

EQ THE ELIZABETH LOFTS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

As we grapple with this new, and what we hope is a temporary, normal - EQ's mission is to communicate and be there with you through articles, pictures and interviews. We hope these articles provide you with ideas of activities to plan for, and look forward to, when we are once again able to get out and about. Please support those neighborhood businesses who have made adjustments to continue providing services, and recognize that re-opening will need strong neighborhood support.

We hope you enjoy this issue.

Your EQ Team

EQ@ ElizabethLofts.org

Stay Safe --- Stay Healthy --- Stay Connected

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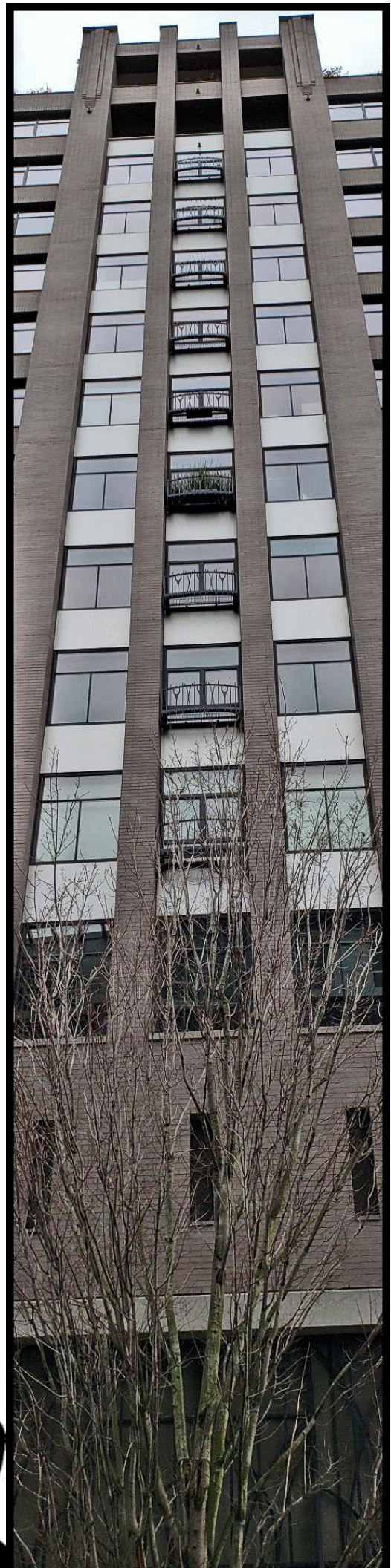
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APRIL 2020

Design & Layout by Michelle Heckman



MAKE SOME NOISE: What's that Racket?

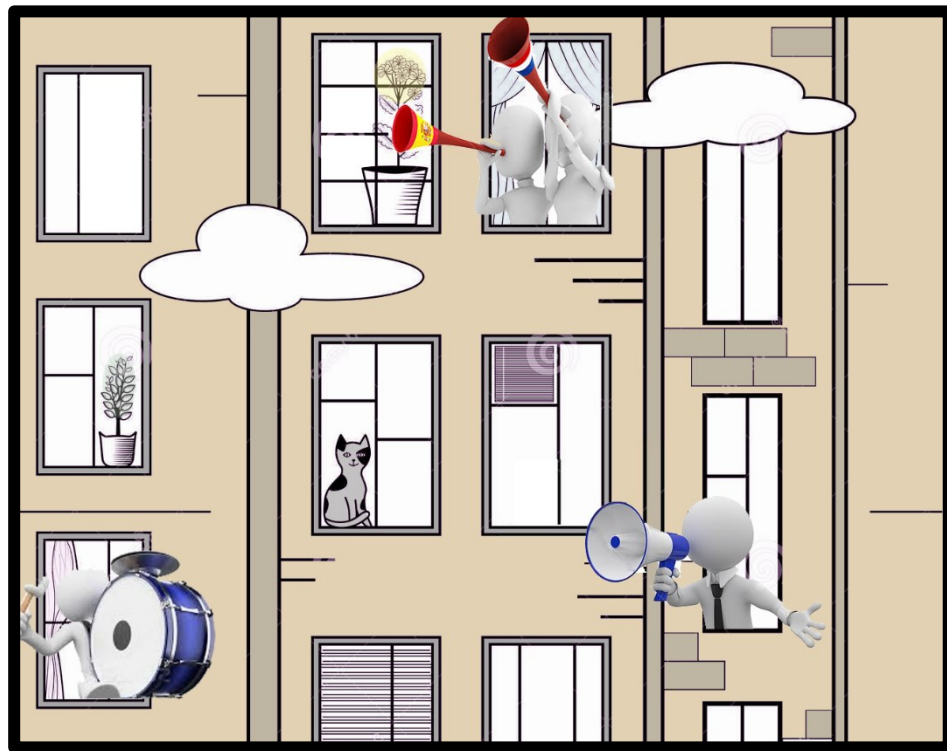
Get Loud for our Health Care and Essential Workers

It [started in Italy](#), but it's a thank you that now spans the world.

There is no denying the hard work and pure dedication that our health care professionals are putting in during the COVID19 crisis. Hours are long, days are stressful and supplies are short.

