

# NEWSBERG



A Newberg Skate Comp competitor catches air at the Chehalem Skatepark in Ewing Young Park in a previous competition. (Photo: @t0a5t on Instagram used with permission)

## Newberg Skate Comp Returns for Ninth Year

*The amateur contest, founded in 2017, returns to a skatepark that hosted Tony Hawk’s Gigantic Skatepark Tour in 2001 and remains one of the largest in the Pacific Northwest.*

**By Branden Andersen**  
Founding Editor

**NEWBERG, Ore.** — The Newberg Skate Comp returns to Chehalem Skatepark on Saturday, Sept. 12, marking organizer Daniel Buckwalter’s ninth year running an event he started in 2017 with a \$300 insurance policy and donated boards from Portland skate shops.

Buckwalter, a 2010 Newberg High School graduate, said he began the contest after moving back to town. He found Newberg’s Chehalem Skatepark, located within Ewing Young Park, a bit intimidating as a skateboarder.

But the culture and people surrounding the park invited him in. The Newberg Skate Comp is a celebration of that culture, he said.

“I started going to the park a lot more frequently, and started to get to know more of the locals,” Buckwalter said. “I thought, ‘wow, this park is really cool, we have really cool locals, we should have a contest here.’”

What began as a single afternoon with 30 to 40 competitors has grown into a regional draw, pulling 80 to 90 competitors and an estimated 300 to 400 spectators most years, Buckwalter said. The count skips a pandemic-era gathering in 2020 that Buckwalter did not advertise or count as an official comp.

“It’s really become one of the premier amateur skate comps in the Northwest, which I feel so honored to even say,” Buckwalter said.

The competition runs across six divisions: Groms, for children skating their first event; beginners; intermediate, largely local skaters who ride daily but are not sponsored; a women’s division organizers have worked to grow; legends, for skaters 30 and older; and advanced, where sponsored competitors skate for cash prizes.

Two crowd features have become annual staples: a high-air contest in which skaters

jump stacked boards out of the park’s bowl, a feat Buckwalter said has climbed as high as 13 or 14 boards, and a best-trick session on the park’s volcano, a raised, sculpted feature Buckwalter said few skaters ride outside of competition day.

Chehalem Skatepark’s own history pre-dates the comp by nearly two decades. According to CPRD’s website, the project began with a petition from more than 200 middle-school-age skaters asking the district to build a place to skate. CPRD hired an architect and established the site at Ewing Young Park, and underground work on drainage and utilities began in July 1999 before the project paused that October for the rainy season.

In March 2000, CPRD hired Dreamland Skateparks, a young skatepark-building crew led by 27-year-old Stefan Hauser, to sculpt the concrete waves, bowls, hips, banks, and curbs that make up the finished design. The finished skatepark spans 29,000 square feet and used 15 tons of rebar and more than 670 yards of concrete, at a total cost of \$307,266, including \$70,000 in donations, according to CPRD.

That crew’s roots trace back to Portland’s Burnside Skatepark, the hand-built facility widely credited with launching the modern concrete skatepark movement. In a 2019 interview with the Newberg Graphic, then-CPRD Superintendent Don Clements recalled that the Dreamland crew arrived to pitch the project in a van and looked “more like a cult” than a construction outfit, but that their design experience won the district over.

The finished park drew national attention almost immediately. In the summer of 2001, Chehalem Skatepark hosted a stop on Tony Hawk’s Gigantic Skatepark Tour.



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## Civics Corner: The Rules Behind Newberg’s Neighborhood Parking Signs

*You may see some no parking signs in lawns, especially around the college. We asked NDPD: which “no parking” signs can police actually enforce?*

**By Branden Andersen**  
Founding Editor

**NEWBERG, Ore.** — As George Fox University’s students return to Newberg for the fall term, GFU commuters and students may have noticed squat “no parking” and “no student parking” signs in neighborhood parking strips. According to the Newberg-Dundee Police Department, most of these signs carry no legal weight.

“They’re more of a symbolic gesture than an enforceable rule,” said Emily Salsbury, public information officer for the City of Newberg.

A property owner cannot have a vehicle towed from a public street simply for parking in front of a sign they posted themselves unless the vehicle is also in violation of city code. Per the City of Newberg’s parking guide, cars may be parked on the city’s streets with the passenger-side door within 12 inches of the curb on a daily basis.

Signs carry legal force, Salsbury said, when the city itself authorizes them. For example, postings that read “No Parking, by order of the Chief of Police,” which cite municipal code and display the city logo. These permits are generally given for events like the Newberg Wednesday Market. She said NDPD can ticket vehicles that violate those signs but a homeowner’s own sign does not carry the same authority.



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## OTHER HEADLINES

- From Teaching a Struggling Reader to Writing the Manual on Dyslexia Education
- Dundee Weighs Urban Renewal Spending, Approves Wastewater Study and Third Street Grant
- Oregon PeaceFest Returns to Newberg for Fourth Year on Sept. 20

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MAE Finds More Room to Grow in Newberg

The soap, skincare, and candle brand has moved into a larger production space and is preparing a custom line for The Allison Inn & Spa.

By Branden Andersen  
Founding Editor

NEWBERG, Ore. — Opening the door to MAE’s soap, skincare, and candle workshop and warehouse will inevitably waft sweet, spiced, and soothing scents onto the Sherman Street sidewalk that runs alongside it. Today, it was Hinoki, a crisp and woody fragrance emanating from warm soy-based candles being poured by hand in the main workshop space.

