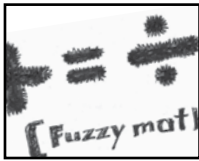


“Digging deep,
Shining a light”

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Coalition president
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Metering without representation

Transportation bureau seeks friendly advice from neighborhood reps of its choosing

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

The Portland Bureau of Transportation has long found its citizen advisers in Northwest Portland hard to control. Northwest Parking Stakeholders Advisory Committee members have leveraged their substantial civic and political experience, at times blunting or reversing PBOT directives.

PBOT's latest drive is toward selecting all members of the SAC instead of allowing the two relevant community organizations to pick their own representatives.

That reverses the Portland City Council's intent in 2013 when it adopted an ordinance providing for an advisory body with four representatives each from the local neighborhood and business associations.

PBOT now proposes changing the

bylaws for the SAC, a process not subject to approval by the committee as in the past. The package of bylaw amendments is being imposed in the name of standardizing operating rules for all of the city's 100-plus volunteer boards and commissions.

Ocean Eale, an advisory body analyst for the Office of Community & Civic Life, told committee members that there needed to be a "level playing field" for all such bodies and to ensure that "all of our advisory bodies are truly representative of the city."

Creation of the Zone M parking district, encompassing most of the Northwest District, was keyed on a compromise that ended a period of contention often called "the parking wars." The City Council adopted an ordinance instituting metered parking and a permit system for residents and workers, splitting the difference between the competing interests of residents and businesses. The possibility of constructing parking structures was also part of the deal.

The carrot for accepting paid parking was giving the neighborhood a say—through an advisory committee—in spending 51 percent of net meter revenues for transportation projects in the district.

Continued on page 6

The following Committee structure has been approved:

Both the NW District Association and the NW/Nob Hill Business Association get 4 seats each, and there will be 5 at-large members. All representatives must live, work or own a business or property in the neighborhood. NWDA and NHBA will nominate representatives from their organizations. All Board members and a Committee Chair will be appointed by the Commissioner in charge of the Bureau of Transportation.

B. Terms (select one)

- ☐ Staggered
☒ All terms begin/end at the same time

C. Term Limits

- Members may serve any number of terms not to exceed eight years of total consecutive service. Completion of an unexpired term does not apply toward the eight-year cumulative. The chair may continue to serve as a non-voting member past the eight year term limit.
- At the completion of each term, regardless of term length, incumbents are required to complete notice of intent to continue to serve and discuss mutual benefits of continuing on the body w

Bylaw amendments presented last month highlight in green mandatory deletions ordered by the city.

Portland Bureau of Transportation Director Chris Warner addressed Northwest Parking advisers last month, telling them where they fit into the bureau's decision-making process. "All recommendations have to be aligned with the city and PBOT policies," Warner said.



This group advises me, the director of PBOT

ODOT removes fences, campsites return around I-405



BY ALLAN CLASSEN

Oregon Department of Transportation officials reconsidered their removal of volunteer-installed fencing and "do not enter" signs to keep campers from returning to Interstate 405 medians but decided they were right the first time.

The agency deemed efforts to clean up and protect ODOT land a safety risk and in violation of state law, and an online meeting with

Continued on page 5

Community Awards night wrap-up



The 27th Annual NW Examiner Community Awards honored nine individuals and one organization modeling citizenship in service to the neighborhood and the city. The event, held in Redfox Commons on Oct. 15 and open to the public without charge, was underwritten by 13 local sponsors.

See coverage on pages 8-10

Where the Gang Hangs Out on a Magical Street
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2409 NW Marshall Street

More than just architecture — the expansive covered front porch has now welcomed guests for over 120 years. From the very beginning this 1902 Craftsman beauty hosted local guests as well as visiting dignitaries and history was likely made within these very walls while planning the Lewis & Clark World's Fair. The timeless elegance of the home presented a perfect setting for weddings and community fund raisers, live theater, music concerts and dance performances. Local celebrities, bon vivants, artists, colorful characters and neighbors gathered within the home, which retains many of its original architectural details and the feeling of welcome, fun and joie de vivre.

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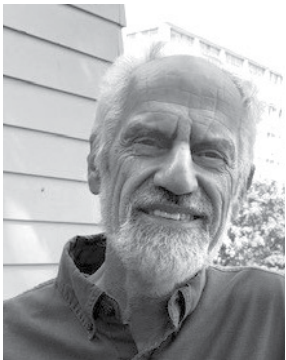

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Thoughts on charter reform

Most voters have by now cast their ballots for or against Portland’s charter reform measure, but I want to reflect on what I learned in the past year that might be universal regarding our democratic form of government.

I have been repeatedly humbled by how many times my best ideas on the subject were improved upon by the wisdom of others. I have not reversed my opposition to the measure, but in the refining process of listening to debates and discussions, I have steadily moved toward a simpler, more fundamental analysis.

Ballot Measure 26-228 rests on an astounding assumption: Majority rule is not working, at least in our city. The thrust of the complaint is that it is too difficult for people of color, renters or members of other disadvantaged groups to be elected to the City Council. They cannot be expected to mount campaigns capable of reaching a majority of the voters. The solution posed is to reduce the threshold from a majority to about 25 percent of voters. That gives a wider swath of people a chance to run and win, because by this standard even someone considered unworthy or unknown to 75 percent of the electorate could become a lawmaker.

