide temporary shelter, while giving unhoused neighbors the stability, safety and support they need to pursue stable housing, family reconnection and recovery. The outdoor shelters will offer onsite case management, peer support, mental health services and amenities like showers, toilets, laundry, trash service and community gathering spaces.

For more information, visit [www.portland.gov/ryan/locations-safe-rest-villages](http://www.portland.gov/ryan/locations-safe-rest-villages).

**CITY MOVES TO MAKE SEATING PERMANENT**

What has become quite common over the past two years of COVID-19 restrictions – restaurants permitted to use streets and sidewalks to expand their capacity – may become permanent. That was the message that Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty delivered in mid-March.

"Hundreds of small businesses have told us that operating outdoors in city streets was essential to their survival during the pandemic," she said. "We have seen many communities come together using our streets to create plazas as well. As we emerge from this terrible pandemic, I am directing the bureau of transportation to extend these programs and work to make them permanent, so we can use our streets for people, not just cars."

Permits expiring June 30 will be extended – at no charge – through August 31. Permits that begin this September will be good through December of 2023. A new fee structure will be developed. Applications for the September permits should be accepted this summer, after council decides if the program should continue and how the city would use money from the new permits.

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



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In Beaumont Village, McPeet's uses the street for additional outdoor, tented capacity. In addition to sidewalk space, a city permit allows for the use of about 100 feet of 45th Avenue north of Fremont Street. (Phill Colombo)



**★ STAR DEVELOPMENT NEWS**



Illustration of changes proposed on Northeast Martin Luther King Boulevard at Mason Street, where concrete barriers in the intersection will allow pedestrians and bikes to cross on Mason Street, while restricting motor vehicles to right-turns. (PBOT)

**CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY TO IMPROVE AIRPORT MAX LINE**

For the first two weeks of April, neighbors riding TriMet's Red Line to the airport will need to complete their trip between Gateway and PDX aboard shuttle buses. Dubbed "Better Red," the project to improve reliability will include moving a large switch to make room for a bridge for new track – the first puzzle piece before the rest of the work can happen.

MAX Red Line trains will not run between Gateway and PDX between April 2 and 9. Shuttle buses will replace trains and riders will board buses on the east side of the transit center. Departures will match regular Red Line schedules. Regular service will resume Sunday, April 10.

For more information about Better Red, visit [www.trimet.org/betterred/index.htm](http://www.trimet.org/betterred/index.htm).

**CITY GETS FEDERAL FUNDING FOR TWO NEIGHBORHOOD STREET PROJECTS**

In mid-March, city commissioners voted to accept nearly \$17 million in federal money, matched with \$11.8 million from the city's transportation budget, for four traffic improvement projects – two in north and northeast neighborhoods.

Between Arbor Lodge and University Park, the city will use \$6 million to develop an "active transportation corridor" on North Willamette Boulevard with three miles of protected bike lanes, pedestrian crossings and improved ADA access. Better, accessible bus stops will make transit access safer and easier.

Developed in close partnership with the Soul District Business Association, five new pedestrian crossing improvements will be made at Northeast Holman Street in the Woodlawn neighborhood, at Emerson, Mason and Failing streets in the King neighborhood and at Cook Street in the Eliot neighborhood. The \$4.7-million project also includes money for traffic signal and safety improvements at Northeast Killingsworth and Fremont streets in the King neighborhood.

With funding approved, planners, project managers and engineers will begin to develop each project before starting construction in 2025 at the earliest.

**RIP 2 HEADED TO COUNCIL FOR FINAL APPROVAL**

Portland's City Council will hold a public hearing on the recommended draft of the Residential Infill Project's second phase on April 21 at 2 p.m. Commissioners will follow up with additional hearings and work sessions before voting to adopt the proposal by the July 1 deadline for

compliance with, the state's middle housing legislation, HB2001 and SB458, allowing more housing options in single-dwelling zones.

For more information, visit [www.portland.gov/bps/rip2](http://www.portland.gov/bps/rip2).

**PERMITS ISSUED**

- **In Cully at 4262 N.E. Sumner St.**, Damon Archer secured a permit to construct a new, two-story accessory dwelling unit.
- **At 5911 N.E. Emerson St.**, Sarah Perine has a permit to construct a new, one-story, single-family residence with an attached, single-vehicle garage on vacant land.
- **In Montavilla at 9032 N.E. Hoyt St.**, Provision Investment of Vancouver has a permit to demolish a 1602-square-foot duplex built in 1959. Applications are being reviewed to construct two, new, three-story, 12-unit apartment buildings.
- **In Overlook at 1540 N. Blandena St.**, Michael Hayman of Southwest Portland has permission to deconstruct a 24-square-foot, single-story, detached garage built in 1913. Plans are being reviewed to construct a new, two-story accessory dwelling unit with a garage on the ground floor and living quarters above.

**APPLICATIONS FILED**

- **In Boise at 3708 N. Michigan Ave.**, Goodwin Chase of Northeast Portland has filed to build a new, two-story duplex without a garage. A 1344-square-foot, single-family home built in 1996 currently occupies the property.
- **At 3530 N. Mississippi Ave.**, Miss Ave HQ has filed an application to construct a new, single story building to provide additional seating for an existing restaurant.
- **In Humboldt at 4617 N. Williams Ave.**, DEZ Development of Clackamas is pursuing early assistance with an application to build seven, new, two-story townhouse units on vacant property.
- **At 5826 N. Missouri Ave.**, Summer Luu is seeking to deconstruct an 1115-square-foot, single-family residence built in 1909.
- **In Laurelhurst at 3603 N.E. Sandy Blvd.**, Al and Julie Sams of Lake Oswego are seeking early assistance with an application to develop two warehouses.
- **In Woodlawn at 1005, 1015, 1037 and 1039 N.E. Stafford St.**, Robert and Janet Meyers of John Day have sought help with applications to deconstruct a three, single-family homes and a detached garage built between 1895 and 1925. The city is also reviewing an application to build a new, self-service storage building consisting of six stories and a basement. ★

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## ★ STAR BLOCK X BLOCK

## GOING WILD FOR WILLIAMS

By Athena Wooters

For the Hollywood Star News

The Williams business district has seen rapid development. Renowned for its jazz scene in the 60s and 70s, the area owns a rich history as the city's hub for African American culture. New businesses are attracted to its vibrancy and sense of community.

"It feels as if all of the businesses on the street are family," said Elizabeth Hsia, owner of Reclamation boutique. "We look out for each other. It's a sense of community that I had not known until opening up on Williams."

Celebrated for its dynamic energy and diversity, Williams is now home to an abundance of eateries and shops to explore. XLB serves Chinese comfort food and Eem's – the Oregonian's 2019 restaurant of the year – serves Thai barbecue dishes and creative craft cocktails. What's the Scoop? and Jinju Patisserie can satisfy any sweet tooth with their house-made ice creams and meticulously crafted desserts. Ethos Music Studio provides music lessons, priced with a sliding scale, and offers several projects that aim to make music accessible for everyone.

