

"Digging deep,  
Shining a light"

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JUNE 2022/ VOLUME 35, NO.10

FREE

SERVING PORTLAND'S NORTHWEST NEIGHBORHOODS SINCE 1986

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# Cleaning up with kindness

## We Heart Seattle launches pilot project in the Pearl

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

Citizens sick of waiting for big money to turn Portland's chaotic homeless crisis around are rolling up their sleeves, baring their souls and diving in.

An organization launched in Seattle two years ago that cleaned up 30 parks—and is keeping them that way—is creating a second beachhead in Portland. We Heart Portland was formed last month thanks to the Pearl District Neighborhood Association's \$10,000 donation, seed money to expand the We Heart Seattle organization.

We Heart Seattle leaders have already led Pearl volunteers on several trash pickups along Interstate 405, one of which was featured in the NW Examiner last month.

The fact that PDNA, an organization setting the standard for Portland with

about 100 volunteers in regular litter pickups, graffiti removal and foot patrols, sees the value in a much deeper dive is a testament to the unique appeal of the We Heart approach.

Pearl resident Ken Thrasher learned of the program and arranged a demonstration cleanup event with a handful of PDNA representatives in January. Thrasher, the retired CEO of Fred Meyer Inc. and co-founder of a nonprofit underwriting college costs for 1,600 low-income students, has served on many civic boards.

"Portland has not been effective at all" in dealing with the intertwined homelessness and trash problem, he said.

He believes We Heart Portland is the kind of organization that can make a difference "if we plant the seed and expand it across the city."

Judie Dunken, chair of the PDNA Safe-

Continued on page 6

Andrea Suarez and Kevin Dahlgren have brought their Seattle program to Portland, starting in the Pearl District.



For eight months  
Steve Pinger lived  
under a cloud. Can  
his detractors claim  
'no harm, no foul'?

## Marked man

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

Steve Pinger, who has served on neighborhood association boards since his college days, never imagined the privilege might one day be taken from him.

Pinger "allows himself" about eight hours a week serving as an officer on two boards while he co-chairs the Northwest District Association Planning Committee.

"I devote my time to neighborhood organizations because I believe in them as a necessary political element in our city," he said.

Yet for eight months his status as a member of the Neighbors West-Northwest coalition board was in limbo as a secretive legalistic process to expel him unfolded.

"What have I done?" he frequently asked of his critics, who would not spell out the alleged infractions or allow an informal face-to-face session. "Could we just sit down and talk about it?"

The pleas went unanswered. A formal complaint was filed against him by former NWNW Executive Director Mark Sieber on behalf of his two-member staff last August. It consisted of vague reactions to his behavior rather than concrete things he had done.

"Staff members have felt questioned, demeaned, insulted, intimidated and their professionalism questioned, thus resulting in the creation of an ongoing hostile work environment," former NWNW President Richard Barker wrote Pinger in

an Aug. 5 email.

That puzzled Pinger because—other than a few informational emails—he never saw or interacted with the transgender staff member who demanded protection.

"I never once saw the actual complaints," he told the NW Examiner, "nor did anyone during this period of time ask me what my perspective on them might be.

"As best as I have been able to ascertain, the complaints amounted to this: interference with staff stems from my repeated attempts, respectfully, to get staff members to accomplish requested tasks—to do their jobs—that were clearly within their job descriptions, and for which

Continued on page 10



## Negotiations continue for safe rest villages

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

Two Westside neighborhoods welcome safe rest villages for the homeless within their boundaries, but they expect a few rules.

A coalition of nine neighborhood associations and two schools adopted a document centered on three conditions:

Background checks on village residents to exclude those with violent felony convictions in the past seven years.

A 1,000-foot buffer zone free of camping, trash and drug dealing.

An advisory board including village residents and neighborhood association representatives to address potential problems.

City Commissioner Dan Ryan, who is overdue on his commitment to establish six safe rest villages citywide, resisted such conditions for months and stood his ground at a May 10 online forum attended by about 200 people. The forum was held three days before the first facility, known as Queer Affinity Village, opened at 2300 NW Naito Parkway.

"I was elected to take action, and that's what we're doing," Ryan said.

The commissioner assured listeners that the large number of staff people at the Queer Affinity Village would contain threatening behavior. The 60-space camp has around-the-clock staffing, including a total of 16-20 full-time personnel trained in behavioral health.

Background screening would defeat the goal of

Continued on page 12



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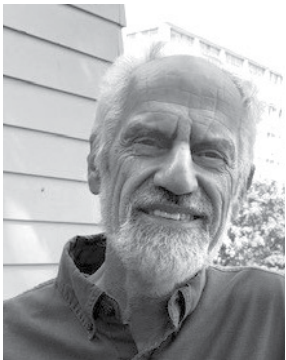
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The puzzling ‘other’

To foreign eyes, every people, culture and land seems strange, inscrutable and homogenous. Westerners are notorious for asserting that Asian people look alike, revealing more about themselves than the “other” they attempt to categorize.

To the writers and editors of Willamette Week, Portland neighborhood associations are a foreign wasteland, inhabited by benighted, myopic people of exaggerated self-importance who cannot reconcile the most basic truths of urban function.

Willamette Week knows this because developers, politicians, bureaucrats, academics and advocacy organizations have largely painted the same picture. And from the point of view of these sectors, the justification for disrespecting neighborhood associations is clear. Somehow, however, they conclude that neighborhoods have enormous political power.

These thoughts have been percolating through my mind since reading a paragraph in Willamette Week’s endorsement of City Council incumbent Jo Ann Hardesty that outlined its reservations with Vadim Mozyrsky.

“Mozyrsky says neighborhood associations are the group least listened to by City Hall. That’s puzzling. The city’s neighborhood associations have proved the greatest obstacle to opening homeless shelters, building infill housing and making housing more affordable through greater density.”

If neighborhoods are indeed the prime obstacle to such progress, that does not say much. The Harlem Globetrotters’ designated opponents in their never-ending traveling show, the Washington Generals, were indeed the main reason the Globetrotters did not win every time. The Generals won only six times in about 17,000 games, but no



team ever inflicted more defeats on the fabled court wizards, so technically the Generals were their greatest nemesis.