The company hopes those aromas will draw customers through the door at 115 E. Sherman St., as MAE is opening its retail space to the community Monday through Friday to purchase locally made products, even as their growth means people all around the country are smelling the same scents.

MAE, the Newberg-based apothecary brand, has reopened its doors for retail for the first time since owner Jennifer Engelman purchased the business in early 2025. The company also moved into a larger production space this summer and is preparing a custom line of bath products for The Allison Inn & Spa — the latest in what Engelman describes as a breakout year.

“It’s been almost a year since I took the leap to do this full time,”

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said Engelman, who previously worked as an executive recruiter. “The moment I did, I just felt growth. The business needed it, and the results show that the time spent has been worth it.”

She said the first year under her ownership was spent building systems and adjusting processes. Now with those systems, processes, sourcing, and recipes in place, her focus has turned elsewhere.

“The first year was really learning and getting our footing, and this second year has been growth and expansion,” Engelman said.

That growth has shown up in several places at once. MAE has added retailers across Oregon and pushed into new markets outside the state such as California, Michigan, Tennessee, New York, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts.

“I would say we’ve found that markets that mimic Oregon do well,” Engelman said. “Smaller communities that care about how products are made and the people behind them, those do really well.”

The company has also fielded interest from larger national retailers, though Engelman said MAE is being deliberate about which partnerships it pursues.

One such partnership is with Newberg’s luxury hotel, The Allison Inn & Spa. General Manager

Tessa Peterson first learned about MAE products while visiting Anacréon Winery, which stocks and uses MAE products in its Newberg tasting room.

Peterson said The Allison had discussed the possibility of creating a custom line of products for guests, and after learning MAE was local, she thought it would be a perfect opportunity. She messaged Engelman and asked if she could purchase MAE soap for The Allison’s bathrooms, and asked if she knew how to make shampoo.

“She is very creative,” Peterson said. “Initially she said she didn’t do shampoo, but then she called me back in no time and said she figured out how to make shampoo.”

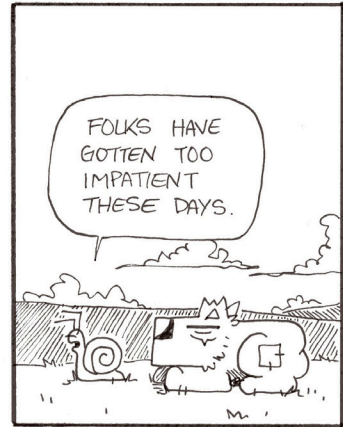
That kicked off a spirit of collaboration, culminating in a custom Allison scent line that will be used and sold at the hotel’s north Newberg campus. The scent is inspired by The Allison’s grounds — herbs to represent the herb garden, some woody notes inspired by the surrounding trees and the building itself, and a little bit of rose as a nod to Allison co-founder Joan Austin’s garden on the property.



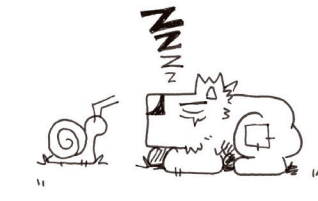
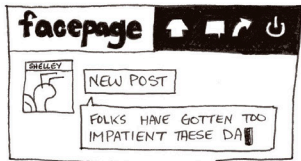
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Melon Collie Ep. 104

Created by Joseph Hampton



SOCIAL MEDIA AND SCROLLING ARE REDUCING OUR ATTENTION SPANS TO MERE SECONDS, TECHNOLOGY IS GETTING FASTER WHILE OUR BRAINS ARE GETTING SLOWER AND IT'S NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR SOMEONE TO SIT IN SILENCE WITHOUT GOING ON THEIR PHONE.



See more of the Newsberg Funnies at Newsberg.org

UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 10

10:30 a.m. — Community Blood Drive  
Chehalem Cultural Center, 415 E Sheridan St.

12 p.m. — Newberg Kiwanis Silent Auction 2026 Golf Scramble  
4501 E Fernwood Rd

6 p.m. — Bluegrass Jam  
Wolves & People Farmhouse Brewery, 30203 NE Benjamin Road

6:30 p.m. — Sew Social  
Chehalem Senior Center, 101 W Foothills Dr

SEPTEMBER 11

9 a.m. — Newberg Free Sale  
Newberg Free Sale, 1809 NE Chehalem Drive

9 a.m. — Local Job Fair  
Northwest Christian Church, 2315 Villa Rd

SEPTEMBER 12

9 a.m. — Newberg Free Sale  
Newberg Free Sale, 1809 NE Chehalem Drive

9 a.m. — Newberg Skate Comp  
Chehalem Skatepark, 1201 S Blaine St.

12 p.m. — SaturPLAY  
Chehalem Cultural Center, 415 E Sheridan St

12 p.m. — Carlton Crush Harvest Festival  
Ladd Park, 225 W Grant St

2 p.m. — Empowering Relationships  
NW Christian Church, 2315 Villa Rd.

2 p.m. — Cornhole Tournament  
Stumptown Taps, 2401 E Portland Rd. A6

3 p.m. — L'Angolo Estate Presents Sixth Annual Sip & Support Event  
L'Angolo Estate, 18830 NE Williamson Rd

6 p.m. — Live Music: Blind Stampede  
Wolves & People Bar and Music Hall, 107 N Meridian St

7:30 p.m. — El Javi - Eclectic Spanish Guitar  
Chehalem Cultural Center, 415 E Sheridan St.



Scan me on your phone to see more events.