

Your Neighborhood News Source
Created and Powered by the Love of Community

April
2026

southeastexaminer.com Our 37th Year Vol 37 No 4 Portland, OR



Aerial view of the Better Center Project. Photo by the Foster-Powell Neighborhood Association.

Neighborhood Association Gains Traction Improving Key Corridor

BY DANIEL PEREZ-CROUSE

Portland's Foster-Powell Neighborhood Association (FPNA) is working to overhaul a beloved street with its Better Center project. The goal is to make it a safer and more pleasant experience for residents.

SE Center St. is a designated Greenway and Safe Route to School. It runs east from SE 52nd Ave. to SE 82nd Ave.—sandwiched between Holgate Blvd. and Powell Blvd. It's best defined by its distinctive rainbow street art on 60th Ave. The most high-profile addition to the corridor as of late are upgrades that made pedestrian and cycling safer along SE 52nd Ave. Despite this, residents feel there is plenty of room for improvement.

As stated on the Better Center page,

they say the corridor lacks features like street trees, bulb-outs or partial traffic diverters to ensure a safe environment “for the most vulnerable users such as kids and the elderly.” Additionally, in evaluating the street, they’ve identified large stretches with low amounts of stop signs, ADA accessibility issues and problems with the 56th Ave. and Foster/Center streets intersection—which is an awkward, cumbersome process to navigate for anyone who’s been in the area.

It frames challenges in the area around equity, climate and safety. The FPNA points out that the Foster-Powell neighborhood has residents who are lower income than the city average and are less likely to own a vehicle and have to walk, bike or take the bus in order to meet their transportation needs. This, in addition to the declining canopy coverage of recent years, thus reducing protection from heat, makes it potentially dangerous for low-income residents who aren’t using vehicles in this area.

They are aware of the city’s limited resources and seek budget-friendly and alternative ways to improve the street. Their goals include making street space safer and more appealing to the residents who use it to walk and roll—more green space and trees, painted intersections and segments and measures to limit the use of higher speed through-traffic.

The Better Center has been a project/subcommittee within the FPNA for almost two years in varying capacities—with one of its earliest mentions in their April 2024 minutes, where they submitted an application to PSU’s Better Blocks program. Around the summer of 2025, it was revived and gained more traction.

They surveyed Foster-Powell residents to determine the high-priority changes and their top uses of the project

continued on page 3

Portland Officials Consider Arts Tax Reform Amid Rising Costs

BY MADELEINE VOTH

A proposal to reform one of Portland’s most obscure and controversial taxes, the Arts Tax, could soon alter how arts programs and education are funded across the city.

Approved by voters in 2012, the unique \$35 annual flat tax, known as the Arts Tax, helps restore arts teaching positions in local schools and support local artists and arts nonprofits. Today, it generates about \$12 million per year, with much of the revenue paying teacher salaries and the rest supporting grants to nonprofit arts organizations and individual artists.

But mounting administrative costs, inflation-driven declines in purchasing power and ongoing frustration with the tax’s collection system have led city leaders to re-evaluate whether the program still works as intended.

Portland City Council President and District 1 Councilor Jamie Dunphy said he plans to introduce a package of reforms aimed at stabilizing arts funding while making the tax easier and more equitable for those who pay it. “This is a unique system,” Dunphy said. “Historically, city government hasn’t been directly involved in funding school arts teachers. But voters stepped in when districts were facing cuts, and now we have to make sure the system still works.”

Unlike many other local taxes or

fees, Portland’s Arts Tax has remained unchanged since its adoption more than a decade ago. Because it has not kept pace with inflation, Dunphy said the program’s purchasing power has steadily declined. After required payments to schools are made, fewer dollars remain for arts grants, contributing to a roughly 45 percent reduction in funding available to arts organizations this year.

The tax is also costly to administer. Initially expected to consume about 10 percent of annual revenue in collection costs, that share has grown closer to 20 percent in recent years, according to Dunphy. “It’s increasingly expensive to collect, and it’s returning fewer dollars to actually fund both teachers and the arts,” he said.

Further, the city employs only eight revenue collectors to track payments from Portland’s roughly half-million residents, and because the tax must be paid separately from state or federal income taxes, many residents either fail to pay on time or are unaware of the tax requirement altogether.

Dunphy’s proposal includes several potential reforms designed to address these issues.

One element would distribute approximately \$3 million from an existing reserve within the Arts Tax fund to nonprofit organizations over the next two years to help offset recent grant reductions. The

continued on page 9

SE César E Chávez Blvd. Safety Plan Presented to Neighborhood Associations

BY LOUIS CHASE

César E Chávez Blvd. is the main north-south connection for much of Portland’s Inner Eastside. Chávez Blvd. is also a high-crash corridor, meaning it is among the deadliest eight percent of city streets where 62 percent of traffic fatalities occur. On February 1, the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) announced a \$2.4 million state- and federally-funded project to improve traffic safety on a portion of SE Chávez Blvd. between SE Lafayette Ct. and SE Schiller St. The project aims to reduce conflicts and improve pedestrian safety by converting the outer driving lanes to on-street parking, adding new left-turn pockets at key intersections and replacing the traffic lights at SE Holgate Blvd.

At neighborhood association meetings with PBOT staff, local residents were overwhelmingly in favor of safety improvements on SE Chávez Blvd., but some

had questions about the scope and timing of the project. Reed and Woodstock residents were especially concerned about the SE Schiller St. intersection immediately south of Trader Joe’s, with one parent of young children calling it “a major livability problem” due to the lack of a safe crossing.

At a more contentious Creston-Kenilworth neighborhood meeting, attendees were split between those who felt the project went too far by removing travel lanes and those who felt it did not go far enough by lacking bike or bus lanes. Still, between the dozens of attendees at the three neighborhood meetings, only one couple questioned whether safety improvements at the expense of traffic throughput are worthwhile.

From 2014 to 2023, there were 145 crashes serious enough to be reported on the .65-mile stretch of SE Chávez Blvd. in

continued on page 4

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND, OR
PERMIT NO. 4818

Rs Representatively Speaking

BY STATE REPRESENTATIVE
ROB NOSSE

BREATHE EASY with a Room Air Purifier from Division Hardware!
NOW ONLY \$14.99 thanks to 
Originally \$149.99 each!
Get a two pack for \$29.98*



A compact tabletop air purifier perfect for small to medium size rooms:

- ▶ Removes 99% airborne particles
- ▶ Uses less energy than traditional purifiers
- ▶ Relieves allergy symptoms
- ▶ Reduces environmental health hazards
- ▶ Reduces unpleasant smells

*Offer limited to two per customer per day.



DIVISION HARDWARE
3734 SE Division St. • Portland, OR 97202
503-235-8309
Monday through Saturday 8:30 - 6:00
Like us on Facebook WWW.DIVHW.COM



COME BY AND SAY HI ~ FIND US AT 3123 SE BELMONT ST.

DO NOT OPERATE A VEHICLE OR MACHINERY UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THIS DRUG. FOR USE ONLY BY ADULTS TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER. KEEP OUT REACH OF CHILDREN.




OLD PDX HOMES
Specializing in Old & Historic Homes

 **Tracy Wiens**
Principal Broker
503.516.8162
tracy@oldpdxhomes.com

 **Kristin Fitzgerald**
Broker
503.929.6990
kristin@oldpdxhomes.com

WWW.OLDPDXHOMES.COM
NEIGHBORHOOD WORKS REALTY



THE SOUTHEAST EXAMINER

Serving residents of Hosford-Abernethy, Kerns, North Tabor, Laurelhurst, Montavilla, Mt. Tabor, Richmond, Buckman, South Tabor and Sunnyside neighborhoods.

Total circulation: 17,800
(16,600 mailed copies + 1,200 placed in street stands)
Mailed and distributed the last week of each month.
Founded in 1989.

Publisher/Editor/Advertising: Kris McDowell
examiner@seportland.news
Going Out/Arts & Entertainment:
goingout@seportland.news
Proofreader: Pete Dunlop

1020 SE 7th Ave #14313, Portland, OR 97293
503.254.7550 | southeastexaminer.com

©2026 The Southeast Examiner

The “short” legislative session ended March 6, a few days before our constitutional deadline. It’s April, and I’m still exhausted. We were darn busy. Five weeks is probably too short of an amount of time to tackle challenges with our state’s budget, tax structure and economy that were all caused by President Trump with the passage of HR1, the “one, big, beautiful bill,” along with all the immigration challenges also caused by President Trump.

We also had to tackle challenges with gun safety, funding for schools, the Moda Center, healthcare and transportation.

Being extremely busy means there are quite a few high-lights. For starters, thanks to a better-than-expected revenue forecast, we did not have to make some of the cuts to programs and schools that were contemplated back in November and December as we were frantically getting ready for session.

I remember promising the parents of kids with disabilities that we would keep them eligible for the Oregon Health Plan regardless of their income and hoping we could keep that promise and we did. I also remember being nervous about telling parents that we would not dream of cutting school budgets. While we thankfully did not cut school funding, we also did not end up dipping into our education reserves and helping school districts across the state experiencing budget challenges (like PPS) for next year either. More on that in a different column.

In part, our budget challenges ended up not being as bad as we predicted because we were able to partially “disconnect” from the federal tax system and keep some of the state tax revenue that we might have otherwise lost to help shore up programs. We focused on eliminating tax breaks that lacked clear evidence for creating jobs, as well as deductions for auto loan interest, corporate equity sale profits and accelerated depreciation for select capital investments. We also made the largest expansion of the earned income tax credit in our state’s history.

We made sure insurance will cover your immunizations, and if the federal government continues to roll back vaccination protections, we can respond more quickly than we were able to last



fall when the CDC and various advisory bodies backed away from making COVID boosters and flu shots readily available.

We also made sure Planned Parenthood remained fully funded by having the state step up to reimburse them for the care they provided to Medicaid patients. Since we cannot use federal Medicaid dollars anymore, we will just do it as a state and continue to make primary care and reproductive care available to our state’s residents via this important healthcare provider. We also protected providers of abortion care and gender affirming care here in Oregon from being targeted by regulatory bodies in other states.

We passed many immigration bills in response to the increased ICE activity we are seeing. (Hopefully most of you know that Oregon was the first state in the nation to pass a sanctuary law, where local law enforcement officials are not allowed to cooperate with ICE and assist with immigration enforcement).

We will require school districts and colleges to develop an alert system to notify students and parents when federal agents appear on school property. Hospitals will have to follow new state guidelines regarding ICE interactions in hospitals, including documenting agent visits, prohibiting agents from accessing nonpublic areas unless there’s a court order and preventing hospitals from retaliating against workers who

provide a patient with information on their legal rights and available services.

We passed a bill that requires non-Oregon law enforcement operating in the state to follow identification requirements, warrant procedures and requirements when entering buildings during an operation. The bill also creates a civil cause of action against outside law enforcement if they don’t follow these regulations. We passed a law that requires all law enforcement agencies operating in Oregon to adopt a policy restricting the use of facial coverings to narrow instances for medical necessity, undercover operations or SWAT assignment.

Sigh. Most of you know we have had trouble passing a transportation package. We passed a bill during the special session in the fall of last year to raise \$4.3 billion dollars for transportation over the next decade via a six-cent gas tax increase, hikes to car registration and title fees and doubling the payroll taxes used for public transit from 0.1 percent to 0.2 percent. Meanwhile, Republican legislators worked with groups of activists, collected signatures and successfully got those increases referred to the ballot.

Many of us can read the writing on the wall and wanted to just repeal the tax and fee increases from the special session, call it good and start over. We were told by legislative lawyers that we cannot, so we moved the election to May rather than waiting until November to get it over and done and move on. Maybe it will pass? I am doubtful, though I plan to vote yes.

The bill I mentioned in February that I worked on with Representative Mark Gamba to reform the way “the kicker” works did not make it out of committee, but we will try again.

Do you want more details? Or maybe you want to ask a question about something else? Come to the town hall I am doing at the SMILE Station (8210 SE 13th Ave.) with Representative Gamba and Senator Kathleen Taylor Thursday, April 9, 5:30-7 pm.