Rather than estimating the true political clout of neighborhood associations, I would like to focus on the word “puzzling.” It suggests that Mozyrsky was clueless when he claimed neighborhoods are left out at City Hall.

I may have attended more Portland neighborhood association meetings than the entire staff of Willamette Week has in their accumulated lifetimes—last week alone—and I see things they do not. The city bureau created on behalf of neighborhoods in the 1970s was turned into an anti-neighborhood agency under former Commissioner Chloe Eudaly, who proclaimed repeatedly that neighborhood associations had standing only to the degree that they formed alliances with other organizations. She took “neighborhood” out of the bureau’s name, removed staff who had connections to neighborhood associations and

replaced them with advocates for various demographic sectors she declared were intentionally excluded by neighborhood associations in the past.

In response, neighborhood activists citywide supported the candidacy of Mingus Mapps, who soundly defeated Eudaly in 2020. The voters had told City Hall in the strongest way they could that they wanted what is now called the Office of Community & Civic Life redirected toward its original purpose. Had Mayor Ted Wheeler listened to neighborhoods, cared what they thought or even respected the will of the electorate, he would have assigned the bureau to Mapps. Instead, he handed it to Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty, who has continued Eudaly’s legacy.

Wheeler never even explained his thinking. Not only were the neighborhoods unheard; they weren’t even spoken to. Talk about getting no respect.

Hardesty has gone out of her way to belittle Westside neighborhoods. When

the Sylvan Highlands Neighborhood Association invited Hardesty to address the city’s growing crime, trash and camping last June, she fed back their words as: “So what I hear you saying is that you are a little inconvenienced.”

Hardesty retained Suk Rhee, the OCCL director Eudaly brought in to transform the bureau into a social diversity agency, and did not remove her when an independent audit found Rhee guilty of bullying and mismanagement. Only when that audit was made public against her will—and the entire city knew the malfeasance Hardesty was tolerating—was the commissioner forced to remove Rhee.

The Downtown Neighborhood Association wrote an email to Portland Parks & Recreation regarding the tree maintenance in the South Park Blocks. The letter was ignored for two months. The president wrote again. Still no reply. It took a third attempt to rouse a living body, and then a functionary without authority to act.

One of the largest, most broadly engaged associations, not to mention one of most representative of its diverse population, could not get the time of day. Puzzling perhaps, but I was not surprised.

Neighborhood associations and their representatives are not idyllic. (You may remember that the neighborhood coalition I cover banned me from its meetings last year.) But these groups are the most broad-based citizen organizations in the city and the ones most likely to consider diverse factors and viewpoints in reaching positions. They are a pillar of local democracy. One cannot understand our city without becoming acquainted with them. ■

Readers Reply

Letters can be sent to: [allan@nwexaminer.com](mailto:allan@nwexaminer.com) or 2825 NW Upshur St, Ste. C, Portland, OR 97210. Letters should be 300 words or fewer; include a name and a street of residence. Deadline: third Saturday of the month.

Kotek’s myopia

Your May editorial, “Government and the great cause,” was a zinger. You told it as it is. Portland is a mess. The commission form of government is partly to blame. On the other hand, it has worked quite well since its inception. The last three years of political discontent generally brought out the worst in rebellious discord in the Pacific Northwest, and our city government was very lax in controlling the mobs that

descended on the city. This includes the tent population.

Bringing gubernatorial candidate Tina Kotek into focus with a great sketch and details was also of importance to your readers. With a stroke of the pen and smash of a gavel, she introduced what she termed an infill bill, House Bill 2007 in 2020, and despite much opposition, she got it passed.

Unfortunately, her myopic vision eviscerated residential zoning codes of established Portland neigh-

borhoods. Had she checked housing availability, she would have found that infill had occurred during the previous five years. Multilevel apartment buildings and condominium complexes for most income levels had saturated the east and west sides of Portland, therefore her argument of self-segregating was an abnegation of fact.

Joan Sterrett  
SW Chelmsford Ave.

Cont’d on page 5





## Dr. James T. Gourzis



Dr. James Theophile Gourzis, a resident of the Pearl District since 2002, died March 30 on his 94<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was born in 1928 in Boston, where he grew up and graduated from The Boston Latin School. He received a bachelor's degree in biology from Harvard University and a master's degree in pharmacology from Boston University. He also received the E.L. Dreyer Award for Research at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada. He served as director of clinical pharmaceuticals at McNeil Laboratories and held leadership roles in pharmacology and medical research with Schering Corp., Merrell National Labs, Gensia Pharmaceutical, MTRA and Parexel International. His last position was as principal, MEDRAND Associates, a biopharma consulting firm. He married Constance English in 1962. After pursuing his career in five states, he and Constance moved to Portland in 2002. He was a longtime supporter of the arts and especially enjoyed opera and classical music. He is survived by his wife, Constance; children, Barbara Gourzis, Michael Gourzis, Peter Hagelis and Leslie Marcucella; and one grandchild.

## Jean Layton



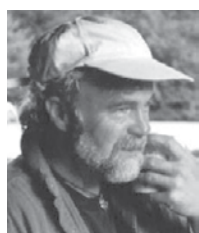
Jean Leona Layton, a former co-president of Congregation Beth Israel, died April 28 at age 96. Jean Lewin was born June 18, 1925, to a pioneering Jewish family that moved to the Pacific Northwest in the mid-1880s. She grew up in Seattle, where she received a bachelor's degree in art and interior design at the University of Washington. She married Irvin D. Layton in 1947, and together they founded Layton Home Fashions, a Portland housewares manufacturer. She painted in oil and watercolor and served as a docent at the Portland Art Museum. A lifelong athlete, she played tennis and golf, and won a decathlon at Multnomah Athletic Club in her 70s. In recent years, she lived in Goose Hollow. She is survived by her children, Abby, Jeffrey and Larry; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

## John J. Baricevic



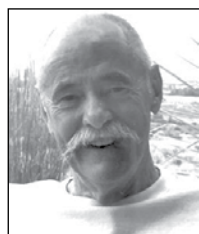
John Joseph Baricevic, who grew up in Northwest Portland, died March 25 at age 88. He was born May 4, 1933, in Portland, attended St. Patrick's Grade School and Benson High School. In his teens, he worked at the Vaughn Street Ball Park. He served in the Army in the Korean War. He worked in construction and was a 65-year member of Operating Engineers Local 701. He married Kay Howarth in 1962. He is survived by his wife, Kay; daughters, Keri Lyn and Barbara; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Tim.