## KAYO'S RAMEN BAR

Kayo's Ramen Bar is known for its authentic Osaka-style, Japanese cuisine. Chef and founder Kayoko Kaye infuses the traditional food of her youth with a unique complexity.

"Neither of us had ever worked in a restaurant, much less owned one, but we took the plunge," said co-owner Matt Kaye, Kayoko's partner. Despite the couple's newness to the restaurant business, they have taken the neighborhood's food scene by storm, opening both Kimura Toast Bar and a spice company nearby.

The cause for Kayo's success is evident after one visit. The restaurant has a full menu with ramen, fried rice, Japanese tacos, dumplings and dessert. Each dish is assembled with great care and ingenuity. Kayo's offers a variety of vegan and low-carb options, making it easy for anyone to find something to enjoy.

Kayo's offers a selection of traditional ramen, but their signature ramen dishes are the standouts. The seasonal Snow Ramen is perfectly balanced with citrus, ginger, chili, shiitake mushrooms and grated daikon – made to look like snowflakes, wafting in the broth. TanTan ramen, a customer favorite, is a Japanese take on the spicy Sichuan dish. It's crafted with sesame paste and topped with spiced ground pork or tofu.

"We were the first ramen restaurant to introduce TanTan to Portland," said Matt.

The Kayes refer to their freshly made noodles as "noodle #47." After 47 different iterations to get the texture and flavor just right, they finally arrived at perfection.

Kayo's also offers low-carb noodles, made with half of their original noodle blend and half with julienned daikon and zucchini. The bone and vegan broths – both gluten-free – are made fresh daily. With 17 different house-made sauces, each bowl of Kayo's ramen is a unique experience.

Fried rice is made with 90-day garlic marinade, which adds stunning and original depth to an otherwise traditional dish. Their popular TanTan pork or tofu can be ordered on a bed of rice in donburi form. Japanese tacos, served in soft corn tortillas, come in several different varieties, from chashu pineapple pork to matcha mole. Kayo's also serves a wide range of beer, wine and sake, with freindly staff to provide pairing recommendations.

Kimura's Toast Bar is open next door – from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. daily – serving coffee, matcha, toast and champagne cocktails. Kayoko opened Kimura's with the goal of bringing Japanese shokupan – a dense, spongy bread also known as Japanese milk bread – to the States. You can order delicious milk bread toast with a variety of spreads and toppings, or grab a loaf to enjoy at home.

Kayo's is open Monday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Sunday. Outdoor patio seating is available. Dine-in or call ahead to order take-out.

**ADDRESS:** 3808 N. Williams Ave. Phone: 503-477-6016. **WEBSITE:** www.kayosramen.com. **INSTAGRAM:** kayosramenbar. **DON'T MISS:** Deliciously creamy, crustless Japanese-style Basque cheesecake.



Chai Josie at Akemi Salon. (Athena Wooters)

## AKEMI SALON

Akemi Salon is an LGBTQ+ and BIPOC friendly hair salon with a commitment to sustainability. According to owner Jamie Jean, the goal of Akemi Salon is to, "create an environment for people to explore and express their individual style by providing top-quality hair services and using tools and products that are healthy for the planet, people and animals."

Akemi opened in 2006 as one of the first vegan hair salons in town. Jean purchased the business in 2016, after working there for six years as a hairstylist. She recognized that, by that time, neither she nor most of her other stylists were vegan, so she decided to refocus the salon's mission.

Being cruelty-free remains important to Jean, but activism, particularly surrounding the LGBTQ+ community, has taken the spotlight for her. Prior to the pandemic, the salon raised money for local charities by hosting art shows featuring new artists.

"We are excited to start those up again soon one day," said Jean.

In addition to hair trimming, Akemi Salon offers coloring, deep-conditioning treatments and styling for special occasions. All products at Akemi are curated to ensure sustainability and the practice of remaining cruelty-free.

Hours are every day from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Akemi's website lists phone numbers to book one of six fabulous stylists: Jamie, David, Bettie, Isabeau, Chai and Michael.

**ADDRESS:** 3808 N. Williams Ave. Phone: 503-542-5246. **WEBSITE:** www.akemisaloon.com. **INSTAGRAM:** akemisaloon.

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



Kayo's Ramen Bar offers outdoor patio service. (Kayo's Ramen Bar)



Blackthorn Mercantile stocks local LGBTQ+ and BIPOC creators. (Athena Wooters)



Reclamation features creators from the Pacific Northwest. (Athena Wooters)

**★ STAR BLOCK X BLOCK**



Owner Jackie Grub has been serving up great vibes at Poa Cafe since 2014. (Poa Cafe)



The breakfast burrito – made with sweet potato – is a delicious option at Poa Cafe. (Poa Cafe)



Friendly Kirby Bean Hullaby serves as store dog at Blackthorn Mercantile. (Athena Wooters)



Curated gifts, a wide array of plants and a friendly pet turtle make Reclamation a must-see stop. (Athena Wooters.)

**POA CAFE**

Owner Janice Grube says that Poa Cafe has been serving “great, friendly, laid back, healthy vibes,” since 2014. Poa means “it’s all cool” in Swahili, according to Grube. With coffee, smoothies and healthy brunch options prepared by friendly staff, Poa Cafe is cool indeed.

Poa Cafe has a full espresso bar with creative takes on the classics. Their Golden Milk Latte is a caffeine-free beverage created with housemade, spice-infused turmeric paste. Smoothies are also popular, especially the Superfood Green made with almond milk, kale, mango, banana, chia seeds, cinnamon and honey. For days when you’re looking for an extra kick, Tropical Colada smoothies and Mango Margarita slushies are available for diners over 21.

Poa Cafe also has an array of brunch options, like the brunch bowl made with beets, sweet potato, mashed avocado, a poached egg, greens and your choice of protein. A breakfast burrito – made with sweet potato – and a chicken sandwich are also delicious options.

Open seven days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Stop by for a quick bite, a chat with a friend or stay awhile and take advantage of the free WiFi.

**ADDRESS:** 4025 N. Williams Ave. Phone: 503-954-1243. **WEBSITE:** www.poacafe.com. **INSTAGRAM:** poa\_cafe.

**BLACKTHORN MERCANTILE**

With items ranging from handmade jewelry, candles, plants and specialty waffle makers, Blackthorn Mercantile is the perfect place to find a thoughtful gift for anyone on your list. Nearly all of the items on their shelves are supplied locally, with an emphasis on LGBTQ+ and BIPOC creators. “That’s the magic of Portland, there are so many people with amazing gifts here and I am so lucky to be able to have a space where people can share that with their community,” said owner Lisa Stanger, an entrepreneur in the Williams neighborhood for more than a decade.

When an employer was unable to accommodate her scheduling needs, Stanger chose to create a job where she could bring her kids to work with her by going into business for herself.

