

**Carl Walser**  
**Town Board Supervisor**  
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**A Voice for All Town Residents**  
 Town of Oregon

*Vote By Mail Or On April 5*

Paid for by Carl Walser for Town Board

**Business**



# Breakfast is served

Photo by Neal Patten

This humongous pancake is one of the menu items at Canterring Cafe, which opened for business Feb. 7 in the village of Brooklyn.

## Canterring Cafe aims to bring people together over pancakes

NEAL PATTEN  
 Staff reporter

When Down Home Cookhouse closed abruptly in Brooklyn last summer after only two and a half years in business, it left a hole in a village that is growing, but doesn't have many places to sit down for a meal.

But after six months of work, a new restaurant has moved into the 233 Douglas Drive space.

Canterring Cafe opened on Feb. 7 and will offer Starbucks drinks and homemade breakfast foods from 6:30-11 a.m., Mondays through Fridays.

Brooklyn residents Hilari Rottier and Ben Cowan are the business partners – and partners in life – behind the new cafe.

For Oregon area hockey parents and players, Cowan is a familiar face. He graduated from Oregon High School in 2000 and is the president of the Oregon Ice Arena and vice president of the Oregon Tradesmen.

Sheboygan native Rottier has been a massage therapist for nearly a decade – serving the Janesville area until January, when she moved her services to

Brooklyn. She also works for the Ice Arena doing public relations and marketing.

While the pair bonded over their shared love of the ice, it was a summer vacation out west that inspired their new business venture.

Rottier, her three boys ages 16, 13 and 11, and Cowan spent ten days traveling the west with no lodging reservations or specific destinations.

From Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming to the Palisades in Idaho, everything worked out for the family's spontaneous adventure, Rottier told the Observer. And that adventure gave rise to Canterring Cafe.

"We said, 'We need to bring this energy of this wide-open freedom back with us, we want to share it – the freedom of wild horses – bring that back,'" she said. "We really were throwing the idea around of, 'If we do this, how will it look' and it has evolved better than we hoped."

Apart from a familiar menu of Starbucks drinks including caramel macchiato, mocha frappuccino, espresso and cold brew coffee – there's also the signature Benny's Spicy Burrito (sausage, egg, cheese, potatoes, jalapeños, sriracha), a bagel quiche of the day,

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### Canterring Cafe

233 Douglas Dr., Brooklyn  
 6:30-11 a.m., Mondays-Fridays  
 canterringcafe.com



Photo submitted

Hilari Rottier and Ben Cowan opened the Canterring Cafe on Feb. 7.

## Oregon School District

# Creating art from the heart

Project connected Oregon students with Nigerian orphans

### On the Web

Learn more about The Memory Project at [memoryproject.org](http://memoryproject.org)

NEAL PATTEN  
 Staff reporter

Oregon High School art students in Ms. Heidi Coutre's class were recently able to combine growing their drawing skills with a humanitarian service project.

As part of a charitable effort called The Memory Project, 35 student artists

created portraits from photographs of orphaned children in Northern Nigeria.

"The Memory Project is a youth arts organization that promotes intercultural understanding and kindness between children around the

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Submitted photo

Oregon High School art students in Ms. Heidi Coutre's class were recently able to combine growing their drawing skills with a humanitarian service project.

## Oregon School District

# OSD hosting community information night March 7

Seeking feedback on grad requirements, educators, funding

Looking to share information and solicit community feedback on several important topics, Oregon School District officials are set to host a Community Information Night next week.

The event is set for 7-8:15 at Oregon High School, 456 N. Perry Pkwy., and will cover the district's "Portrait of a Graduate" vision, student academic/wellness supports, retaining/

### If You Go

**What:** Oregon School District Community Information Night  
**When:** 7-8:15 p.m. Monday, March 7  
**Where:** Oregon High School, 456 N. Perry Pkwy.  
**Info:** Visit [oregonsd.org](http://oregonsd.org)

recruiting top educators for every classroom, and prioritizing federal ESSER funding for the next two years.

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