## Charles M. Malarkey



Charles Michael Malarkey, a 1970 graduate of Lincoln High School, died unexpectedly while hiking on Yaquina Head in Newport at age 69. He was born Nov. 2, 1952, in Portland. He attended St. Thomas More Grade School. After attending the University of Oregon, he moved to Newport and worked as a land surveyor for Lincoln County for 37 years. He married Kathleen Sipman. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen; daughters, Brie and Jenna Hill; sisters, Mary Flanagan and Jane Harmon; and four grandchildren.

## Michael A. Preaseau Sr.



Michael A. Preaseau Sr., a resident of Northwest Upshur Street since 2013, died April 25 at age 86. He was born Jan. 3, 1936, in Powers, Mich., and moved with his family to Redding, Calif., when he was 12. He attended Shasta High School and attended the University of San Francisco, where he played with Bill Russell on the team that won the 1955-56 national collegiate championship. He became a partner in Titan Contractors, an innovator of horizontal directional

drilling for river crossings. He later moved to Lake Tahoe, where he and his wife, Christa, became the owners of the Cooking Gallery a specialty kitchenware store now operated by their children. He was an avid bicyclist. He is survived by his wife, Christa; daughter, Suzanne; son, Mike Jr.; and two grandchildren.

## Death notices

**DAVID CLARK**, 61, 1977 graduate of Lincoln High School.

**KAREN ANN FISHER**, 85, 1955 graduate of Lincoln High School.

**SHIRLEY (LLOYD) HALL**, 87, 1953 graduate of Lincoln High School.

**JANET (FULLERTON) HOTTMAN**, 67, 1972 graduate of Lincoln High School.

**WARREN L. MCKINNEY**, 87, 1952 graduate of Lincoln High School.

**MICHAEL MCQUEEN**, 56, graduate of Lincoln High School.

**CHRISTINA (SMITH) NEIL**, 88, president of the Leighbrook Homeowners Association in Forest Heights.

The Northwest Examiner publishes obituaries of people who lived, worked or had other substantial connections to our readership area, which includes Northwest Portland, Goose Hollow, Sauvie Island and areas north of Highway 26. If you have information about a death in our area, please contact us at [allan@nwexaminer.com](mailto:allan@nwexaminer.com). Photographs are also welcomed. There is no charge for obituaries in the Examiner.

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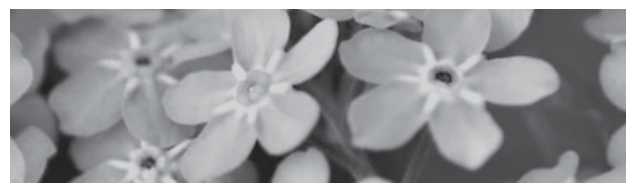
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## Generosity mischaracterized

I read your most recent editorial [“Government and the great cause,” May 2022] and thought it was spot on. Portlanders have been very generous over the years by voting to increase their taxes to address problems that they and the city have identified. But that generosity has been mischaracterized by several governmental agencies, individuals and city staff because it does not fit the present “jihad” of political philosophy. People who have spent years contributing to improving the livability of neighborhoods for all are being maligned. And the voices of citizens are being ignored.

The Office of Community & Civic Life [“Office of consultants,” May 2022] is a case in point. Interim director Michael Montoya has ignored the fact that none of the Southwest neighborhoods wanted to become city managed and certainly not the three-fourths majority required under City Code 3.96, which governs neighborhood coalitions. Instead of working with the Southwest neighborhoods to resolve any allegations, he has created more problems for the neighborhoods as they work with the city but continue to maintain their independence through the coalition. His office has turned away honest citizen participation and feedback in favor of city-controlled exchanges. Tolerance for differences and working on common goals brings out creativity and success-

ful outcomes with everyone involved rather than small selected groups who have the “right” political views.

Leslie Hammond  
SW 47<sup>th</sup> Ave.

## Destroying housing

I appreciate the editor’s column in the March 2022 NW Examiner [“Destroying a good thing”] ending with the question: “Should we destroy good affordable housing so we can increase the supply of unaffordable housing?”

To me this is the question of our times. The great affordability crisis is here. Portland was a model in the ‘80s and ‘90s of how to avoid “Walmartism.” Can we now become a model for the country of how to avoid unaffordability as a cancer destroying cities?

This cancer affects everyone as small and mid-sized shops cannot afford to sustain business in our downtown area, nor pay employees the rate they need to afford housing within reasonable reach of their work. In order to survive, they have to price goods out of reach for many; the problem escalates.

We may need incentives for owners to keep and maintain affordable housing. Certainly, letting developers evade mandates that have been put in place to help with this does not help. We can no longer afford loopholes that benefit only developers.

Jen Peterson  
NW Upshur St.

Writer Jen Peterson refers to The Douglas Apartments, an affordable 300-unit downtown apartment complex built in the 1980s and ‘90s, to be replaced by luxury towers by a Los Angeles-based development company. Images of the proposed structures are conceptual.



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Volunteers have held several work days around camping areas along Interstate 405 several times. Between those clean-ups, We Heart Portland staff members have maintained almost daily contact with campers.

Matt Bordonaro of Harbor of Hope has assisted on We Heart Portland work days with removal of larger trash items.



**“They have changed the political landscape in Seattle. The reality is, this is the best option we’ve got by far.”**  
— Ramzy Hattar, owner of River Pig Saloon

*"Cleaning up" cont'd from page 1*

ty and Livability Committee, is part of the new effort.

“I am so pumped up about We Heart,” Dunken said, “From the beginning, I was into it 150 percent. I felt the energy, commitment and passion.”

We Heart Seattle founder Andrea Suarez and Board President Kevin Dahlgren showed how engaging with campers regularly and positively not only builds trust but frequently their participation in cleanups and, in time, willingness to leave life on the streets.