“People told me my life was over when I got pregnant,” Stanger said. “I set out from a young age to destroy these false stereotypes.”

Stanger’s first business, Treehouse Children’s Boutique, eventually transformed to Blackthorn Mercantile. She still employs mostly single mothers and aims to create a space where people can find community. Drop by to enjoy events like tarot readings,

soap making and yoga classes.

Hours are Sunday through Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Wednesday through Friday until 8:00 p.m. and on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**ADDRESS:** 3954 N. Williams Ave. Phone: 503-208-2748. **WEBSITE:** www.blackthornpdx.com. **INSTAGRAM:** blackthornmercantile. **DON’T MISS:** Kirby Bean Hullaby, the friendly store dog, and Charmed Life Botanica products made by Williams Avenue local, Shanna.

**RECLAMATION**

Curated gifts, a wide array of plants and a friendly pet turtle make Reclamation a must-see stop. The boutique makes a point of featuring creators from the Pacific Northwest. Some items are made by owner Elizabeth Hsia.

Hsia had a background in an array of different fields before opening Reclamation. After flight school, she got into a car accident and left her job at a helicopter company.

“To dampen the blow of life and career changes, I started creating again and it just consumed me,” she said. “While it’s not what I initially thought it was going to be, I love where we are and how we have adapted and grown.”

Reclamation staff are happy to help with questions in-store, via email or by Instagram direct message. Dogs are welcome inside with a leash, but beware! There may be a red-footed tortoise, cruising around on the floor. His name is Elliott, he’s sixteen and he likes fruit. He is also very fond of butt-scratches.

Open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday from 12:00 to 7:00 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays until 8:00 p.m. Items are always available for online order.

**ADDRESS:** 3808 N. Williams Ave. **WEBSITE:** www.shopreclamation.com. **INSTAGRAM:** ReclamationPDX. **DON’T MISS:** Curation and Curiosities online, specialty items made or found by the owner, meant to inspire a sense of exploration. ★

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# UO eyes former Concordia campus

University proposes children's behavioral health institute project for 13-acre property

By Janet Goetze  
janetgoetze@star-news.info

Concordia neighborhood residents are generally pleased that the University of Oregon is proposing an institute for children's behavioral health on the 13-acre campus of the former Concordia University, 2811 N.E. Holman St., which closed two years ago.

In a neighborhood association poll conducted last year, 46.4 percent of the 350 responding residents, business owners, and others connected to the neighborhood, said they would like the property used as a school. Twenty percent preferred a community center.

Many of those who responded said they liked several of the suggested options or a combination of them, noted Peter Keller, 2022 chair of the association. The other ideas included a retirement center (12.6 percent), a medical center (6.9 percent) and smaller choices for housing, transitional housing for homeless people, an addiction treatment center and "other."

After the university closed, Keller said in an email: "There was a lot of speculation regarding what may happen to the property, so we are very excited at the prospect of it becoming the UO/Portland/Ballmer Institute."

The UO board of trustees approved a \$60.5 million purchase agreement in March for the former university property.



The University of Oregon is proposing an institute for children's behavioral health on the campus of the former Concordia University, which closed two years ago. (Concordia University)

After completing a 90-day due diligence period, UO could close on the deal in June.

The institute, according to a UO news release, is made possible by a \$425 million gift from Connie and Steve Ballmer. UO President Michael H. Schill said a Portland-based institute would unite programs in psychology and the College of Education with Oregon public schools, families and community support groups. UO is proposing a new degree program to educate diverse practitioners "prepared to meet children's needs within schools and organizations," Schill's statement says.

However, UO could find bumps in the road before completing the purchase. Hot Chalk, a California technology company, had managed online programming for Concordia, which was owned by the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod at the

time. Hot Chalk has sued the church body and Concordia for more than \$300,000 it says was owed by the university. Officials blamed the closure on financial problems exacerbated by declining enrollment.

In February 2020, the synod transferred ownership to the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, a non-profit financial institution that supports and makes loans for church organizations. Hot Chalk has claimed breach of contract, fraud and other allegations.

In addition, the synod has documents noting it could take over the property if it is not used for an educational or religious purpose affiliated with the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. UO has said if the extension fund fails to end what is called a "right of reentry," it won't purchase the property.

Both UO and the extension fund have said they believe the issues can be resolved. However, they aren't ready to talk about where they are in the resolution process.

Kelly M. Walsh, a lawyer for UO, said she couldn't answer questions without checking to see what information her client wants revealed.

Joe Russo, chief marketing officer for the extension fund, replied to an email sent to him and The Rev. Bart Day, president and CEO of the extension fund: "LCEF was committed to finding the highest and best use of the property. We are encouraged that a provider of higher education will occupy the campus and deliver programs that will positively impact the developmental and mental health of children in the community and across the state. We are happy the education, training and community impact legacy of Concordia will be continued. This is all we can share at this time."

Keller, the neighborhood association president, said UO has done a good job of communicating plans with the association and the public. "We are hopeful that the sale goes smoothly and we can begin a new chapter for the Concordia neighborhood."

Ben Taylor, chairman of the neighborhood land use committee, said UO representatives "appear to be honoring many of the good neighbor agreements that were in place with Concordia University and surrounding neighborhood."

UO representatives said they plan to keep the property's sports fields and are open to the idea of sharing them with the community, Keller said. They also plan to keep existing buildings but remodel where necessary, he said. ★

## Project Lemonade to hold 'Super' event for foster kids

By Ted Perkins  
tedperkins@star-news.info

In 2022, an estimated 6000 children in Oregon will spend time in foster care, an experience that can affect their entire lives. The statistics are stark. More than 30 percent will experience homelessness. Only 35 percent will finish high school and less than three percent of foster youth will graduate from college.

Project Lemonade, a Northeast Portland nonprofit, believes every child has a gift. Project Lemonade's mission is to inspire self-esteem and confidence to help foster youth thrive. Project Lemonade wants to change the statistics and help foster youth turn lemons into lemonade.

Project Lemonade operates a year-round retail store in the Lloyd Center mall, where youth in care can shop for new clothes for free. The nonprofit also offers a paid internship program for foster youth and grants to help foster youth reach their dreams.

To celebrate National Superhero Day, Project Lemonade is will open its doors to 200 youth in foster care on April 29 and 30. There will be live superheroes, face painting, a photobooth and more.

This event is a great opportunity for youth ages five and up to shop for new



Project Lemonade operates a year-round retail store in Lloyd Center, where foster kids can shop for clothes. (Project Lemonade)

spring and summer clothes. Each child can shop for more than 20 items, including shoes, shirts, pants, hoodies, jackets, socks, underwear and more to help build confidence and inspire self-esteem.

Kids with an open Department of Human Services' child welfare or

home safety case – or their foster parents or guardians – can sign up to attend the event and to shop at [www.projectlemonadepdx.org](http://www.projectlemonadepdx.org).