What are the drawbacks of boosting 25 percent candi-

dates into power? Charter commissioners may have looked at it from their own eyes, imagining what they or their people might need to succeed. But a lower standard lowers the bar for everyone. One does not need a long memory of American or Oregon history to see that political opportunity can be seized by candidates and movements at either extreme.

The 20 charter commissioners were all liberal to moderate. They apparently failed to imagine the consequences if previously submerged forces on the political right find the lower bar tempting. Such groups would not need to appeal to a broad swath of Portland’s left-leaning electorate. Stealth candidacies work-

ing through church networks, sports leagues or police supporters might win elections before most Portlanders have heard their names.

Western civilization has had millennia to explore and test the theory of majority rule. Those not in the majority have traditionally broadened their message, softened their edges and sought alliances with groups sharing at least some of their goals. The process breeds compromise and the search for common values.

The accountability and moderation inherent in pursuit of majority support are not popular catchwords these days. Electing candidates who finish first in the vote has been called a “winner take

all” system, implying that a fairer result would share power more broadly or at least give more people “a seat at the table.” But if inclusion were the primary goal, why not 100 or 1,000 council seats? The benefits of broader inclusion must be weighed against the need for effective, responsive government.

Democracy without the need to compromise one’s views is not the ideal; it is the antithesis. It becomes mob rule wherein actors grant no quarter to the other side because they don’t have to. We have seen this attitude on the national scene, and it has crippled not only our government but civil society.

It amazes me that the Char-

ter Commission met for 18 months without raising such topics. They didn’t talk about the tyranny of the minority, mob rule or the nature of humans as political players. What are the tradeoffs between too much versus too little power in the hands of an elected government? Not on their agenda. Our nation’s founders debated these matters for at least a decade before adopting a constitution, and the record of their thinking guides us today.

Many were thrilled to be part of Portland leading the way with bold reform. If voting first and debating the consequences later is leadership, we win the prize. But this may be a package we will regret opening. ■

Readers Reply

Letters can be sent to: 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.

Murder underplayed

While opposition to so-called charter reform is important, (thanks for your efforts on this), I believe the lead story in October’s issue should have been “Murder in Wallace Park.” News of Erika Evans’s death was buried on the inside back page as a photo and caption. The killing of this beautiful 26-year-old woman on the basketball court is unprecedented in my nearly 30 years in this neighborhood.

It makes me long for the days when our chief worry in the park was high school raves. I feel that we citizens are standing by helplessly as we watch our

leaders destroy our beautiful city and—in the name of charity—encourage the behaviors that lead to the crime and misery we are increasingly experiencing on our streets.

By decriminalizing hard drugs and legalizing “soft” drugs that ruin young people’s brains, by permitting camping in common spaces, by needlessly shuttering our city’s small businesses, by tacitly approving political violence and by decimating and demoralizing our police, Portland’s and Oregon’s leaders have made us the destination of choice for thousands of young people who have lost their way and need guidance and help, not enabling and confirmation of their problems.

My hope is that this tragedy will shift people’s thinking away from the failed extremist bromides of the last decade and toward policies that reflect true social justice for all.

Juliet Kane
NW 25th Ave.

Correction:

The first names of William Jamison and Bill Pappas were incorrect in last month’s story about two recent books on the Pearl District.

The NW Examiner

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Erica Landfair



Erica Lynne Landfair, a graduate of Metropolitan Learning Center, died Aug. 28 at age 48. She was born in Portland on Aug. 27, 1974. She attended Bridlemile Grade School, West Sylvan Middle School and studied at Warren Wilson College in Swannanoa, N.C. She cofounded Hannah Bergen Heirlooms, a company helping families preserve their writings and objects. Landfair also worked in information technology support for 20 years. She volunteered at Green Acres Farm Sanctuary and served as a van driver and aide for quadriplegic bike racers in Alaska. She is survived by her mother, Daryl Leonetti; stepfather, Douglas Leonetti; father, Michael Landfair; stepmother, Beverly Landfair; sister, Gilyn McKelligon; stepsisters, Ann Leonetti and Carrie Leonetti; and stepbrother, Mark Leonetti.

Robert J. Davidson



Robert J. Davidson, who worked at Kienow's on West Burnside Street and at Strohecker's, died Sept. 8 at age 82. After graduating from Grant High School, he served in the Air Force for four years. He was a member of the Parish of St. Mark and the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers. He was preceded in death by his brother, William; and, sister Mary Davidson Powell.

Yvonne Polich



Yvonne Polich, who was raised in Northwest Portland and graduated from St. Patrick's Grade School, died Sept. 14 at age 97. Eva Radakovich was born Dec. 10, 1924, in Portland. She graduated from St. Mary's Academy and attended Oregon State University. She worked as a court reporter and as the secretary for Multnomah County Sheriff Terry Schrunk, and later was Schrunk's personal secretary when he was mayor of Portland. She married Bob Polich in 1949. In 2000, they moved to San Diego and in 2013 to Richmond, Va. She is survived by her husband, Bob; sons, Ed and Bob; and two grandchildren.