In late April, a bigger event brought together volunteers from PDNA, Bybee Lakes Hope Center, Oregon Harbor of Hope and Portland Clean & Safe.

“[We] removed nearly a ton of trash along both sides of Interstate 405 between Everett and Glisan streets, while at the same time providing outreach to those living in tents in unsanitary conditions surrounded by vast accumulations of trash,” PDNA President Stan Penkin

said.

Several PDNA board members who participated also became believers.

“Everything that I’ve seen them do is something that truly works,” said Jim Rice, owner of The Fields Bar & Grill. “You see success after success after success. I am a big supporter of seeing this progress.”

“Their method is done with compassion,” Rice added.

Ramzy Hattar, owner of River Pig Saloon, admitted to initial pessimism but is now on board.

“They have changed the political landscape in Seattle,” Hattar said. “The reality is, this is the best option we’ve got by far. This isn’t about compassion on my part. This is about a necessity.”

John Hollister, who has been volunteering two or three hours a day for the program, is another big booster. He has seen results. In addition to trash and encampments cleaned, he said he has referred three people to the Bybee Lakes Hope Center recovery program.

“This is the group that does it right,” Hollister said.

Glenn Traeger had advice for fellow board members who had reservations about the program and wanted measurable benefits for their money.

“For two weeks, I’ve been out there with We Heart,” Traeger said. “The thing that impressed me the most was working with the people in the camps. We have self-auditors—the people in the neighborhood who know where the money is going.”

The board voted 8-0 to approve the funds for We Heart Portland. Five members abstained. Some wanted the approval to include measurable goals. Some had read online criticism of the program in Seattle. Some wondered why the neighborhood association should be funding work beyond its boundaries.

**Seattle roots**

We Heart Seattle was founded by Suarez, a downtown resident put off by the unsanctioned camping overwhelming the “city square,” Denny Park. Early

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Upper left: Ken Thrasher of the Pearl District Neighborhood Association made the first connection with We Heart Seattle.

Right: An undaunted Andrea Suarez helps remove a campsite from under the Flanders Street Crossing.

Lower left: Jim Rice gives directions to a group of 25 Pearl volunteers last month.

in the COVID shutdown, she began bagging up trash every day and then gradually engaging the astonished campers and enlisting them to help.

“They kept asking why I was back every day,” Suarez said.

Her motivation came as an epiphany: She loved Seattle and she was not willing to leave as many of her friends had.

Suarez’s employer since 2006, an international logistics corporation, told her to slow down and work from home when COVID hit, so she poured herself into her new cause. She donated \$25,000 in personal funds to seed the nonprofit, and she continues to work without pay as its full-time executive director, leading trash picker and fledgling but natural social worker.

The rapid and thorough transformation of Denny Park put the program on the map and at the center of media discussion. Suarez recalls, “People asked, ‘How can a small volunteer organization do what no one else could?’”

Not all of the feedback was posi-

tive. Radical leftists claimed We Heart Seattle’s cleanups amounted to taking private property, and Suarez had to apologize for one volunteer who removed property from inside a tent.

But the gutsy volunteers who were willing to approach sometimes hostile campers and win them over made perfect sense to a Portland social worker who had lifted Gresham from its chronic camping conundrum. Dahlgren, a career social worker, had been employed by half a dozen agencies in Portland in the past 25 years.

“Over time, I became embarrassed to talk about what I was doing because nothing was getting done,” Dahlgren said. “I couldn’t understand why.”

He finally put his thoughts in a nine-point plan to clean up homeless encampments and sent it to Mayor Shane Bemis of Gresham in 2018. Bemis read it and hired him to head homeless services. Within months, the 4.7-mile Springwater Trail section in Gresham was cleared of encampments and trash. Today there is a stark line at the Portland boundary,

where the trail remains unsafe and often impassable.

Dahlgren and Suarez soon became partners. While continuing to work full time for the city of Gresham, Dahlgren said he now volunteers most evenings and weekends. He recently began drawing a stipend for his We Heart work.

The pair have grown bolder in spreading their message that government and big nonprofits form a “homeless industrial complex” consuming vast resources while the problem grows.

“What once was a cause has evolved into a multimillion-dollar industry,” Dahlgren said on Hold the Line, a podcast hosted by Mike Solan, president of the Seattle Police Officers Guild.

“Harm reduction” or “housing first” policies aimed at first getting people into housing have failed, he said, because they have not been backed up by mental health/addiction treatment and regular contact with a single social worker they can trust.

People living on the street also need

daily activity and a way to constructively fill their time, Dahlgren and Suarez say, even if it’s just handcrafts or routine chores.

The growing crisis amid a flood of funding tells Dahlgren that “maybe money isn’t the solution.”

Above all, it should be a clarion to new ways of thinking.

“If what we’re trying isn’t working, try something different,” he said. “You can’t solve a problem unless you understand the problem, and to understand it you have to be out there every day—boots on the ground—getting to know the people and their stories and building that trust. If they trust you and respect you, they’ll tell you everything.”

And the messages Dahlgren and Suarez are hearing is that the present system isn’t working for anyone, including the people it supposedly serves. ■

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# Notable restaurants coming our way

Dining options picking up after long pandemic-caused decline

By Allan Classen

Restaurant spaces proliferated in the era of COVID, largely because many restaurants failed as businesses while construction brought additional spaces to the market. The third spring since the pandemic is filling some of these, and the current crop of eateries may be a somewhat different breed from those that came before – bolder, more innovative and with apparently better financial backing.

Several new restaurants have arrived or soon will, five to the northern end of the Northwest District.



Wei-En Tan (left) and Diane Lam of Alouette, at 2764 NW Thurman St.

## Alouette

Alouette fills the vacancy left by Esan Thai Restaurant in a small suite at 2764 NW Thurman St. Owner and sommelier Wei-En Tan is certified as a wine expert by the Wine & Spirit Education Trust in

addition to holding a Ph.D after studying at Stanford, Cornell and Harvard. Wei-En was born in Singapore and grew up working in her family’s vineyards in Bordeaux and Burgundy. She also holds commercial and instructor pilot licenses in airplanes and helicopters. She led ventures in aerospace and clean energy, finance and venture leadership roles and founded AI medical imaging. In 2020, she founded Stem Wine Bar on North Mississippi Avenue. Alouette claims the most extensive by-the-glass list in Oregon, if not the United States.