In addition, restaurant workers, delivery people, grocery store staff and other essential employees are powering through this tough time to supply us all with what we need. **Special thanks to our own, Kati, Robert, Monica, Paul and Imelda, and other CMI support staff, working to keep us healthy.**

Undoubtedly [you have heard](#) it at the Elizabeth.



**So every evening at 7PM,
Open your windows.
Shout, applaud, bang some pots
Let those who are working tirelessly to help us, hear our support.**

FYI, Elizabeth Lofts has a facebook page for residents only at
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/elizabethloftsresidents/>

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NATURAL WATCH: Gorge-ous! A Day at Multnomah Falls

By Larry Rosenblum

Undoubtedly most of you have been to Multnomah Falls, but perhaps, like me, the Eagle Creek Fire and the subsequent closing of the Multnomah-Wahkeena trail has discouraged you or your out-of-town guests from going. So how did the Falls and the Gorge hold up to the fire? Let's find out.

Below is a map of the damage from the Eagle Creek Fire of Sept. 2017. The Multnomah Falls area is contained within the circle near the center of the map. Unaffected areas are uncolored and damaged areas range from lightly damaged in pale green to badly damaged in dark red. As you can see, Multnomah Falls was relatively unscathed.



Source: [InciWeb](#)

To the left of the lodge, the trail begins. Truth be told, the views of the falls are best from the bottom. A ramp leads to a patio at the bottom of the falls with perhaps the best view. From this perspective, there are no signs of fire damage to my untrained eye.





The entire trail is paved and it is only 1.0 mile long. This may sound easy, but [Alltrails.com](https://www.alltrails.com) rates it moderate because the trail gains more than 800 feet in elevation. The trail is essentially composed of 13 switchbacks and most are marked just to let you know how far you still have to go. Thank you for reminding me how out of shape I am.

The first obvious stopping/resting point is the overlook bridge less than 1/5 of a mile along the trail. This is a great view of the upper portion of the falls. Don't forget to look behind you for a great view of the Gorge. Still no signs of fire damage.

Honestly, you have now seen the best two views of the falls. If the cat killed your curiosity, this is a good point to head back down. Further along the trail, evidence of fire damage is scant. A few trees were charred but are still standing with leaves. One of the mile markers was toast.

Continuing up the trail, switchback 9 marks the high point of the ascent. From there, it is all downhill!





Along the way, the trail divides. To the right, the path continues onto the overlook. It's a pretty platform with views of tumbling Multnomah Creek and the top of the falls.

So the falls trail is spared any real fire damage.

However, if you continue onto the Larch Mountain trail, the forest has taken a more serious hit. Along the way you will pass 3 small waterfalls and lots of evidence of fire damage.

Dozens of trees have been toppled by fire and many more are burnt on one side where the fire moved up or down the hill. While the damage is distressing, most trees were spared and the forest appears healthy and recovering. Note that the base of the trees are burnt, but there is lots of new green growth all around.



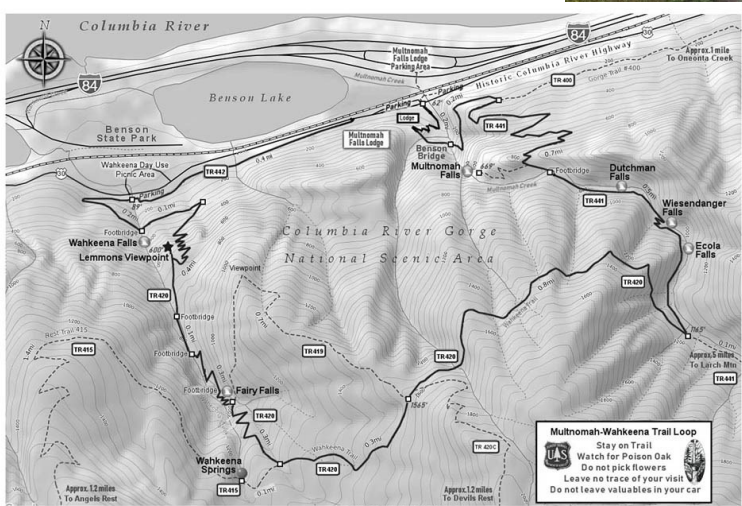


After Ecola Falls, the Wahkeena trail branches to the right. There is more damage, but the stump on the right is typical: new growth in the midst of deadly damage.



Nevertheless, there is still haunting beauty.

This was ultimately a 5 mile hike. You'll witness dead and dying trees, places the trail needs to be cleared, but a still beautiful forest. New growth will eventually replace the loss. It will have a different character, but no less lovely. If Multnomah Falls is on your itinerary or you want to show off the Gorge to visitors, have no fear, you will have a memorable day.



The Multnomah-Wahkeena Trail Loop

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EQ TALKS: A Visit with Jeanne Ronne

With Bob Garsha; Transcription & Editing by Paula McGee



On a sunny day in early March, when we could still meet in person, EQ sat down with Jean Ronne who has been playing jazz professionally in Portland for 60 years. Here is our conversation:

THE EARLY YEARS

EQ: Jean, tell us when you first developed a love for playing music.

JR: My father, sister and I played by ear. My sister and I played from the time we were 5 or 6 years old. My father bought a Hammond organ, and, eventually, a piano, and we played duets all the time. We had so much fun playing together - hours would go by and my father would say "give it up, you are having too much fun!"