KIRKLAND ANNEX APARTMENTS
AFFORDABLE RETIREMENT LIVING 503-774-8885



- STUDIO & ONE-BEDROOM APARTMENTS
- AFFORDABLE RENT WITH NO APPLICATION FEES
- FEDERAL RENT SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE FOR THOSE THAT QUALIFY
- IDEAL URBAN LOCATION NEAR SHOPPING, BUS LINES, AND RESTAURANTS
- SMALL COMMUNITY ATMOSPHERE - RELAXED AND FRIENDLY

7810 SE FOSTER ROAD
PORTLAND, OREGON 97206

THEUNIONMANORS.ORG



Avalon Microsanctuary: Local Rabbit Refuge

BY VIVIAN SCHOONOVER,
FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL'S *THE FRANKLIN POST*

"You see the best and worst of humanity when you work in a rescue," says Eilan Keister, the founder of local Avalon Microsanctuary. Avalon is a nonprofit shelter, primarily focused on rabbit rescue and rehabilitation.

Keister founded Avalon in June of 2020, on her 16th birthday. "Instead of having a Sweet 16, I begged my mom to let me rescue one animal for my birthday, and then one turned into many," she says. Keister's first rescues were two piglets. Soon after came chickens, ducks, quails, kittens and eventually the rabbits that would become Avalon's primary focus.

Avalon moved from Keister's home to a commercial space in 2025 and is currently based on SE Gladstone St. and 42nd Ave. This new space has allowed the organization to expand operations significantly. "Not being home-run is the best [and] I think that that is the reason that the rescue has grown," says Keister. "The social media has grown too, which is nice because we're now reaching people from all over the world." Social media also allows potential donors—some of Avalon's are from as far away as Mexico and Finland—to learn about the rescue and what caring for a rabbit entails.

"[In] Oregon, there's such a huge problem with dumped rabbits...and a lot of people are not aware of it," says Keister, citing this issue as the motivation for Avalon. While the rescue aims to assist rabbits in need, Keister

acknowledges that the breadth of the issue requires other solutions in addition to rescuing. "We don't want to just forever be taking in animals and not trying to figure out how to solve that problem," she comments.

Keister says rabbits are often viewed as requiring minimal care and basic equipment. Sometimes purchased as young as eight weeks old, rabbits require more involvement than unprepared owners might think. "Everything might be good and fine until that baby turns [about] four to six months old because that's when their hormones start coming in," explains Keister. "They can become really destructive."

When people hastily adopt without conducting proper research, this change can be jarring. In reality, it's a marker of adolescence, signifying that they are old enough to be spayed or neutered. Spaying a female bunny prevents uterine cancer, which upwards of 70 percent of unspayed bunnies contract, and reduces destructive behavior. Additionally, spaying prevents pregnancy.

Stephanie Mirkes, a volunteer and Board member at Avalon, estimates that nearly 90 percent of female intakes are already pregnant. Mirkes explains that the first step of the intake process is always a thorough check up, followed by necessary treatments. After that, they can be spayed or neutered. Once bunnies have been tended to, they are photographed and posted to Avalon's website for adoption.

Prospective adopters complete an online application that directs first-time owners to information about rabbit care, and those hoping to bond their current bunny with a new friend are directed to information about the process. Then an adoption specialist reaches out for a phone call and home visit to ensure that the bunny will have a safe space to stay.

Finally, the adopter can meet the bunnies, and those who already own one can bring them in for a "bunny speed date." Mirkes explains, "Most bunnies do better as a pair, but rabbits are super picky." It's important to find a good match before permanently adding another bunny to the mix, which is why this introduction is a necessity. During the speed-dating process, bunnies can interact within the sanctuary to find a good fit before finalizing adoption.

Even once the bunnies are brought home, "It's kind of like a trial, [to see if] it work[s] for everybody in the house," says Mirkes. Avalon's adoption method aims to ensure their rabbits end up in capable homes. "Our adoption process takes at least a week," says Mirkes. "If you have people that are resistant and they don't want to go through it...that may be a red flag."

While Avalon's ultimate goal is to secure a safe home for the bunnies, some arrive with medical conditions, meaning that they cannot be listed for adoption. Keister helps to care for these an-



One of Avalon Microsanctuary's rabbits, Chewbacette.
Photo by Vivian Schoonover.

imals, explaining, "If any bunny has any sort of moderate medical condition, I'll just take them home with me." She works at an exotic animal vet clinic in her spare time and brings her medical knowledge to the sanctuary.

Eventually, some of these rabbits can be transferred to a medical foster who can provide specialized care. Support from fosters and volunteers helps to ensure every rabbit receives the care they need. Avalon has about five to 10 consistent volunteers who regularly visit to care for the bunnies, along with other, less consistent volunteers. "I think

that volunteer[ing] with bunnies as [a] first animal experience... really teaches people empath[y]," says Keister. "If you're volunteering in a room full of 30 prey animals, you have to learn to be very respectful to them and aware of their behavior."

These volunteers are vital to Avalon's mission. "We have volunteers that are teenagers... volunteers that are retired and older [and people from] all different walks of life, but we all really love the rabbits," says Mirkes. "It's a huge sense of community." Avalon can be found online at avalonmicrosanctuary.org.

Senior Studies Institute Provides Ongoing Learning, Social Interaction

BY SANDY MILLER

In a classroom at Portland Community College (PCC), a group of seasoned citizens conducts a lively discussion on a variety of subjects: the local Preschool for All program, the Middle East crisis and the latest shakeup in DC, among others. These members of Senior Studies Institute (SSI) are keeping their minds sharp while socializing. Some join SSI in search of current events discussion groups like this. Others want to learn from experts among the membership and from invited guest speakers, or to discuss film, nonfiction books, poetry or writing.

Charlie Holmes, 72, is a retired English teacher who presents classes to SSI on the plays of Shakespeare, his specialty. "I really appreciate the depth of interest, knowledge and experience that a group of senior citizens can bring to the table," Holmes says. "Discussions about modern China that include someone who spent years in China as a representative of an American company. A group of people who could

speak articulately about tension and compression in architecture. Crazy!"

At PCC's CLIMB Center on the SE waterfront, SSI holds in-person classes during the school year. A weekly current events discussion group continues there year-round, as does another which meets in Sellwood. Beginning in April, a new current events group will start up at PCC Southeast (SE 82nd Ave. and SE Division St.) on Saturday mornings.

SSI is run exclusively by volunteers, with no paid staff. It was conceived in 1991 under then PCC President Dan Moriarty. Neal Naigus, who worked for Moriarty, was charged with creating new learning opportunities for local seniors. Naigus, now an SSI member himself, conducted several focus groups and, as a result of those meetings, a small core of charter members started gathering at the Ross Island Center (the old Failing School). With that small beginning, a 35-year journey was launched.

That journey was almost derailed by COVID in the spring of 2020, as all in-person gatherings came to an abrupt halt. SSI quickly adapted by moving classes onto Zoom, along with other programs such as play-reading, poetry reading, current events discussions and filmed Great Courses lectures on a wide range of topics. The online format proved so popular that most SSI offerings are still available through Zoom only, or in a hybrid format with members attending in person if they wish.

Ever-evolving, based on the energy and interests of its members, SSI has created several new programs in the last few years. Members, after viewing a lecture series on film, decided to continue the fun by watching a chosen film individually and then dissecting it in a weekly Zoom meeting. The film group has now featured over 200 films from diverse genres, each sponsored by a member who leads off the discussion. This spring at PCC CLIMB, monthly

continued on page 15

Neighborhood Association Gains Traction Improving Key Corridor

from page 1

area. They received over 200 responses, and over 100 residents expressed interest in staying informed and being willing to help. Their top concern was traffic, and the primary use of the street was walking for exercise.

The project most recently had success engaging with city officials. In January, they had a lengthy and thorough walk-through of the corridor with Alan DeLaTorre, Sr., Council Aide of District 3 Councilor Tiffany Koyoma-Lane. In February, Koyoma-Lane herself joined the neighborhood association meeting to discuss the project further. She has been vocal about transportation in Portland and said her goals and priorities around Vision Zero, Safe Routes to Schools and tactical urbanism align well with the Better Center project.

During the meeting, she offered ideas around project pilots, daylighting and working with nonprofits to lower the number of cars. She was excited by the proj-

ect and invited future collaboration.

Koyoma-Lane mentioned this in one of her newsletters saying, "I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to engage with the community, listen to feedback on how to improve projects and outcomes and ask questions so that I understand what constituents are experiencing in District 3. I look forward to future meetings and opportunities to ensure improved mobility and traffic safety."

FPNA is currently applying for grants and having discussions with community members about repainting some of the road art to beautify the space. They've even got a date set to overhaul the sunflower painting at SE 75th Ave. and SE Foster Rd. in August.

The Better Center project committee plans to hold regular meetings on the first Monday of every month, 7:15-8:15 pm. To attend or for more information, head to FPNA website, fosterpowell.com/better-center-project.

Commonwealth Skateboarding Welcomes Riders of All Skill Levels

BY ELLEN SPITALERI

Colin Sharp grew up in Japan, where his father worked for an international bank. When he was in the seventh grade, a boy brought a skateboard to school. Sharp asked what it was and then asked if he could ride it. It was, he said, “love at first sight.”

Sharp’s twin brother Jason also fell in love with skateboarding and eventually bought that board. Fast forward to the present day, and that first, much-loved board hangs on the wall behind the counter in the retail store at Commonwealth Skateboarding, 1425 SE 20th Ave., which is now owned by Colin and Jason Sharp.

Commonwealth began in 2011 when Jen Sherowski opened the indoor skatepark in a former stone-cutting warehouse. She eventually sold it to Matt Collins, and when he was looking to get out of the business in 2023, Sharp and his brother took over. Colin is the public face of Commonwealth, while his brother, who lives in San Francisco, remotely manages most of the business’s paperwork.

Before all this happened, however, the two brothers left Japan, moved to the states and

ended up in California, where they started a software distribution business. Colin also started a skateboard brand called Bacon, which still produces skateboard designs.

Colin and his wife lived in the Bay Area at that time and were looking around for a more economical place to live and raise a family. In 2005 they moved to Portland, which he described as “a mecca for skateboarding.” He added, “I like to say it is where old skateboarders come to die.”

Colin said he was attracted to skateboarding because it is an individual sport and you can improve your skills at your own pace. “No one is judging you. Skating doesn’t discriminate and people from all walks of life and any skill level are welcome,” he said. He added that he loves to see someone from his age group inside the park interacting with a 15-year-old skater and they are getting along and encouraging each other.

“The kids who come here are great. They respect the space; they protect this space and take ownership of it,” Colin said. Also, he has never seen any conflicts



Colin Sharp, co-owner of Commonwealth Skateboarding, stands in front of one of the many murals that adorn the walls of the skate park. Photo by Payson Lunden.

in the entire time he has owned Commonwealth.

Since taking over at Commonwealth, the Sharp brothers have added a large inventory of decks, the wooden top platform where a rider stands, along with apparel, shoes and skateboarding accessories. They also stock Japanese-themed snacks and drinks, which are things Colin liked as a child. Commonwealth also has a liquor license and a long table with stools for adults to grab a drink after skating or while waiting for their children to finish skating.

Colin is looking forward to warmer weather when he can set up picnic tables on the sidewalk

for even more of a community feel to the site.

What sets Commonwealth apart from other skateboarding sites is the “first traveling skate summer camp” in the area. Colin said he welcomes skaters ages 9-16, and he brings 13 kids and two coaches to two or three different parks. The two farthest parks are Battle Ground Skatepark in Washington and Hood River Skatepark. If the weather is too hot, he will take riders to other indoor parks. Two camps are dedicated to beginners and two to advanced riders. The camps will run for 10 weeks, starting on June 15. Registration is now open at cws skate.com/camps.

Commonwealth is open seven days a week, at noon Monday-Friday and at 10 am on weekends. Skateboarders pay \$10 for a two-hour session riding the undulating curves of the bowl that make up the skatepark. Monday nights, 7-10 pm, are dedicated to women and trans skaters, while Wednesday nights, 8-10 pm, are open to skaters 30 and older. Free parking available around the corner in a parking lot at 1939 SE Hawthorne Blvd. (signposted for Commonwealth use).