Chef Diane Lam, who recently opened Sunshine Noodles on Northwest Raleigh Street across from New Seasons Market, has also been the chef at Revelry, Psychic Bar and Prey & Tell. Alouette represents her spin on French cuisine.

“It’s not Parisian French or Basque French,” she said. “It’s what I would make in my kitchen.”

Alouette will open this month.



Afuri Slabtown opened in an airy space at Northwest 21st and Savier last month.

## Afuri Slabtown

Afuri Slabtown, in a sprawling space in the new Saltwood North at 1650 NW 21st Ave., opened last month. It is both a restaurant and “ramen lab” where diners can watch chefs from around the world make noodles and broth. Taichi Ishizuki, CEO of Afuri Izakaya, was drawn to Portland by the quality of its Bull Run water, opening his first restaurant in the United States in Southeast Portland in 2016.

“We have very few ramen shops making fresh noodles daily in the U.S.,” Ishizuki said. “The majority of the ramen shops are buying frozen noodles from Sun or Yamachan, from California or Hawaii or New Jersey.”



PDX Sliders is coming soon to Northwest 23rd Avenue.

## PDX Sliders

PDX Sliders will soon open its third Portland location in the Fitz Apartments building at 1825 NW 23rd Ave. Launched as a food cart business, PDX Sliders opened in a brick and mortar building in 2017 and has quickly become one of the most popular Portland eateries. Yelp ranked it among the top 100 places to eat in the United States in 2017.

## COSUBE

COSUBE, named for the first two letters in coffee, surf and beer, is a lifestyle brand as much as a restaurant, offering clothing and accessories for men and women, including wetsuits, surfboards and other ocean-oriented gear. COSUBE is coming to Saltwood South at Northwest 21st and Raleigh streets. In addition to beverages, sandwiches, burritos and snacks will be served. The company was founded in 2016 on Northeast MLK Boulevard, where its headquarters remain.

## Jacob & Sons

Jacob & Sons Jewish deli plans to open this summer at 337 NW Broadway in the former KitchenCru space, according to EaterPDX. Owner Noah Jacob is thinking of mainly take-home meals centered on cured meat and fish plus pop-up events.

“What we wanted to do is retail wholesale, even more than dine-in,” Jacob said.

## Manzanita NW

Winery at Manzanita will introduce a second location this summer in Slabtown, featuring a tasting room with a wide selection of Pacific Northwest wines, snacks and an outdoor fireplace.

## Artisserie

Artisserie, branded as a fine bakery, is coming soon to 710 NW 23rd Ave.

# NOBBY NEWS

Vol. 28, No. 6 “News You Can’t Always Believe” June 2022

## Executive Chef

Having been laid off from his last job, our new part-time chef is happy to be on staff at the Nob Hill Bar & Grill, though he still is a little annoyed that his former employer replaced him with a bizarre-looking incompetent, bloated buf-foon.

Moving forward, our new chef plans on serving his famous razor clam chowder, composed from a super-secret family recipe passed down through generations. This delicious razor clam chowder will be served on Fridays for lunch and dinner.

So join us any time at Nobbys, but reserve Fridays for some super-secret razor clam chowder!

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Enter your name for a monthly drawing.  
This month’s burger winner is Andy Knutzen.

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Wed – Trivia Night (7pm-9pm)  
Thu – Old Time Music Jam (7pm-10pm)  
Fri – Music Bingo (7pm-9pm)  
Sat (1st & 3rd) – Blues Happy Hour (4pm-6pm)  
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### 4th Saturday CleanUp

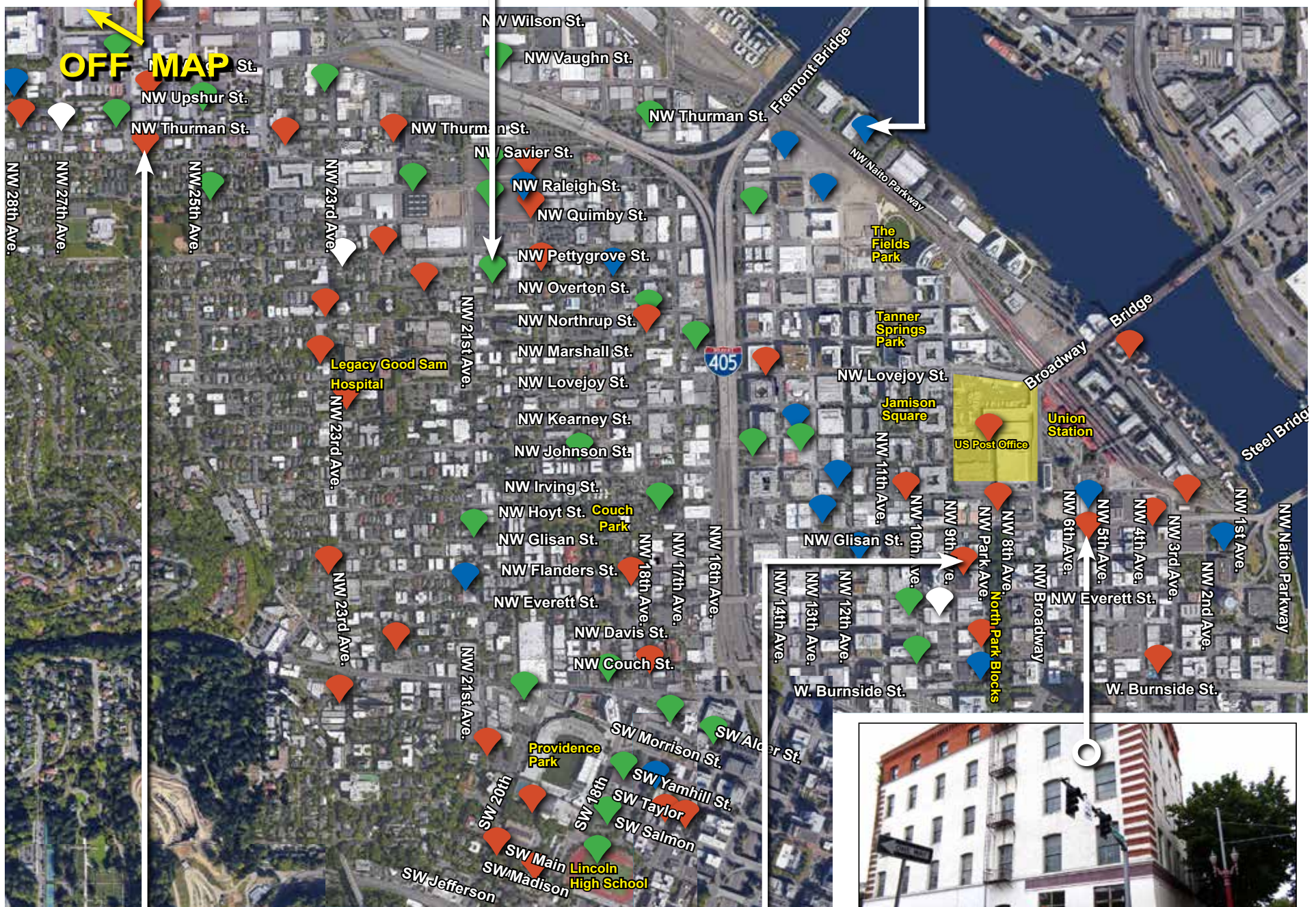
June 25, 9am–10am: help pick up litter in our neighborhood; sponsored by SOLVE.  
Check out our website for more info or email [mikayla@nwportlandhostel.com](mailto:mikayla@nwportlandhostel.com).



