

Star NEWS



HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

White Album Xmas show returns to Alberta Rose Theatre. **PAGE 16**



All in on ALBERTA

STREETWISE Barb Hughes visits Alberta Main Street and finds Megan Ruyle and Trisha Hey with giant, green Fuzz Budds, electric guitars, puzzles, games and more at Grasshopper Kids Boutique. **PAGE 12**



LODGE LOSS Restore Oregon works with Elks Lodge to restore historic building after September fire. **PAGE 15**



UP IN THE AIR Holiday events in full swing at Lloyd Center, as mall faces uncertain future. **PAGE 6**



MAINSTREET MAN New Alberta Main Street Chair Devon Horace has organization back on track. **PAGE 8**



GUITAR HERO Penelope Baimbridge interviews guitar teacher, Trade Up Music's Stephen Agustin. **PAGE 14**



COAT CHECK Living Room Realty launches annual winter coat drive with partner Impact NW. **PAGE 2**



SHOP LOCAL Check our annual guide to neighborhood shopping in Northeast and North Portland. **PAGES 9-11**

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

★ STAR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

NEW COATS BRING WARM HOLIDAY CHEER

A new coat is just the gift that many children, adults and people teetering on homelessness would like this holiday season, according to Living Room Realty and Impact NW, which works with low-income families, seniors and adults with disabilities.

To provide those gifts, new coats for all ages, with tags, may be dropped off at the real estate company's offices, including one at 1401 N.E. Alberta St. Impact NW, which helps more than 60,000 people each year, will distribute the coats to those who need them.

"We've collected and donated more than 1300 new coats over the past six years," Cristen Lincoln, a broker and coat drive coordinator with Living Room Realty, said. "By donating brand new coats, we're not only sharing warmth with kids and community members in need



BY JANET GOETZE

JANETGOETZE@STAR-NEWS.INFO

but helping support their self-esteem."

New coats may also be dropped at other Living Room Realty offices, including 421 S.E. 10th Ave., 7830 S.W. 35th Ave. and 2050 N.W. Lovejoy St.



Living Room Realty has collected 1300 winter coats over the past six years, working with Impact NW to distribute the coats to people who need them. (Living Room Realty)

CHARTER COMMISSION FAVORS CITY CHANGES

Portland convenes an independent Charter Review Commission every 10 years to review and recommend amendments to the city charter, which in effect is a constitution. The current commission, after meeting for several months, has decided the city's commission style of government should be scrapped, but members haven't decided on what the replacement should be.

The commission also has been exploring the idea of expanding the council size in an effort to gain more voices in government. They also have discussed how elections should be conducted and whether a ranked choice election system is right for the city.

The commission held Zoom meetings with interested citizens in November to gain feed-back and ideas. A recording of one of those sessions may be viewed at www.portland.gov/omf/charter-review-commission.

Public comment also will be taken at a Charter Commission virtual meeting on Dec. 13 from 6-8 p.m. Those interested may email with the subject line "public comment" to charterreview@portlandoregon.gov. More comment sessions are expected to be scheduled in January.

ZONING CHANGES SEEN AS A PATH TO EQUITY

Portland's zoning codes between the 1920s and 1980s contributed to racist planning, but efforts have started to create an inclusive vision of the city with the help of marginalized communities, according to two members of the Bureau

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

The Hollywood Star News

Published monthly in Northeast Portland.

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To submit story ideas, letters to the editor or press releases please email editorial@star-news.info

Editorial deadline: 15th of the month
Advertising deadline: 20th of the month

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STAR COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



The Hollywood Theatre at PDX International Airport has reopened in a new, roomier location. (Hollywood Theatre)

of Planning and Sustainability.

Michelle DePass, of the equity and engagement team, and Rachael Hoy, a senior planner, spoke on Zoom to the November meeting of the Interfaith Alliance on Poverty, a community of congregations seeking to mitigate the injustices that cause poverty.

The city's first zoning code was approved in 1924, marking single-family and multi-family areas, DePass said. By 1937, lenders and real estate people "red lined" some neighborhoods as "hazardous" for mortgage loans, which included swaths of North and Northeast Portland. "Yellow" property, much of it in Southeast Portland, was "declining." "Green" areas, mostly on the west side and deep Southeast, were considered favorable for loans.

Over time, lack of private and public investment negatively affected "red" and "yellow" neighborhoods. However, by the early 2000s, the bureau began drawing under represented groups into planning activities, DePass and Hoy said.

Changes to current zoning are needed to broaden housing and economic opportunities, the pair said. Over the next couple of years, they expect to work with Black and Indigenous groups, who they said have been most harmed by past policies,

and use data and ideas they provide.

However, zoning alone can't bring about a future inclusive city, they said. Other city bureaus and regional and state efforts are needed to create the partnerships for a city providing opportunities for all residents, they said.

AIRPORT THEATER GAINS MORE SPACE

The Hollywood Theatre at PDX International Airport has reopened in a new, roomier location with an upgraded audiovisual system, according to Joe Bolenbaugh, marketing manager.

The theatre, featuring short films by Pacific Northwest filmmakers, has room for 22 guests instead of the 17 in its previous space. It is still on Concourse C, but is near Gate C-13. Called a micro cinema, the new space was selected because the terminal has a new configuration.

A volunteer, Steve Colburn, along with Control 4 and Triad Speakers, led the relocation with a generous amount of donated equipment and service, Bolenbaugh said. The upgraded audiovisual system has 4K projection and Dolby Atmos sound.

The micro cinema originally opened in

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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2017 and closed in 2020 for more than a year because of COVID protocols. It will screen the Winter 2020 program that was cut short by the pandemic. New films are scheduled every quarter.

Some of the films include "Bridgetown," directed by Derek Weber. The short documentary, shot entirely with a drone, features the passenger bridges spanning the Willamette River. It includes the history of each bridge and how many use it now.

Another film, "Two Balloons," directed by Mark Smith, features two adventurous lemurs navigating their dirigibles halfway around the world when fate threatens to disrupt their reunion.

MOVIE MADNESS PLANS FILM STUDY PROGRAMS

Movie Madness University, a film education program affiliated with the Hollywood Theatre, has online and one-night classes in December. Classes, with limited enrollment, are held in the state-of-the-art Movie Madness Miniplex at 4320 S.E. Belmont St.

An online class scheduled at 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Dec. 7-28, features cult horror films of the 1990s. Instructor Kia Anne Geraths, a filmmaker and educator, leads a discussion on Zoom. Participants view films on their own, which are streaming for less than \$5 on major platforms.

The films include "Mirror Mirror"; "Tales from the Crypt: Demon Knight"; "Cronos", and "In the Mouth of Madness." Tuition is \$40 or \$35 for Hollywood Theatre or Movie Madness members: www.hollywoodtheatre.org/events/mmu-online-90s-cult-horror.

Short in-person courses, for students to

choose just one or more nights, include viewing work by Japanese actor and director "Beat" Takeshi Kitano. The classes are scheduled at 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Dec. 7-28.

The films are "Violent Cop" (1989), "Sonatine" (1993), "Hana-Bi" (1997), and "Takeshis" (2005). Each session costs \$10. Tickets are at hollywoodtheatre.org/events/mmu-crash-course-takeshi-kitano.

In-class students must show proof of COVID vaccination and photo ID at the first class. Masks are required for all attendees. Additional information is at education@moviemadness.org.

INFORMATION OFFERED ON COVID, VACCINES

If you have a question about the COVID-19 vaccine, or you are trying to schedule a vaccination time, the Community for Positive Aging, formerly known as the Hollywood Senior Center, lists information on its website www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org/vaccine-resources.

The website also has information for making pharmacy vaccine appointments. The center telephone is 503-288-8303.

The State of Oregon's COVID-19 website has information about the virus at <https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19>. Email in all languages is ORCOVID@211info.org. Calls, in English and Spanish, may be made to 1-866-698-6155. They are answered daily from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., including holidays.

