

# Events & Announcements

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### DOGS IN TUNE WITH HUMANS

When classes resumed in late February following the massacre of 17 students and staff at Parkland's Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School, a therapy dog by the name of Fergie was brought in.

Fergie, an 8-year-old cross between a golden retriever and a poodle, zeroed in on one young man and sat on his feet the entire class, barely moving, said Aneysi Fernandez, volunteer coordinator of the nonprofit group Canine Assisted Therapy.

"It turned out that was one of the students who lost most of his friends in the shooting," said Fernandez. "Some of our dogs like Fergie are very in tune with human emotions."

Several therapy animal groups helped out in those dark days after the Feb. 14 mass shooting. The dogs — and in some cases, donkeys and horses — went into the cafeteria and classrooms. They were also at vigils and marches.

Fernandez's organization sent 35 therapy dogs and their handlers into the school. All of the animals were trained and selected for their calm, happy demeanor.

Some Parkland students specifically asked for a dog to shadow them during classes, saying that the animals' presence eased the stress of returning to a place where such a horrible thing happened.

"It's nice not to be asked any questions, to not have to relive the event," Fernandez said. "Everyone grieves differently. Students who didn't want to talk could pet a dog."

Ten months after the tragedy, a dozen dogs still show up at the school every day, mostly to sit by the side of those teens who need a calming presence.

— AP writer Tamara Lush in St. Petersburg, Florida

### 'IT'S IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD'

It was known as the Wall of Forgotten Natives, a sprawling homeless encampment that sprouted along a Minneapolis freeway sound barrier over the summer.

Most of those living there were American Indians, who make up an outsized portion of the homeless population in the city, and the tents stood on what was once Dakota land.

University of Minnesota medical and law student Kristina Tester grew up nearby and began helping at the camp as part of an elective rotation for her degree. She began doing clean-needle exchanges and continued on as a volunteer for months after her assignment ended.

"There's really not much of a difference between myself and any of the residents who are here at the homeless camp, other than sort of luck of the draw and geographic-political lottery," she said.

The 26-year-old Tester said she organized groups of university students to do laundry for camp residents. She also served meals about once a week with neighbors. Recently she delivered cookies and blankets made by high school students.

Tester, who is non-Indian, said she did it because "it's in my neighborhood."

At its peak, the encampment had 300 people, but they began moving into a temporary shelter across the highway as winter approached.

Maggie Thunder Hawk, 56, an Oglala Lakota from Wanblee, South Dakota, picked up two blankets that Tester delivered.

"If it wasn't for her, we'd be cold, because she brings us warm blankets," Thunder Hawk said.

"I love her."  
— AP writer Jeff Baenen in Minneapolis

AP writer Jocelyn Gecker in San Francisco contributed to this story.

## Community Calendar 2018

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### Portland Metro

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27

**LATIN NIGHT:** No Vacancy Lounge, in partnership with Trending Latin Nights, presents another edition of Latin Dance Night at The Lounge. The event includes a Bachata lesson by Inaki Villanueva (8-9pm) followed by a night full of Salsa, Bachata, Reggaeton and other Latin rhythms with DJ Ariel until Midnight. 8 p.m. - 12 a.m., \$5 Online / \$10 Door, No Vacancy Lounge, 235 SW 1st Ave.

**COOKIES & COLORING:** Escape the hectic holiday madness and drop in for some relaxing coloring and thumbprint art. Cookies and coloring supplies will be provided. All ages welcome! 2 - 4 p.m., West Linn Public Library, 1595 Burns Street, West Linn.

**READ TO THE DOGS AT HOLLYWOOD LIBRARY:** Improve your reading skills and make a new friend by reading aloud to a therapy dog. The dogs and handlers are from Pet Partners From 6 - 7:30 p.m., Hollywood Library, 4040 NE Tillamook St.

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28

**KWANZAA CELEBRATION:** Join us as we celebrate the third principle. During Kwanzaa, the community is encouraged to consider the principles of collective work and responsibility and to find ways to apply them throughout the new year. From 5:30 - 7:30 p.m., North Portland Library, 512 N. Killingsworth St.

**EROTIC CITY PRINCE TRIBUTE:** The Erotic City Prince Tribute comes to The Secret Society. Come dance the night away to your favorite jams. \$10 advance, \$12 day of show. From 9 p.m. - 12:30 a.m., The Secret Society, 116 NE Russel St.

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29

**STAR WARS OREGON AT THE GALAXY BLOOD DRIVE:** The Force is strong with blood donors! Come to the Galaxy Blood Drive to save a life and make a difference. The members of Star Wars Oregon will be there to represent the dark side and light side of the Force. Help save the galaxy....one pint at a time! 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., 3131 N Vancouver Ave.