# NW PORTLAND / PEARL DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT MAP

# SLABTOWN SQUARE

## FREMONT PLACE APARTMENTS



## NW 26TH AND SAVIER

## THE PHILIP

**403 NW 5TH AVE**

Proposed	Under Review	In Construction	Other
1	2	3	4



"Marked Man" cont'd from page 1

their performance had been unreliable at best. The alleged gender discrimination appears to have stemmed from my declining to provide my preferred pronouns during meeting introductions, and on one occasion misgendering a transgender staff person."

Most bizarre, to him, was being charged with an unauthorized attempt to access bank records he needed to fulfill his duties as treasurer of the organization.

Sieber, who issued the complaints, would not tolerate Pinger's objections to the disciplinary steps taken against him.

"Steve, be quiet," Sieber shouted at him at a board meeting last October.

"Steve is continuing ... to try to adjudicate his own case. He should be recused from this session because he's been trying to manipulate the outcome.

"Steve was offered options and did not respond to them," Sieber continued. "Now if he's OK, he should trust in the investigation. I'm not sure why he's afraid of it."

NWNW hired a consultant to separately interview the parties involved. That report was not shared with Pinger or the board for confidentiality reasons. The confidentiality protected his accusers, who were allowed to disparage him without being subjected to questioning. The confidentiality did not protect Pinger, who wanted the specifics to come out and was eager to have his deeds put on the record.

The friction went deeper than deportment.

"I did, however, disagree with direction that the coalition was heading," Pinger said.

"This new direction had never been at the direction of the board and seemed acutely reflective of the larger transition in Portland's neighborhood coalitions that had been underway for years; one in which their role reversed from providing a conduit to the city from the neighborhoods to one from the city promoting its agenda to the neighborhoods through



the coalition."

Pinger summarized the path promoted by City Hall as "politically progressive received wisdoms or pieties that were beyond challenge."

For example, staff posted a "land acknowledgment" on the NWNW digital newsletter apologizing for land stolen from Native Americans. The theme of social diversity, equity and inclusion was repeated so often that participants referred simply to DEI. Such goals have their place, he said, but they were not the NWNW mission.

NWNW's search for a new vision was a moving target, at once described by Sieber as enacted earlier and at another as heading toward a future decision. In either case, Pinger's attempts to have such a discussion were out of sync. Barker advised the board that Pinger was guilty of "the relitigation and resistance to the implementation of matters that have already been voted upon and [are] in process."

Relitigation and resistance may not have had footing in the organization's code of conduct, but offenses against staff members were assumed to entail legal liability demanding automatic and immediate action. The nature of the dis-

cipline still required documentation of offenses and board adoption of findings. The process was turned over to a human resources consultant and a succession of four attorneys to advise the board. Interviews were conducted, but due to the primacy given confidentiality, the findings were never turned over to the board or shown to Pinger.

Board members argued an hour past adjournment time at their March meeting, some insisting that the consultant's conclusions had to be accepted because he had more information than any individual on the board, again a consequence of confidentiality above all.

Finally, a four-member ad hoc committee weighed the evidence in closed session and voted 3-1 against sustaining the complaint. The board, in turn, approved this recommendation by a 6-1 vote without knowing exactly what Pinger did or did not do.

The decision got Pinger off the hook but was unsatisfying to him in many ways. Even the Examiner story reporting on the dropped charges left readers to wonder whether he got off on a technicality or was found blameless.

The harm to Pinger's professional reputation could have been costly were his business still active. He was the principal in WPH Architecture in the Pearl District for 20 years. The damage to his personal reputation—acquaintances reading about his alleged misconduct month after month—he can live with.

"The costs to me personally in all of this are insignificant relative to the enormous waste of organizational and individual time and goodwill," he said, "and at a time when other things certainly needed to be the priority for our city."

Pinger always had a way out of the unremitting mudslinging: confess to wrongdoing and accept sensitivity training. For a lifelong liberal and University of Oregon graduate steeped in the social justice issues of the 1960s and '70s and devoted for decades to making Portland more resemble the city that works, that was a bridge too far. ■

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NWMARINEARTWORKS

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EVENING OF ACHIEVEMENTS

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Monday June 13th

PARADE STARTS at 7:15pm & ENDS around 8:30pm

Sauvie Island Church (meet near parking lot) 18510 NW Reeder Rd

SAUVIE ISLAND SCHOOL



# Historic preservation gets no push from the City Council – again

BY FRED LEESON

The annual report by the Portland Landmarks Commission to the City Council generally is dispiriting for preservation advocates. The reports are always well crafted, including ideas that would enhance the city’s physical environment and our understanding of its history.