The Oregon Health Authority COVID vaccine website is <https://covidvaccine.oregon.gov>. Questions may be answered by emailing eocallcenter@multco.us or calling to 503-988-8939. ★

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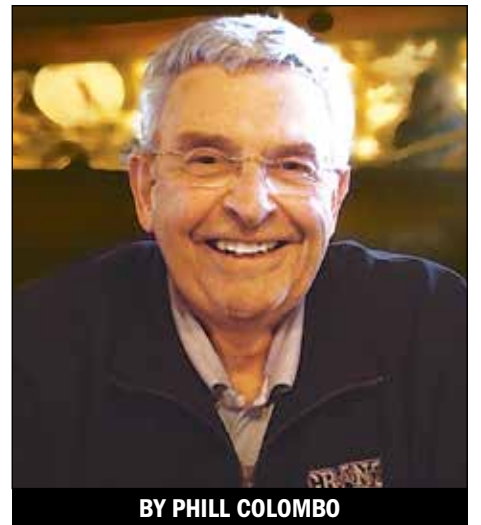


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FUTURE OF LLOYD CENTER REMAINS UP IN THE AIR

The future of one of Northeast Portland's most attractive parcels of real estate is now anyone's guess, after the president of KKR Real Estate and Finance Trust reportedly said mall owners had defaulted on a \$110-million loan and KKR would move forward to repossess the property. Neither KKR nor Lloyd Center responded to requests for comment in the wake of reports that KKR planned to redevelop the mall into a mixed-use venue of residential and commercial opportunities.

At the 23-acre Lloyd Center, business continued with a pre-Thanksgiving Christmas tree lighting ceremony and announcement of seasonal events at www.lloydcenter.com. The center has also been mentioned as a potential site for a new Major League Baseball stadium.



BY PHILL COLOMBO
PHILLCOLOMBO@STAR-NEWS.INFO

CITY APPROVES FUNDING FOR SEVEN AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS, FIVE IN NORTH AND NORTHEAST PORTLAND

Of seven new projects receiving Metro's full concept endorsement for Regional Affordable Housing Bond funding, five are in North and Northeast. Portland's Housing Bureau and a community review panel selected the projects and recommended them to Metro to receive the majority of \$88.6 million in Metro capital bonds.

The five projects include 137 units in Montavilla at 74th and Glisan that Related Northwest, IRCO and Catholic Charities are developing (\$19.5 million), 64 units in Overlook at 5020 N. Interstate Ave. that Community Development Partners and Self Enhancement Inc. are proposing (\$9.1 million), 199 units for Bridge Housing's Hollywood HUB units at the Hollywood Transit Center (\$28.4 million), 94 units in Kenton between North Flint and Wheeler Avenues for Albina Vision Trust and Edlen & Co. and 83 units in Cully at 42nd and Killingsworth for Home Forward (\$2.5 million).

The Housing Bureau envisions these new, affordable housing opportunities as family-focused and culturally specific to meet diverse needs, targeting Black, Indigenous, and people of color communities, immigrants and refugees, families with children, seniors, and neighbors experiencing chronic homelessness to provide supportive services and economic opportunities that help residents find stability and thrive in the local community.

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

TAPPING FEDERAL FUNDS FOR LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS WILL TAKE TIME

While interest is high on how Oregon and Portland will use the \$1 billion assigned to the state from the \$1.2-trillion federal infrastructure bill signed into law in mid-November, accessing the funds will not be an overnight event. Both state and city transportation spokesmen responded in like manner to a "what's next" question.

"It's still a little too early to know what projects will be undertaken," said Kevin Glenn, Oregon Department of Transportation communications manager. "ODOT will be using this funding to address existing transportation challenges across the state, including in North and Northeast Portland."

Glenn noted that the federal package includes over \$200 million for local governments to invest in community priorities and that ODOT would be developing project lists soon and present those options to the Oregon Transportation Commission for guidance, likely in the spring.

"In advance of that, we'll be soliciting public comment and working with our advisory committees to ensure these projects reflect the priorities of Oregonians," Glenn added.

At Portland's Bureau of Transportation, Dylan Rivera said, "We are very happy that the legislation passed and we're looking forward to working with the federal government on funding projects here. It's still too early to know what Portland projects will be eligible for support."



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A Lloyd Center Christmas tree lighting ceremony opened the holiday season, in the wake of default and foreclosure reports that the 23-acre real estate parcel may soon be redeveloped. (Lloyd Center)

★ STAR DEVELOPMENT NEWS



Developer Ralph Tahrán has proposed a 44-unit, affordable housing project in Kenton. The four-story building would house 39 studio and five three-bedroom apartments. (Ralph Tahrán Architects)

AT YEAR END, PACE ON RESIDENTIAL INFILL PROJECT 2 WILL PICK UP

After a late-November briefing, the city's planning and sustainability commission is tentatively scheduled to hold a public hearing in mid-December on the second phase of adjusting residential zoning code. Following testimony and deliberation, the commission will send its recommendation to city council around February and the council will hold an additional public hearing before making a final decision on RIP2 in Spring 2022.

All amendments must be adopted by June 30 to meet a state compliance-mandated deadline. More information on the project is at www.portland.gov/bps/rip2. Planning staff can be contacted at residential.infill@portlandoregon.gov or 503-823-1105.

44 AFFORDABLE HOUSING UNITS PROPOSED IN KENTON

Developer Ralph Tahrán initiated proposal of a 44-unit, 100 percent affordable housing project at 1575 N. Willis Blvd. in Kenton with a mid-November virtual meeting. The four-story building will house 39 studio and five three-bedroom apartments over a basement.

More information is available on the project is at www.historickenton.com.

INTERSTATE BRIDGE SURVEY OPEN UNTIL DECEMBER 10

Preliminary planning on a proposed rebuilding of the century-old I-5 Bridge between Portland and Vancouver is seeing citizen input to combine with stakeholder comments, data and technical analysis. The feedback will contribute to developing a multimodal bridge

replacement to meet current and future regional transportation needs.

Planners estimate it may take between 10 and 20 minutes to complete the survey's 27 questions. Questions include travel patterns, river crossing configuration, Hayden Island and Marine Drive interchange options, Vancouver interchange improvements, high-capacity transit options and demographics with all questions optional.

Information about the bridge replacement process for arriving at a design solution by the spring of 2022 are available at www.interstatebridge.org/november.

PERMITS ISSUED

In Boise at 4224 N. Mississippi Ave., 4224

Mississippi LLC secured a permit to build on a vacant lot a new, three-story, mixed-use building with offices on the first two floors and three apartments on the third floor.

In Cully at 5825 N.E. Prescott St.,

Northeast Prescott Limited Partnership of Southwest Portland was issued permits to construct a new, four-story, 50-unit apartment building with community spaces.

At 6128 N.E. Milton St., DEZ Development

of Clackamas has permits to build two, new two-story, single-family residences with single-vehicle garages.