"The numbers add up fast," said Development Director Allison Specter. "We budget about \$150 per youth, which

means more than \$30,000 in clothing will exit our store in just two days. It is quite an amazing feat!"

### BE A SUPERHERO

**Donate Items.** Help stock the Project Lemonade store with superhero themed t-shirts, backpacks, capes and more. Shop their Amazon Wishlist today!

**Donate Funds.** Make a financial contribution to support this event and the 200 youth that will have a free and fun shopping experience to boost self-esteem.

**Host a Collection Drive.** Gather your friends, coworkers, or teammates and aim to stock the Project Lemonade store with as many items as possible from our Amazon Wishlist. Contact Gail Andersen at [gail@projectlemonadepdx.org](mailto:gail@projectlemonadepdx.org) for more information.

"I wanted to say thank you so much," said a foster parent and 2021 Superhero Event attendee. "Lia had a great time with the superheroes. She got some nice things and, most of all, she made a great memory,

To learn more about Project Lemonade, visit [www.projectlemonadepdx.org](http://www.projectlemonadepdx.org) or contact Allison Specter at [allison@projectlemonadepdx.org](mailto:allison@projectlemonadepdx.org). ★

★ STAR FEATURE

# Yard art inspires smiles



Many Irvington residents carry a couple of quarters with them on walks. That's all that's necessary to try their luck at the sidewalk vending machine that promises 'Awesome! Prizes.' (Nancy Varekamp)

By Nancy Varekamp

nancyvarekamp@star-news.info

Sunshine between spring showers beckons pedestrians to neighborhood sidewalks, and there's more to see than trees, lawns and blossoms. There are imaginative objets d'art.

Featured here are just four. Many (many) more can be found on Facebook's "Hidden Portland for the Curious" group page.

Near Rose City Park Elementary School is Dog Town, complete with city hall, fire station, Dog Lake and Dog Paw Ranch. James Dyal began developing his parking strip six months ago as a tribute to Chester, his dog who died last summer.

"I thought I might be able to provide a little entertainment for the kids and people walking," said the retired high school and college teacher and coach.

Chester had been a wanderer, having come from the streets of Los Angeles. Now children's eyes wander through the distinct sections of Dog Town. Through his kitchen window, Dyal has watched children examining every aspect of the parking strip development.

One child arrived at Dog Town with her father and her stuffed dog. She plucked the toy from its stroller for a closer look. "She walked her dog all the way through Dog Town," Dyal recalled.

He estimated an investment of three hours in development time so far, with negligible costs. Most items came from what he calls "the dollar and a quarter store" and from friends.

"What could I do with that," he ponders when he comes across potential elements.

That same question occurred to Sherry Wagner about her tree with a hole amid the branches. Visit her parking strip on Alberta Court, a few blocks east of Alberta Arts District, to see how she filled it. You'll find a clay boy – a life size 10 year old – relaxing there.

Her own sons are now grown, but she remembers their tree climbing days. "It's in honor of childhood and my sons. Being in touch with a tree is a great thing," she said.

Wagner sculpted the clay figure in slab construction at Multnomah Arts Center. When they'd been fired, the pieces were caught in the center's early pandemic closing. So she had to wait until summer 2020 to assemble the four pieces in her tree. A clay book bag next to the tree trunk came later.

Wagner enjoys looking at what she



James Dyal offers whimsy in Dog Town, a miniature development in his parking strip in Rose City Park. He's already considering another addition to the town – a 9-hole golf course. (Nancy Varekamp)



Flamingo Flats started in Woodlawn in 2000 with three plastic pink flamingoes. The collection has grown to more than 100, thanks to one man's passion for the tall, graceful birds. (Nancy Varekamp)

calls "Dream Boy." "It's a really peaceful feeling. It feels very relaxing. It's a nice way to see the world."

"What I enjoy most is that other people enjoy it," she added "It's really rewarding that people can get a smile."

That's what Kate Stock finds with her sidewalk vending machine near Irvington School. Anyone with two quarters can select from seven dials – from small envelopes of beads to notes that tell your fortune. She built and installed it eight years ago in her yard in the Alberta Arts District. Then she moved, but didn't re-install it.

"I'd been hauling it around with me," she said, for about four years before settling recently in Irvington.

"We get a lot more traffic here," she reported. "All kinds of people – I've seen people in the middle of the night taking flash pictures of it."

She built the housing around the inner workings of an existing vending machine. A friend painted it and Stock located roofing tiles on Craigslist.

She performs the maintenance and repairs, and regrets when a part isn't working. But, she explained, "It's part of the vending machine experience. Sometimes it gets jammed."

All of the purchases the vending

machine's customers receive are created or packaged by Stock.

"You get more than your 50 cents' worth," she said. "It's not a money maker. It's an art project."

Larry Goodwin's art project began 22 years ago in Woodlawn, when he placed three plastic flamingoes in his front yard. At last count, he had 102.

"I'm with the Radical Fairies," he said. "It's a group of queer men and women, and I used to host coffees here." The group dubbed his place "Flamingo Flats."

"I just love flamingoes," Goodwin said. "It's a bird that starts out gray as chicks and then, as they eat shrimp, it actually turns their feathers pink."

But that doesn't discourage him from other bright hues. Goodwin's replicas are also blue, purple, green, white and black. And you'll find a few fairies among the mix.

"Some came as gifts from friends, and a lot of them I just bought off Amazon."

Goodwin works in stained glass, fusion, knitting and quilting. So the yard display includes some of those mediums.

Like the other outdoor art hosts, he likes the expressions of surprise and delight by passersby. And that's one of the reasons he continues to increase and change his display. "I have families that come by on a regular basis." ★

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PARISHES

★ STAR KIDS KORNER

# Sports Bra sports bar to open on Broadway

By Penelope Baimbridge  
For the Star News

The Sports Bra will be a women's bar but it's also for kids and they are opening pretty soon. You're going to be excited to see the inside of The Sports Bra because it is amazing. There are trophies, pictures of sports teams and their menu is a slam dunk. You didn't hear this from me, but Aunt Tina's Vietnawings are the best thing on the menu. Because Jenny Nguyen, the owner and chef, loves puns, here is a joke I made up for her.

**What does the pirate always order off The Sports Bra menu?**

*The Super Caesaaaaargggh Salad.*

Here is my interview with Jenny Nguyen:

**Do you have any pets?**

**Jenny Nguyen:** Yes, I have a cat and a dog. The cat's name is Chloe and she is 19, which is old but she still seems really young. She has fur that's soft like a kitten. I also have a dog and her name is Cleo. She's 15 years old, so both of our pets are getting up there in age.