Charlotte R. Beeman



Charlotte R. Beeman, a longtime resident of Northwest Cornell Road, died Sept. 29 at age 87. She married Ogden Beeman in 1958, and they settled in Northwest Portland in 1960 and became active in civic affairs and the formation of the Northwest District Association. She served on the Portland Development Commission and the Portland Public Schools board. In 2008, she received the NW Examiner Lifetime Achievement Award. She is survived by her daughters, Harriet and Christie Beeman Weber; son, Pete; and five grandchildren. Her husband, Ogden, died in 2008.

Corinne Gentner



Corinne Holm Gentner, who grew up in Portland Heights and graduated from Lincoln High School in 1969, died Sept. 30 at age 71. She was born July 12, 1951, in Portland. She graduated from Skidmore College and taught school in Hillsboro from 1977 until her retirement in 2006. She was active in The Junior League of Portland, serving as president from 1991-92. She also served as president of the Portland Garden Club.

Kevin B. Mullane

Kevin B. Mullane, a longtime Northwest Portland resident and employee, died Oct. 9 at age 71. Mullane was born April 22, 1951, in Jersey City, N.J., where he grew up. In the 1980s, he moved to Portland, where he managed Wimpy's tavern on Northwest 21st Avenue for about 10 years. He lived on Northwest Glisan Street for many years. He is survived by his brothers, Larry and James.

Death Notices

GEORGE "PALMER" BYRKIT, 89, resident of Northwest Laidlaw Road.

DAVID W. FERRIDAY, 88, lived in Arlington Heights many years.

KATHLEEN O'BRIEN GAITAN, 67, substitute teacher at Ainsworth Grade School.

GEORGE A. GALATI, 90, vice principal at Lincoln High School in the 1970s.

NEIL TALBOT JUMONVILLE, 70, graduated from Lincoln High school in 1970.

WIET MINOR NICHOLS, 81 graduated from Lincoln High School in 1959.

TERRENCE R. PANCOAST, 80, member of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.

ROSE MARIE REILLY, 85, member of the Town Club.

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. Photographs are also welcomed. There is no charge for obituaries in the Examiner.

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"ODOT removes" cont'd from page 1

representatives of We Heart Portland and the Pearl District Neighborhood Association in late October prompted by Gov. Kate Brown’s office did not move the needle.

“It was a repeat of our first in-person meeting,” said Stan Penkin, president of PDNA. “ODOT staff is sympathetic to what we did but had nothing more to offer than our ‘adopting a landscape,’ which means we can submit an application and a proposal for what we would want to do at a particular site which they would approve or disapprove.

“I was hoping for more creative solutions, such as ODOT installing appropriate fencing or landscaping at their expense. And, of course, they have no budget for that. They won’t allow fencing in any event, and they say that campers will destroy plantings anyway,” Penkin said.

ODOT spokesperson Don Hamilton cast the dialogue in a more positive light.

“We’re going to continue to talk with them and find the right way to make this work,” Hamilton told KATU.

“Certainly fencing is one of the options ... when we get things that are appropriate. There’s a lot of landscaping techniques, as the neighbors have been discussing with us. We’ve got to make sure, also, that we have techniques that are appropriate and allowed under the law,” he said.

In the stalemate between effective and appropriate, campers are returning to the area between Northwest 15th, 16th, Glisan and Burnside streets

that had gone from 45 tents to none under the stewardship of the volunteer groups.

“The areas that were cleaned up are now slowly but surely returning to the previous horrendous condition,” Penkin said. “It all seems futile to many of us after countless hours of volunteer effort that led to a successful outcome for four months.”

Kevin Dahlgren of We Heart Portland was also disappointed in ODOT’s response.

“ODOT is a bureaucracy, and the reality is they will never be able to come close to accomplishing what the Pearl District and We Heart Portland did,” Dahlgren said. “It’s disappointing that they removed the fences without having a plan. All if not more camps have returned.

“This is another example of why we need public/private collaborations in trying to end this humanitarian crisis. As a privately funded program, we are friction free and simply accomplished more for less and 10 times faster.”

Mayor Ted Wheeler’s plan to enforce the city’s ban on public camping may have a bearing on what happens next.

“I spoke to the city about their responsibilities to maintain the ODOT properties under their intergovernmental agreement after our second ODOT meeting,” said Ken Thrasher of PDNA and We Heart Portland. “They said they’d get back to us after the mayor’s announcement on his new strategy to remove campers. We haven’t heard back at this point.” ■

[COMMENT ON NWEXAMINER.COM](#)
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Coalition president quits, blames three board members for obstructing



BY ALLAN CLASSEN

Rick Kneuen, who devoted enormous energy into getting the contentious Neighbors West/Northwest coalition on track, resigned as board president with three months left in his term.

“I assumed that this body held within its grasp the capacity to do good,” he wrote Oct. 10 in an email to the coalition board. “I thought that together we could use our collective voice to influence City Hall, ... that we could come to one another’s aid. Sadly, I was sorely mistaken.”

Kneuen reached the end of his rope after board member Carol Chesarek of the Forest Park Neighborhood Association renewed accusations of financial mismanagement against the organization’s executive director.

Kneuen, who represents the Sylvan-Highlands Neighborhood Association, called Chesarek’s allegations “ignorant, baseless, salacious and irre-

sponsible.”