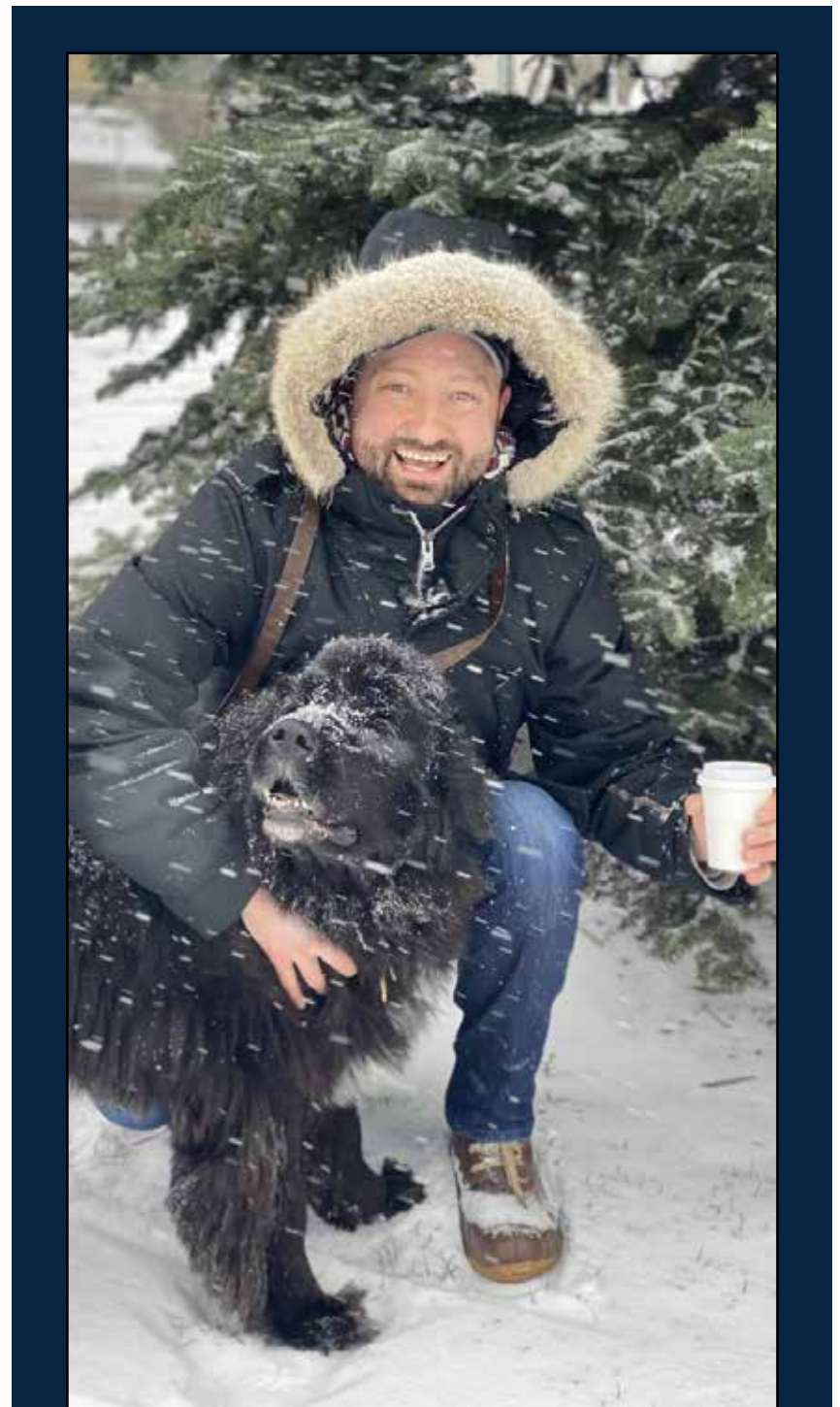
In Montavilla at 8671 SE Washington St.,

Hien Tieu of Southwest Portland has permission to build a new, three-story duplex with three attached, single-vehicle garages and a new, two-story, single-family residence on vacant property.

In North Tabor at 5327 N.E. Glisan St.,

53G LLC of Beaverton secured a permit to deconstruct an office building, and plans are under review to build a new, four-story, 33-unit apartment building. ★

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★ STAR FEATURE STORY

Alberta Main Street gets back on track

By Nancy Varekamp

nancyvarekamp@star-news.info

Even before COVID-19 struck, business owners on Northeast Alberta Street experienced a loss. In 2018, they mourned the death of Alberta Main Street's energetic founding executive director, Sara Wittenberg.

A new executive director served for two years, followed by nearly a year of an interim fill-in. During that time, the board of directors lost its chair, and a new one wasn't elected until just six months ago.

New Chair Devon Horace reported the losses are now behind Alberta Main Street, and the future looks bright. The search for a new executive director is scheduled to begin in January and then for more new staff members.

"We are looking over the organization to see where we can create community management roles to help us in community engagement, design, email communication, social media and more," he said.

Horace brings fresh vitality to the position of chair. He moved to Portland from New York State five years ago as a Nike technical operations manager. He continues in that job, and also heads Horace Consulting Agency.

"That's one of the companies I have on the side. I focus on BIPOCs because I'm expert on that field," he said. "We work on revenue from start-up to mid-level companies."

Horace was awarded one of the final master's degrees in business leadership and management from Concordia University. It's that expertise – and experience – in business that he lends to Alberta Main Street.

The nonprofit's mission is to advance efforts to develop Alberta Street as a vibrant, creative, equitable and sustainable commercial district serving residents, businesses and visitors of the Alberta Arts District.

The board of directors this year



New Alberta Main Street Chair Devon Horace says the future looks bright for the organization and the search for a new executive director is scheduled to begin in January. (Alberta Main Street)

committed to three near-term priorities to support that mission: collaborating and outreach, increasing partnerships and supporting area businesses.

Working with its members and other businesses on Alberta Street is key to those priorities. Horace said continued partnerships with organizations are also vital. Topping the list of partners are the Portland Bureau of Transportation, Micro Enterprise Services of Oregon and Venture Portland.

"As we continue to rebuild Alberta Main Street, we look to successful nonprofit organizations to help us be better and provide more offerings to the community," he said.

Like retailers and restaurants throughout the city, many on Alberta Street have shuttered during the past 22 months of the pandemic.

That situation motivates Horace and Alberta Main Street.

"We want to increase BIPOC businesses on Alberta Street, giving them opportunities to lease spaces and working with landlords on the street," he said. "Alberta Main Street has an amazing

history and, with COVID-19 and the change in management, the best thing we can do is collaboration and outreach."

"Right now we are increasing awareness through social media," Horace explained. He's visiting businesses on Alberta Street to collect updated information on each. A revamped website at www.albertamainst.org with an interactive map will reflect that effort, with descriptions and links to the businesses between Martin Luther King Boulevard and 33rd Avenue.

The organization is also back on track with events. Horace called the Oct. 31 Trick or Treat Alberta Street a big win. After a one-year, pandemic-induced pause, costumed children and adults were welcomed with treats at more than 30 businesses.

"We had such an uproar of excitement," he said. Businesses not only distributed candy, but offered activities.

December brings the annual Gnome for the Holidays promotion to Alberta Street. This year the gnomes inside store windows are creations of Mike Bennett, Concordia neighbor and self-described "public joy creator." Shoppers – and window shoppers – may

BUSINESS DISTRICTS CELEBRATE HOLIDAYS

The continuing pandemic may prevent some Northeast Portland business districts from making holiday plans, but at least two have announced December events.

ALBERTA MAIN STREET

Check www.albertamainst.org for details.

Gnome for the Holidays asks shoppers to spot gnomes in business windows, fill in a scorecard and enter the competition for prizes. It's planned for the entire month of December.

Lit Up and Local will be Sunday, Dec. 5 between 3 and 5 p.m. A celebration in the plaza on Alberta Street between 17th and 18th avenues includes a tree-lighting ceremony. Across the street, Black Santa will greet children from inside a giant snow globe.

BEAUMONT VILLAGE

Visit www.beaumontvillagepdx.com for more info.

Fremont Holiday Fest returns Friday, Dec. 3 from 4 to 7 p.m. on Fremont Street between 42nd and 46th avenues. Activities include photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, snacks, crafts, and caroling by Grant High School's Royal Blues.

locate the gnomes, mark their official scorecards and are then eligible for prizes throughout December.

Sunday, Dec. 5, the Lit Up and Local tradition continues. It's a tree lighting ceremony in the plaza on Alberta Street between 17th and 18th avenues. Also between 3 and 5 p.m., Santa Claus will again be available to visit with the children.

What's new this year is a visit from Black Santa, stationed in a giant snow globe at the Alberta Main Street office at 1722 N.E. Alberta. It's one more effort by the organization to celebrate the diversity of the district.

Horace is enthusiastic about the events, and about Alberta Main Street's future. "We're really getting back into the swing of things." ★

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★ STAR STREETWISE

ARTFULLY ALBERTA

Explore the Alberta neighborhood this holiday season! Pop into Tumbleweed for casual fashion and clothes by indie designers. Schedule a pottery painting party or pick up a take-home kit at Mimosa Studios. Tin Shed Garden Cafe serves up fresh breakfasts with homey outdoor seating – complete with tree, fireplace and a menu for dogs. Close Knit sells yarn, knitting and crochet supplies – and offers online classes. At Urdaneta, enjoy Spanish tapas and craft cocktails, with seafood, meat, vegetarian and gluten-free options. Find the perfect instrument at Trade Up Music. All Teased Up and Barber-Q can meet your hair needs. From the Blind Insect Gallery and Alberta Rose Theater for arts, to a festive tree lighting and Gnome for the Holidays, there's plenty to keep you busy on Alberta.