EQ: Does your sister still play?

JR: She died when she was 60. She never played professionally but she had a really good ear. My parents belonged to the Hammond Organ Society and she played for them. She was so talented. She started buying jazz records way before I did. She was the one who turned me on to jazz. She never had a lesson, but she played the pop songs of the day. I had one year of piano when I was in the 6th grade and I taught her what I learned. My father never read music

at all. He didn't play professionally but he played a lot of musical records for us. So, from when I was young, I was really exposed to a whole new world - the world of music.

EQ: You don't read music?

JR: I do now. I took classical lessons after I met my husband, Sheldon. He told me I should learn how to read better – ha-ha!

EQ: How did you choose the piano to be your instrument of choice?

JR: I didn't really, I played organ for a long time before I played piano. I didn't have a piano until I was about 10 years old. The organ was easy! Way easier! Piano requires a real technique with strong fingers, the organ does not. I played the organ at two roller skating rinks. You run the whole show when you are the organist there, with lights coming out of the organ booth. You call out: "Grand March," "All Skate," "Women Only," "Men Only," "Reverse Skaters Only." I loved it, it was really fun! They had my name in lights - it was a big deal to be the organist at the skating rink. There were fans that came every week just to skate to your session. I played at Oaks Park and the Imperial on Portland's east side, which is now long gone.

EQ: Have you ever played any other instrument?

JR: I played bass when I was in grade school. I couldn't read music very well, but the orchestra teacher knew I had some talent, so he said he'd teach me the bass. It was classical music. I could barely read the music. I was in All City Orchestra, and I was number 4 bass – I wasn't very good [laughs].

EQ: What artistic medium would you explore if you weren't playing music?

JR: Art, in general. Art was always my favorite thing. I used to paint and draw, but I haven't done it in years. I thought I was going to be this fantastic fashion designer - we had a show here at the Elizabeth once of some of my art. But music took over and art just went away.

The Portland Scene

EQ: Take us a back a bit – tell us some of the history of jazz in Portland. Was the Williams neighborhood, being primarily African American, where it started?

JR: There is a really good book that has all the history of jazz in Portland. It's called *Jump Town, The Golden Years of Portland Jazz 1942 -1957*. They have it at Powell's. It was written by a friend of mine, Bob Dietche. Bob owned a record store and he was a big jazz enthusiast. Williams Avenue is where most of the jazz was in the early days. I remember I went there with my boyfriend when I was 18. I got thrown out right away because I wasn't 21. I got thrown out of a lot of places [laughs]. I never made it in for 5 minutes - I was 18 but I looked about 14.



EQ: And how did you get your start as a musician?

Here's the truth, I started out as a secretary for the government, but I hated that job. I was eighteen, still living at home, and I went to this music store called Joseph and Lucas and asked if they had any Hammond organ music, because that was what we had at home, and they said, "no, but why don't you sit down and play this Wurlitzer organ." I said OK, and I played a couple songs. The owners came out and asked if I'd like a job. I

said, “doing what?” They said, “just what you are doing.” So, I became a demonstrator for Wurlitzer for about 5 years. The store was a hangout for musicians. I met many Portland jazz and classical players. There were not very many other women - it was a man’s world.

I played two premiers at the Hollywood Theatre. One was *2001 Space Odyssey* and the other was *Far from the Madding Crowd*. It was a big deal in Portland at that time. I played a concert there before the premiers. Just me on organ on the stage. The Hollywood district was really booming then. One of the top Portland jazz clubs was down the street - The Chicken Coop - and that is where I heard the best Portland jazz pianist, Sid Porte. He was amazing. Ella Fitzgerald wanted him to be her accompanist, but he decided to stay in Portland.

EQ: What other places did you play back then?

JR: In addition to the music store, the Hollywood Theatre and the skating rinks, I had a 15-minute radio show. I also played organ on the River Queen, which was a riverboat docked by the Broadway Bridge. That was really a nice set up, more of a restaurant than a bar. I played organ and piano in a number of jazz clubs and restaurants in Portland, solo piano at the Hilton for a year, and eventually started playing at Jade West, a high-end Asian restaurant and bar that was my first downtown job. I was there for 7 years. A lot of celebrities and politicians would come in – Danny Kaye, he played chef for a night for fun; [Artur Rubenstein](#), he sat next to my piano (gulp!) I was horrible; and [Rudolph Nureyev](#), his whole group came in and since it was a piano bar, they all sat around me.

THE BENSON YEARS

EQ: What was your most prolific period as a player?

JR: It would have to be at The Benson all those years. I started there in 1975 and I quit just six years ago. I was there six nights a week, playing solo piano and in a quartet. I played in the main lobby, upstairs. It was called the Piccadilly Bar, and now it’s called the Lobby Court Bar and they hardly have any music at all.

One of my all-time favorite piano players is [Bill Evans](#). I was playing the Sunday brunch at The Benson, and a man came up to me and mentioned the name of the song I had just played. I asked him if he played (I didn’t recognize him) and he said yes. Then I asked him who he played with, and he said Bill Evans. It was [Chuck Israels](#), Bill’s bass player who had recently moved to Portland. That was nice, he is really a nice guy.

EQ: You showed me at least two cocktail napkins where people wrote heart wrenching stories. And they reached out to you. There was one whose husband committed suicide.