The city commissioners always heartily thank commission members for their work, their ideas and diligence.

And then nothing happens.

It felt like *déjà vu* all over again on May 25, when the commission reported on its work in 2021 and their thoughts for improvements they would like to see made in 2022. Their suggestions included:

- Restarting an inventory of Portland’s historic buildings that has not been updated since 1984 despite a major expansion of Portland’s eastern boundary;
- Undertaking a cultural resources plan to preserve locations of cultural significance to Portland’s various minority communities, even if the buildings involved are not considered architecturally significant;
- Finding ways to help fund expensive seismic bracing for about 1,600 Portland buildings constructed of unreinforced masonry that are especially vulnerable to earthquake damage;

- Establishing a legacy business program that would assist historic businesses facing a variety of economic challenges, from the pandemic to gentrification.

Alas, the report did not identify funding sources or amounts of money needed to carry out these suggestions, noble though they may be.

As all the compliments from city commissioners rolled in about the quality of the report, Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty—who has sat through three previous landmark commission annual reviews—sounded the voice of reality.

“I hate to be the wet blanket in the room,” Hardesty said, but, given the city’s limited resources, opportunities for funding are limited.

“We will have to be creative and thoughtful,” she added. “We really need to have a plan if you want it to become reality. We don’t have that.”

Of course, it is the City Council that controls the municipal budget, not the Landmarks Commission. Even if the commission could suggest funding sources, a member of the council would have to propose action.

What might be different this year is the stress on appreciating the history of Portland’s minority communities and an understanding that those communities need the incentives and benefits preservation programs can provide.



The former Fire Station 17 on Northwest 24th Avenue has been restored for residential use.

In a letter preceding the commission’s report, Landmarks Chair Kristin Minor wrote, “On the Landmarks Commission, we are aware that for many, historic preservation seems like a side topic; something that is an ‘extra,’ not a need. Yet preservation directly strengthens community bonds and generational stability, which help people heal and rebound from stress.

“Historic preservation and adaptive reuse are far better for the planet than the typical redevelopment model, moving us from a ‘throw-away’ society to

one that repairs and adds to what we already have. Finally, if used intentionally to honor communities who have experienced loss, displacement and erasure, historic preservation can begin to work towards justice.” ■

The report is available at: [efiles.portlandoregon.gov/record/15076788](https://efiles.portlandoregon.gov/record/15076788)

Join Building on History’s mailing list by writing “add me” to: [fredleeson@hotmail.com](mailto:fredleeson@hotmail.com).

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### Online

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Where:  
[portland.gov/  
NWOpenHouse2022](https://portland.gov/NWOpenHouse2022)



### In-Person

When:  
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4-7pm

Where:  
Lucky Labrador NW  
1945 NW Quimby Street, Outdoors



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We want your perspective! There are open positions on the NW Parking District Stakeholder Advisory Committee.





"Safe Rest" cont'd from page 1

"meeting people where they are and where they can say yes to services," Ryan said.

Beven Byrnes, principal at Bridges Middle School, a program for students with "learning differences" that is adjacent to the village, concluded the meeting on a pessimistic note.

"The focus is purely on moving the houseless into housing opportunities without any regard for the impact on those who are also traumatized and vulnerable citizens that are neighboring the property," Byrnes said.

While Byrnes described past meetings with the coalition known as the 2300 SW Naito Parkway Stakeholders Group as "you talking at us," more productive talks followed the forum.

David Dickson, representing the Downtown Neighborhood Association on the stakeholders group, reported that "after a bad start, things are more on track. The key has been a coming together of multiple neighborhood associations around the city and speaking with one voice. That has gotten Ryan's attention.

"The advisory committee is now a go," Dickson said, "and much progress has been made with background checks and the buffer zone."

Stan Penkin, president of the Pearl District Neighborhood Association, has also been part of the negotiations. He said Ryan has committed to a safety plan beyond a 150-foot buffer zone, a screening process for future village occupants and creation of an advisory group.

"We've come a long way toward greater collaboration," Penkin said.

Another safe rest village is planned on Northwest Naito Parkway next to the Harbor of Hope Navigation Center.

The commissioner's office released a statement withholding comment until discussions on the three conditions are complete. ■

City Commissioner Dan Ryan tours the recently opened Queer Affinity Village, a tiny house facility for about 60 residents at 2300 SW Naito Parkway.



Another safe rest village is planned on Northwest Naito Parkway next to the Broadway Bridge and the Harbor of Hope Navigation Center.

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# Going Back



Evangelist Billy Graham spoke at Civic Stadium in 1968. City of Portland Archives. A2012-005, 1968.

Portland Archives, A2012-005.

Men paint the south side of Vista Avenue viaduct at Southwest Market Street and Vista Avenue, 1933. City of Portland Archives, A2000-025.591.



Men complete a new drainage tunnel at Southwest Kingston Avenue, 1935. City of Portland Archives, A2000-025.963.

Portland Archives, A2000-025.963.

NW Broadway at NW Flanders Street, 1934. City of Portland Archives, A2009-009.1376.



Portland Archives, A2009-009.1376.



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## Northwest District Association Election

**Online voting will be open from  
Monday, June 13 to 5:00 PM Friday, June 17**

To vote you must be a member of the Northwest District Association

Membership is open to all residents, property owners, and representatives of businesses or organizations in the district, and is free.

To join: <https://airtable.com/shroPHr8EleFFeM4T>

Details of how to vote online will be distributed to members of the NWDA in advance.