BY BARB HUGHES
BARBHUGHES@STAR-NEWS.INFO

IMPERIAL BOTTLE SHOP AND TAPROOM

Since 2013, Imperial has curated a selection of the best local, craft beer and cider on draft or in bottles and cans. Toast the season with Imperial's covered outdoor seating with warming fire pits, or indoor seating with proof of vaccination. December at their pop-up sidewalk window, Glubar Hot Beverage Bar, savor seasonal hot mulled cider, chocolate-roasted beer, European warm-spiced beverages, holiday decorations and music. Enjoy hot drinks like fruitcake sour ale, bourbon aged cider with lemon, or classic German-style Gluhwein. At GluBar, cheerful staff offers donuts to enjoy, from Angel's Donuts up the street, and encourage customers to bring in food from any of the amazing neighbors like GrindWitTryz, Bollywood, Via Chicago, Baba's, and Little Big Burger.

Imperial Owners Alex Kurnellas and Shawn Stackpoole love hosting fundraisers to help local school foundations, including raising money for a full-time middle school librarian, and band uniforms for a high school marching band. They hosted a Black Is Beautiful Beer Fest benefitting Don't Shoot Portland, and a Pride Beer Fest for Basic Rights Oregon. Imperial is working on a Ladies' Night where they'll donate \$2 of every pint sold to Planned Parenthood.

Neighbors and friends meet here, Alex says, and a few have even come back to tell him that they met at Imperial and are now married. If you're celebrating an anniversary or birthday, try the champagne-style cocktails, or sparkling wine on tap.

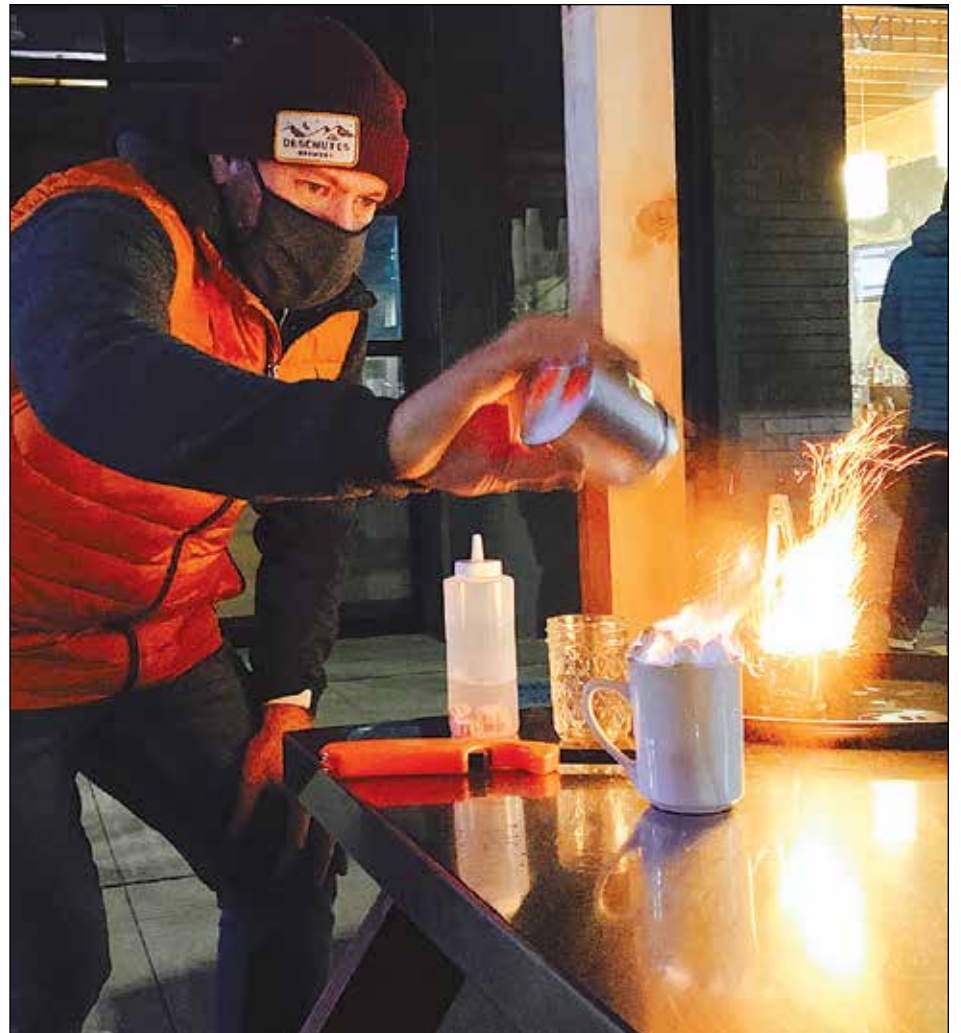
Imperial Bottle Shop and Taproom has ample outdoor/indoor seating and pickup/togo in their 21+ only establishment. With over 28 taps and 400+ bottles/cans of local craft beer, cider, and seasonal specialty drinks, your tastebuds will be happy here Wednesday through Sunday 3-9pm, possibly extended hours if the Glubar gets busy.

ADDRESS: 2006 N.E. Alberta St. **PHONE:** 503-954-2021. **WEBSITE:** www.imperialbottleshop.com.
DON'T MISS: Flaming cinnamon hot chocolate stout, lit tableside by Imperial's bartenders. Check out European inspired Glue Bier and Gluevim. Gift cards are available online.

GRASSHOPPER KIDS BOUTIQUE

Grasshopper Boutique is a children's emporium specializing in organic apparel, nontoxic toys, books, decor and whimsy. Meagan Ruyle and Trisha Hey were very helpful showing me the goodies in the store.

You'll find favorites like Fuzzbudds – big, bouncy, fuzzy stability balls with sweet eyes and goofy smiles, Two Bros Bows – a cool selection of bows and arrows for kids to play with and learn archery in a safe and fun way, Comic Book Kit – everything you need to create your own hilarious comic strips or graphic novels, Pinball Science – kids can build their very own pinball machine and learn about basic science from its workings. Brands



Alex Kurnellas lights a hot chocolate at Imperial Bottle Shop's outdoor Glubar Hot Beverage Bar. (Imperial Bottle Shop)

like Vilac, Fabelab, Moulin Roty and Wandering Workshop are here, plus kids clothes in fun prints and designs by companies committed to sustainability and safe, fair working conditions. December magic continues with arrivals of Playmobil Advent Calendars, holiday books and puzzles, and stuffed toy maker Jellycat's annual holiday collection.

Grasshopper cares about community and donates gift cards and gift baskets to local schools, organizations and non-profits for auctions and special events. Prior to COVID, Grasshopper donated a percentage of sales one weekend per month to a charity or non-profit. They hope to resume that practice in the New Year.

To keep things safe for everyone, Grasshopper Kids Boutique is currently limiting masked customers to eight at a time, including children, to allow for social distancing. You may also shop online and come to the store for pick-up, or get free shipping on orders over \$100.

Stop by Grasshopper Boutique seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday through Monday, or 10 a.m. 6 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday.

ADDRESS: 1816 N.E. Alberta St. **PHONE:** 503-335-3131. **WEBSITE:** www.grasshopperstore.com.
INSTAGRAM: @grasshopperstore. **DON'T MISS:** Free gift-wrapping services. Festive holiday window display. Free delivery to metro area through Christmas.

– CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



Meagan Ruyle, left, and Trisha Hey at Grasshopper Kids Boutique. (Barb Hughes)



Laura Amiton offers snacks to visiting pets at the 'Treat Window' inside The Filling Station. (Barb Hughes)

★ STAR STREETWISE

THE FILLING STATION

The Filling Station is a friendly place where pets and their people gather to purchase pet food, necessities, toys and treats. Owner Laura Amiton has always loved helping, starting her work life at a vet hospital, with stints at the Oregon Humane Society and OHSU. Opening a store to serve pets was a return to her original dream, having more hands-on, in-person contact. Laura has been a part of the Alberta street community since 2004, watching customer kids – both pet and human – grow up healthy and strong.