Chesarek had aired her concerns at a special board meeting in August, at which the board voted 5-2 against forming a committee to investigate.

Kneuen narrowly defeated incumbent Richard Barker of the Linnton Neighborhood Association for the organization’s top seat last December. Before and after assuming the presidency, Kneuen met with board members individually, some of them repeatedly, in an effort to bridge differences.

Kneuen said most of the board members were well-intentioned, but their efforts were obstructed by Chesarek and two others he did not name.

NWNW Vice President Scott Schafer of the Goose Hollow Foothills League chaired the October board meeting, at which the resignation was noted but not discussed. Board elections are normally held in December. ■

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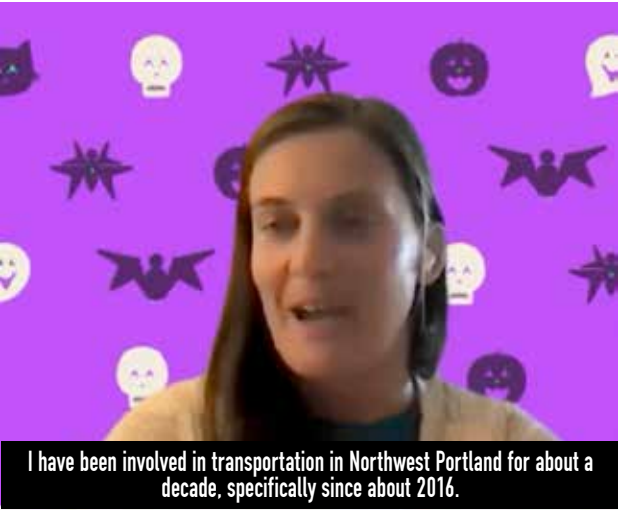
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Chris Warner



Greg Theisen



Alexandria Zimmerman

"Metering" cont'd from page 1

Without the buy-in of the Northwest District Association and the Nob Hill Business Association (now called the Northwest Business Association)—and their equal voice on the Stakeholders Advisory Committee—there would have been no City Council action in 2013. The right of the associations to choose who would speak for them was affirmed from the start in practice and in bylaws.

"That's the core of the deal," said Rick Michaelson, who was involved in the local parking issue even before the 20-year parking wars. Until September he had chaired the SAC since its formation.

In September, Michaelson and six others who had served on the SAC since its formation were termed out at once, ending negotiations for a more gradual transition.

The housecleaning complete, PBOT Director Chris Warner addressed the reconstituted committee last month—the first time the head of PBOT had attended a SAC meeting—and laid out the law.

"This group advises me, the director of PBOT," he said. "Since you are a city of Portland public advisory committee, all recommendations have to be aligned with the city and PBOT policies."

And which city and PBOT policies are these?

The policies encompassed by the City Council in 2013?

Provisions of the Northwest District Plan, adopted by the council in 2003, which supports additional off-street parking capacity, or more-recent PBOT directives, which put all eggs in the basket of reducing auto use and parking demand?

"Bullying will not be tolerated, and, if need be, I will personally work to ensure the removal of board members who cannot conform to the standard."
— Ocean Eale, Civic Life employee

What about citizen engagement rules promulgated in 2018 by the city Office of Community & Civic Life, which had no role in the Northwest Parking SAC originally.

Eale warned SAC members in September: "All advisory board members serve at the pleasure of the elected in charge of the bureau or bureau director, and may be asked to resign or be removed ... at the director's discretion at any time."

Among the offenses warranting discharge, Eale said, "You are also required to be governed by Portland city code HR 2.02 which prohibits workplace harassment, discrimination, racism and retaliation based on protected status."

Eale had overstated his authority. The code is enforceable against city employees, while advisory board members are required merely to undergo training on the code.

Nevertheless, Eale is ready to use the hammer against Parking SAC members.

"Bullying will not be tolerated, and, if need be, I will personally work to ensure the removal of board members who cannot conform to the standard," he said. "That's all I have to say."

Bullying charged

How did citizen parking advisers become associated with bullying?

That's a story in itself, and it suggests the city's growing interest in regulating social behavior. The writing was on the wall last December when Rae-Leigh Stark, PBOT's liaison to the SAC, announced that reducing racism and exclusion was a top priority for all PBOT actions.



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“All policies that we do, they fit into it,” she told the SAC. “We are coming up with a plan over the next several months to introduce it into the committee’s work.”

The incident that tested PBOT’s resolve came in August, when original SAC member Don Singer wrote in an email that fellow SAC member Alexandria Zimmerman was not an expert on parking facility management.

Zimmerman was the first person appointed to the SAC without the input of the committee. Previously, SAC members had recruited or affirmed SAC candidates before they were officially approved by PBOT. With this move, PBOT asserted a prerogative to control at least the at-large seats.

PBOT rushed to the defense of its first unilateral appointee. Stark sent all committee members an email objecting to the tone of the email and demanding to know who sent it.

“Comments made by a SAC member can be perceived as bullying and as a failure to respect cultural differences,” Stark wrote.

Stark’s rebuke was answered by the SAC in September at the last meeting of the seven termed-out members. She attempted to derail discussion of a SAC-generated resolution critical of her action because it was not on the printed agenda.