Commonwealth Skateboarding
1425 SE 20th Ave.
503.208.2080
cws skate.com

SE César E Chávez Blvd. Safety Plan Presented to Neighborhood Associations

from page 1

the project area. Crashes where a car hits a pedestrian or cyclist are especially deadly. In 2015, Mark James Angeles was killed by a left-turning driver while cycling at the SE Gladstone St. intersection, and in 2025, Tuyet Nguyen was fatally hit by a car while crossing at SE Cora St. 10 other people were seriously injured in crashes on the project corridor during the same time period. PBOT says SE Francis St., SE Gladstone St. and SE Holgate Blvd. are the highest-crash intersections overall, with SE Francis St. standing out because it lacks signals. Many drivers speed along the route, while pedestrians on narrow pre-ADA sidewalks are exceedingly close to cars.

The proposed reconfiguration is divided into segments north and south of SE Holgate Blvd. because the roadway further south is wider. North of SE Holgate Blvd., portions of the roadway would have two travel lanes, with the speed limit lowered to 25 mph. South of SE Holgate Blvd., where the speed limit is already 25 mph, PBOT proposes a three-lane cross section with

one travel lane in each direction and a center turn lane.

There will be parking on both sides of the street throughout the corridor wherever it would not obstruct visibility or intersections. SE Raymond St., which is discontinuous with the corridor but recently had a serious crash, will also see left-turn upgrades. Most of the budget, though, goes into replacing the signal at SE Holgate Blvd. to eliminate a conflict between left-turning vehicles and opposing through traffic.

PBOT expects traffic impacts to be relatively minor because Chávez Blvd. south of SE Powell Blvd. sees less traffic than most other four-lane streets. Modeling predicted that reducing the number of travel lanes would have minimal drawbacks for drivers, with an average 30-60 second increase in travel times, including an average delay of 10 seconds at intersections. Queuing behind left-turning vehicles would amount to one or two cars on average. At peak hours, up to 30 cars per hour could be distributed across parallel streets in each direction, but there would likely

be no diversion at other times.

Planners at neighborhood meetings emphasized these are conservative estimates and traffic delays on other projects like the similar SE Foster Rd. road diet have always been less than models predict. PBOT spokesperson Dylan Rivera explained that the models don’t account for how greater pedestrian safety could encourage walking, biking or taking the bus over short car trips; one attendee at the Creston-Kenilworth meeting said he currently drives the 800 feet from SE Francis St. to Safeway because walking is too dangerous.

There is not currently funding to build upgraded crossings, but PBOT will learn the results of grant applications in June. Rivera said crossings at SE Francis St., SE Schiller St. and SE Cora St. would cost \$750,000 each, a tough ask for an agency with a \$6.6 billion maintenance backlog. If funding comes through, engineers will investigate whether it is possible to construct the crossings at the same time as the rest of the reconfiguration. In response to questions about wheth-



Memorial to crash victim Tuyet Nguyen near the intersection of SE César E Chávez Blvd. and SE Cora St. Photo by Louis Chase.

er the reconfiguration would still be useful without new crossings at the Woodstock Neighborhood Association meeting, PBOT planner Leeor Schweitzer explained, “Making changes to the lane

configuration will make crossing much easier and much safer but not where we want it to be, not where we feel great about it.”

continued on page 5

BA Business Association Notes

Foster Area Business Association By Chris Correnti

Spring sprang early this year. It has kept Foster Rd. in that mellow vibe of lightness that makes the invitation of our wide sidewalks as the place to stroll in April, really throughout the whole year, as well. We've been hard at work at keeping the district vibrant and welcoming this first part of the year. From neighborhood cleanups to Laurelwood Park restoration efforts with Portland Parks & Recreation (Thanks Parks!), and the planning sessions for Soirée 2026 getting underway, Foster Area is shaking off the winter chill that never fully set in and has everything you need for a gentle and delightful stroll amongst neighbors, local small businesses, great crafts and services and the unique funkiness of a diverse community of Portlanders who invite you to come share in what makes this place great. Come visit Foster with us this April!

For more info on Summer Soirée 2026 (our street fair on Foster Rd.) and what Foster is up to, join us at fosterarea.com or on Instagram @fosterareapdx.

Kernside Business Association By Thomas Gatley

The Kernside Business Association is delighted to announce our neighborhood's first ever street fair! Saturday, June 20, we'll be turning NE 28th Ave. into a magical Midsummer festival. Get in touch if you'd like to sponsor the event, volunteer or if you are interested in taking a booth! Email thomas@kernside.org for details.

We will also be hosting the first of our three Beerkeg Strongman competitions Saturday, April 25 at Gorges on Rainbow Road (SE Ankeny St.), and our second annual Wine Walk Saturday, May 23; follow kernside.pdx on Instagram for all the details.

SE César E Chávez Blvd. Safety Plan Presented to Neighborhood Associations

from page 4

The public outreach period for the SE Chávez Blvd. safety project concluded at the end of March. Next, PBOT will integrate public feedback into the plan as they proceed to the design phase. Construction is expected in 2028.

The SE Chávez Blvd. improvements are part of Portland's Vision Zero plan to eliminate deaths and serious injuries on city roads. Portland failed to meet its original 2025 target date, but traffic fatalities are beginning to de-

cline after a post-2020 surge.

Editor's note: This article was submitted prior to revelations of misconduct by César E Chávez that may lead to the street being renamed.

Winter Season
10am-2pm on Sundays
@ SE Stark & 76th
November-December 21:
Every Sunday
January 4-April:
Every other Sunday

MONTAVILLA Farmers Market
Year-Round | montavillamarket.org

\$20 EBT Match

Sign up for text reminders

The Blind Onion Pizza & Pub
3345 NE Broadway
503.284.2825
6031 SE Belmont St.
503.954.2189
www.blindonion.com

Check us out on facebook - blind onion pizza & pub portland

April Showers bring Blind Onion Pizza you want to devour!

\$5.00 OFF Any Large Pizza
Blind Onion Pizza & Pub
cannot be combined with any other offer

Monday Special Family Pizza Night
Buy 1 Large Pizza
Get 1 Small Cheese Pizza FREE
Blind Onion Pizza & Pub
cannot be combined with any other offer
With this coupon - Expires 4/30/26

Pacific Northwest Premiere!

BROWN FACE

Written by
Carissa Atallah
Directed by
Mia Torres Garcia

Artwork: Savina Monet

MAY 7-23

Brown Face brings the electrifying energy of spoken-word poetry to the stage!

It's risky for an undocumented young Chicana writer to share her work in public. When this brilliant poet asks her best friend to perform her work onstage, the words ignite audiences and launch her stand-in into the spotlight as a rising Latinx voice. But as the applause grows louder, so do the questions: Who owns a story? Who gets heard? And what happens when activism and ambition collide?

Blending theatre with the pulse of the poetry-slam scene, **Brown Face** explores friendship, identity, and cultural appropriation with humor, heart, and urgency.

In a city like Portland, where spoken word artistry and social justice have long gone hand in hand, this fierce, powerful, and deeply relevant new play invites audiences to lean in, listen closely, and join the conversation.

MILAGRO
Get info & tickets at
Milagro.org | 503.236.7253

Home Sharing Pilot Program



Photo by City of Portland.

The Portland Housing Bureau has launched a 12-month home sharing pilot program, offering one-time grants to homeowners with spare rooms who rent them via a qualified home sharing provider. The provider will connect prospective renters with homeowners who have available rooms and may also help facilitate the application process and provide ongoing support during tenancy. Participating homeowners who meet all program requirements may receive \$1,000 for the first room and \$500 for each additional room from the City after the first 30 days of successful leasing.

“We all know renting in our city has become less flexible and more expensive. Portlanders need more options and fewer obstacles. That means housing

without required long-term leases, unexpected electrical or water bills or unaffordable upfront payments,” said Mayor Keith Wilson. “Across the nation, Home Sharing opens affordable options for hourly workers, travel nurses, seniors, students and so many others. If you have a stake in our community, you should be able to afford to live here.”

To qualify, rooms must be made available for at least 12 months, and tenants cannot be members of the homeowner’s family or household. Rent is restricted to \$200 per week, including utilities and fees.

Qualified home sharing providers available to help homeowners include PadSplit and the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. They offer background checks, screening and other resources

to ensure a transparent, fair and trusted relationship between renters and hosts.

Educational opportunities will be available to interested homeowners from Real Estate and Property Management Education (RPM). RPM’s class will cover local and state landlord-tenant law applicable to home sharing arrangements and will also provide recommendations on navigating potential interpersonal challenges.

The Home Sharing Pilot Program also includes capacity building grants designed to help local organizations support homeowners and tenants in their communities who wish to participate in home sharing. For full program information and FAQs, visit portland.gov/phb/home-sharing-pilot-program.

SOLVE’s Earth Month Clean Ups

The Oregon Spring Cleanup is SOLVE’s largest spring volunteer initiative, in partnership with Portland General Electric, spanning the entire month of April. It brings together individuals, families, schools, businesses and community groups to care for neighborhoods, parks, natural areas, waterways and beaches. Projects include litter cleanups and habitat restoration efforts such as native plantings, invasive species removal and mulching.

As global attention turns toward environmental awareness, the Oregon Spring Cleanup provides a way to translate that momentum into tangible results. Each project contributes to protecting natural spaces, improving neighborhood livability and preventing litter from entering rivers

and the ocean ahead of peak recreation season.

With 65 events open for registration already, volunteers can sign up for projects taking place throughout April. SOLVE continues to recruit additional event leaders and hopes to have over 200 projects across the region. Whether returning hosts or first-time leaders, they’ll receive planning support, free supplies, disposal assistance and volunteer recruitment tools. Hosting a project can be as simple as identifying a site in need and completing the new leader orientation at volunteer.solve.org/orientation.

Browse the event calendar at solve.org/oregon-spring and register yourself or a group. More projects will be added to the calendar as they are created.

Central Eastside Viaduct Lighting Project



The Central Eastside Viaduct Lighting Project transforms key gateways with long-awaited safety improvements. Photo by Dustin Pattison Photography.

A major lighting initiative beneath several viaducts in the Central Eastside have been transformed from once-dark underpasses into brighter gateways for businesses, workers and visitors. The project is the result of years of advocacy, collaboration and direct feedback involving the Central Eastside Industrial Council (CEIC), Central Eastside Together—CEIC’s Enhanced Service District—and the City of Portland’s Public Environment Management Office.

The project began with a clear message from Central Eastside district employers: the Burnside, Morrison and Hawthorne bridge viaducts were priority areas for improved safety and visibility. Business retention conversations and members surveys consistently identified underbridge conditions as a barrier to pedestrian comfort and evening activity.

“Safe streets and a welcoming environment are essential to the economic vitality of any business district,” said Multnomah County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson. “Multnomah County’s investment is a great example of

partnership between government and local business in responding to the needs of our community.”

The project illuminates the Avenue of Murals, a celebrated public art corridor that activates industrial walls and underpasses with large-scale works by local artists, as well as Burnside Skatepark, one of the most famous DIY skateparks in the world, located beneath the east end of the Burnside Bridge.

“As a long-time retailer in Portland’s Central City, we know how important first impressions are for visitors,” said Bridgid Blackburn, co-owner of Cargo. “After years of working to find solutions to light the underside of our viaducts, we applaud the collaboration with the County and the City. Portland’s short winter days have been transformed by this project. We’ve seen a noticeable increase in foot traffic—especially in the evenings.”

The project is a visible investment in safety, economic vitality and public space. It reinforces the Central Eastside as a place where industry, culture and community can thrive side by side.

Help Shape Portland’s 50-Year Vision

Metro invites community input to help shape a 50-year vision for the greater Portland region. The first Future Vision was published in 1995 after being approved by voters in 1992. The next Future Vision will serve as a renewed outlook for the region.

It will be informed by research as well as extensive public engagement and will touch on a wide range of topics from land use, transportation and our economy to housing, climate, nature, arts and culture.

To kick off this effort, the

community is invited to take an online survey to share what they value and what kind of future they want to see. The survey, which should take approximately 10 minutes to complete, is available at oregonmetro.gov/futurevision and is open through May 15. The survey is available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian and Chinese. Survey participants will have a chance to win tickets to a Thorns game, the Oregon Symphony, the Oregon Zoo or an annual Metro Regional Parks pass.

“Future Vision is our chance to come together and create a future we want to see,” said Metro Councilor Juan Carlos González, Chair of the Future Vision Commission. “Think about how much our home has changed in the last 50 years—what do we want it to be in 2077?”

Metro is also inviting individuals to host conversations in their communities and share feedback with Metro. For the survey and more information, visit oregonmetro.gov/futurevision.