JR: She said, “I needed to hear that song tonight, and thank you for your rendition.” I will never forget that. Around a piano bar it’s like a confessional. I can play and talk at the same time, so I can play and carry on a conversation. When I worked at the River Queen, I played at an organ bar. An organ isn’t like a piano, they were right there in front of me.

EQ: Is that part of being a musician, that you want to move people?

JR: I never thought of that. But one time at The Benson, I looked over and this woman was crying. I didn’t know her, but she said, “when you played *Love is a Many Splendored Thing*, it brought back memories.” I said I didn’t mean to make her cry, but she said she was so happy I played it.

EQ: Did it feel like a family at The Benson?

JR: Yes. There were 3 different managers, but the same cocktail waitresses for many years, and the same chef was there the whole time I was there. We were paid by the week because we were there steady. And when I first went there, we actually had health care, if you can believe that. A musician with health care! I was so lucky when I got that job at The Benson because the manager at the time loved jazz and we had just finished up at Jade West – the Asian restaurant I told you about. He said, “I need a piano player tomorrow night, do you want to do it?” He hadn’t even heard me play! But he said, “if you played at Jade West, you must be OK.” Then he called me the Marian McPartland of Portland.

Bartenders and cocktail waitresses are some of my favorite people - real salt of the earth people. If you needed a shoulder to cry on or a pick me up glance, they were there for you. I am happy to have called many of them friends.

LIFE AS A MUSICIAN

EQ: What is like to be a musician, working 6 days a week, and be a wife and mother?

JR: You had to be organized! I made dinner at home every night before going to work, and then would get up with the kids. It worked out well, I actually helped put two kids through college with my music, but I was young then.

EQ: What is the best advice you have ever been given, in the music world?

JR: Take some lessons – because I play by ear. When musicians who read music would say play that in a specific minor key, I didn't know what they meant. I had about four keys I could play in. But I educated myself and figured it out. Eventually I studied both jazz and classical piano. I took lessons from a really good jazz teacher where I learned voicings - like Bill Evans - not just chords. My classical teachers really taught me to read music.

EQ: Did you ever play with a singer?

JR: Yes. It's hard, but I did with [Rebecca Kilgore](#), who is just a lovely person. You have to know their songbook and phrasing.



EQ: That's a good segue, what is your favorite part of playing with others?

JR: Hearing the different instruments and taking your turn for your solo and trying to make yourself sound bright. All the guys I work with are so good. One of my bass players used to be the bass player for [Joe Williams](#), and he was also the bass player for [Diane Schurr](#) from Seattle, who was discovered by [Ray Charles](#).

EQ: Being a female musician among a lot of male musicians – did it feel like being in a fraternity?

JR: In one of my write ups, the biggest compliment was “you don't sound like a girl, you sound like a guy.” That's a big compliment. It's because I don't play flowery, I play strong. Now I think it's funny because it's so sexist. You don't sound like a girl – I can't tell you how many times I heard that. My drummer would say, “she sounds good whether she's a girl or not.” I wouldn't say anything about it, I would just say thank you.

EQ: Who do you sound like? And who do you admire?

JR: I'd like to say I sound like Bill Evans [laughs]. One time this guy walked in who owned a jazz record store, and he said, "You sound just like Bill Evans." I was playing the song *Invitation*, which was kind of a tricky song. I thought, Oh wow – that was great!

[Monty Alexander](#) is my second favorite – absolutely! I have seen him many times. And [Thelonious Monk](#), I saw him when I was in high school. [Ahmad Jamal](#), I saw him in Seattle. [Marian McPartland](#) was fabulous. And [George Shearing](#). I also like [McCoy Tyner](#). And my favorite sax players are [Stan Getz](#), [Stu Sims](#) and [Coltrane](#).

EQ: If you could open a show for anyone alive or dead, who would it be?

JR: Well, I couldn't play for Bill Evans, I'd be too nervous. I think I could have played for Marian McPartland.

EQ: Are there any show tune composers that you have an ear for?

JR: I love [Rogers and Hart](#), and [Jerome Kern](#), and [Gershwin](#). I think Jerome Kern is my favorite, though. *Showboat* was one of his biggest, there are some great songs from that.

EQ: Is there any particular song you like to finish a good gig with?

JR: We always play *That's All* by [Nat King Cole](#). I saw him when he was still playing the piano. I was in high school (at Jefferson in Northeast Portland).

Some Enchanted Evenings

EQ: You must have a long list of famous people you have met. Can you tell us about them?

JR: [Duke Ellington](#), that was really nice. He asked me my name, and I said Jean. He said, "get me a napkin and he wrote in French, Beautiful Jean, Love Duke." And then I lost it! I can't believe I lost it!

EQ: What makes Ellington such an ambassador?

JR: His music, I guess more than anything. He and [Gene Harris](#), do you know him? He's a really good piano player who died quite a while ago. They were sort of the ambassadors of jazz. I was so glad I got to meet Ellington – he is one of my idols.

EQ: What other stories from your life in music do you have to tell?

JR: I'd like to tell you, first, most of the musicians are really nice, they are not conceited. I got to play with [Mel Brown](#). Joe Williams came in one night. I was playing *Sophisticated Lady*, and he came up and said, "anyone who can play that song is OK in my book."