The Filling Station carries only the best natural brands and cares deeply about pet health, nutrition, and environmental impact. Open Farm brand pet food has a bag-recycling program to make park benches out of old bags. The Filling Station works with small local farmers for meats and many food products are certified by the Global Animal Partnership. With a generous returns policy, returned food is donated to animal groups, pet food banks, or those in need.

Treat your cat or dog to a curated holiday gift basket! A great gift for under \$30, they're filled with treats and toys that pets love. Gifts are also available for smaller and unusual pets. You'll find natural remedies and supplements, leashes, wearables, beds, litter boxes and much more. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week, check out the holiday sales, promotions, auto-ordering, in house – or online with delivery available.

ADDRESS: 2001 N.E. Alberta St. **PHONE:** 503-249-6571. **WEBSITE:** www.tfspets.com. **DON'T MISS:** Bring your pets inside to sit in the 'Treat Seat' for a free treat and loving attention from staff. There's also a treat jar outside the door.

AMELIA

Amelia is a neighborhood boutique, showcasing independent designers and artists. Vintage inspired with a modern twist, the style is feminine without being fussy – equal parts fashion and function. With sizes XS - 3X, and offering complimentary tailoring, Amelia Blakeman – owner and designer – firmly believes that your clothes should fit you and not the other way around.

Most days Amelia can be found in the shop meeting customers or upstairs in the production studio, sewing dresses and tailoring customer's new favorites.

Amelia's most popular dress is the figure-flattering Bubble Dress by Cut Loose. Unisex seasonal scents by local perfumer Imaginary Authors are also a hit. You'll find locally made candles, bath bombs, jewelry, art prints, gems and color-changing nail polish. Amelia is proud of the variety of talented local artists represented in the store.

Amelia's donates 10 percent of all Wednesday sales to a different charitable organization. Everything in the store is made in the United States and most in the Pacific Northwest. Amelia offers fair wages, a safe workspace, keeps women looking sharp and independent neighborhood artists thriving.

To find comfortable, beautiful clothes and accessories that fit – as well as beautiful stocking stuffers – stop by Amelia's Wednesday through Sunday between 12 and 6 p.m., or by appointment. You deserve to feel pretty.

ADDRESS: 2230 N.E. Alberta St. **PHONE:** 503-567-8315. **WEBSITE:** www.helloamelia.com. **DON'T MISS:** December's fresh collection of Sapphire Jewelry made in-house, beautiful clothes in extended sizes, local artisanal gifts and color-changing nail polish!

BOLLYWOOD THEATER RESTAURANT

Veteran Chef Troy MacLarty opened the Bollywood Theater Restaurant in 2012, serving up hard-to-find authentic Indian

street foods with a colorful, casual vibe. Favorites include the Kati Roll, a specialty from Calcutta, filled with cheese or meat, egg, pickled onion and green chutney. You'll also find small plates like savory lamb samosas, pork vindaloo, rich creamy curries and sweet and sour cauliflower. Grab a seat and watch a Bollywood movie while you eat.

MacLarty is an expert at importing fragrantly-spiced, authentic Indian ingredients. The Bollywood has the feel of India, from steel water glasses and bright decor to the films they screen. The restaurant sources everything it can locally, offering to-go and counter service with patrons bussing their own tables. Bollywood Theater gives back to the community by donating to many organizations and participates in the No Kid Hungry Chefs Cycle Bike Ride.

Stop in for a simple dinner-and-a movie date for the price of dinner, and enjoy this people-gathering-hub in the community Thursday through Sunday from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

ADDRESS: 2039 N.E. Alberta St. **PHONE:** 971-200-4711. **WEBSITE:** www.bollywoodtheaterpdx.com. **DON'T MISS:** Winter seasonal roasted squash special and the popular chicken kati roll.

STUMPTOWN KILTS

Celebrate the season with contemporary, non-tartan kilts at StumpTown Kilts. Men's and women's modern utility kilts, made in the United States, feature adjustable waists, attachable removable snap-on pockets and an internal "secret" pocket to stash a wallet, lip balm or keys. Choose from a variety of sizes, lengths and fabrics – all riveted for strength and durability.

John "Jonny" McClain founded StumpTown Kilts in 2009, with a group of friends who based their ideas on the military "MOLLE," an acronym for modular lightweight load-carrying equipment. They spent over a year on design, stressing durability and ease of wear and, of course, fashionable good looks. StumpTown Kilts have extra stitching at stress points and are easy to launder – just wash and hang dry.

The Standard StumpTown Kilt is a poly/cotton blend with year round popularity. It's comfortable and tough for the outdoors and can easily be washed and then dressed up for a night on the town. The lighter Cotton Ripstop is popular in the summer and is great for hiking. In the winter, you'll want the organic cotton canvas Duck Kilt with its warmer, heavier fabric. Jonny wears cotton or wool tights in the winter months and stays comfortably warm and happily kilted.

For kids, StumpTown added extra snaps and hemmed the waist of the smallest adult size. This sizing adjustability ensures a child can wear the kilt as they grow. For adults, it's the same, as we tend to "grow" after a big meal. Snap the attachable pocket onto your dog's leash for his poop bags and kilt the whole family!

StumpTown donates to Veteran causes, the Humane Society, local schools and LGBTQ groups. In December, they also contribute to the KGW Toy Drive. For every kilt sold or new toy dropped off, they'll match a toy. StumpTown is open for in-store shopping Wednesdays through Saturdays from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., and by appointment until December 19th, when they close for the holidays until January 5. You can also shop online with curbside pickup or delivery. Gift certificates are available.

ADDRESS: 2303 N.E. Alberta St. **PHONE:** 503-839-7604. **WEBSITE:** www.stumptownkilts.com. **DON'T MISS:** 15 percent off kilts from December 1 to 15, in-store and online. Call for personal appointments and kilt fittings and make sure to check out Jonny's specialty metal work for sale. ★



Amelia Blakeman at Amelia neighborhood boutique. (Barb Hughes)



(Bollywood Theater Restaurant)



Jonny McClain at Stumptown Kilts. (Barb Hughes)

★ STAR KIDS KORNER

Stephen Agustin helps kids to tap creative side

By Penelope Baimbridge
For the Star News

What do you get when you cross electricity and an acoustic guitar? Rock and roll! Speaking of rock and roll, I met with Stephen Agustin. He is my electric guitar teacher. I interviewed him on Zoom and asked him lots of questions about him and his band, the Fourth Wall. I really like his music. It's cool and I would like to listen to it on a long trip.

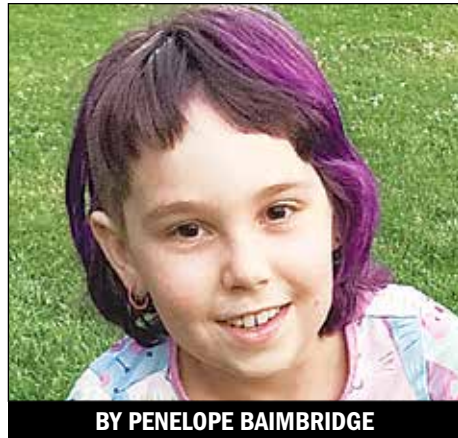
Stephen works at Trade Up Music on Alberta. The store has lots of guitars, picks and straps. I like Stephen as a teacher because he asks me what kind of music I like. He's a really fun and nice teacher. You can take lessons from him at Vesper music and listen to his music on Spotify. Here is my interview.

Do you have any pets?

Agustin: I don't have a pet currently. I would like one. When I was younger I had a cockatiel, a kind of bird, a very pretty bird. But I would like to have a pet. We just moved places and are kind of settling into our new house so we don't have one.

What neighborhood do you live in?

Agustin: I live in Southeast, kind of Foster Powell area.



BY PENELOPE BAIMBRIDGE

What type of music do you play?