Last word

“I have to tell you that the vice chair and I both requested that staff put this on the agenda and listed as a floor vote,” Michaelson said. “For some reason that did not happen.”

Stark pushed back. “The mission of the SAC is to provide us with input on parking and transportation demand management in the district and not on our code of ethics or the way we proceed with or how we conduct business in the city of Portland.”

Michaelson upped the ante. “I’ll tell you that if this is not on the agenda for a vote, I am filing an ethics violation against staff. ... I hate to go that far.”

Dave Benson, parking regulatory director for PBOT, another upper management official brought in for the October SAC meeting, said, “We’re not going to vote on it today.”

“Yes we are!” Michaelson said sternly, getting the last word.

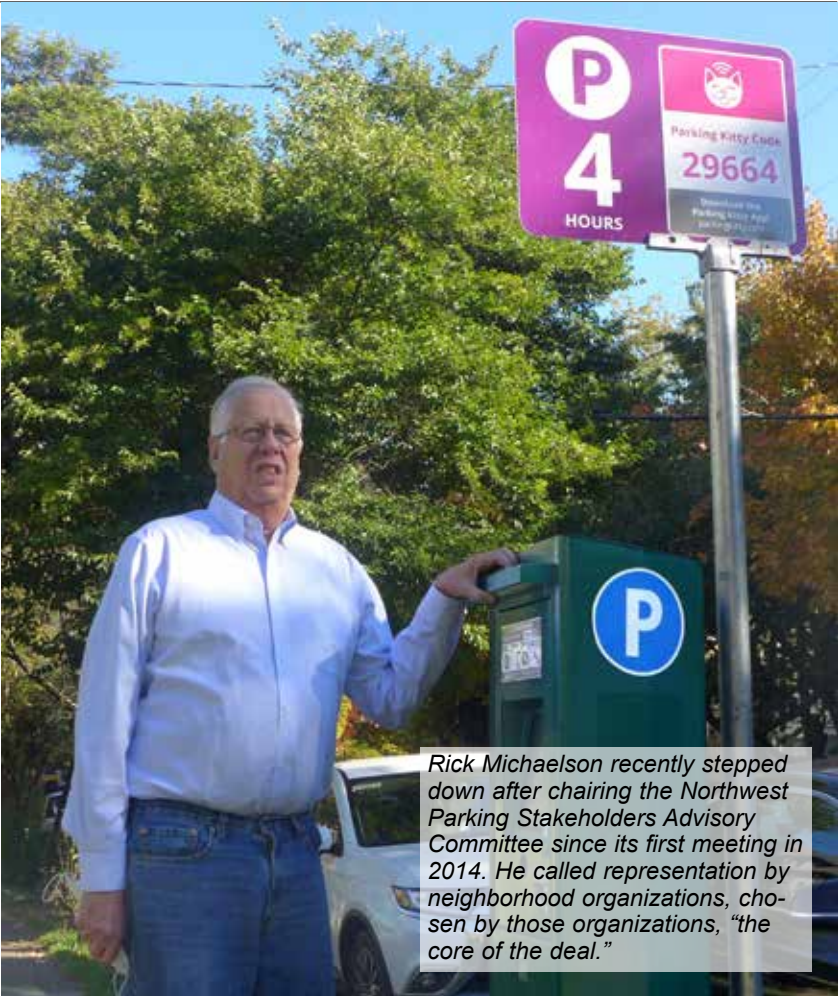
The resolution was voted upon and adopted, receiving ayes from nine of the 11 SAC members present. The no votes were from Zimmerman and Jeanne Harrison.

But nothing is settled. PBOT responded quickly with an email stating that Stark’s email “will not be withdrawn or restated.”

A new cohort of SAC members must now deal with the fallout and impending transition to a body fully tailored by PBOT. They may have less experience than the original seven, but several were appointed by their neighborhood or business association, wherein their loyalties lie. If not removed by PBOT, their terms could have years remaining.

Steve Pinger, a new NWDA representative to the SAC, is braced for the worst.

“PBOT increasingly wants to have control over the funds, and to that end would just as soon have their people on the advisory committee,” Pinger said.



Rick Michaelson recently stepped down after chairing the Northwest Parking Stakeholders Advisory Committee since its first meeting in 2014. He called representation by neighborhood organizations, chosen by those organizations, “the core of the deal.”

“It’s immensely important to set the tone because PBOT is definitely making moves to continue to marginalize this group in a number of ways. ... The bylaw amendments would presumably not allow us to appoint our members going forward, which was a fundamental provision of the original agreement. That’s a big deal.”

Greg Theisen, another SAC member representing NWDA, said, “This could lead to a significant compromise in the SAC’s ability to develop and advance

advice independent of PBOT’s control.”