A man sat in once and after his song I leaned over and said, "you have a nice voice" [laughs]. He sang *It Happened in Monterey*. He gave me \$5, which was a lot of money back then. I didn't know who it was. The next day, in *The Oregonian*, I found out it was [Placido Domingo](#).

Robert Goulet sang with me once. Peter Lawford, Kevin Costner, Sean Penn, Robert DeNiro came into the bar, the list goes on and on. Bruce Willis was one of my favorites, he was just so nice to everybody. Jimmy Buffet was there once.

Oh, and Bob Hope. He came to The Benson, and he waived to me. If I had been smarter, I would have gone right into *Thanks for the Memories* and then he might have come over and talked to me.

Another one, and this one kills me, I see Steve Allen standing there, he's a wonderful pianist, and I know this song he wrote called *Impossible*. It's very obscure, and I love it. I was all set to play it when some guy came up and gave me \$20 and asked for a song. Well, your customer comes first, so I played this dumb song and by the time I got done, Steve Allen was gone. I missed my chance! He might have come over and said, "No one knows that song." And I would have said, "I do, I love it!"

One time I met the Grateful Dead. They came in when I was playing, and I knew my son's roommate was a Dead Head. When I had a chance, I went over to Jerry Garcia and asked if he would give me an autograph. He said, "sure what's his name?" I said Brian, so he autographed a napkin "To Brian From Wacky Wacky Garcia." Then the rest of the band signed it too. Brian became a stockbroker and my son says he still has it in his office.

I have two rock stars I adore. One is James Taylor. I was playing at a jazz club that's no longer around called the Brasserie Montmartre, up on 12th, a beautiful place. I was playing with my bass player and we finished our song, and there was all this applause. This was a club where it seemed like no one paid attention to the music, so I thought, well, I have one listener. I went by the table, and a man gets up, he was in a white t-shirt and jeans, and he said, "what is your name?" I talked to him for about 5 minutes, and I walked away and then realized that it was James Taylor – so I went back and asked him, and it was. He was so complimentary.

The other is Michael McDonald. He was at the Benson sitting behind a pillar – I didn't know he was there. But when I got up to leave, he shook my hand. Ooh, I think he is fabulous!

The Wrap

EQ: Finally, what does music mean to you?

JR: A living! [laughs] On a bad day, music would, and still does, take me away from anything that is bothering me – it is so fulfilling! And I get paid for something I would do anyway.

EQ: It sounds like in your career as a musician, you have given more than you have taken. You are a very special person and a truly gifted piano player.

JR: Well thank you. I had fun. There is a lot of joy in music and spreading it around is just so satisfying.

EQ – Many thanks to Jean for sitting down with us and sharing just a part of her life.

EQ TALKS 3

If you enjoyed this article, Jean will be performing a duet in the community room – date to be announced. Jean is inviting any resident musicians to sit in for a closing jam session. Watch for the date. See you there!

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LOFTS HAPPENING: Fashion in the Elizabeth

By Chris Steele

In our current high-tech fast-paced lifestyle, we tend to miss out on the simple pleasure of shopping for fashionable clothes. We go on-line or fight the crowds and parking at the mall. Here in the Elizabeth, we have a fashion gem – Sabina’s Style.

Sabina was born and raised in Russia in a well-to-do family, where her fashion journey began. She attended university in Moscow, receiving her masters in biochemistry. Marriage brought her to Israel, where she obtained her PhD, and had her daughter. Sabina speaks Russian, Ukrainian, English, and some German and Yiddish.

After the death of her husband, Sabina and her daughter moved to New York City, where she continued to work in the biochemistry field. A second marriage brought her to Portland, Oregon, although her daughter remains in New York (working as a biochemist). After so many years of working in a lab, Sabina has asthma and can no longer pursue her science career but puts her passion for fashion to use in her store.

Sabina began her retail adventure by initially working for some of the larger department stores and realized she could bring her fashion dreams to reality by creating her own business. Using her linguistic skills and sense of style, she travels to Italy, France, New York and LA, bringing unique clothing and accessories to her Elizabeth Lofts store. Sabina offers not only high-quality clothing items but creates fashion statements with matching accessories including purses, shoes, and jewelry. Sabina’s items run from the casual to the more elegant, but she strives to ensure that her price points are all under \$500.

Stop by and browse the offerings in Sabina’s shop. You will need to knock, since she keeps the door locked after some scary interactions with homeless drug addicts. She often runs some enticing sales as well. You may find some fun new clothes, as I did! We must continue to support our small businesses, as they are an important part of the Pearl. As Sabina’s sign says: “Frolic in Fashion.”



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WHAT'S UP WITH THAT? Strangers on a Sofa

By Larry Rosenblum

There is a lot to learn as a new EQ contributor. Perhaps the most important lesson is how to recognize a story when you see it. For example, I was passing through the plaza and a man and a woman were posing for photos. He was in a tux. She was in her bridal gown.

So what was their story? Why here? Was it some rom-com cute meet? Did the plaza have a deeper significance for them? Did they live in the building? So many questions and I could have asked them to any of the three bridesmaids! But no, I just stood there with a happy dopey smile, took in the moment and walked on.

Only afterwards did I realize I missed the story.