**NOON YEAR'S EVE PARTY FOR PRESCHOOLERS:** Celebrate the new year with your young child, ages 0-5. Enjoy dancing, balloons, activities and snacks. It's a family friendly way to ring in 2019! From 11 - 12:30 p.m., Northwest Library, 2300 NW Thurman St.

**GET ON UP, THE REBIRTH OF FUNK:** Takimba & DJ saucy and are throwing down a New Year's dance party featuring remixes and mashups from all your favorite funk. They will be teaming up throughout the night featuring samples and beats by an all-star cast including Stevie Wonder, Aretha, P-funk, Prince and many more. From 9 p.m. - 2 a.m., Goodfoot Pub & Lounge, 2845 SE Stark.

**NEW YEAR'S CARD MAKE & TAKE:** Ring in the new year with this card using alcohol inks and the word punch board from We R Memory Keepers. From 1 - 3 p.m., Craft Warehouse, 130530 SE Mill Plain Blvd., Vancouver.

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

**JOLABOKAFLOD PDX:** Bringing the Icelandic celebration of "Yule Book Flood" to Portland for the first time! Jolabokafloð is a national holiday tradition in Iceland where people exchange books as gifts on Christmas Eve then spend all night hiding away and reading them over mugs of hot chocolate (spiked or not!). Nordia House, 3:30 p.m., 8800 SW Oleson Rd.

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

**FREE TRIMET RIDES ON NYE:** Once again, TriMet is offering free bus, MAX and Portland Streetcar service after 8 p.m. on New Year's Eve! No need to tap your HOP card or buy a ticket at the station. Transfers are free, too. And with special extended late-night MAX service, you can get to the celebration — and home again — the safe and smart way. Starting at 8 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2

**JO ANN HARDESTY SWEARING-IN CELEBRATION:** With the new year coming, Jo Ann Hardesty is bringing new changes to City Hall and she's starting by celebrating her official inauguration where the people belong — Portland City Hall. Join us for a great night of history in the making as we welcome our new city commissioner to the dais. Free and open to the public. 6 p.m. - 8 p.m., Portland City Hall, 1221 SW 4th Ave.

**NO IVY LEAGUE:** Join Portland Parks & Recreation's No Ivy League and SOLVE for a morning of invasive species removal and in Forest Park. Tools, gloves, instruction, coffee and snacks will be provided. Please dress for the weather, bring rain gear, wear sturdy shoes and bring a water bottle. Volunteers will take a short hike to the site and will be working on uneven ground. From 9 a.m. - noon. 2960 NW Upshur St.

**GFO LEARN & CHAT:** At the Genealogical Forum of Oregon's Learn & Chat some of the learning comes from speakers with particular expertise but most of it comes from the sharing of experiences and knowledge of attendees who have developed methods that work for them. Join us to talk about your genealogy questions and help provide support to others. Facilitated by Jeanne Quan. From 10 a.m. - noon, Genealogical Forum of Oregon, 2505 Southeast 11th Avenue, Suite B-18.

**FAMILY SPANISH CLASS FOR TODDLERS AND PRESCHOOLERS:** Learn alongside your child with our immersive Spanish language learning class! Songs, games, and lots of movement make these classes fun & engaging for the whole family! Register online. Classes start Jan. 2 and run through March 20th, at 5:15pm in Muir Hall at Tabor-space, 5441 SE Belmont St.

### Seattle Metro

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27

**JEREMY BELL, UTOPIAN BLACKNESS:** Jeremy Bell's mixed-media portraits of his family in ink, encaustic, graphite, spray paint, charcoal, wax, and wood celebrate the beauty of blackness. On view through Mar. 24, 2019. Northwest African American Museum, 2300 S Massachusetts St.

**HAIKU NORTHWEST:** Haiku Northwest is an enthusiastic and friendly group of poets from around the Seattle metropolitan area who are dedicated to writing, studying, and appreciating haiku and related poetic genres in English. We meet monthly to share and critique our work, and new members are always welcome to attend. 7 p.m., Third Place Books Lake Forest Park, 17171 Bothell Way NE, Lake Forest Park.

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

**ANNUAL 'MOULIN ROUGE' NYE SING-ALONG:** The Moulin Rouge Sing-Along will continue its tradition of ringing in the New Year with Baz Luhrmann's ode to 19th-century Paris and 20th-century pop. For \$15, you'll get a "bling ring," a drink, and the satisfaction of belting along with Nicole Kidman, Ewan McGregor, and company. As always, you'll get out of the theater early enough to tiddle over to Seattle Center for the fireworks show. 6:30 p.m., SIFF Cinema Uptown, 511 Queen Ann Ave.

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