JOIN OTHER SE COFFEE SHOPS AND RETAILERS WHO ARE STOCKED WITH COPIES OF EACH MONTH’S ISSUE OF THE SOUTHEAST EXAMINER.

EMAIL EXAMINER@SEPORTLAND.NEWS FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Portland Parks Preschool Applications Open in April

Portland Parks & Recreation has announced that applications for Portland Parks Preschool for the 2026-2027 school year will be open Wednesday, April 1-Thursday, April 30. They are dedicated to providing a play-based, child-centered and inclusive educational preschool program for children ages three to five years old. Play is an important avenue for learning and it is their goal to honor each child where they are in their development.

The Preschool is based on the developmental philosophy that children develop and grow at their own rate. Years of research on children's learning and development document the many benefits of play and exploration on a child's intellectual, social, emotional, physical and language development. To grow, children must play by exploring and manipulating their environment. They learn using their senses and as children imitate what is going on around them, they begin to understand how things work and

how they are used. Initially, this is a process of trial and error, however, with time and reputation, they use new information to increase their understanding of the world around them. Learn more in the Portland Parks Preschool Participant Handbook at portland.gov/parks/recreation/preschool-handbook.

There are multiple Portland Parks Preschool locations spanning East Portland, SE Portland, N Portland, NE Portland and SW Portland, all taking place at Community Centers. The programs run Monday-Friday, typically 9 am-3 pm, with a few of them starting or ending 15 minutes earlier or later.

Enrollment is based on a lottery managed through Multnomah County's Preschool for All program. Families can apply at Multnomah Preschool for All or with the help from a Family Navigator; links to access both, as well as more information, can be found at portland.gov/parks/recreation/portland-parks-preschool.

Help Keep Laurelhurst Park Clean



Volunteers are a big part of keeping Laurelhurst Park vibrant. Photo by Brynn Molzner.

Friends of Laurelhurst Park (FLP) will begin their 23rd season of work parties this spring and they invite community members to join them. Many of their stalwart volunteers are aging out, have moved away or are no longer able to participate in the physical work involved with planting, spreading mulch, pruning, weeding and more.

Beyond the primary focus of doing park gardening tasks

together, FLP are also park advocates who enjoy working with Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) employees and the camaraderie of like-minded people. Come to a work party, see what it's all about and along the way, meet great people and learn about plants.

The work party season begins Wednesday, April 8 with Earth Day plantings and continues the second Wednesday of the

month through October, 9 am-noon. All tools are supplied; volunteers should bring work gloves and wear grubby clothes and sturdy shoes. Volunteers meet at the blue-green PP&R building, 3600 SE Ankeny St. (on the north side of the park).

To stay up to date and sign up for the email list, email laurelhurst.parkfriends@gmail.com or call Peggy Glascock at 503.459.9248.

Join the City's 2026-27 Budget Planning

The City of Portland's 12-month financial cycle begins July 1 and ends June 30 the following year, with five phases: budget preparation, current service level budget and forecast, proposed budget, approved budget and adopted budget. We're currently in the proposed budget stage for FY 2026-27 and the community is invited to submit their input. The City's website, portland.gov/budget/join, provides options to submit input as a number of ways to learn about the budget.

There is a four-part series of videos explaining what the City of Portland's budget is, how it works, where the money comes from and how it can be spent, balancing the budget and the process to completion. Watch individual videos or watch the full series.

There is also a Balancing Tool which allows people to explore ways in which to balance the FY 2026-27 General Fund discretionary budget, explore budget priorities and tradeoffs, provide input on budget priorities and view submitted budget priorities.

There are two types of budget-related comments the community can provide. Year-round

general budget comments can be submitted at any time during the fiscal year. The comments will be kept on record for two years. As part of the public record, they are filed with the City and available for public access upon request.

The community can also provide specific input on Council Agenda items related to the budget—such as the Approved Budget or Adopted Budget in May or June; make sure to select the appropriate agenda item when submitting comments. These agenda-specific submissions, known as testimony, will be filed with the corresponding agenda item and retained permanently as public records. Written testimony is not read out loud into the record during the meeting. The Council agenda, along with the option to testify on a specific agenda item within the Budget Comment and Testimony Form, is published by 9 am Friday before the meeting. Testimony is archived as part of the record after Council acts on the item.

All of the documents related to the FY 2026-27 budget, including documents from all phases of the development process, can be found at portland.gov/budget/2026-2027-budget.

Safety Urged for E-Scooter, E-Bike Usage

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) is urging e-scooter and e-bike riders to take safety precautions. New data shows injuries associated with the use of these devices more than doubled between 2021 and 2025.

"These injuries are not minor scrapes," said Dagan Wright, Ph.D., senior injury epidemiologist and informaticist with OHA's Public Health Division. "They often involve head injuries, broken

bones and other serious trauma that requires emergency or inpatient care."

Both devices can reach higher speeds than traditional bikes, are often used in mixed traffic environments and are increasingly used by riders of all ages and experience levels. "Injuries involving e-bikes and e-scooters share common risk factors—speed, lack of helmet use, roadway design and interactions

with motor vehicles," Wright said.

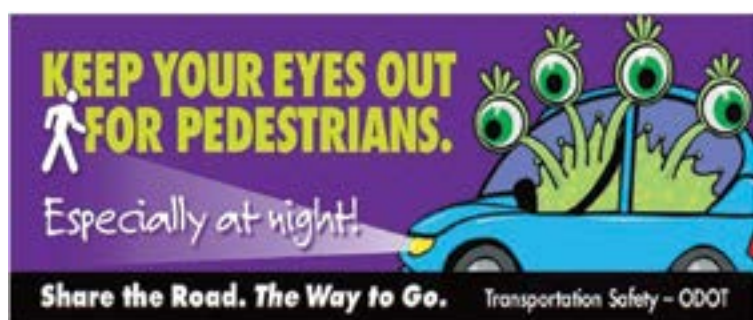
OHA recommends wearing a properly fitted helmet; using lights and reflective gear, especially at night; and staying alert and avoiding distractions. Additionally, riders are advised to ride only where permitted; avoid sidewalks when prohibited; take extra caution around motor vehicle traffic; and follow traffic laws and posted speed limits.

APRIL EVENTS

APRIL EMSWCD WORKSHOPS – The East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District (EMSWCD) spring workshops are open for registration, starting with Creating an Edible Landscape Wednesday, April 1, 6-8:30 pm online and repeats in person at Leikam Brewing and PCC Rockwood later in the month. Find details and registration (free) for these and other online and in person workshops at emswcd.org/events/yard-garden-workshops.

HOD PLANT/BAKE SALE – The annual House of Dreams (HOD) Cat Shelter Plant and Vegan Bake Sale takes place Saturday, April 25, 10 am-4 pm at 7634 SE Morrison St. Browse a great selection of indoor/outdoor plants, pots, garden art and delicious vegan baked goodies, all at amazingly low prices. All proceeds benefit the volunteer-run, no-kill, free-roam cat sanctuary. Donations of healthy indoor/outdoor plants, new/gently-used outdoor décor and yummy vegan baked goods welcome; email hodplantbakesale@gmail.com.

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY – Books With Pictures (1401 SE Division St.) holds their annual event Saturday, May 2. Mark your calendars for another free comics stamp rally with activities, crafts and photo ops all around the neighborhood. Bring your friends! Bring an umbrella (just in case!). And check bookswithpictures.com for more details as the event approaches.



BY DAVID KROGH

Almost everyone living in Portland has learned at some time or other that Portland sits on geologic fault lines. And many long time residents can even recall feeling the occasional tremor. The most prevalent of the fault lines in Portland are the Portland Hills fault and the East Bank fault. According to the US Geological Survey (USGS), the East Bank fault is a concealed seismic fault line running along the east side of the Willamette River in Portland paralleling the Portland Hills fault (which is just west of the Willamette River). Geologic studies from the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) estimate major earth tremors are triggered every 1,000-2,000 years.

The book *Tilt* is a fictional story by first time book author and Portland resident Emma Pattee about one person's experience with a major earthquake in modern day Portland. In the story, Annie, the main character, is nine months pregnant and has put off getting a crib for her expected baby. Her husband, Dom, also has a tendency to put off things. Their lack of planning and focus has created substantial frustration and anger within them both. As the story begins, Annie (who lives near Mt. Tabor) heads out to the IKEA store to look for a crib. As she shops, a massive earthquake occurs causing the walls and ceiling in the store to crumble. Annie is buried but helpful strangers extricate her from the rubble. However, both her phone and purse (with her car keys) are lost.

The story details Annie's experience and hardship in having to abandon her car and make her way slowly by foot through rubble filled streets, first in search of her husband Dom and next to finally reach home before she either collapses from exhaustion or goes into labor (whichever comes first). What is extremely useful to the reader is the map at the front of the book which shows the area (with labels) where Annie is traveling. The book also includes many flashbacks to help the reader better understand Annie's background and the intense emotions she is going through, both before and after the earthquake.

Pattee identifies herself as a climate journalist and fiction writer. She has been published for many years in several well known newspapers and periodicals. She attended both Portland Community College and Portland State University and graduated with a BFA from Emerson College. Pattee lives in Portland with her family.

Pattee got the idea for this story by shopping at IKEA when she was 37 weeks pregnant herself and feeling a minor earth tremor while there. That incident made her think about all the "what ifs" that could occur if there were an actual major earthquake at Portland.

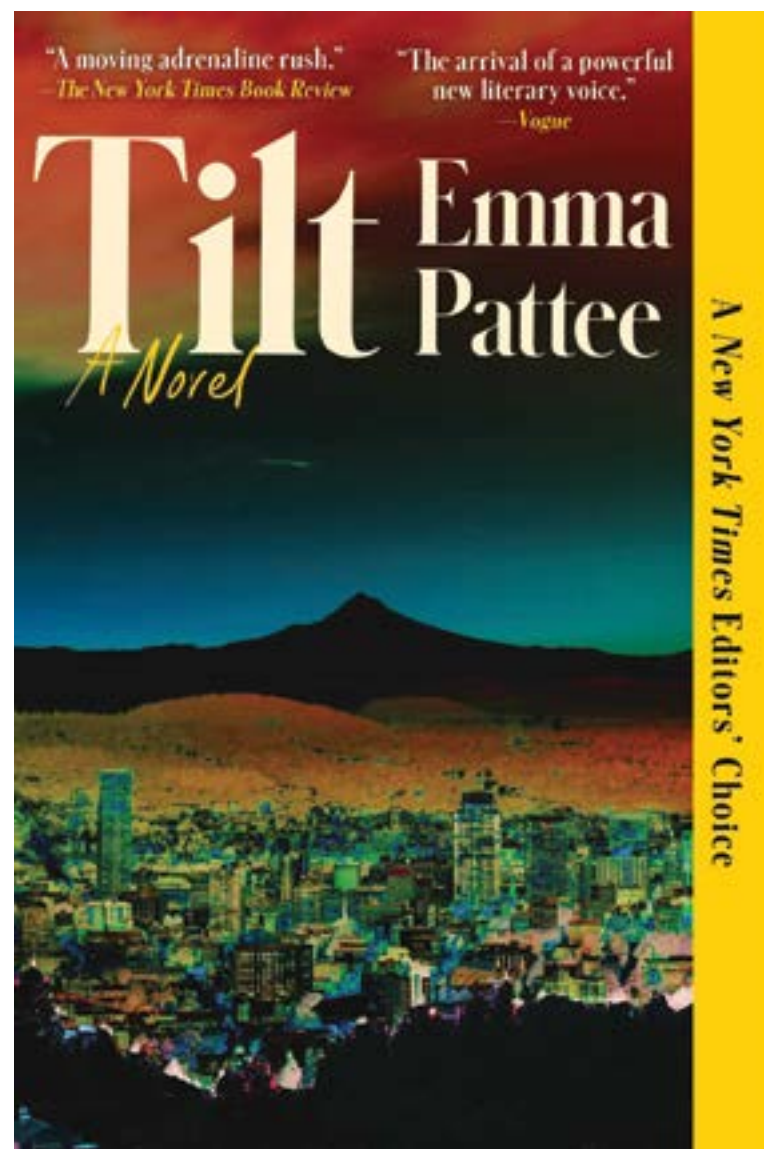
The story itself is very realistic in that there will be a tremendous amount of building damage in case of a major earthquake due to all of the brick buildings in the City, including schools, most of which are not earthquake resis-

tant. Similarly, communications will be down and streets blocked by rubble to the extent that travel will be extremely difficult. Fire and police will be the initial emergency responders, followed by damage assessors from street and utility bureaus. And it is very likely that the types of situations Annie found herself in could occur in real life.