Live and learn. Fortunately, the universe gave me a second chance. A few weeks later, I was again walking through the plaza and there were 6 well-dressed attractive people posed around a white loveseat while a photographer directed them. I'd love to say I immediately sprang into action, but it took me a minute to remember what an idiot I can be.



So I asked if they were also part of the wedding party, but the photographer said no. I asked why they were there and he said why not? When I asked about the loveseat and I was told they always travel with one. OK, he was less responsive than the White House to a congressional subpoena.

Undeterred, I kept taking photos. A few minutes later, they were done. Two people picked up the loveseat and the group headed for the breezeway that leads to Everett Street. I followed.



Were they going to take more photos or was there a windowless black van that would whisk them away to some secret location. But their trip was short. Someone lifted up the front door to the [Cogence Group](#) and set the sofa down. You've probably passed by their office without a second thought since it's an unusual business in our building. Their sign describes themselves as "financial forensics" and their website expands on that theme. It kind of makes me think of the financial version of Sam Spade.

So mystery mostly solved. The photographer (John Vallis) took pictures for their website. They aren't posted yet, but stay tuned.

Lesson learned. Shoot first and ask a lot of questions.



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DID YOU KNOW? Volunteer at The Armory

By Paula McGee



Is your inner thespian looking for an opportunity to get involved in local theatre? If so, it's your lucky day! Just two blocks away is Portland Center Stage at The Armory (128 NW 11th Ave.). Although they ended the season early this year, they will need volunteers for the 2020-2021 season to help them with their mission to inspire our community by bringing stories to life in unexpected ways. They will be looking for friendly, outgoing and reliable volunteers to work in a variety of areas. And, this volunteer position comes with benefits!

Benefits to volunteering at The Armory:

- Invitations to attend some dress rehearsals for free.
- Experience working side-by-side with theatre professionals.
- Access to special events and workshops.
- Student volunteers may be able to earn high school or college credit.
- Potential for your workplace to provide matching grants to The Armory based on your volunteer hours.

Volunteer Opportunities

Ushers

Ushers are the face of Portland Center Stage at The Armory during performances. As an usher, you will be part of the team that ensures that every patron has a great experience, and you get to watch the performance for free! Ushers are responsible for scanning tickets, helping patrons find their assigned seats, and handing out playbills.

Office Assistants

Office assistants provide clerical support for the staff, such as data entry, bulk mail preparation, and other administrative projects as needed.

Entertainer's Committee

Entertainers provide food and beverages for the cast, crew, and staff at two separate events for most productions: afternoon snacks at the "Meet and Greet" on the first day of rehearsal and a "Tech Dinner" prior to the evening dress rehearsal. Provide the cast and crew with a great meal and get an opportunity to meet the amazing artists.

Supporting Cast

This volunteer group transports guest artists and designers to and from the airport, train station, local schools, and other destinations as needed.

Armory Ambassadors

The Armory Ambassadors are docent tour guides who lead scheduled tours of The Armory.

If you love the arts and want to support great theatre, check out Portland Center Stage at The Armory's website at pcs.org/support/volunteer.

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IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD: Quick Bites

The Baker's Mark (307 NW 10th Ave.)

By Larry Rosenblum & Michelle Heckman

If you are jonesing for a cupcake, you are out of luck because Cupcake Jones was replaced by The Baker's Mark in late January.

The Baker's Mark is a strictly take-out sandwich shop which can be easy to miss with its minimal signage.

They offer a selection of hot and cold sandwiches and a few salads all in the

\$9-11 range. However, it is

the fresh baked bread that

makes these sandwiches stand out. They offer a traditional, a Dutch crunch and spicy Dutch crunch bread that frankly are the size of mini-loaves.



Larry: I tried the Borgata, turkey, genoa salami and provolone, on Dutch crunch. The slightly before noon service was so fast that my

sandwich was ready before I finished taking photos of the place.

The first thing you notice is the sandwich is big! It can feed two. The meats were fresh but unremarkable. The salami might have had more flavor if I waited until the meats warmed up a bit.

The veggies atop the sandwich were crisp, the tomato actually had a flavor and the mustard had a bite. But the star of the mix is the bread. To my Russian peasant heritage, it has the right texture - firm and crunchy. It had a slightly nutty flavor, but even though there was a lot of bread it did not overwhelm the other ingredients in the sandwich.

Michelle: I visited around 1pm on a weekday, and there was a "small-ish" line with 3 people in front of me, and 2 more waiting for their orders. While there, a couple of folks popped in to pick up their internet orders. I was a little concerned about a wait, but was impressed with the efficiency, and I was out of there with my order in less than 10 minutes.

I ordered the Cheesesteak, but with a twist – and I found them very accommodating – I substituted turkey for the beef. And I found it to be delicious. I have to agree with Larry, that the





meat itself was “unremarkable” – but the sauce and cheese were flavorful, roasted veggies are well done and the fresh baked bread! The bread **made** the sandwich (I chose Traditional). Crunchy outside, and just the right amount of soft on the inside. Really was delicious. Generous overall portions, and good balance of the ingredients. I also ordered cold slaw, and chips. The packaged chips, of course, were fine (kettle), but the cold slaw was a bust. Finely shredded cabbage, with a light sauce – and it all was quite tasteless. I wouldn't have it again, but I'll definitely go back for the sandwiches! And try the other sides, too.