Technically, the bylaw amendments dictated by PBOT retain the eight seats for neighborhood and business association representatives: The organizations simply lose the right to decide who will fill them. Local activists are divided on whether the revisions reflect careless editing or if PBOT believes it can pick the people who represent the community. ■

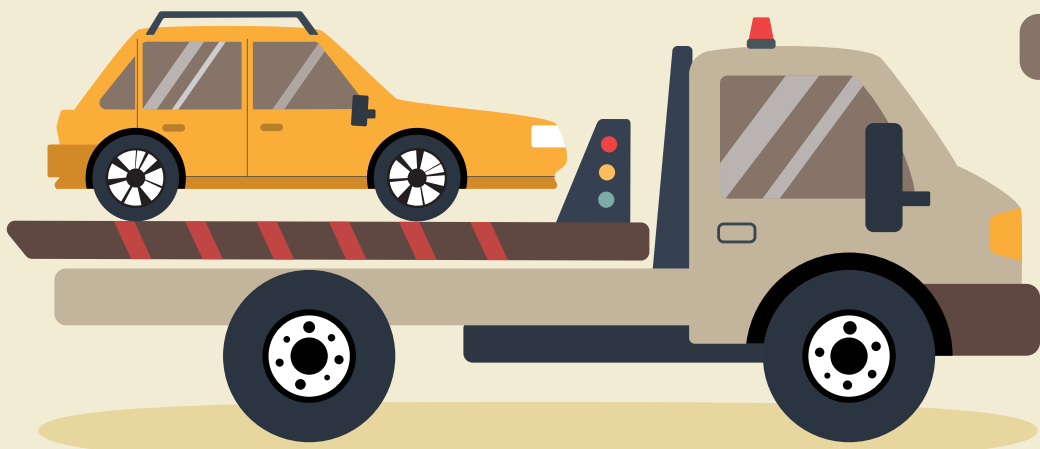
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All photos by Wesley Mahan



Community Award nominations were evaluated by a committee of 12 past award winners and decided by a vote. Reader nominations for worthy individuals and groups connected in some way to the NW Examiner readership area are always welcome. Send information to allan@nwexaminer.com.

1 Chuck Duffy For the People

No political challenge is too great for Duffy, who helped stanch a campaign to undermine the city’s neighborhood program, supported neighborhood-friendly Mingus Mapps’ successful City Council campaign and is co-leading a drive to defeat a city charter reform proposal having untested and undemocratic underpinnings. While others wonder about how to vote, Duffy works two steps ahead, analyzing the city’s most critical problems and working to find the people who can solve them.

2 Bob Weinstein Watchdog

The former mayor of Ketchikan, Alaska, moved to Portland in 2018 and began seeing breakdowns in Portland governance. When Portland’s overly ambitious experiment with e-scooters created mayhem and safety issues, his complaints through the normal channels provided no relief. It led him toward the root of the problem—City Hall’s disdain for neighborhoods and citizen input. He now champions straight-forward charter reform (not the version on the Nov. 8 ballot).

3 Stephen Kafoury Good Government

Kafoury’s service in the Oregon Legislature ended more than 40 years ago, but his leadership as a citizen has continued to grow. With a deep connection to Portlanders’ core values, he has worked with citizens on behalf of charter reform, preserving the South Park Blocks and restoring the Thompson Elk Fountain. Often, his relationships with key individuals and organizations have made the difference. He can read public opinion, and his ability to chair task forces is unrivaled.

4 We Heart Portland Heart of the ‘Hood

We Heart Seattle, a citizen launched and sustained movement having great success in reclaiming public spaces dominated by campers, made Portland its second city. It receives substantial financial and volunteer support from the Pearl District Neighborhood Association. Founder Andrea Suarez and Board President Kevin Dahlgren teamed with PDNA’s John Hollister and about two dozen volunteers on regular cleanups that cleared all 45 tents from a target area along Interstate 405 and helped 25 of their occupants move to shelters and services.



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5 Ken Unkeles Champion of the Arts

Unkeles converted industrial warehouses into art studios, creating work space for about 400 artists who otherwise might have been priced out of Portland. NW Marine Artworks on 29th Avenue has become an art community, thanks to his vision, organizational leadership and advocacy of their work.

6 Sally Mize Trash Queen

Mize walks the Pearl District 10-15 hours a week, monitoring hauler pickups at 100 public trash cans. As part of the Pearl District Neighborhood Association Livability and Safety Committee and its Clean Team, she also is out several days a week counting tents, picking up trash and going on foot patrols with neighbors. She meets weekly with a mayor’s office task force dealing with safety and livability problems citywide and is a mainstay in the Portland Public Safety Action Committee, which brings citizens, police and public officials together for coordinated action.

7 Bill Welch Lifetime Achievement

Since the 1970s, Welch began building and shaping people-first institutions that made the Northwest District special: Food Front Cooperative Grocery, Northwest Neighborhood Credit Union (now merged with SELCO), Northwest Neighborhood Cultural Center, Northwest District Association and Thurman Street Studios. He remains a member of the NWDA Planning Committee, sharing his understanding of the neighborhood’s roots and the reasons past codes and policies were enacted.

8 Tiffany Hammer Gloves & Roses

She became known as the Rose Lady in 2019 when she led her Goose Hollow neighbors in planting rose bushes in the freeway median beside their homes to deter campers, some of whom burglarized nearby homes. Her mission soon expanded to include adjacent neighborhoods and the whole city. She co-chairs the Portland Public Safety Action Coalition, serves on the board of Downtown Clean & Safe and brings local officials on walking tours to learn the breadth of our city’s social crisis.