Agustin: I play rock and roll music. I'm not so great with genres. I think it would be called indie rock or a kind of shoegaze is another term. Very distorted kind of noisy music.

Who is in the band?

Agustin: There are four people including myself. I play guitar and I sing. My friend Casey plays guitar. A friend named Chris also plays guitar and a friend named Andrew is the drummer. Those are the people in the band. Sometimes we have other friends play with us. We had a

friend named Laura who played a couple of shows. She played piano and sang.

Why do you like teaching music?

Agustin: Wow! There are a lot of reasons. I get introduced to a lot of new music through my students. I remember being a kid and starting to learn music and I thought that was kind of the best thing ever. It felt really empowering and I was kind of an awkward kid. Having the ability to go home and, you know, play my guitar and just make some noise was really good for me psychologically. It helped me be creative. I started writing songs, Seeing students follow that same path and find a way of expression is one of the best things out there. I feel pretty good about the energy I'm putting out in the world when I'm teaching. It's a whole ton of fun and I like when students tap into their creative side. We need more of that.

What's the name of your band?

Agustin: It's called The Fourth Wall. We are on Spotify and the internet.

How long have you worked at Trade Up?

Agustin: I think I have worked there for almost eight years, maybe nine. I've worked there a long time. I work at the Northeast location and teach out of there too. ★



Stephen Agustin, left, works at Trade Up Music on Alberta and teaches guitar. (Sally Miller)



★ STAR PET CONNECTIONS

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THE JOY OF KEEPING SMALL ANIMALS



BY LISA LAKES
LISALAKES@STAR-NEWS.INFO

With the holidays approaching, many families may be considering adding a pet to their household. If your living space is limited and you love animals, consider adopting a small animal like a mouse or hamster. Small animals require less space than dogs or cats and can be excellent choices for children as they learn how to treat them with gentleness. Hamsters, mice, rats and gerbils are all good choices for first time pet parents.

Basic care needs are fairly simple. Once a week, the cage should be thoroughly cleaned and fresh nesting materials replaced. This reduces the danger of your pet developing respiratory ailments from ammonia build up. Most small animals are herbivores or omnivores – although some, like ferrets, eat meat. Each type of small animal has different nutritional



Small animals respond best to slow, gentle handling. If you own larger animals like dogs or cats, the small animal should be placed in an area safely out of reach or inaccessible to the larger pet. (Vet Voice)

requirements, so make sure to research your pet's needs in advance. There are a variety of commercial foods available. Supplements such as timothy hay, dark leafy greens, vegetables and fruits are usually recommended. Fresh water is critical and should always be available.

Small animals respond best to slow, gentle handling. They can be taught tricks, such as twirling. Children under five years of age should be supervised with small animals. If you own larger animals like dogs or cats, the small animal should be placed in an area safely out of reach or inaccessible to the larger pet.

An important consideration is to find a veterinarian who is comfortable caring for your particular small animal. While all veterinarians receive initial training, it is helpful to find clinics that regularly treat these tiny creatures.

As always, please research the specific requirements for any pet before adopting

to ensure a good fit for your family. There is an abundance of information available. Some resource links are listed below. Small animals with their soft furry bodies can be a great source of joy if they are treated with love and kindness. They can provide companionship and opportunities for children to learn responsibility and compassion toward vulnerable creatures.

Animal specific information and daily care checklists can be found at www.oxbowanimalhealth.com/blog/daily-care-checklist-for-your-small-pet. PetSmart Learning Center offers animal specific articles at www.petsmart.com/learning-center/small-pet-care. Basic small animal care animal specific information can be found at www.animal-world.com/encyclo/critters/information/smallanimal.htm and small animal fact sheets at www.pfma.org.uk/small-mammals-fact-sheet. ★

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★ STAR FEATURE STORY

Historic Elks lodge begins renovation

By Janet Goetze
janetgoetze@star-news.info

A September fire damaged the back wall, roof and part of the ballroom at the historic Billy Webb Elks Lodge, but plans are under way to restore a building that is important in the social history of Portland's African American community.

The 1926 structure at 6 N. Tillamook St., distinguished by its reddish brown wood siding, was named to the National Register of Historic Places about a month before the fire. It may have been started by homeless people, who often camped behind the building.

The National Register listing opens possibilities for grants and other assistance to preserve the building, said Katelyn Van Genderen, preservation programs director for Restore Oregon. Restore Oregon's mission is to help preserve and reuse places and spaces that reflect Oregon's diverse cultural heritage.

Restore Oregon started working with the Elks lodge in 2019 in its Most Endangered Places program, Van Genderen said. Board members already were interested in efforts to identify and preserve remaining historical sites from the African American community, she said, which has lost many structures.

The building originally was the Williams Avenue YWCA, which provided activities for both boys and girls in the African American community. During World War II, the organization opened the building as a USO (United Service Organizations), providing recreation and music for African American servicemen. The Red Cross used it as an emergency center and clearing house where families separated by the 1948 Vanport flood could be reunited.

The YWCA resumed activities in its building and also provided meeting space into the 1950s for other community and civil rights organizations. Several accounts note that the NAACP Portland chapter had its first official office in the building.

By 1959, construction was beginning



Louis McLemore, leader of the Billy Webb Elks Lodge, surveys damage from a September fire to the building, which has been named to the National Register of Historic Places. (Billy Webb Elks Lodge)

on the Veterans Memorial Coliseum. That project wiped out homes of many African Americans and an Elks Lodge. In addition, the YWCA built a new structure in downtown Portland, on Southwest 10th Avenue, and sold its Tillamook Street building to the displaced Elks lodge.

The building was named for Billy Webb, a prominent local musician who led an African American Elks band in Portland and played on steamships on the West Coast in the 1920s, according to Fred Leeson, writing for the Oregon Encyclopedia.

In recent years, the building has been used for wedding receptions, funeral gatherings, dances, and other special community events, said Louis McLemore, the lodge exalted ruler.

"Some people would come here every day, just to chit-chat with friends," McLemore said. The bar was open from 5 p.m. to 12 midnight daily and until 2 a.m. on weekends.

However, the Covid 19 pandemic closed down all the revenue-generating activities for a building that costs about \$100,000 to maintain annually, McLemore said. Restore Oregon helped seek a National Trust planning grant to complete a feasibility study to examine current, expanded and new uses for the lodge, Van Genderen said.

"The week we received notice of the (\$5,000) grant award," she said, the lodge experienced the fire. Nevertheless, the feasibility study is still underway. In addition, she said, an application will be submitted in January for a National Trust for Historic Preservation African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund grant. If approved, it will enable the lodge to hire someone for two years to create and manage a business plan.

A business plan is needed to help the lodge develop a steady income source, Van Genderen and McLemore said. This could mean expanded and new uses for the lodge, including using upstairs and downstairs spaces not currently used for income-producing activities.

At press time, McLemore was awaiting information from the lodge's insurance company. In the meantime, Restore Oregon, working with the lodge board, started a GoFundMe campaign to pay for professionals doing assessment and further fund-raising. The campaign continues at www.gofundme.com. Search for "Billy Webb."

McLemore also has started a membership drive for a lodge that once had several hundred members but has now shrunk to 30. Members don't have to be 60 or 70 years old, he said. The lodge needs younger people with creative ideas. The lodge has a Facebook page. An email address for information is elks.1050@gmail.com.

Going forward, Van Genderen said the most urgent need is to keep the roof and walls of the building secure from rain and protect the original wood floors in the ballroom, which are regarded as a character-defining feature in the National Register nomination.

"We have brought in a team of historic architects that are working to complete a condition assessment and phased rehabilitation plan, which will be used to pursue additional funds meant to pay for professional work and cover any gaps in insurance coverage," she said. All the work must be done in a way that won't compromise the building's historic integrity, she said.

The restoration work will take about a year before the lodge can once again be open for business, she said ★



The Billy Webb building was originally the Williams Avenue YWCA, which provided activities for both boys and girls in the African American community. The NAACP Portland chapter had its first office in the building. (Billy Webb Elks Lodge)

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★ STAR CLIPS ★

★ EXPIRES 12/31/21 ★

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



White Album Xmas, a holiday circus spectacular including a tribute to The Beatles, has several show times scheduled in December at the Alberta Rose Theatre. (Rose City Circus)

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KIDSTEENS AND FAMILIES

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Dec. 1. 5:15 p.m. Black story time for children, age 6 and younger, with a favorite adult. The stories are geared to Black experiences. Free through Multnomah County Library. Register at www.multcolib.org, click on events and classes and scroll down to date and time.