**Why did you decide to open the Sports Bra?**

**Jenny:** I decided to open the Sports Bra



BY PENELOPE BAIMBRIDGE

because I felt like there weren't really any places that specialized in showing women's sports. My friends and I would go to bars to watch a game, a women's game, and I would say nine times out of ten there weren't any women's games on the televisions. So we would always have to ask. Sometimes everyone in the bar would be watching a different game so they wouldn't change the channel to show our game, so then we would have to leave. And so I really wanted to create a space where women could watch women's sports and it wasn't difficult, but easy. I feel like me and a lot of my

friends didn't feel that comfortable going into sports bars watching games, so making a space that is comfy for everybody was really important to me and that's kind of the main reason I decided to open the Sports Bra.

**How did you think of the name?**

**Jenny:** I love puns. I love words that sound like other words. I'm always joking around. I just thought of "sports bar" and if you just switch those two letters around you have the "sports bra" and sometimes if people say it really fast they say the wrong thing and that's really funny to me. And sometimes if they read it. Like I went to change the address on my mail, and they were like, "It says Sports Bra here, did you mean Sports Bar?" And I'm like "No." So it's kind of funny. Kind of like an inside joke but, it also has a second meaning. The Sports Bra motto is we support women.

**Did you do sports when you were young?**

**Jenny:** Yes, I played basketball. That was my number one sport. I tried other things but I always went back to basketball. I love it! I still play now.

**Why did you choose this neighborhood for your restaurant?**

**Jenny:** This neighborhood reminds me of the neighborhood I grew up in. I grew up not too far from here. Actually, my dad's very first job when he came to Portland was that he was a repairman and he did some work for the Pets on Broadway shop.

**I love Pets on Broadway.**

**Jenny:** Yeah, so whenever we drive by someplace, my dad will point and say "See that light? I put that light in." Or "See that door frame? I fixed that door frame." That kind of thing. I grew up in this neighborhood and I really love being in this area.

**How long have you lived in Portland?**

**Jenny:** I was born and raised here in Portland. I stayed here until I was 11 and then we moved to Vancouver and moved back to Portland when I was 23, so a long time.

**Why did you choose to make the Sports Bra for kids and adults?**

**Jenny:** That's a great question. When I started to think about why it was important that people watched women's sports, I thought first about my friends

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



## ★ STAR PET CONNECTIONS

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### BluePearl pet hospital opens in Hollywood



BY LISA LAKES

LISALAKES@STAR-NEWS.INFO

Hollywood neighbors will be glad to learn that a new emergency and specialty pet care hospital has opened in their neighborhood. Veterinary medicine has grown significantly in depth and sophistication over the years. Pet owners have also become more interested in prolonging the life of their pets and more willing to seek lifesaving care for treatable illnesses like diabetes and heart disease. Specialty veterinary clinics throughout the metro area now offer the fields of dermatology, oncology, internal medicine, radiology and rehabilitation.

BluePearl opened in Hollywood on February 2 in the former home of Popina Swimwear. The building has also served as a beauty school, an antique shop and an S&H Green Stamps store.

The new emergency and specialty pet



In February, BluePearl specialty and emergency pet hospital opened at 2030 NE 42nd Ave. in Hollywood. (Joe Perkins)

hospital, located at 2030 N.E. 42nd Ave., is open for emergency care 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Primary care veterinarians may refer pet owners to BluePearl specialists in the veterinary fields of ophthalmology, surgery and cardiology. Hospice care is also offered.

BluePearl Medical Director Dr. Megan Seekins is a board certified specialist in emergency and critical care. Dr. Roberto Novo, surgery, and Dr. Gia Klaus, ophthalmology, are also board certified.

CVCA cardiologists see clients at the BluePearl location four days a week.

The hospice team includes Dr. Nancy Groth, head of hospice services for the

metro area and Dr. Shea Cox, BluePearl's national medical director for hospice. Dr Cox is a certified hospice and palliative care veterinarian, a veterinary pain practitioner and a pet-loss professional. Hospice services for pets include in-home senior care, pain management and end-of-life care.

Neighbors should contact their primary care veterinarian for referrals to access services. No referral is needed for hospice care or emergency services. For more information, call 503-501-2375 or visit [www.bluepearlvet.com/hospital/northeast-portland-or](http://www.bluepearlvet.com/hospital/northeast-portland-or) and [www.cvcavets.com](http://www.cvcavets.com).and Emergency Pet Hospital is hospitalhospital ★

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**★ STAR KIDS KORNER**

**The Sports Bra**

Chef **Jenny Nguyen** plans to hold a grand opening for her new sports bar on **April 1**.

**Address:** 2512 N.E. Broadway

**Phone:** 503-327-8401

**Web:** www.thesportsbrapdx.com

and me. You know, we love sports and wanted a place where we felt safe and comfy to watch them. Then I thought how much of a difference it would have made if there was a place like this when I was little and how much of an impact it would have had for me growing up and feeling like I belonged and seeing women on television playing a sport that I loved. When I was little, we had the Trailblazers and I would always tell people I'm going to play in the NBA, I'd be the first girl in the NBA, because there wasn't a women's version of that at the time. So I think that it's really important for kids to see women play sports on television so they know that they can grow up to play sports and they don't have to stop because they become older.

**Are you also a chef?**

**Jenny:** I am a chef. I have been cooking for 15 years and that was really my only career field. So I went from being a cook to opening this place.

**Did you always want your own business?**

**Jenny:** No, I never ever wanted my own business. When I was a chef and I was cooking people would always ask me, "Hey, Jenny when are you going to open your own restaurant?" And I would always say, "There is absolutely no way I would ever do that. That's too much work!" I love the idea of being able to go home, leave it all behind me and let someone else worry about it so it never occurred to me that this would ever happen. But the idea struck me a couple of years ago and I couldn't get it out of my mind. It got to the point where I felt like if I didn't do it I would regret it. So it was

really a matter of having to do it.

**Who is Aunt Tina?**

**Jenny:** So she's is my mom's brother's wife. She has been making these fried wings for so long and they're so good. No matter what party we are going to, she brings them. If someone else is cooking dinner, she brings them. If my uncle is making dinner and it's something completely different, she'll still make wings. It's her signature dish and its finger-licking good.

**I like the pun, "Aunt Tina's Vietnawings!"**

**Jenny:** I love to name things like that.

**Do you have a favorite sports team?**

**Jenny:** I don't think I do. I really love watching the WNBA and all of those teams. I'm a big fan of all the messaging they have and they are just a bunch of powerful women who are excellent at their sport. They are very caring and kind. They do a lot of good things. So that's the kind of teams that I like to support.

**What's your fave food on the menu?**

**Jenny:** I wrote the menu based on all the food that I like, so we have all of those things that I would love to eat. The kind of things I'm most excited about on the menu are the ones that come from my family. So the ribs, my mom's baby-back ribs and Aunt Tina's wings are probably my two favorites, because they're so close to home. Another menu item that I really love that is also close to home is our Tempeh Reuben. It was the first dish that my girlfriend made for me when we started dating.

