

★ STAR SMALL BUSINESS FEATURE

Folly finds home on Fremont

By Ted Perkins

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In February, Sarah Bibb opened "folly" in the former home of Gazelle Natural Fibre Clothing at 4100 N.E. Fremont St. in Beaumont Village. The Gazelle shop closed in October, when Robin Ady retired after 27 years in the neighborhood. The corner space had previously served as a real estate office for E. John Rumpakis and as a pharmacy before that.

"The timing was perfect, because the space I occupied in Northwest Portland for almost 14 years went on the market, said Bibb. "I can't imagine any other space in the city that would have enticed me to move. I love this corner and have admired it for years."

Bibb is both a designer and a maker. In addition to running her Nob Hill shop, she has had her own clothing line for more than 20 years.

"I love making clothing," said Bibb. "I have met so many wonderful people through our mutual love of fun and comfortable clothing. My Nana was a professional seamstress and I grew up



Sarah Bibb opened 'folly' in the former Fremont corner home of Gazelle Natural Fibre Clothing in Beaumont Village. (Sarah Bibb)

making things with her."

"We make the clothing right here. Literally, in the back of the shop," said Bibb. "I want people to feel connected to their clothing and to the love and attention that goes into every single thing we do. Manufacturing on a micro-scale is a lot of work. Meeting people who appreciate it is wonderful. I'm a big believer in expressing yourself through clothing. Life is full of challenges, so I

think clothing should be easy, beautiful and add an element of joy to your day. I spend time with everyone who comes in the shop, so, for our customers, it's often like having the chef as your waiter."

Bibb spent several months planning the Beaumont space, while keeping her Nob Hill boutique open through the holidays, and then had about seven weeks to get the doors open.

"It is a lot of work to build a new

business and there will be plenty of things that will change over the next year, as I get to know the space more," said Bibb. "I hired a wonderful contractor, Ann Lawson, to help me build a wall to separate production from the retail side of the store. I was very happy to be able to hire a female contractor. We even put in a cute little window, so customers can have a peek at the work going on in the back."

"I have always loved Fremont and appreciate the true, small-business nature of the street, said Bibb. "What's not to love? So many longstanding businesses tell me that the community is strong, and loyal, and I am thrilled to be here. Folly was very much a destination in our old location and I can't wait for all our long time shoppers to come and discover and support everyone in the new building! I think you could do all your gift buying within a block of me, from the Arrangement to Puddletown to the Artistic Portland Gallery ... Wow! I am very excited to have such great neighbors.

For more information, call 503-954-1334 or visit www.follypdx.com. ★



STAR PET CONNECTIONS

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Humane society continues long tradition of compassion



BY LISA LAKES

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Work is progressing rapidly on the Oregon Humane Society's expansion project, the largest undertaking in the organization's 154-year history. OHS plans to complete construction by August and open its new teaching hospital in the fall. For more information on the project, visit my June 2021 Pet Connections column at www.star-news.online.

OHS is the fourth oldest animal shelter in the United States. Founded in 1868 by 27-year-old Thomas Lamb Eliot, and twelve other concerned citizens, it is only two years younger than the national ASPCA and the oldest animal welfare organization in the Northwest. Lamb, a Unitarian minister, was motivated to launch the society after he witnessed cruelty to horses on Portland's streets. OHS is an independent 501(c)(3) funded solely by private donations and corporate patrons.

OHS occupied various sites around the



A behavior and forensic center, left, and teaching hospital are under construction at Oregon Humane Society. (Lisa Lakes)

metro area before settling in its permanent home on Columbia Boulevard in 1919. Currently, the OHS site includes its main building – completed in 2000, a medical learning center established in 2007, a columbarium, cemetery, a quarter mile of dog paths and several outbuildings.

The 22,000-square-foot main building houses kennels for adoptable dogs, the cattery, laundry, administrative offices and the Best Friends Corner retail shop.

In partnership with the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine, the society's medical learning center became the first veterinary, shelter-based, teaching hospital in the United States. The medical center includes three surgical suites, multiple recovery rooms, on-site radiology, a pharmacy and an in-house laboratory.

Every fourth-year student in the program comes to OHS for a three-week rotation. OSU students live in dorm rooms above the hospital. The hospital is accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association. This accreditation is granted to animal hospitals that undergo regular comprehensive evaluations for approximately 900 standards of veterinary care. Only 12 to 15 percent of animal hospitals in the United States and Canada receive this accreditation.

This August, the Behavior Rehabilitation and Rescue Center will begin housing animals in its behavioral modification program. This program helps pets become better candidates for adoption. A groundbreaking Animal Crimes Forensic Center, a first for the West Coast, will allow the animal crimes investigation unit access to state-of-the-art tools to resolve suspected animal abuse cases.

In the fall, the Community Teaching Hospital will expand its veterinary care opportunities to thousands of pet owners, who previously were unable to afford care. Currently, owners who have pets with serious medical conditions often surrender their pet because of the high cost of care. Many pet owners consider their pets as family, so this constitutes a major hardship for them. The new hospital will charge fees with a sliding scale, allowing more families to stay together. Animals preparing for adoption will continue to receive care in the existing Animal Medical Learning Center.

2022 will be an exciting new chapter in Oregon's long tradition of compassion for animals. For more information, visit the New Road Ahead blog at www.oregonhumane.org/category/new-road-ahead-blog. ★

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