HEAR KIDS' TALES

Dec. 2. 9:30 a.m. Story time, live online. Free through Multnomah County Library. Register at www.multcolib.org, click on events and classes and scroll down to date and time.

BOOKS REVEAL JUSTICE

Dec. 16. 7-8 p.m. Youth in grades 6-8 gather to discuss contemporary themes of social justice through recent literature. Free through Multnomah County Library. Email libraryevents@multcolib.org for details on how to join.

of friends and family, with music and stories and lots of laughter." Continues Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 and 5 p.m.; Sundays at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. through Dec. 19. Brunish Theatre, 1111 S.W. Broadway. Information at www.octo.org or 503-228-9571.

WHITE ALBUM RETURNS

Dec. 3. 8 p.m. Several show times are scheduled for the White Album Xmas, a holiday circus spectacular including a tribute to The Beatles and a reunion of the Cascadian Freak Family, featuring the NoWhere Band and Rose City Circus. Tickets: \$40 advance, \$50 at door or \$62 for preferred seating in first seven rows of the center section. Additional times are 8 p.m. Dec. 4; 3 p.m. Dec. 5, and 8 p.m. Dec. 8, 9, 10 and 11. Full vaccination required and masks worn indoors. Order tickets at www.albertarosetheatre.com/tickets or 503-764-4131. Alberta Rose Theatre, 3000 N.E. Alberta St.

SHOP FOR ART

Dec. 4. 5-8 p.m. The Holiday Art Market includes original artworks on paper and Zoom backgrounds by more than 40 regional artists for gift-giving or your own present. The Shop Ox online and in-person store includes artist-made jewelry, prints, apparel, games, holiday decorations and more. Festive holiday beverages from Mayfly and snacks available at the cafe. info@oregoncontemporary.org. Oregon Contemporary, 8371 N. Interstate Ave.

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

MERRY THEATER TIME

Dec. 3. 7:30 p.m. Oregon Children's Theatre presents "Merry Happy Everything!" an original, three-part performance featuring local artists sharing favorite holiday stories plus a holiday-themed improv performance and a musical cabaret. Artistic Director Marcella Crowson said, "We're hoping to create a theatre experience that feels like the very best gathering

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

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★ STAR COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Learn about activities and services offered by Northeast Village PDX that support seniors choosing to remain in their own homes and stay engaged in their community. (Northeast Village PDX)

TECHASSISTANCE

LEARN MORE EXCEL

Dec. 2. 5:30-7 p.m. Learn functions and formulas for Microsoft Excel in a Zoom session. Participants should have a strong understanding of Excel's basic features. Free. Register at www.multcolib.org, click on events and classes and scroll down to date and time. Additional times may be available.

GET TECH HELP

Dec. 6. 1-1:50 p.m. Virtual tech help is offered during office hours. Meet online or over the phone one-on-one with a tech helper for questions about mobile devices, websites, getting started with tech and more. Register at www.multcolib.org, click on events and classes and scroll down to date and time.

IMPROVE JOB SEARCH

Dec. 15. 9-10:30 a.m. "Supercharge Your Job Search Ahead of the New Year" with a free online workshop through the Multnomah County Library. Hear from recruiters on how to position yourself with a strong resume and interview, learning how to answer difficult questions. Free. Register at www.multcolib.org, click on events and classes and scroll down to date and time.

FORSENIORS

FRIDAY SHARING TIME

Dec. 3. 2-3 p.m. A group meets every Friday afternoon to share thoughts and interests on Zoom. To join the free session organized through the Hollywood Senior Center, visit www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org

TAKING A WALK

Dec. 4. 10:30 - 11:45 a.m. A walking group meets Tuesdays and Saturdays on the northeast side of Grant Park, Northeast 36th Avenue and Brazee Street, to walk in surrounding neighborhoods. Masks are encouraged. Free. Additional information is at www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org.

BEGINNING TAI CHI

Dec. 6. 2-3 p.m. Tai Chi for beginners meets on Mondays and Wednesdays, according to the Hollywood Senior

Center schedule. Tai Chi is an effective, health promoting program that helps reduce falls. To ask questions or join the class, email candacelherrill@gmail.com.

MOVE WITH ARTHRITIS

Dec. 8. 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Arthritis exercise, organized through the Hollywood Senior Center, meets every Wednesday. Free. Registration required at www.hollywoodseniorcenter.org/events-calendar. Information about the meeting is available from instructor Sandy Morales at smorales@email.com.

WALK ON THURSDAY

Dec. 9. 12-1:15 p.m. The Thursday Walking Group, organized through the Hollywood Senior Center, meets at the bathroom pavilion near the playground on the north side of Wilshire Park, near Northeast 35th Avenue and Skidmore Street. Masks are required for all walkers for the duration of the walk.

VILLAGE PDX OUTLINED

Dec. 14. 2-3:30 p.m. Learn about activities and services offered by Northeast Village PDX that support seniors choosing to remain in their own homes and stay engaged in their community. The member-led organization serves Northeast neighborhoods with lots to enjoy as a member, volunteer or both. Join an introductory session via Zoom. Visit 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 and questions call 503-895-2750.

INGENERAL

GAIN MENTAL WELLNESS

Dec. 4. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Continues 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dec. 18. A Zoom session focusing on mental wellness for the African American community, with trauma-informed care. Learn what trauma is, how to identify triggers of reaction and how to develop strategies to overcome them. Designed for those facing grief and loss, chronic stress, racial trauma and systemic racism. Free. Register at www.multcolib.org, click on events and classes and scroll down to date and time. ★



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TOP TEN TIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING

By Kate Gaertner
and Amy Hall

For the Hollywood Star

COP26, the United Nation's annual climate change conference, just ended having captured the nation's and the world's attention for nearly two weeks. The United States and the rest of the world continue to make strides in decarbonizing the global economy.

Countries, industries and companies are increasingly declaring commitments to reduce their carbon emissions in line with the goals of the Paris Climate Accord – zero carbon by 2050 and halving emissions by 2030. As individuals and citizens of the U.S., we too can work toward these same goals with the actions we take in our everyday lives.

The average American's personal carbon footprint is 16 tons. That's four times greater than most other individuals across the globe. To align with the goals of the Paris Agreement, each of us needs to reduce our carbon footprint to four tons by 2030, and two tons by 2050. By pulling a few key levers in our lives, we can easily meet those goals.

Focusing on three categories and making meaningful changes within them, we can

reduce our carbon footprints to four tons annually, significantly earlier than 2030.

Following is an end-of-year round up of our top ten sustainability tips. We offer three tips to pursue within transportation, energy and food and a bonus tip in the water category as a nod to the growing importance around water conservation. We've labeled the tips large, medium or small to note the personal investment each measure requires. Get inspired and, as always, be biased towards action!

THREE TRANSPORTATION TIPS

Large: Lease or buy an electronic vehicle. If you put on your bargain-hunter hat, you can find leases for electric vehicles for as low as \$100 per month at certain times of the year, such as for the 2022 Nissan LEAF on www.carsdirect.com. Take the emissions out of your daily commuting and commit to battery-powered mobility, a deal and steal for those combustion-engine drivers.

Medium: Invest in an e-bike, e-scooter or e-moped. Think affordability, accessibility and a whole lot of fun, zipping around town communing with nature to get where you need to go. Urban mobility just got democratized for all ages, abilities and income levels. Kelley Blue Book and Cox Automotive estimate that the average cost of a new car is \$45,000. Compare that price tag to the cost of buying an ebike (\$2,000), an adult e-scooter (\$800), and an e-moped at \$7,500 for a Vespa Elettrica, the priciest of the three electric mobility options.

Small: Walk to accomplish many of your daily activities. If you have errands to do that are possible within walking distance, try ditching your car completely. Walk (or take public transportation) whenever

possible to reduce carbon emissions, and get healthier. You have the added benefit of saving money as well!