There are eight candidates for ten positions on the Board of Directors:  
**Chuck Duffy, Richard Gronostajski, Regina Hauser, Noel Johnson, Steve Pinger, Michael Viera, Todd Zarnitz**

There is one candidate for President: **Parker McNulty**

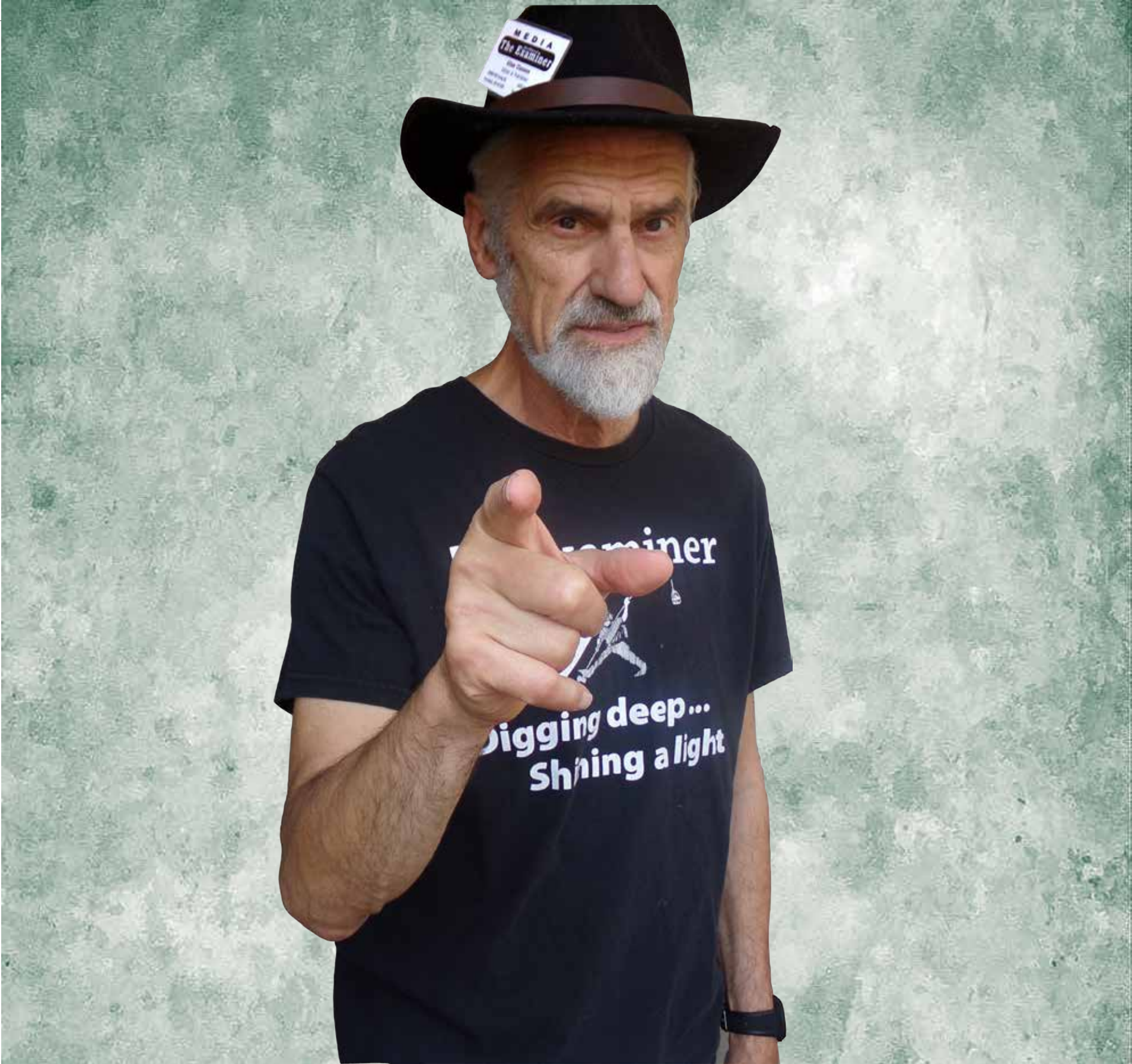
For Candidate Statements: <https://www.northwestdistrictassociation.org/>

**Results will be announced at the Annual Meeting:  
6:00 PM Monday June 20th, 2022**

Please participate and make your vote count as one of the many diverse voices that make up this great Northwest Portland neighborhood!

For more information: [contact@northwestdistrictassociation.org](mailto:contact@northwestdistrictassociation.org)





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# Snapshots



Polestar high-performance electric cars, selling for \$46,000-\$50,000, are displayed in a mini-showroom in the Q21 building on Northwest Quimby Street. Polestar is an independent start-up now part of the Volvo/Geely company.



Direct TriMet bus service from downtown, connecting to the free Washington Park Shuttle, began last month. The shuttle connects to the park's top attractions: Oregon Zoo, Hoyt Arboretum, World Forestry Center's Discovery Museum, Portland Japanese Garden and the International Rose Test Garden. It has also added stops at Southwest Tichner and Southwest Kingstons Avenue.  
Photo by Explore Washington Park



Memory 99, a 6-foot tall Corten steel sculpture by Lee Kelly, a Portland artist who died in March, was installed at the Pacific Northwest College of Art 10 years ago. The installation was underwritten by the Ford Foundation to preserve public access to Oregon's most significant visual artists.

Lincoln High School senior Xander Levine was honored as Portland Pearl Rotary's student of the month for May. Levine was a member of the school's award-winning Constitution team in 2020, served as a youth representative to the district student council and helped provide meals to the homeless through CardCook. He plans to study journalism and public relations at Cal Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo.



The monthly Slabtown Outdoor Market, featuring 70 vendors, including farmers, artists, food and crafts from local makers, continues on the second Sunday of the month through October. The next one will be June 12, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., by The Carson building at Northwest 21st and Savier streets.



Above: City Council candidate and Goose Hollow resident Vadim Mozyrsky had his campaign manager, Jessica Elkan, in a goose hat reflecting his tie to the neighborhood and its best-known citizen.

Right: Portlanders and former Portlanders filled Pioneer Square on May 15 for a public tribute to "the people's mayor," Bud Clark, 1931-2022. Photo by Stephen Salomon





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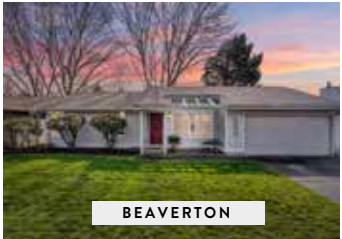
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