9 Larry Kojaku Historic Preservation

Kojaku made himself an expert on Portland’s historic preservation and zoning rules to protect the Alphabet Historic District, the Thompson Elk Fountain and other landmarks in a city increasingly discounting its historical heritage. He also attempted to save the historic Blanchet House building, once the primary hotel in Japantown before the internment of his parents and other Japanese citizens during World War II.

10 Aubrey Russell Preserving Portland

Russell was alarmed at the city’s willingness to accept the verdict of vandals who damaged statues of Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt from the South Park Blocks and the elk from the downtown Thompson Fountain. He found that Portland had handed authority over the future of these monuments to a nonprofit, the Regional Arts & Culture Commission, with an agenda that did not include or respect the views of the public or elected officials. Thanks largely to his efforts, the elk is coming back and the former presidents are in the running.



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Clockwise, from upper left: Each trophy is a handmade art piece made by glass artist Greg Hermens; a social hour preceded the ceremony; Mark Wells and Sally Mize; food was catered by Nob Hill Bar & Grill; Judie Dunken, Dave Rianda, Jake and Tiffany Hammer; and tables were set with reusable plates, glasses and silverware donated by the Pearl District Neighborhood Association.


“Start to finish, that was the most quintessentially American experience it has been our pleasure to be a part of in as long as I can remember; being in that room with so many people to celebrate the sweet, simple acts of citizens giving of themselves, their time, energy and skill out of love for their neighbors and their neighborhood and out of the belief that doing so is both the responsibility and the privilege of a citizen.”
– Wendy Hawkins



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GREATER NORTHWEST PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT MAP

1310-1338 NW 23RD AVE.

A proposal to purchase parcels on the east side of Northwest 23rd Avenue between Overton and Pettygrove streets for redevelopment has fallen through. The properties, which contain five houses in retail use, are owned by Legacy Good Samaritan Medical Center.



RIDGELINE

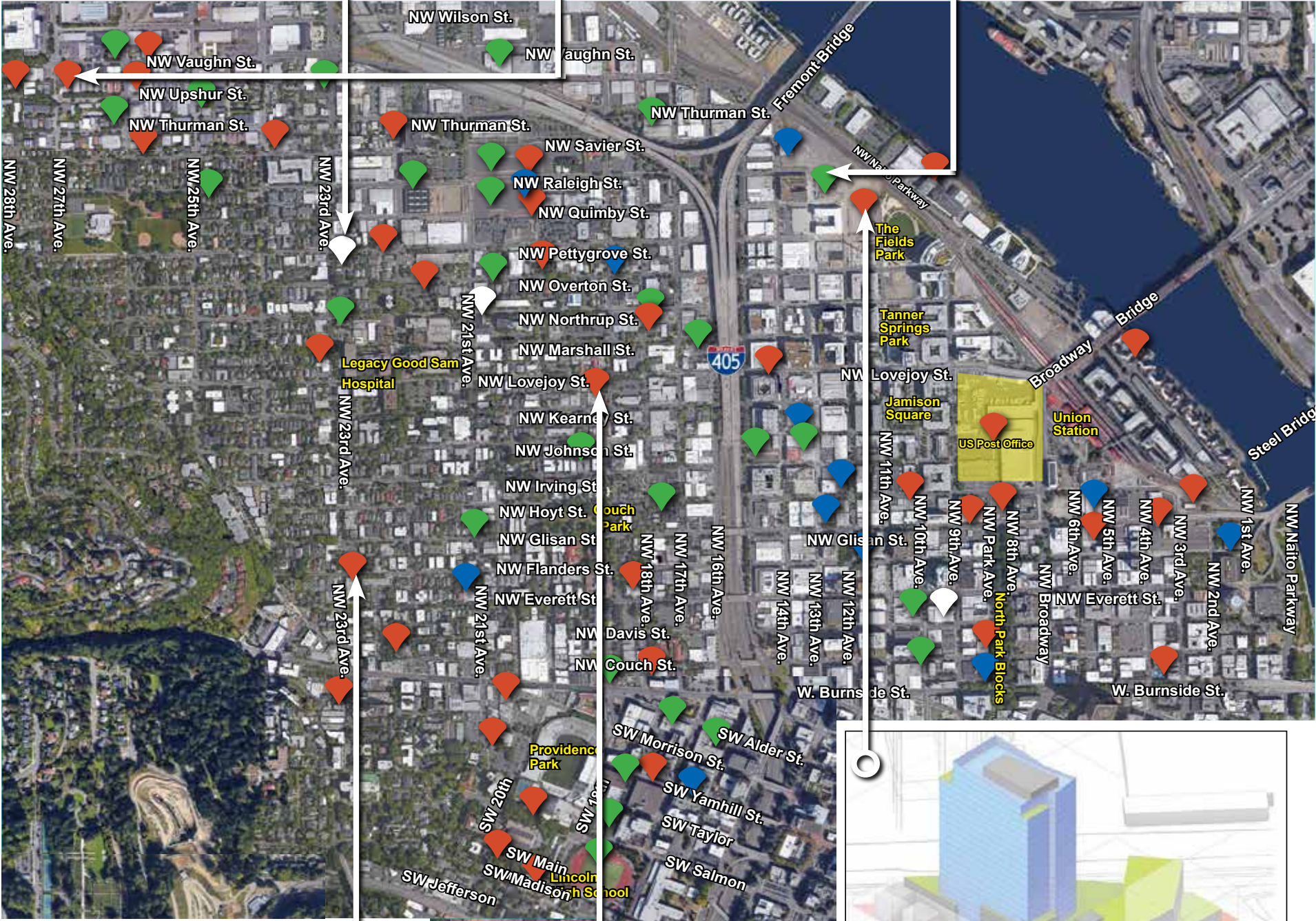
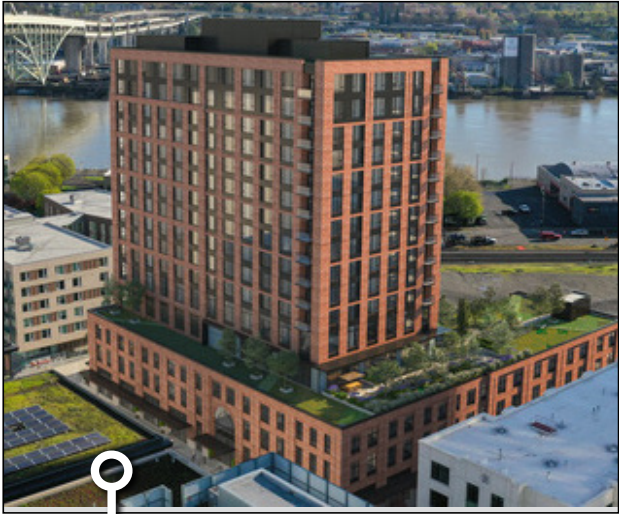
Ethos Development LLC has again expanded plans for an apartment building to replace Elysian Garden on the 2600 block of Northwest Upshur Street. The Impala restaurant at Northwest 27th and Upshur will be demolished to accommodate about 256 residential units and possibly retail and live/work units along