**Do you think you might be able to have The Sports Bra in other cities?**

**Jenny:** I would love to eventually. I think that Portland is a great place for it to be the first one, because I think our community here is very strong in supporting women. I love that it's my hometown too. So it's the perfect meeting of those things. I do feel like there are other cities in the country that could use a place like the Sports Bra. ★



Chef Jenny Nguyen plans to open a women's sports bar, The Sports Bra, on Broadway in April. (Sally Miller)

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★ STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

★ STAR CLIPS ★

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# COMMUNITY

# CALENDAR



Poet-actor Darius Wallace incorporates the words of Black artists and civil rights leaders with music composed by Jasnam Daya Singh and played by the Portland Chamber Orchestra. (Portland Chamber Orchestra)

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**KIDSTEENS AND FAMILIES**

**TEENS JOIN COUNCIL**

**April 6. 4-5 p.m.** An online teen council is a safe place to hang out, share ideas and find things in common. It's a way to support the Multnomah County Library while earning volunteer hours. For details on how to join, email [libraryevents@multcolib.org](mailto:libraryevents@multcolib.org).

**FOLLOW THE READER**

**April 8. 4:15-5:15 p.m.** Continues Fridays. "Follow the Reader" is for young readers in kindergarten through second grade. They listen to a story with a teen volunteer and follow with a discussion. Free on Zoom through the Multnomah County Library. To receive a Zoom link, sign up at [www.multcolib.org/follow-reader-registration](http://www.multcolib.org/follow-reader-registration).

**ENJOYARTS**

**STUDENTS DISPLAY ART**

**April 2. 3-5 p.m.** Meet artists from Beaumont Middle School at a reception. Their works are on display April 1-30, with proceeds from sales to benefit the school's art program. The 20-member cooperative gallery also features work in a variety of styles and media. Hours 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day. Information: [www.artisticportlandgallery.com](http://www.artisticportlandgallery.com). 971-339-0945. Artistic Portland Gallery, 4110 N.E. Fremont St.

**SCULPTURE IN EXHIBIT**

**April 5. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Tuesdays to Sundays. Artist Tomasz Misztal shows sculpture and prints in the main gallery. Linda Buechter exhibits paintings in the feature area. Continues to April 26. See more art at [www.guardinogallery.com](http://www.guardinogallery.com). 503-281-9048. Guardino Gallery, 2939 N.E. Alberta St.

**WATCH FILM MUSICALS**

**April 6. 7 p.m.** Movie Madness University, a Hollywood Theatre educational program, plans viewings and discussions of musical films for four weeks. They include "42nd Street," "The Umbrellas of Cherbourg," "The Happiness of the Katacuris" and "Saturday Church." Advance registration is at [www.hollywoodtheatre.org](http://www.hollywoodtheatre.org). Tuition is \$75 or \$60 for Hollywood Theatre members. Masks and proof of vaccination are required. Movie Madness Miniplex, 4320 S.E. Belmont St.

**SEE CAMPION FILMS**

**April 7. 7 p.m.** Movie Madness University, a Hollywood Theatre educational program, plans viewings for four weeks of Jane Campion films: "Sweetie," "An Angel at my Table," "Holy Smoke," "Bright Star" and short films. Advance registration is at [www.hollywoodtheatre.org](http://www.hollywoodtheatre.org). Suggested reading and films related to the topic will be offered. Masks and proof of vaccination are required. Tuition \$30 or \$25 for Hollywood Theatre members. Movie Madness Miniplex, 4320 S.E. Belmont St.

**HEAR BLACK ARTISTRY**

**April 9 at 7 p.m. April 10 at 3 p.m.** Poet-actor Darius Wallace incorporates the words of Black artists and civil rights leaders with music composed by Jasnam Daya Singh and played by the Portland Chamber Orchestra. "My Words Are My Sword" is a multi-dimensional performance that addresses "current issues with the buried history of Black struggle, bravery and excellence." The Oregon Commission on Black Affairs is facilitating tickets for Black Oregonians and donations to sponsor tickets are accepted. Order or donate tickets at [www.portlandchamberorchestra.org](http://www.portlandchamberorchestra.org). April 9 presentation is at St. Andrew Catholic Church, 808 N.E. Alberta St. April 10 presentation is at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 6700 N.E. 29th Ave.

**MOUNTAINS IN ART**

**April 22. 12 noon to 5 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays. Through June 26.** Rick Silva, who creates experimental 3-D animation, shows "Peaking," which centers on video work visualizing more than a million variations of a floating mountain peak interacting with fluctuating graph lines. It is modeled from the granite and glacial formations of the Cascade Mountains. Free. ADA accessible. [www.oregoncontemporary.org](http://www.oregoncontemporary.org). 503-286-9449. Oregon Center for Contemporary Art, 8371 N. Interstate Ave.

**TECHHELP**

**MARKETING DIGITALLY**

**April 6. 6-7:30 p.m.** Digital marketing strategy for businesses is a workshop for helping entrepreneurs capture an audience. Malia Tippetts, founder of Bridgetown Marketing, leads a Multnomah County Library workshop for small business owners with goals that can become actionable marketing plans. Free. Registration required. [www.multcolib.org](http://www.multcolib.org).

**LEARN CANVA DESIGN**

**April 11. 6-7 p.m.** Explore design tools 1: Canva. For participants interested in designing flyers, social media posts, how-to guides, invitations and more. Canva is a web-based design studio with free and paid tools including Powerpoint Online, Google Slides and Google Drawing. Free from Multnomah County Library. Registration required. [www.multcolib.org](http://www.multcolib.org).

**EXPLORE IPHONE, IPAD**

**April 12. 6-7 p.m.** Get to know your iPhone and iPad, exploring screen navigation, email, texting and web browsing. Explore the iCloud, storage, App Store and iOS14. Customize settings for a user-friendly device. Free from the Multnomah County Library. Registration required. [www.multcolib.org](http://www.multcolib.org).

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Holy Week  
with  
Mosaic Church

Palm Sunday  
April 10  
10:00 am

Good Friday  
April 15  
7:00 pm

Resurrection Sunday  
April 17  
9:00 am & 11:00 am

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**★ STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR**



Bring a camera or smart phone to photograph loved ones 'inside' a 6-foot, sugar egg in the parking strip of Rose City Park's Easter House. (Nancy Varekamp.)



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**CONNECT FOR HEALTH**

**April 8. 9:30-10:30 a.m.** Explore "Loneliness in the time of COVID: How Social Connection Supports Healthy Aging." Presenter is Mikayla Murphy, a physician assistant at OHSU. Drop-in class, but proof of vaccination booster required and mask (N95/KN95/double-surgical) required. Free. 503-288-8303. [www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org](http://www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org). Hollywood Senior Center, 1820 N.E. 40th Ave.