Their hours were more generous than for most sandwich shops – they're open 11a-6pm (or until they run out of rolls) daily. The Baker's Mark is worth a try if you need to pick up a sandwich to go – or you want to dine al fresco in the plaza.

Papi Chulos (611 NW 13th Avenue)

By Bob Garsha

Just when you think the Pearl District is getting too gentrified, a taco place comes to town. Even though Papi Chulos has only been open since the start of the year, this was my fifth visit. So I guess you can say I like it. This time I brought along a friend.



Papi's is a casual place with tiled walls, ordering at the counter and simple tables inside and in front of the entrance. Each time the pace of the service has gotten faster from order to table.

The tacos are fresh, tasty and reasonably priced—we had 3 small tacos, 1 salad and 1 beer and the bill was under \$20.00—*get out of here.*



The taste test—fresh handmade shrimp, meat and veggie masa tortillas rounded out with guacamole and sauces particular to each taco. The tacos are soft, warm and tasty with a peppery bite. My friend thought the shrimp taco was too spicy and hid the other flavors, but his chicken taco was properly spiced.

My salad was a wonderful surprise of mixed greens, black beans and some tasty spices. My carne asada taco was full of flavor and my cod taco was crunchy on the outside and soft on the inside—the perfect lunch treat.

Add a burrito, a quesadilla, or a large bowl of nachos to your order and you will be one happy camper.

Did I mention the inviting outdoor patio, clean and well cared for interior and the rocking music?

Don't hesitate, this place is a keeper. One caveat 11:30 – 1 pm is busy. Bring an appetite and expect a warm fun-filled reception.



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AROUND TOWN: Looking for Fun in All the Right Places

Compiled by Larry Rosenblum

Oregon has restricted group activities due to the coronavirus outbreak. Many, perhaps most, of the events have either been cancelled or postponed. Double check before heading out.

Hiking and walking are good activities for your physical and emotional health. Consider Portland's many parks or along the river if you can maintain social distancing. Double check to be sure the parks are still open. Oregon state parks, most [beach hikes](#), the [Gorge](#), and Mt. Hood trails are currently closed – so add them to your “futures” list.

You can't go out, so bring the arts, seminars and fun to you

[Online music concerts](#) – Pop Music

[NPR's list of online concerts](#) - All Kinds

[Metropolitan Opera](#) , [Berlin Philharmonic](#) , [Seattle Symphony](#)

[Theatrical Performances](#) – most are pay per view, Britain's [National Theatre](#)

[The Globe Theatre](#) – some content is free

[Portland Art Museum](#) and curated walk through of “[Though There Be Fury On The Waves](#)”

[British Museum](#), [National Gallery of Art](#), [The Met](#), [2500 more museums](#) – seriously!

[Open Culture](#) – online classes in all kinds of topics and seminars

[Harvard Online](#) – yes that Harvard and lots of classes are free

[Coursera](#) – A large collection of free online courses

[Learn Out Loud](#) – audio and video personal development courses

[Personal Growth Courses](#) – the name says it all

[Open Library](#) – online free books

[OverDrive](#) – portal to Portland Public library for ebooks and audiobooks

Time Magazine's list of the [50 best podcasts](#) of 2019

[1000 Free Audiobooks](#)

[LirbaVox](#) – audiobooks in the public domain

[Live cam](#) of Bald Eagle’s nest in British Columbia

[Live cam](#) of the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle

[Waterfowl cam](#) on Maryland’s Eastern Shore

Don’t forget free virtual get togethers. [Zoom](#), [Google Hangouts](#) (requires free Chrome browser), [Houseparty](#) is especially good for playing games, [Facetime](#) for iPhone users, Facebook’s [Messenger](#), and of course [Skype](#).

Check These Out Before They Are Gone

[Wet Nose Soiree](#) - April 17th @ Portland Art Museum

Earth Day – April 22nd This year celebrated sheltering in place

Can you fit?!! [Tiny House Festival](#) – April 18-19 @ Portland Expo Center

[82nd Avenue of Roses Parade](#) – April 25th @ Eastport Plaza

[Architecture Tour](#) – May 8-9 @ Restore Oregon

Call your Mom! Mother’s day is May 10th

[Art Walk](#) – May 16-17 @ Mt. Tabor

[Festival of Flowers](#) – May 20 to June 2nd @ Pioneer Courthouse Square



[City Fair](#) – May 22 to June 7th @ Tom McCall Park

Has the virus taken a bite out of you? Well bite back! [Vampires Masquerade Ball](#) – May 23rd @ Portland Art Museum

[Starlight Parade and Fun Run](#) – May 30th



Too much of a good thing is wonderful! [Portland Brunch Festival](#) – May 31 @ Rose Quarter

[Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade](#) – June 6th @ Downtown Locations

[Dragon Boat Races](#) – June 6th @ Downtown Waterfront



[Used Book Fair](#) – June 12-13 @ Doubletree Hotel (1000 NE Multnomah Ave.)

[Portland Beer Week](#) – They have to be kidding! Only 1? June 12-21 @ All Around Town

[Sandcastle Contest](#) – June 13th @ Cannon Beach



[Oregon School of Ballet Annual Performance](#) – June 13th @ Newmark Theater (1111 SW Broadway)



[Gay Pride Festival & Parade](#) – June 13-14 @ Tom McCall Park/ Parade @ Burnside and Park Ave.