One exception is noted, however. In the story, Annie was prevented from crossing the Morrison Bridge by military guards and two armored tanks. In reality, military assistance would be in the line of support and rescue capacities and consist of National Guard troops as activated by the Governor. Any blocking of bridges would likely be undertaken by either the police or Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) staff, not soldiers with tanks.

To better understand how the emergency response system would work for an actual major earthquake you can venture to the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management website (portland.gov/pbem) and read its Earthquake Response Plan along with Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) information. The NET is a group of over 1,400 volunteers who are trained to assist with disaster communications, damage assessment and general support functions.

Pattee stated, "When I started this book, I was pregnant. But when I finished the book, I had a school-aged child. And in Oregon, we have over a thousand schools at a high risk of collapse



during an earthquake. You cannot tell the story of a Cascadia earthquake without including the fact that hundreds of thousands of schoolchildren could be trapped in collapsed buildings." The lesson Pattee suggests is that brick buildings (especially those of schools) need to be made earthquake resistant. How many of us even know which schools in Portland are compliant with earthquake standards or not?

The conclusion of the book is interesting and heart warming. However, several questions of in-

terest are left unanswered. Does this mean there will be a sequel?

For additional information about *Tilt* and its author, visit simonandschuster.com/books/Tilt/Emma-Pattee/9781668055489 and emmapattee.com. *Tilt* is available online from the publisher, Simon and Schuster, and from other online and local booksellers.

Editor's note: The article's author formerly worked for the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management.

Inside Pea Pod, a Portland Co-op Playschool

BY LAURA CASTER

If you've spent time at a Portland playground, chances are you've heard someone mention a "co-op." But what does that actually mean? Is it only for stay-at-home parents or can it work for working families?

Cooperative (or "co-op") preschools and playschools have long been part of Portland's parenting culture, offering families a community-centered alternative to traditional childcare. But until a few years ago, I didn't fully understand what the model looked like in practice.

I had the same questions many parents do when I began exploring options for my oldest son, born in June 2020 during the height of the pandemic. Like many families then, we spent his early years in small circles—outdoor walks, masked meetups and Zoom story times. When the world reopened, I was eager to find a safe place for him to interact with other toddlers.

That search led us to Pea Pod Playschool, a cooperative playschool at Taborspace in SE Portland. Today my oldest is in

kindergarten, and I can see how those early co-op days helped him navigate routines, separation and peer dynamics. Now I'm back in the classroom again—this time with my youngest son.

A co-op is a parent-run early childhood program where families share responsibility for supporting the classroom. Co-ops are not passive childcare; unlike a traditional drop-off daycare or preschool, parents actively participate in day-to-day operations.

At Pea Pod co-op, a parent coach with more than a decade of experience leads the group—guiding activities, modeling child development strategies and helping parents learn. With parents participating alongside their children, the classroom maintains a higher adult-to-child ratio.

Parents take turns serving as "Parent on Duty" a few times a month, helping set up and clean, assisting with crafts and snacks, reading books, singing songs and guiding toddlers through the inevitable conflicts over trucks and turn-taking. Serving as Parent on Duty means being fully present

and engaged with a classroom of toddlers—helping manage transitions, facilitating play and supporting the parent coach throughout the morning.

Participation goes beyond showing up for class. Families complete an interview, pass a background check and obtain infant and child CPR and First Aid certification. Parents participate in training, rotate responsibilities like snack duty, attend monthly meetings and seasonal work parties and some serve on the Board.

Many co-ops operate as license-exempt programs through Oregon's Department of Early Learning and Care, meaning they function under specific exemptions rather than as fully licensed childcare centers. Because co-ops are parent-run, they follow a different regulatory structure—though teachers and parents are still mandatory reporters required to report safety or health concerns to appropriate authorities. Many co-ops are also members of Parent Child Preschools of Oregon, a statewide organization that supports shared health and safety

standards.

For some families, that exemption status raises questions. For others, the higher adult-to-child ratio and parent involvement are exactly what makes the model appealing.

For toddlers, the benefits are easy to see: play, socialization and routine. Pea Pod Playschool follows a predictable rhythm with outdoor play, snack, circle time, lunch and free exploration. Parents can observe first-hand children practicing sharing, building language skills and gaining confidence interacting with other children and adults.

Being in the classroom gives parents real-time exposure to how the parent coach and other parents handle tricky moments—separation anxiety, boundary setting and emotional meltdowns. Instead of searching parenting forums late at night, parents can observe, ask questions and learn in community.

Gradual separation also made a difference. Because co-ops introduce independence slowly—with parents present

some days and absent others—children can become comfortable with their parents leaving over time. When kindergarten starts, the transition feels familiar rather than abrupt.

For children between about 18 months and three years old, options for social groups or part-time care can be surprisingly limited compared to programs for older preschoolers. Cooperative playschools help fill that gap. Programs like Brooklyn Preschool, Gabriel Park Preschool and Southwest Parent Child Collective offer structured social environments designed specifically for toddlers who aren't yet ready for traditional preschool—giving children a chance to learn routines, interact with peers and become comfortable in group settings.

While there may be more working parents at a co-op these days, for a co-op situation to work for families long term, at least one parent often needs to have a part-time situation or a flexible

continued on page 15

Portland Officials Consider Arts Tax Reform Amid Rising Costs

from page 1

reserve—estimated at about \$9 million—was built from early collections that could not immediately be spent due to program limitations at the time, and has been kept as a rainy day fund.

The proposal also includes administrative changes intended to improve compliance and fairness. Possible measures include integrating payment options into commonly used tax-filing software, exempting residents below certain income thresholds, increasing the fee for higher-income earners and linking the tax to inflation to prevent future erosion in value.

Additionally, Dunphy said he is exploring the creation of a new revenue stream through a modest fee on streaming service subscriptions, modeled after a similar policy adopted in Chicago. The fee would be collected from companies such as Netflix and Disney+ and used to support arts programming and other initiatives connected to cultural activity in the city.

“If we want a vibrant economy and thriving small businesses, we have to get people out into the public square,” Dunphy said. “Investing in the arts is one of the biggest tools the city has to make that happen.”

Local arts leaders say even

modest changes to Arts Tax funding can have significant effects—particularly for organizations working in SE Portland.

The Portland Street Art Alliance (PSAA), which has received General Operating Support (GOS) grants funded by the tax for several years, relies on that funding to sustain core operations that support art programming throughout the city.

In SE Portland, the organization plays a key role in stewarding and expanding the Central Eastside Mural District. Its work includes activating community art walls, hosting educational mural tours and providing opportunities for emerging artists to create publicly accessible artwork.

Executive Director Tiffany Conklin said flexible operational funding has been essential to maintaining those programs. “GOS funding has been critical for PSAA. It directly supports our operations, staffing and our ongoing mural maintenance program,” Conklin said. “Without it, we just couldn’t sustain the infrastructure that makes all our programming possible.”

Moreso, for small and mid-sized nonprofits like PSAA, Conklin said that reliable operational funding can determine whether programs continue to



Portland Street Art Alliance project in the Central Eastside Mural District. Photo by Portland Street Art Alliance.

expand or begin to contract. “For organizations like ours, even modest reductions can mean fewer programs, smaller community reach and lost opportunities for artists,” she said.

While arts leaders are closely monitoring the City Council’s reform discussions, Conklin emphasized that Portland’s identity as a creative city depends on sustained investment in the organizations that bring art into public spaces.

“Public art is not a luxury,” Conklin said. “It’s a tool for community building, economic vitality and civic pride. We hope our city leadership will protect and grow the infrastructure that supports it.”

Looking forward, Dunphy said he hopes to present an initial policy preview in April while gathering feedback from arts groups, educators, businesses and residents, with the ultimate goal being to implement changes in time for the next calendar year.

Although many officials agree that reforms are needed, any formal changes would require approval from the full City Council.

“If changes don’t happen,” Dunphy said, “there’s a real risk the tax could disappear altogether. People in Portland love the arts—they just don’t love the way this tax works.”

EASTBANK INTERIORS
CUSTOM KITCHEN AND BATH DESIGN
Established 2006

Experienced kitchen and bath designers

Call to schedule a visit
503.233.1502

Portland Chimney & Masonry Inc.
Chimney Repairs & Cleaning in the Northwest for over 35 years

Know the different inspection levels and when you need them!

CRACKED TILES

Cracked tiles will also allow heat and gases to escape the flue and potentially get into your home. These can be caused by a high heat event.

UNLINED FLUES

Unlined flues are not capable of protecting the combustibles* of your home from high heat events.

LEVEL 1 Inspections/cleanings:
 A basic, visual inspection of accessible areas, suitable for routine annual maintenance. The inspection is conducted during routine cleaning.

The smoke chamber funnels smoke and heat from your firebox to your flue lining. The smoke chamber can reach temperature of 2000 degrees during a high heat event (chimney fire).

*Materials that can be ignited and burned.

LEVEL 2 Buying or selling a home, or a Chimney Fire:
 A more detailed inspection that includes using video cameras to examine the flue and is required for the sale or transfer of property. Also, after a chimney fire, seismic event, or other incident likely to have caused damage to the chimney.

Portland Chimney is here for all your inspections, repairs and annual maintenance.

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE

503-256-9140 • www.portlandchimneyinc.com

Rosenstadt®

Taproom Now Open

German-style Beer
Food | Patio

4-9 pm Thurs - Fri
 1-9 pm Sat - Sun
 2117 NE Oregon St. POX 97232
 503.206.4245
rosenstadt.beer

SINCE 1998

Email: info@artheadsframeco.com
 Facebook [artheadsframeco](https://www.facebook.com/artheadsframeco)
 Instagram [@artheadframeco](https://www.instagram.com/artheadframeco)

(503) 232 5299

5000 SE Hawthorne Blvd

AE Arts & Entertainment

Nice People at Imago

Portland's premier absurdist, Carol Trifle, returns with her 20th original work for Imago Theatre and newest dramedy, *Nice People*, Friday, April 10-Sunday, April 19. Vaudevillian hijinks abound and nothing goes as planned for the trio of Frances, Rosie and Rita as they struggle to find their place in an unstable world, frolicking, fighting and then uniting. Complete with diabolical doorbells, slapstick seniors and bug-infested food, the show is about social upheaval, mundane oddness and plain old fun.

Performances take place Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm and Sundays at 2 pm. Tickets (\$30) available at imagotheatre.com and at the door. The show is for mature audiences.

Central Catholic Spring Musical



Central Catholic High School invites the community aboard the S.S. American in April as students bring the beloved Broadway classic "Anything Goes" to life in a dazzling production filled with tap-dancing sailors, mistaken identities, romantic chaos and the timeless music of Cole Porter. The show opens Friday, April 17 and concludes Sunday, April 26. Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances at 7 pm; Sunday matinees at 2 pm.

Originally premiering in 1934, "Anything Goes" remains one of the great American musical comedies, celebrated for its quick-witted dialogue and iconic songs including "I Get a Kick Out of You," "You're the Top" and the show-stopping title number "Anything Goes." Nearly a century later, its humor, heart and joyful absurdity continue to delight audiences anywhere it goes.

The Spring Musical promises high-energy choreography, bold comedic performances and show-stopping vocals from a talented cast of students. At its heart, "Anything Goes" celebrates the timeless magic of musical theater: when love defies logic, identities get hilariously tangled and the only sensible response is to throw caution to the wind and dance.

Tickets (\$15 adults, \$12 seniors, \$10 students) available at cchsrams.pub/tickets. All performances at Central Catholic's Fred G. Meyer Performing Arts Center, 2401 SE Stark St.

Beer Keg Strongman

Kernside's second annual series of beer, strength, running and ridiculousness returns with the first installment of the Beer Keg Strongman event Saturday, April 25, 11 am-3 pm at Gorges Beer Co. (2705 SE Ankeny St.). Prepare for a full day of chaotic strength and good times with an event that brings together two things that belong side by side: heavy weights and great beer. Event challenges include keg loading medley, dumbbell ladder, deadlift for reps, keg carry, overhead ladder, stein hold and beer mile.

Get ready to test your strength, grit and sheer willpower at a fun-filled event focused on beer and strength in a supportive and high energy environment. Whether you're a seasoned lifter or newbie, this event is for you. Visit kernside.org/event to sign up to compete.