**TALK ABOUT MOVIES**

**April 11 and 25. 3-4:30 p.m.** Amateur film critics meet virtually the second and fourth Monday of each month to discuss movies and TV series they have been watching. Facilitator is Freda Brown. Free from Community for Positive Aging/Hollywood Senior Center. Information at 503-288-8303. See the link on virtual events calendar at [www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org](http://www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org).

**NORTHEAST VILLAGE PDX OUTLINED**

**April 12, 2-3:30 p.m.** Learn about activities and services offered by Northeast Village PDX for seniors choosing to remain in their own homes and stay engaged in the community. Join an introductory session via Zoom. Visit [www.nevillagepdx.org](http://www.nevillagepdx.org), click on events, then calendar and finally, "Introduction to Northeast Village PDX". A Zoom link will arrive by email. For additional information call 503-895-2750.

**PREVENT THOSE FALLS**

**April 18. 3:30-4:30 p.m.** A fall prevention presentation with Joan Richardson, a physician assistant at OSHU. Drop-in class, but proof of vaccination booster required and mask (N95/KN95/double-surgical) required. Free. 503-288-8303. [www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org](http://www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org). Hollywood Senior Center, 1820 N.E. 40th Ave.

**VIEW FREE FILM**

**April 21. 12:30-3 p.m.** View a film, "Hidden Figures," in a program of Community for Positive Aging and the Hollywood Theatre in a private, socially distanced screening with masks. Check in at a Covid vaccine information table to get a voucher for free snack. Information at Hollywood Senior Center, 503-288-8303. Hollywood Theatre, 4122 N.E. Sandy Blvd.

**INGENERAL**

**SUPPORT NECC FUND**

**April 2. 5-9 p.m.** Pick up dinner from the Halsey Street Chipotle to help Northeast Community Center raise money for its community fund, which provides financial assistance for neighbors. Bring a flyer, <https://tinyurl.com/neccflyer>, and tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to send 33 percent of sales to the NECC fund. To place online orders, use P8M28QV as a promo. Phone for pick-up orders, 503-287-8242. Chipotle Mexican Grill, 704 N.E. Weidler St.

**ENJOY EASTER ITEMS**

**April 8-10 and 15-16. 12 noon to 6 p.m. Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.** Saturdays and Sunday. Rose City Park Easter House has panorama sugar eggs, imaginative handcrafted greeting cards, fused glass ornaments and cozy slippers to view or purchase. Bring a camera or smart phone to photograph loved ones "inside" the 6-foot, wood sugar egg replica in the parking strip. [sugarkeepsakes@gmail.com](mailto:sugarkeepsakes@gmail.com). 1904 N.E. 56th Ave.

**CONVERSE IN ENGLISH**

**April 12. 5:30-7 p.m.** "Talk Time" is an online event for English language learners, but it's not a class. It's an opportunity to meet new people, share your culture and converse in English. Free with the Multnomah County Library. To register, call or text 503-577-9984.

**'BRANDING' FOR A JOB**

**April 13. 6-7:30 p.m.** Create your brand as a job applicant. Through an online class from the Multnomah County Library, learn how to identify and articulate your experience and value to a potential (or existing) employer. Free. Registration required. [www.multcolib.org](http://www.multcolib.org).

**WALK ON GOOD FRIDAY**

**April 15. 12 noon to 3 p.m.** Take a contemplative walk on a labyrinth for Good Friday. Please wear a mask in the building. Information: 503-287-1289. Great Hall of Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1624 N.E. Hancock St.

**ENJOY EASTER SERVICE**

**April 17, 10:30 a.m.** Easter Sunday. LGBTQ and immigrant welcoming celebration of the resurrection and holy communion. 503-258-0992. Bridgeport United Church of Christ, 621 N.E. 76th Ave. ★

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## FOUR LEVELS OF ACTION

### LEVEL 1: PERSONAL

These are measures we take individually that are sustainable in intent and action. For example: recycle, buy less, and use less. These actions are relatively easy, small-to-medium in size and don't require much financial investment. They help us to embrace a sustainability ethos that drives taking action at larger scales beyond ourselves.

### LEVEL 2: FAMILY & FRIENDS

Sustainability measures become a collective pursuit among family members that can extend to influencing actions taken within our friend groups. We share our sustainability perspective and outwardly give weight to its importance in our lives. Examples of Level 2 actions include organizing a carpool to drop-off kids at school, reducing toilet flushes among members of your family, and cooking meals that can be shared with friends to reduce food waste.

### LEVEL 3: COMMUNITY

Actions taken at Level 3 include driving sustainability initiatives, education and awareness at your children's school, your workplace, your place of worship or at a club or community center to which you belong. At this level of action-taking, an individual has personal influence or a close-knit relationship with these entities

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

By Kate Gaertner and Amy Hall

For the Hollywood Star News

This April 22 marks the 52nd anniversary of Earth Day. The environmental movement that began in 1970 to raise public consciousness about the detrimental effects of pollution now focuses on today's climate crisis. A clever, college teach-in that began here in the United States, Earth Day has become a global movement and a reminder to rise up, declare our concern for the environment and the communities most impacted by extreme weather events, and actively fight for climate mitigation.

People do move mountains! Rachel Carson's 1962 best-selling book "Silent Spring" alerted the world to the hazards of unchecked chemical use to humans, the animal world and the planet's ecosystems. The first Earth Day

inspired some 20 million Americans to demonstrate against the negative impacts of industrial development. These moments of collective outrage and uprising led the government to pass a host of comprehensive environmental protection laws to support the well-being of living organisms and the well-functioning of our planet, including: the National Environmental Education Act, the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act.

The newest UN IPCC report, published in February, lays out the stark reality we face as humanity. Global air temperatures have increased to 1.1oC above pre-industrial levels. That rise is driving catastrophic and devastating extreme weather events we see across the globe and feel intimately where we live and

work. System change is needed. The authors of the IPCC report state "A sustainable world involves fundamental changes to how society functions, including changes to underlying values, world-views, ideologies, social structures, political and economic systems, and power relationships."

This year, make Earth Day the day each of us commits to climate action all year long.

As you determine the actions you are committed to taking this year, we want to share our thoughts on how to create transformation at all levels of society. The Pachamama Alliance offers an informative, short video that details how to take meaningful action at multiple levels of society. Visit bit.ly/WillGrant4levels to watch it. It is as easy as one, two, three and another step to four.

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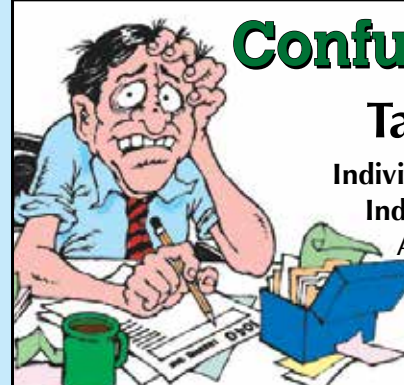
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and can meaningfully enact sustainable change over the course of a year or two. Level 3 initiatives can include supporting the implementation of a community solar project, introducing a plant-based cafeteria menu, and providing incentives or subsidies for public transportation and electric vehicle use.