THREE ENERGY TIPS

Large: Install a Tesla Powerwall for weather-related power outages. Tesla is in the business of battery power and storage; we just typically think of it as a car company. Power walls are effectively back-up generators but battery-powered. When an extreme weather event hits and the utility grid power goes down, having a back-up generator that is zero carbon-emitting is a great (and really smart) way to manage power outages comfortably and without productivity declines. Be the envy of your neighbors.

Medium: Weatherize your home. 25 to 30 percent of household heating and cooling is lost through your windows. By air sealing your home doors and windows, you will reduce carbon emissions, stay more comfortable and save money on your heating and cooling bills. Contact Northeast Portland's Community Energy Project to get your home energy score and see how to weatherize your home or apartment, regardless of your income. There are incentives for insulation and other energy projects to make this even more enticing.

Small: Replace your kitchen gas range with an electric or induction option. This makes smart sense since Oregon has aggressive plans to progress their grid to be 80 percent "clean" by 2030, 90 percent by 2035 and 100 percent renewable-based by 2040. Take the leap and wean yourself from fossil fuel use (for example, natural gas) in the kitchen. And be excited knowing that electric ranges heat 30 percent faster than gas, making them significantly more energy efficient which means more money stays in your pocket and not on bills.

THREE FOOD TIPS

Large: Transition away from a meat-heavy to a plant-based diet. A plant-rich diet is ranked fourth on Project Drawdown Climate Solutions, higher than any individual action besides food waste. Greenhouse gas emissions of plant-based meals are, on average, 63 percent lower than the emissions of animal-based meals. The most carbon-intensive foods are beef, lamb and dairy. Try a non-dairy alternative and reduce meat consumption to shrink your carbon footprint, lessen land and water resources and pollution, and gain health benefits. You can start with plant-based meals once a week, then go to once a day or more.

Medium: Join a CSA or CSF: Community supported agriculture and community support fisheries are tangible ways

for individuals to see the value rural communities provide to urban dwellers. Without our farmers, city residents would suffer pretty quickly in the event of an extreme weather event that disrupts their food supply chains. CSAs provide that link between urban and rural allowing city dwellers to support farmers in ways large and small – guaranteeing cash flow, eating what is grown, supporting farmers' viability and ability to farm in sustainable, organic ways that are nourishing to the soils, the earth, and to the humans that eat the food that is grown.

Small: Eat what you buy, a very simple sustainability tip that needs to resonate more broadly. We buy too much and eat too little of what we buy. Don't be an average American who throws-away \$1500 in uneaten food annually. Be the exception and become an exceptional leftover lover! Learn how to best store your food to keep it fresh longer and make sure it is visible in your refrigerator. Create your own Top Chef challenge by finding creative ways to make a meal out of what you have in your produce drawer. And remember 30 percent of household waste streams is food waste.

BONUS WATER TIP

Medium: Install a gray water system for irrigating your plants and property. Nobody thinks about "slightly" used water to irrigate their lawn and property but it is smart, saves money and utilizes something that typically washes away with sewage – a great mistake in our municipal water planning systems. A laundry-to-landscape system is fairly inexpensive and can be self-installed easily. More importantly, it successfully returns water back to the earth's natural hydrologic system. Read more about gray water systems, and how to implement them at East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District.

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 is the author of 'Planting a Seed: Three simple steps to sustainable living,' now available for purchase at www.powells.com. ★

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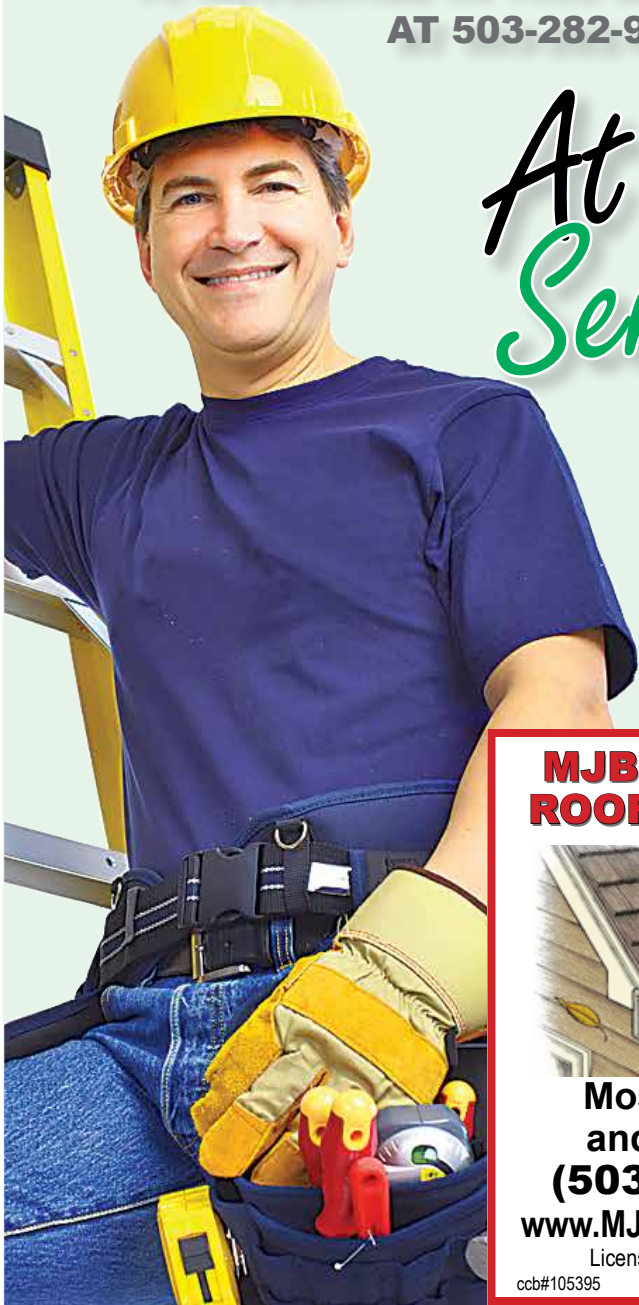
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'Tis the Season: Holiday Decoration When Your Home's for Sale

If you're selling your house around the holidays, you may want to practice moderation when choosing your holiday decor. Use these tips to decorate your house while being mindful of your home sale.



Limit Clutter: Remove clutter to make your home appear as spacious as possible. Select a few pieces of festive flair to bring the holiday spirit into your home. Avoid anything with names or photos. Personalized items can make it difficult for home buyers to see themselves living in your home.

Don't Block Natural Light: You should highlight how much natural light your home receives while selling it, so make sure to avoid placing any decorations in front of windows or doors.

Coordinate colors: Avoid decorations that clash with the current color scheme of your rooms.

Use Decorations to Accentuate Features: Emphasize your home's the best features. This could include a garland for your mantel or mistletoe hanging from an arched doorway. However, you should make sure decorations don't hide any feature you love.

Avoid Movement and Sound: Some holiday decorations come to life with flashing lights, moving parts, and festive music. These items can be distracting when potential buyers visit your home.

Avoid Large Decorations: You may want to go with a smaller tree if your home is for sale. While large trees bring a festive feel to your home, they can also make rooms appear small and cramped.

Exterior Decorations: Avoid large decorations that take attention away from the aesthetic of your home. You can decorate with a wreath and a few strands of white lights.

By creating a cheery feel on the inside and outside of your house, potential buyers will be able to envision having their own celebrations in your home.



Article from American Lifestyle Magazine

I am happy to review my experience with Sue and James Coon. Sue was our agent 34 years ago when we purchased our current home, and we had such a good experience back then that we knew we wanted to have her help us sell our home. She is absolutely wonderful! She is a pleasure to work with, as is her son, James. They did an excellent job locating comparable homes and helping us market our home appropriately. Our home sold quickly and for much more than the asking price. Both James and Sue were very responsive with all communications, and helped guide us through the somewhat intimidating process of selling.

I highly recommend the Coon Team to any of your prospective clients.

Janet Bakes & Michael Forte