If playing the role of enthusiastic bystander is more your style, you're invited, too. Bring your friends and your energy to cheer on the lifters from the sidelines.

Everyone is invited to stick around afterward for well-earned drinks (non-alcoholic options will be available) and a little friendly bragging by the winners.

Gigantic Hosts Pro Wrestling

Northwest Pro Wrestling returns to Gigantic Brewing (5224 SE 26th Ave.) Saturday, April 4, 6 pm and the brewery is about to get rowdy. For one night, the barrels move aside, the ring drops in the middle of the room and fighters of Northwest Pro come ready to throw down. Expect bone-rattling hits, wild entrances and the kind of close-up action you only get when pro wrestling invades a brewery.

There will be five matches featuring Quinn Justice, Maseemo, JD Mason, Chuco Bumm, Lumberjack, Tae Kwon Bro, Super Crazy and more. They're all stepping into the ring and nobody is showing up to play nice.

But the real prize of the night is a main event, fatal four-way showdown to crown the first-ever Gigantic Brewing King of the Keg Champion. Chuco Bumm vs Princess Death Wish vs JD Mason vs former WWE and ECW star Super Crazy. Four wrestlers enter the ring. One leaves with the championship.

And because this is Gigantic, the night also features live music from Ben and the Bloodshots, bringing loud, twangy energy between the chaos in the ring. Plus, plenty of cold beer.

Tickets (\$20) for those 21+ with ID available at giganticbrewing.com/products/live-pro-wrestling-at-gigantic-brewing-saturday-april-4th. Doors open at 6 pm with the first bell at 7 pm. Show up early, grab a pint and get ready to yell at strangers like it's your civic duty.

Thompson Elk Jigsaw Puzzle

In honor of the nearly complete restoration of The Thompson Elk Fountain downtown, Nance-Sasser Art has created the latest in their line of jigsaw puzzles. They've partnered with the Eastside Industrial Area's The Portland Puzzle Company to produce a 500-piece puzzle which is 20 inches by 24 inches.

Since 2010, Nance-Sasser Art has been creating original digital prints of iconic images superimposed on vintage maps and indicating the geographic location of the image with a YOU ARE HERE logo. They started with images of Portland icons: Union Station, the St. John's Bridge, The Unipiper and more. From there they expanded to images from across North America, Europe and Asia. They've also created puzzles for The Oregon Historical Society, Music Millennium, The Santa Clones and others.

Puzzles (\$35 + shipping) are available on demand at nance-sasser.art/elk. A percentage of the proceeds will be donated to the Architectural Heritage Center.

Kyle Thompson Portraits Exhibition

Join Art Design Xchange (ADX) Friday, April 3, 5-9 pm, for the opening reception of *Portraits*, a new exhibition of paintings by Kyle Thompson. This collection explores the human figure through a series of striking portrait works that blur the boundaries between realism and abstraction.

Working across painting and drawing, Thompson builds layered surfaces rich with texture and expressive color. His portraits distort and reconfigure the human form, moving between the biologically familiar and the surreal. Through this visual language, the work reflects the fluidity of identity and the shifting emotional and psychological landscapes that shape our experience of being human. *Portraits* invites viewers to linger in these altered states of recognition where faces and bodies feel both known and transformed and to consider the ways our inner worlds shape the forms we present outwardly.

The opening show, free and open to the public, includes music from VHS Ghost, Colectivo Cenizas and Collar De Lunas. ADX (417 SE 11th Ave.) is where artists, designers, makers, builders, thinkers and innovators come together to create, connect and collaborate. More at artdesignxchange.com.

ALBERTA ROSE THEATRE

APRIL 2026

2 VANESSA COLLIER	14 GRANT JAZZ CELEBRATION
3 Boyeurism	17 PAUL THORN + Will Hoge
4 LADY SINGS THE BLUES a Tribute to BILLIE HOLIDAY	18 PGMC Cascade presents SHE PERSISTED
7 CONSIDER THIS with Hélène Landemore	19 GNOSS
8 LISA MANN'S NORTHWESTERN ALL-STARS featuring Terrie Odabi	22 SCIENCE ON TAP The Counting of Crows
9 LIVE WIRE RADIO with Luke Burbank	23 THE NOWHERE BAND plays SGT. PEPPER & ABBEY ROAD
10 4th Annual International Booklover's Burlesque Festival	29 DERVISH
12 CELEBRATE A THIRD OF A CENTURY OF THE TONY STARLIGHT SHOW!	30 Portland Psychedelic Society presents MYCELOPAUSE

albertarosetheatre.com
3000 NE Alberta • 503.764.4131

TRIANGLE PRODUCTIONS

35 YEARS

THE SAVANNAH SIPPING SOCIETY

Starring
Lisamarie Harrison, Helen Raptis, Michelle Maida and Beth Willis

A comedy about four women who find that they are more common than they think. Come, share an evening of laughter and joy.

April 2 - 18, 2026
www.trianglepro.org or 503-239-5919
Sandy Plaza - 1745 NE Sandy Blvd

Let's Get Baking



Pix Pâtisserie is calling all amateur bakers to apply for a spot in The Big Portland Bake Show, their version of celebrated Great British Bake Off. Six aspiring bakers will come together for a series of two-day friendly, fun and delicious competitions each month (June, July, August). While the bakers are mixing away and checking their oven bakes, spectators are invited to cheer them on. Audience participation will be encouraged with trivia, spectator “challenges,” raffle prizes and, of course, a little taste testing.

Want to compete? Register for a casting interview starting Monday, May 4, 8 am at pixpatisserie.com/pdxbakingshow. 40 slots will be available (a \$1 administrative fee is due at the time of application). Following sign up, 15-minute in-person casting interviews will take place Saturday, May 30 and Sunday, May 31, 9 am-4 pm at Pix Pâtisserie (2225 E Burnside St.). All potential contestants will be required to present something that they have baked at the casting interview.

Contestants must be 18 years or older as of May 4, live in the greater Portland metro area, be available both days of the competition they are chosen for (8 am-6 pm), as well as the Saturday afternoon the week before the competition, 3-5 pm (June 20, July 11, August 22) and agree to all contest rules. Contestants are not eligible if they have attended a culinary school for any length of time or worked in a professional kitchen and/or baking setting (paid or unpaid) at any time for a period of three months or more.

CST Animated Films

The Clinton Street Theater (CST) will be hosting a series of animated films in the month of April. There will be afternoon screening of Bill Kroyer's 1992 *FernGully: The Last Rain Forest* Saturday, April 4, 3 pm and the Portland premiere of a new stop-motion film, *The Lure of Ponies: A Spellbound Attic Mystery* Saturday, April 18, 3 pm. Filmmaker Beck Underwood will be in attendance for a post-screening Q&A and a portion of ticket sales will benefit Smart Reading, a children's literacy nonprofit. Other films playing include *The Last Unicorn*, *The Bob's Burgers Movie* and more obscure works from European directors.

Like every year, there's never enough time to screen all the animated films. Still, you're sure to find something new to love or an old favorite to enjoy. Show times and tickets are available at cstpdx.com.

The Savannah Sipping Society

Triangle Productions! continues celebrating its 36th year with shows about women with *The Savannah Sipping Society* by Jones Hope Wooten Thursday, April 2-Saturday, April 18. Four unique Southern women, all needing to escape the sameness of their day-to-day routines, are drawn together by fate—and an impromptu happy hour—and decide it's high time to reclaim the enthusiasm for life they've lost through the years. Over the course of six months filled with laughter, hilarious misadventures and the occasional liquid refreshment, these middle-aged women successfully bond and find the confidence to jumpstart new lives. Together they discover lasting friendships and a renewed determination to live in the moment—and most importantly, realize it's never too late to make new old friends.

Shows Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 pm and one Sunday matinee at 2 pm. Tickets \$5 Arts For All (walk up only), \$20, \$30 and \$40. Visit trianglepro.org/savannah-sipping-society to purchase tickets.

Tag! Queer Shorts Festival

The 2026 edition of Tag! Queer Shorts Festival will light up the Clinton Street Theater in rainbow colors Saturday, April 11 and Sunday, April 12 with an all-new program of 39 original short films made exclusively by queer and trans directors. The annual theme “Get Up!” is an invitation to queer communities to be visible and creative under challenging conditions.

This year's program offers four thematic blocks of curated shorts with director Q&A time following the films. The festival opens with *The Heaven Spot*, featuring an honest look at both affirming and disappointing interactions within queer spaces. The adults-only *Get Up, Get Off!* program marks the return of explicit content to the Tag! screen with a selection of decidedly non-binary romps. The *Queer Styles* program gives the audience a peek at the full range of genres submitted each year, including animation, music video, spoken word, horror, comedy and documentary. The festival ends with *Tagging Cascadia*, a celebration of films by Pacific Northwest directors and actors that includes some of Portland's most prolific queer shorts creators.

Full program information, including directors, cast, synopses and runtimes available at tagqsf.org/tag-qsf-2026. Individual tickets (\$15) and festival passes (\$45) available through the Clinton Street Theater box office at cstpdxtickets.square.site.

Earth Day Celebration at Sunnyside Environmental School

Saturday, April 25, 11 am-4 pm join Making Earth Cool, Sunnyside Environmental School, SOLVE and 350PDX for a vibrant, fun-filled celebration of our wonderful Earth. The free, community-driven event invites people of all ages to come together to celebrate, dance, share environmental awareness and find connection through collection action in honor of our home, Earth.



Kick off the day in the Sunnyside schoolyard with a variety of activities for all ages. Make your own animal mask, get your face painted, decorate your bike, grab a bucket and grabber from SOLVE to help with litter pick-up, find information on local environmental initiatives, collect seeds to plant in your garden and enjoy music and community. Plus, dress in your best nature-inspired costume and enter the Best Costume Awards.

The Earth Parade through the Sunnyside neighborhood—complete with music, singing and clowning—starts at 1 pm. Giant puppets and marching bands will lead the parade along a one-mile route. The family-friendly procession is open to everyone—costumed or not.

Following the parade, DJs PLNTDD and Cucina welcome the parade back with a dance party. MC Blue Horse Grandmother and Miss Frizzle will line up the best dressed to strut their stuff for the judges and audience cheers for the presentation of the Best Costume Awards. For those who want to keep walking, grab a bucket from SOLVE and take a litter walk.

The collaborative event aims to create a meaningful Earth Day celebration that empowers individuals to take action for the planet while fostering a sense of unity and joy. For more information about the event, visit makingearthcool.com or contact Sarah Baker at makingearthcool@gmail.com.

MUSIC MILLENNIUM PRESENTS

RECORD STORE DAY

SATURDAY, APRIL 18TH

OVER 350 RELEASES
FREE COFFEE + MUFFINS
OPEN 8AM - 10PM

FREE RSD POSTER AND
GIFT BAG TO FIRST 300
DOOBUSTER DEALS

32ND + E. BURNSIDE 503-231-8926

McMENAMINS

BAGDAD

THEATER & PUB

Explore the rich history of the Bagdad Theater

HISTORY + ART TOUR

April 18 • 10am • \$15 • All ages

3702 SE Hawthorne Blvd • (503) 236-9234 • bagdadmovies.com

PG

THE SUPER MARIO GALAXY MOVIE

NOW PLAYING

BURGER & A BEER DEAL

\$15, WEEKDAYS 11-4

5051 SE Hawthorne Blvd. www.ipkbrewing.com

TPK BREWING CO.

FOR PAWS
TREATS - TOYS - FOOD - GIFTS - BILLY RUBS

3340 SE DIVISION ST.
503-235-3204
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD PET SUPPLY SINCE 2008



Wellness Word

Editor's note: Wellness Word is an informational column which is not meant to replace a healthcare professional's diagnosis, treatment or medication.

New Treatment For Obstructive Sleep Apnea in People Who Have or Need Full Dentures

People who have no natural teeth are known to have much more severe obstructive sleep apnea because they don't have a platform to brace their lower jawbone (mandible) against to prevent it from dropping down and back into their throats. Dentists can make oral appliances to treat the problem, but full denture patients cannot wear them because their gums cannot tolerate the pressure required to advance the mandible. Therefore, until recently, their only choices have been surgery or CPAP, which many people find uncomfortable.