Shakespeare in the Park – June 20th through August – Details not yet available

Father's Day – Buy your Dad a beer! June 21st

[Gorge Blues and Brews Festival](#) – June 26-27 @ Skamania County Fairgrounds

Portland International Beer Fest – June 26-28 @ North Park Blocks

[Hot Air Balloon Festival](#) – June 26-28 @ 8680 SW Durham Rd., Tigard



[Weird Home Tour](#) – June 27th @ various locations

[Naked Bike Ride](#) – June 27th @ To be announced

[Portland Craft Beer Festival](#) – July 3-5 @ Fields Park

[The Big Float](#) – July 11 @ downtown Willamette River

[Mississippi Street Fair](#) – July 11 @ NE Mississippi Avenue

Live Performances

[Seussical](#) – May 2-31 @ NW Children’s Theater (1819 NW Everett)

[Gala Grand Concert](#) – June 15th @ Adrianna Hill Ballroom (918 Yamhill St., 2nd floor)



[Oregon Music Festival](#) – June 21 through July @ various locations

[Chamber Music Festival](#) – June 22 through July 26 @ various locations

[Noontime concerts](#) – July 7 through August @ Pioneer Courthouse Square

[Music on Main](#) – July 10 through August @ Main Street between Broadway and Park

[Portland Center Stage](#) @ the Armory. Check out their season.



[Portland Center for the Arts](#) is 5 venues offering music, theater, comedy and more

[Moda Center](#) has many of the biggest music acts

[Oregon Ballet Theater](#) is in full swing

[Dead Comics Society](#) – Comedy Stand-up 3rd Thursday every month @ Rogue Brewpub (1339 NW Flanders St.)

[Coho Theater](#) (2257 NW Raleigh St.) has an adventurous lineup of plays

It’s only rock’n roll. No, there’s much more at the [Crystal Ballroom](#) (1332 W Burnside)

It’s not around the corner, but the [Aladdin Theater](#) has some great music

We miss Jimmy Mak’s, but fine jazz can be found at the [Jack London Revue](#) and at [Wilf’s](#)

Not the Usual Hollywood Blockbusters

[Living Room Theater](#) (10th and Stark) and [Cinema 21](#) (616 NW 21st Ave.) offer more than the usual fare

[NW Film Center](#) offers a variety of new and classic films in the Whitsell Auditorium (inside the Portland Art Museum)

[International Silent Film Festival](#) – May 9th @ Hollywood Theater

[Portland Horror Film Festival](#) – June 5-8 @ Hollywood Theater

[Jewish Film Festival](#) – June 2020 @ Whitsell Auditorium (1219 SW Park Ave.)

[Movies in the Park](#) – Summer 2020 @ various locations

[Flix on the Bricks](#) – July 17 to August 14 @ Pioneer Courthouse Square

Thanks for Reminding Me

Local galleries open their door every First Thursday evening. Here's a [list of participating galleries](#). Don't forget the [Portland Art Museum](#) is free from 5-8 PM.



The [Saturday Market](#) is next to the Burnside Bridge

[PSU Farmers Market](#) – Saturdays 8:30-2pm @ South Park Blocks

There is nothing better than a good book, except listening to the author talk about it. Check out what's happening at [Powell's](#)

The Oregon Trail is now paved with wine. Why not spend a day along the [Oregon Wine Trail](#) enjoying a glass of your favorite?

"I'm ready for my close-up, Mr. DeMille" is not part of Oregon film history, but *Sometimes A Great Notion* is part of the [Oregon Film Trail](#).

There is more fun than we can mention. So check out the [Willamette Week's](#) or [Portland Mercury's searchable list](#) of events in the area.

What's the point of an evening out without good food? If you want to share your nearby favorite ethnic restaurant, brunch spot or a place full of charm or romance, [please let us know](#) and we may add these to an upcoming newsletter.

We endeavor to make this list accurate, but some events may change their dates and a few may have occurred before we could publish.

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IN THE COMMUNITY: La Passeggiata

By Larry Rosenblum

Susan Towers organized an evening she called La Passeggiata, an Italian tradition of an evening promenade. With all the restrictions stemming from the coronavirus, social distancing was a must (Patti Garsha actually brought a tape measure!) and don't forget to BYOD.

Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to get out of their units and socialize without Skype. Alcohol lubricated the conversation, but not enough to get the group to actually promenade around the plaza.

As of March 20th, Susan planned to hold these about once a week, but the governor killed that plan!

AN ITALIAN TRADITION: *LA PASSEGGIATA* (ADAPTED FOR SAFETY DURING COVID-19)

Perhaps you've heard of the Italian tradition of people taking an evening promenade. La passeggiata is a stroll at dusk, a little people watching, a moment of sociability.

While we are all practicing social distancing, I would like to propose an evening stroll this Friday at 5.30pm in the plaza. We'll ask everyone to maintain a safe distance (6ft) and even our dogs can practice social distancing.

If you care to join us, just show up Friday 5.30pm in the Plaza behind the Elizabeth. BYOD (Bring Your Own Drink).

#FindJoy

P.S. If anyone needs help with shopping, groceries, errands to the drug store, etc. please call or text Susan at (917) 405 6563.







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