**LEVEL 4: POLICY**

Level 4 actions are system 'game changers' that happen at the municipal, state and federal levels. They affect hundreds of thousands of people, whole regions, and a diverse set of entities including those within industry. Policy-level sustainability measures can also take the longest to implement. Examples of Level 4 actions include writing your state representative, signing local petitions and collectively lobbying for important

climate bills. As Will Grant mentions in the Pachamama video referenced above, while we often think about what can be done around sustainability and climate at Levels 1 and 4, actions taken 'in the middle' at Levels 2 and 3 can be profound and, more critically, are eminently within our grasp as individuals to accomplish.

While taking sustainable action is an urgent need we want everyone to embrace, you don't have to do it alone. Find a group that calls to you and fills your passion. Work collaboratively with like-minded people on larger projects of note.

Here in Portland, you can become a member of both national and global environmental organizations such as Climate Reality PDX, 350 PDX, and Pachamama Portland.

You can find specialized organizations

that align with your life at all stages such as Families for a Livable Climate and Eco-School Network for parents of younger children. If you are over 50, you may be interested in SAGE (Senior Advocates for Generational Equity). There are also student groups organized by teens and young adults, such as Sunrise Movement PDX.

If you prefer to do your climate action from your laptop or phone, you may download the new Climate Action Now app, for quick, easy actions that take less than five minutes a day and help to plant trees.

**FINAL NOTE:** We hope you've enjoyed our monthly sustainability columns over the last year. We want to stay connected and work with our neighbors on making climate action a priority in our lives and community. Kate wrote a book on how

individuals can create their own personal sustainability plans. Check out some of her free tools at kategaertner.com. Consider taking her fun and informative sustainability quiz or sign up to receive timely emails on how you can take climate action all year long.

*Rose City Park Climate Communications Expert Amy Hall and Sustainability Consultant Kate Gaertner write this monthly column with ideas that neighbors can implement to live more sustainable lives and combat climate change. Hall is co-founder of THRIVE creative, and also works at TripleWin Advisory, a corporate sustainability consultancy founded by Gaertner. Gaertner published a book on personal sustainability titled, 'Planting a Seed: Three simple steps to sustainable living.'*

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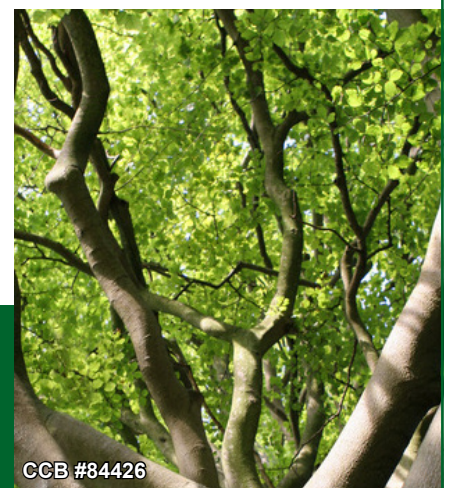
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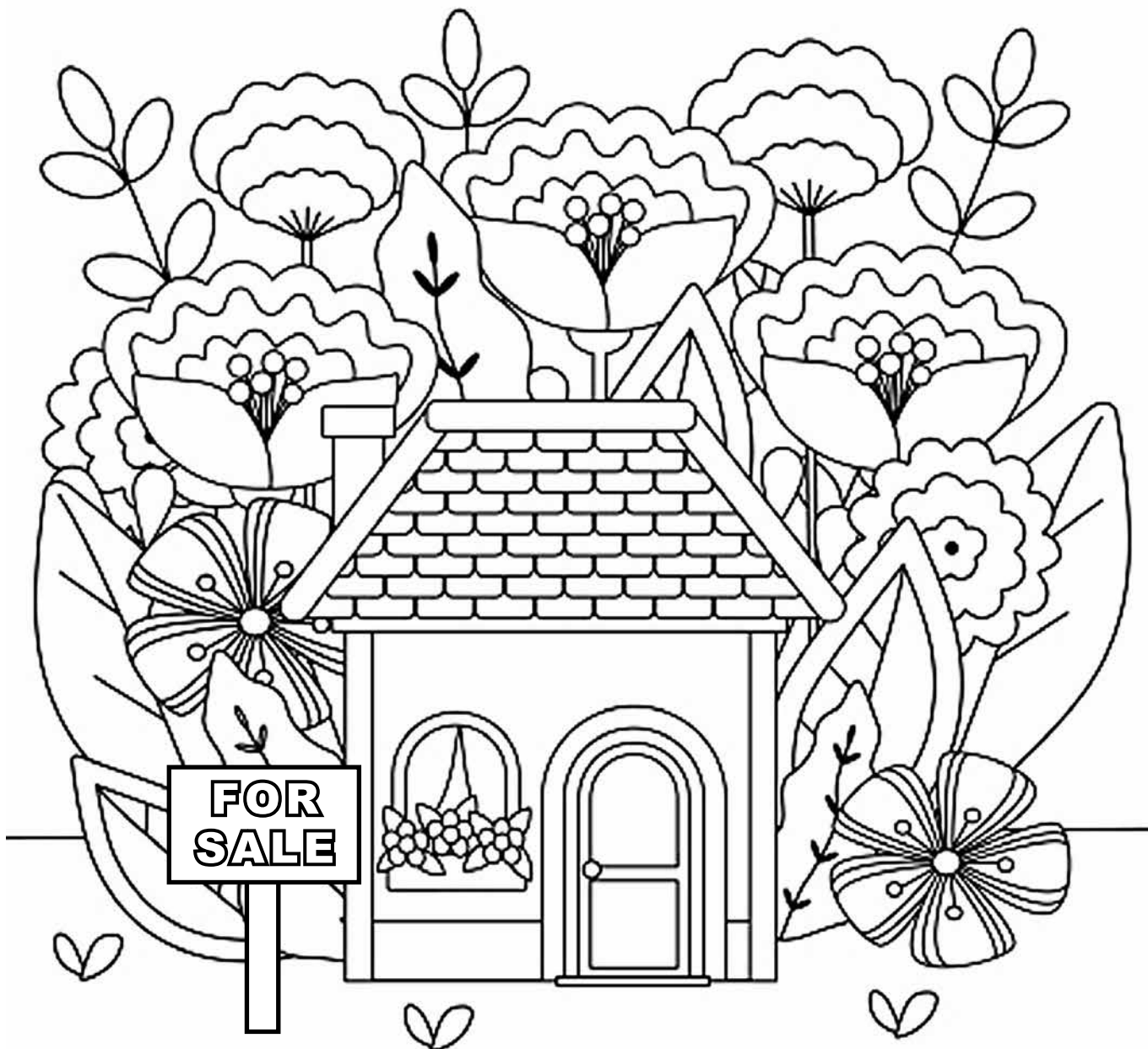
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