Now two new mechanical devices, developed right here in Portland, can be used in people without teeth to control the soft tissues of the throat to prevent them from obstructing the airway during sleep. One device controls the soft palate and the other device controls the tongue base. The two devices can be used individually or together and carried on denture base plates (dentures without teeth). The denture base plates are custom made on molds from impressions of the patient's oral tissues, so they are comfort-

able enough to be easily worn during sleep, even by people who cannot tolerate wearing dentures during the day.

The soft palate is a flexible flap of thin muscular tissue that forms the roof of the throat. In the soft palate elevator, a silicone rubber bulb reaches back to elevate the middle of this flexible flap, where there are no gag reflexes, in order to draw forward its untouchable back end, where the uvula hangs in the airway. In this manner, the soft palate is "tented" centrally to pull its untouchable rear end up and forward, away from the obstruction. By tightening the soft palate, the soft palate elevator also prevents the nearby tissues from vibrating, which often stops snoring. The soft palate elevator was recently FDA cleared (K222127).

The tongue holding device addresses the source of the obstruction in sleep apnea (choking on the tongue) by grasping the tongue body and sides of the tongue base (where there are no gag reflexes) between anatomically contoured tongue gripping plates of "tongue Velcro." Each plate contains thousands of tiny plastic pin points, which are so closely packed that they feel like fuzz and are slanted forward to prevent the tongue from slipping backward into the throat. The

tongue holding device is now in its final clinical study for FDA clearance.

The devices can be made by dentists or denturists, licensed specialists who make dentures and other removable oral appliances. The devices can be used to treat obstructive sleep apnea or snoring, however obstructive sleep apnea can only be diagnosed by a physician. Also, the new devices are not yet covered by medical insurance.

For the rest of 2026, these new treatments for obstructive sleep apnea may be available at no cost to qualified full denture patients. Qualified patients must have no natural teeth, have been diagnosed with obstructive sleep apnea and not currently using CPAP. To determine eligibility, the study will include a baseline home sleep test, followed by use of the tongue holding device, followed by another home sleep test. If the sleep apnea persists, a soft palate elevator will be added, followed by another home sleep test. The process requires at least three short appointments at a dentist's office or the Portland TMJ Clinic downtown for impressions and fitting of the device.

John Summer DDS
Portland TMJ Clinic
portlandtmjclinic.com

YOU ARE INVITED...

For more than 37 years, Store to Door has delivered groceries to homebound seniors and people with disabilities across the Portland metro area.

Our Nourish to Flourish Dinner & Fundraiser is an evening to come together over a wonderful meal, celebrate that mission, and ensure it continues. Every ticket and every table helps fund independent living for homebound members of our community.

Join us for dinner, community, and the chance to make a real difference close to home!

Dinner catered by Broder Söder. Free on-site parking.

WHEN:
THURSDAY, MAY 28TH 2026
FROM 6:00 TO 8:30 P.M.

DRESS:
BUSINESS CASUAL

TICKETS:
STORETODOR.AUCTRIA.EVENTS
\$125 PER PERSON
\$900 TABLE OF 8

WHERE:
NORDIA HOUSE
8800 SW OLESON ROAD,
PORTLAND

CUT OUT THE BILLIONAIRES

shop at the People's Food Co-op

OPEN DAILY 9AM-9PM
3029 SE 21ST AVE

Mr Plywood

BUILDING MATERIALS

Family Style Customer Service
Delivery Service • Custom Cutting • Special Orders

7609 S. E. Stark Sreet • Portland, OR 97215
Phone: 503.254.7387 • Fax: 503.254.7663

www.mrplywoodinc.com

NATURAL FURNITURE

Solid-Wood Finished & Unfinished Furniture

Bookcase Sale: on Now!
10-15% Off until April 20th

1510 NE 37th Ave
503-284-0655

Ask about our Outdoor Furniture Sale!

nfpdx.com

Neighbor Notes

Buckman Community Association By Susan Lindsay

At the upcoming Buckman Meeting Thursday, April 9 we'll discuss the concerns about potential budget cuts affecting Buckman Elementary and, separately, the need for traffic safety and an additional light on E Burnside St. for area school kids. Multnomah County Commissioners Julia Brim Edwards and Shannon Singleton have both been invited as guest speakers so we can better understand and collaborate with the County as it faces major budget cuts to the general fund due to loss of property taxes. The Buckman Picnic is tentatively planned for Sunday, August 2 and we need sponsors (all tax deductible) and volunteer coordinators. All this and more April 9, 7-9 pm at the hybrid meeting. We meet in person at 1137 SE 20th Ave. (enter on Salmon St.) or find the link to participate online at buckmanpdx.org. Contact us anytime at buckmanboard@googlegroups.com.

HAND By Jill Riebesehl

The Hosford-Abernethy neighborhood will be seeing small and large changes this year: SE Powell Blvd. traffic improvements, a possible bottle redemption center, progress on a county-sponsored sobering center, new uses for a dead-ended chunk of SE Caruthers St. and Abernethy Elementary's garden and carnival plans this spring and summer.

The sobering center—soon to receive an official name—lies across SE Grand Ave. from the Goodwill store. It will replace and expand the SE Pine St. facility. The building, under thorough renovation complete with mural art, will have room for 47 people seeking sobering help and withdrawal management. It will serve people referred by law enforcement and first responders. Due to open next year, the center will involve HAND via a good neighborhood agreement.

Meanwhile, assorted entities are working on a much-discussed possible bottle redemption site off SE Powell Blvd. at SE Milwaukie Ave. HAND and the Brooklyn neighborhood together are encouraging stakeholders to consider safer properties with better chances for accountability.

We spent some time imagining the many ways SE Caruthers St., closed by the Portland Bureau of Transportation and another city agency, could in time be converted into a community asset.

And, finally, PBOT is applying to Metro for funding for a much larger project. Aiming at increased traffic and pedestrian safety, it will focus on technical improvements on SE Powell Blvd. out as far as SE 82nd Ave., and will include possible traffic-flow cameras and rest-on-red signals. No doubt HAND, and other Powell-adjacent neighborhoods, will be involved.

Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association By David Petrozzi

At our March meeting, MTNA hosted the Portland Urban Coyote Project. We learned some of the do's and don't's for human/coyote interaction and received important safety tips to help protect our beloved pets. The Project even has a sighting map on their website so you can see if coyotes are active at or near your specific address. Head over to portlandcoyote.com to check out the map, get free educational resources and support their project. MTNA also heard an important update on land use regarding the installation of a 5G cell tower in our neighborhood and we received regular reports on ongoing initiatives such as Tabor for All, support for older adults in the community and various pedestrian safety initiatives.

Interested in leaving your mark on the neighborhood? Consider running for a position on the MTNA Board; our elections are on the horizon and we have openings for folks who want to make a difference. Voting will occur at our annual meeting Wednesday, May 13, so drop us a line before then or stop by the April meeting to let us know you're interested and learn about the process. MTNA meets the second Wednesday of each month, in person at Taborspace and online via Zoom. Our next meeting will be held April 8, 7 pm. Register on our website (mttaborpdx.org) where you can read more about what we've been up to in the community and join our mailing list to stay informed. Happy Spring!

Montavilla Neighborhood Association By Steph Cleary

Hello from the Montavilla Neighborhood Association (MNA)! This month, we completed our rebrand project made possible by a generous grant from SE Uplift. Check out our new (very sleek!) website at montavilla.org.

As part of our ongoing effort to reach more of Montavilla, the MNA sent out 4,700 mailers to our residents and held a neighborhood-wide mixer on March 25. (Did we overextend ourselves? This writing is before the event, so stay tuned...). Flying Pie on SE Stark St. hosted us for pizza and The Academy Theater hosted a special showing of *The Goonies* at a discounted price of \$5 per ticket to support our Montavilla neighborhood.

Another update from our March meeting: the Montavilla Farmer's Market is requesting community feedback regarding their ongoing location search as the current lot is for sale. Please submit feedback to their survey at tinyurl.com/montavillafarmers.

Feeling overwhelmed with the state of the world? Volunteering with your neighborhood association is a great way to get involved! The MNA needs a neighbor who is willing to lead a monthly neighborhood cleanup with SOLVE. This recurring volunteer will lead the cleanup (a four-hour time commitment including prep and event facilitation). A one-hour training from SOLVE on how to be an event leader is provided. Can you help keep our neighborhood clean? We need you! Reach out to mna-email@montavilla.org for more information.

And while we're speaking of volunteers, the 82nd Avenue of Roses Parade needs us, too! The event is Saturday, April 25. Find out more about volunteer roles at 82rosesccc.com/volunteers.

If you want to know more about what the MNA is up to, we meet every second Monday of the month. Our next meeting is April 13, 6:30-7:30 pm at the Montavilla United Methodist Church. We hope to see you!

North Tabor Neighborhood Association By Amanda Sparks

The North Tabor Neighborhood Association has a number of events coming up, starting with the Tabor Neighbors Yard Sale Saturday, April 18, 9 am-4 pm throughout the Tabor neighborhoods. A map of par-

continued on page 15


FULL DENTURE WEARERS WITH SLEEP APNEA
You may qualify for free treatment
~including a soft palate elevator
and a tongue holder.



503-241-7353
Portland TMJ Clinic
833 SW 11th Ave, Suite 810, Portland

**Come celebrate Easter
with St. Mark's Lutheran Church**

April 5th 9:30am
in the St. Mark's sanctuary and on Zoom
at 5415 SE Powell Blvd, on the #9 bus line.



Parking behind (north of) the church building. For the Zoom link, go to www.smpdx.org

KIRKLAND UNION MANORS

AFFORDABLE RETIREMENT LIVING
For Seniors 62 years or older

- Studio & One Bedroom Apartments
- Affordable Rent Includes all utilities (except phone & cable)
- No Application or Costly Buy-In Fees
- Federal Rent Subsidies Available for those that qualify

503-777-8101 

www.theunionmanors.com

3530 SE 84th Ave • Portland 97266



TABORSPACE
Your place for community space.

5441 SE Belmont St
Portland, OR 97215

TABORSPACE.ORG

We're ready to host your events!

- Birthdays
- Baby Showers
- Meetings
- Memorials
- Conferences
- Plus Coffee!

MANAGED MOVES
SERVING SENIORS SINCE 2006



Call for a free consultation 503.780.7136

ManagedMoves.com ODOT: #198404 USDOT: #2899598

As At Your Service



DAN'S LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE
 No job is too big or too small

- Yard clean up • Flower bed clean up and installation
- Pruning & trimming • Stump grinding
- Natural/Organic available • Free estimates

Dan Bollard 503.704.0100
 Owner/Operator #CCB 189748 danbollard@yahoo.com

Fresh Air
 Sash Cord Repair, Inc.
Old windows that work!



503.284.7693 (office)
 info@freshairsash.com
 www.freshairsash.com

fresh_air_sash_cord_repair
 OR LBPR/CCB #184991
 WA Reg. #FRESHAS 796DR

NEED TREE CARE?



Call Quinn!
 ISA-Certified Arborist
 Third Generation Southeast Portlander
 LCB # 100256

Tree Pruning ↑ Removal ↑ Consult
 (971) 275-2409 ↑ leightonslimbsevice@gmail.com



Murphy Construction

Renovations | Remodeling | New Construction
 www.Murphy.Construction 503-319-3437

A South East Portland neighbor since 1997 CCB #216870



PORTLAND EYE CARE

SAMUEL ADELMAN O.D.

4133 SE Division St.
 Portland OR, 97206

503.444.7639

EYEPDX.COM

LOCAL EYECARE • GLOBAL EYEWEAR

ECOHEAT INC
CCB: 165150

Design + Installation

ENERGY EFFICIENT GAS FURNACES • AIR CONDITIONING • GAS FIREPLACE INSERTS
 DUCTLESS + DUCTED HEAT PUMPS • TANKLESS WATER HEATERS • RADIANT SYSTEMS
 503.708.9889 . WWW.ECOHEATPDX.COM . HQ@ECOHEATPDX.COM



Pruning & Shaping
Removal/Stump Grinding
Hedges & Storm Damage
CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATE!

Tom Burke, owner, has 40 years of fast, dependable and professional service.

503.771.4061
 treemastersestimates@gmail.com
 treemastertreeservice.com

Licensed • Bonded • Insured • CCB#159995



ADVERTISE HERE!

Reach 16,000+ homes/businesses to let them know about your service!


503.254.7550
 examiner@seportland.news

Tom Leach Roofing
 45 years roofing your neighborhood.


503-238-0303
 TomLeachRoofing@Comcast.net

CCB# 42219

POLYMATH Studio
 Architecture & Design




We design simple, beautiful buildings with a strong connection to nature.



Houses Additions ADUs

503-395-8383 polymathstudio.com

CZ BECKER COMPANY WOOD FLOORS
A Family Owned Business Since 1982



503.282.0623

Restoration Repairs & Refinishing
 State of the Art Dust Containment
 Installation of New Wood Floors
 Environmentally Friendly Finishes

www.czbecker.com
 CCB #48132

Blue Dun Painting

Expert interior painting
 Custom raised vegetable beds

Call Denny at 503.484.6525

bluedunpainting.com
 denny.bixby@yahoo.com
 CCB#174741



We LIVE and WORK in YOUR neighborhood!

METICULOUS PLUMBING
 HOME SERVICES LLC

Our Name Says It All!
Portland's Painless Professional Plumber
 We are your Neighborhood Plumber

Service, Remodel & Repair
 Licensed, Bonded & Insured
 CCB #186657

Visit our website for information, coupons and testimonials

Call or text us!
503-208-2812
 www.meticulousplumbing.com



NN

Neighborhood Notes

from page 13

icipating homes will be available on our website, northtabor.org/2026/03/2026-tabor-neighbors-yard-sale.

The annual Tabor Neighbors Clean-Up, co-hosted with the Mt. Tabor Neighborhood Association, will be held Saturday, April 25, 9 am-1 pm at 4700 SE Stark St. Community members can drop off bulky waste, small electronics and scrap metal. A reuse area will also be available for those looking for treasures. For details on the event or to sign up to volunteer, visit northtabor.org/2026/03/2026-tabor-neighbors-clean-up.

Thursday, April 30, 6-8:30 pm, North Tabor Neighbors will host a free Edible Landscaping Workshop at Leikam Brewing, presented by the East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District. The workshop will cover incorporating edible plants into home landscapes, including soil health and supporting pollinators. Register to attend at emswcd.org/event/creating-an-edible-landscape-3.

The monthly neighborhood meeting will be held Tuesday, April 21, 6:30-8 pm, both in person at 4837 NE Couch St. and online via Zoom (zoom.us/j/99699816373). All are welcome.

South Tabor Neighborhood Association By Cathy Kudlick

At our March meeting, neighbors shared what was known about a sexual assault spree and arrest that took place in the neighborhood March 15. We continued our Small Projects discussion and held a Neighborhood Action Workshop, connecting neighbors around shared ideas such as gardening, mutual aid, climate action, accessibility and community events.

We also noted the one-year anniversary of Roger Lee's death on SE Powell Blvd., as safety concerns on this roadway continue to go unaddressed. We gathered input on what to prioritize at the city level, as we prepare to host District 3 councilors and candidates in the coming months. And we continue to monitor Franklin High School's compliance with a 2015 land use decision requiring that pedestrian connections through campus remain open during specified hours (with some exceptions) and that signs be posted informing the public.

Looking ahead, it's time to start planning our big event of the year: South Tabor's annual yard sale in early June. Let us know if you'd like to help plan and promote this and other events throughout the year!

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association By Hannah Wallace

At SNA's March general meeting, Councilor Steve Novick was our special guest. He talked about a few things that are before the Portland City Council right now, including the proposed fee on residents that would raise money to fix our crumbling roads; the discovery of \$106 million in the Portland Housing Bureau and what City Council is considering doing with it; and the idea of using some Portland Clean Energy Fund money to help renovate the Moda Center, using renewable technology to reduce its carbon emissions.

The Sunnyside Shower Project has a bunch of fundraisers coming up, the biggest of which is the Jesus Christ Superstar singalong with Low Bar Chorale Friday, April 3, 7:30 pm. You can buy tickets at lowbarchorale.com.

At our Board meeting we talked about a few projects we'd like to do in 2026 or early 2027. These include a community potluck, a neighborhood-wide yard sale and a potential Bingo Card with Hawthorne businesses that would raise money for the SNA. Stay tuned. We'll post info to our social media channels! We're on Instagram @Sunnysidepdxna and on Facebook, we're Sunnyside Neighborhood Association.

Board elections will be at our Wednesday, May 13 meeting, 7 pm. All Sunnysiders can run for office or vote. We have five positions up for election this year, one of which is an "open" seat. Please reach out to Chris at cjwaldmann@gmail.com if you are interested in running for a Board seat and would like to know more.

Senior Studies Institute Provides Ongoing Learning, Social Interaction

from page 3

in-person viewings will be part of the curriculum, and a new in-person SSI group has started meeting periodically at a local theater to watch classic movies together on Saturdays.

Another online group discusses a nonfiction book, selected by popular vote, every six weeks. And this year one SSI member is guiding the eight-session Great Decisions 2026 course in-person at PCC CLIMB. The nonpartisan annual lecture series produced by the Foreign Policy Association focuses "on eight key global issues to foster informed public dialogue on US foreign policy." Rounding out the menu are social events, including an annual winter luncheon, summer picnic and new member meetings.

Membership in SSI is open to all, with no age or prior education requirement. Dues for

the year (which runs from September-August) are \$40 for an individual and \$70 per couple, to cover operational expenses. There are no additional costs to any of the group's regular classes, and members are welcome to attend as many classes as they like. While "lecture" classes, given by members and guest speakers during the school year take a break during the summer, other activities proceed throughout the year. Interested people are welcome to attend a couple of SSI events, with no obligation to join the organization.

Judy Bradshaw, an 82-year-old, joined SSI in 2017. The retired biology teacher says, "I love many things about SSI: the diverse courses that are offered about things I know little about, listening to the opinions of people who are more knowledgeable than

I am, the adventurous spirit of the people I meet...I particularly like the current events groups and the non-fiction book club. I have never read a book in there that I didn't appreciate and enjoy, even though I thought I wouldn't. This is elder evolution."

Barry Bennett, 72, is a retired attorney who provides up-to-date classes on such topics as the evolving Supreme Court. He joined SSI in 2016 to keep intellectually engaged after retirement. Asked what he likes best about SSI, Bennett responds, "Having discussions on all kinds of things with other engaged, curious and friendly people." This statement emphasizes the mission of this unique organization: to support lifelong learning in a welcoming, collegial environment. For more information about SSI, visit to ssipdx.org.

LE

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: Letters to the Editor are to be less than 300 words. The Southeast Examiner reserves the right to edit for length or content.

To the Editor:

Thanks for the interesting article "Mission Implausible: Southeast PDX Student Encourage Major Water Cost Savings, Saving PCC \$1 Million." That's such a fantastic heart lifting story and I applaud Adam Holzschuh and Eric Brurud for thinking and coming up with some savings for PCC.

Here's another way that PCC could save some money. The picture that accompanies the article shows a giant lawn that they're standing in front of. Lawns to me seem like maintenance money misspent. Not to mention how much pesticides are used to keep that lawn green

and weed free. Instead, I think PCC should aim to replant everywhere that it has lawns with native plants which will lead to less money spent on maintenance and also do a better job of supporting wildlife: insects, birds and mammals. Plus such a change could potentially provide food for student cafeterias and also offer opportunities for students to learn how to grow food. (Example: the food forests that Dan Sloan and PFFI are establishing around Portland which I read about in the same issue of *The Southeast Examiner*).

Thanks for an excellent newspaper,
Albert Kaufman

To the Editor:

Next time you are stopped at SE Powell Blvd. and SE Milwaukie Ave., picture what the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative is proposing.

Imagine hundreds of people daily arriving by foot, bike or bus—many carrying large bags of containers. They will cross busy traffic lanes, navigate incomplete sidewalks and dodge train traffic to reach the state's first high-volume Alternative Access Redemption Center (AARC). This is already one of SE Portland's most dangerous intersections. For vulnerable people who rely on canning for income, this setup is neither safe nor accessible.

Current estimates are that more than 30 million cans will pass through the site each year (2.5 million per month), with perhaps \$10,000 in cash changing hands each day. We have seen what happens when cash-for-container redemptions are concentrated. Even minimal drug activity can quickly impact nearby businesses and neighbors. These are not abstract concerns; they've led to the planned closure of the Delta Park Bottle Drop this June and a major drug bust this week at

the NE 122nd Ave. location.

This proposal also jeopardizes our neighborhoods' hard work. The nearby Clinton Triangle Transitional Alternative Shelter Site serves over 200 residents working toward stability. Placing a major cash hub a few blocks away creates additional, unnecessary pressures that can undermine their progress.

Neighbors are not saying "no" to bottle redemption. We are asking for a safer location that works for everyone.

There are profound reasons why this site is unsuitable and no compelling ones to support it. Mayor Wilson should call on backers to suspend efforts at a site doomed for failure and instead identify a location that truly serves both canners and the community.

If you agree, learn more and sign the petition at change.org/p/a-better-location-for-all-find-a-more-suitable-location-for-the-people-s-depot.

Signers:
Linda Nettekoven
Neel Pender
Peggy McDaniel
Phil Keisling
Daniel Carr

Inside Pea Pod, a Portland Co-op Playschool

from page 8

schedule. That's not a flaw—it's part of the cooperative structure. The shared labor allows programs to operate affordably while maintaining small class sizes and a strong sense of community.

One of the most valuable aspects of Pea Pod co-op extends beyond the classroom. Families share a group chat where parents organize park meetups, museum outings and casual playdates. Parenting toddlers can be isolating, and having a built-in community of families navigating the same stage of life can be one of

the greatest benefits for families. Many co-op friendships—for both kids and parents—last well beyond the toddler years.

Co-ops may not be the right fit for families who need full-time, year-round care or a traditional drop-off model. But for families looking for part-time socialization, community connection and a more hands-on approach to early childhood education, they offer something unique. For those interested in community-minded parenting, it's an option worth understanding before ruling it out.

THE CAPLENER GROUP

at Windermere Realty Trust

PORTLAND REAL ESTATE
Southeast & Northeast Specialists

(503) 232-4763 | thecaplenergroup.com

Caplener Group Homes For Sale



5615 SE Oak St. \$ - Call Listing Agent
1985 One-Level 3 BD, 2 BA
1,536 Total Sq. Ft.



2015 SE 46th Ave. \$ - Call Listing Agent
2019 Contemporary 4 BD, 3.5 BA
3,003 Total Sq. Ft.



305 SE 75th Ave. \$ - Call Listing Agent
1950 Mid-Century 2 BD, 1 BA
600 Total Sq. Ft.



13162 NW McNamee Rd. \$1,395,000
1986 Equestrian 3 BD, 2.1 BA
Property w/10 acres
2,646 Total Sq. Ft.



3962 NE Cesar Chavez Blvd. \$1,599,900
Modern Craftsman 5 BD, 3.1 BA
4,217 Total Sq. Ft.



921-927 NE Prescott St. \$732,500
1927 Duplex 3 BD, 1 BA
1,584 Sq. Ft. Per Unit

Neighborhood Happenings:

Bridge to Brews

Sunday, April 19
bridgetobrews.com

The iconic Bridge to Brews race is back! Visit the website to register for the race length of your choice. And be sure to grab a hosted beer or cider on the waterfront when the race is over!

The Portland Mercury's Pizza Week

April 20-26

For a whole week, participating pizza parlors all over the city are selling specially-crafted \$4 slices and \$25 whole pies. Stop by your favorite spot to support!

Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival

March 20-April 26
woodenshoe.com

Ring in the Spring season at the 42nd Annual Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival in Woodburn, OR. Experience the beauty of 40 acres of tulips while enjoying food vendors, farm tours, wine tasting and hot air balloons!

Want to earn the most value for your home? We're your neighborhood listing experts. Call or email us today for a confidential market analysis. 503.232.4763 | thecaplenergroup@windermere.com

HOW'S THE PORTLAND MARKET DOING?

WE ❤️

Inventory

3.6 Months

Ave Sales Price

\$609,300

Median Sales Price

+/- \$0.00

Ave Days on Market (YTD)

91 Days

Change in the Past 12 Months

-0.5%

THE CAPLENER GROUP
at Windermere Realty Trust



THE CAPLENER GROUP
at Windermere Realty Trust

5015 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon
Gold Level Sustainable Office

To schedule an appointment,
call us at (503) 232-4763



View our latest listings today.
thecaplenergroup.com