Northwest Vaughn Street. Underground parking is planned. The original plans for about 155-170 units were amended last summer when the Trovo industrial building west of Elysian Garden was acquired.

HOLDEN OF PEARL

The 17-story Holden of Pearl between Northwest 12th, 13th, Quimby and Raleigh streets is nearly “topped out.” It will have 231 independent and assisted living units for seniors, as well as a memory care facility.



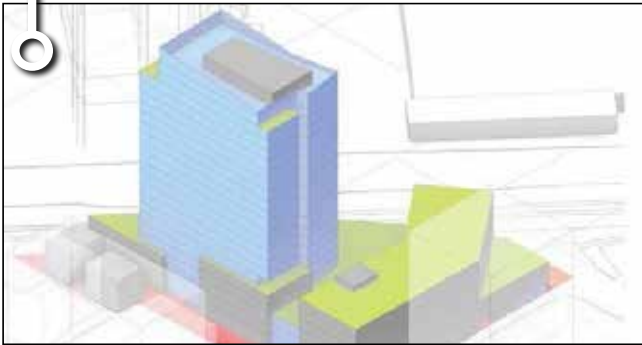
419-425 NW 23RD AVE.

A five-story mixed-use building is proposed on the west side of Northwest 23rd between Flanders and Glisan streets. It would have 20 residential units and 35 parking stalls. The developer is Robert Ball Companies, which has offices on the same block. A 1963 professional office building on the site was damaged by fire about two years ago.



CAFÉ NELL

Café Nell is proposing to expand its restaurant, which does not conform to its residential zoning at Northwest 20th and Kearney streets. If approved, its COVID-era dining area in a rented parking lot would become permanent. Northwest District Association Planning Committee Chair Greg Theisen, acknowledging noise and nuisance complaints from adjacent neighbors, said, “it’s a pretty significant zoning issue in my opinion.”



BLOCK 24

A 260-foot-tall tower containing about 440 residential units is proposed on the north side of Northwest Quimby Street between 11th and 12th avenues. There would be retail space at the southeast corner, which faces The Fields Park. Underground parking for 300 vehicles is planned, a number considered excessive by some representatives of the Pearl District Neighborhood Association. Representatives of global Greystar Development have had preliminary design advice meetings with the city.



For an interactive and continually updated version of this map, visit: NextPortland.com
Also see the development map maintained by the Goose Hollow Foothills League: goosehollow.org/images/GooseHollowDevelopmentMap.pdf

Mennonite mission once planted seeds in



Left: The mission building in Slabtown (note wood stacked at left) was completed in 1927 at a cost of \$14,000.

Above: Community members helped tend large garden planted near the mission.

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

One hundred years ago, Mennonites established a mission in Northwest Portland. Most of them were congregants from the Willamette Valley, farmers and rural people who saw cities as places of poverty, social need and spiritual darkness—fertile ground for evangelism.

They held tent meetings, led summer Bible classes and opened a daycare and an orphanage. They planted a large garden, selling produce to help underwrite construction of a church, which was completed in 1927 at a cost of \$14,000.

Selling produce helped, but most of the funding came from 200 Mennonite

congregations across the United States and Canada. The church building at 2235 NW Xavier St. still stands, though the congregation moved to Southeast Portland in 1969. The building has since been converted into a theater, medical offices and, most recently, apartments.

But for 42 years it was the center of an ambitious interracial outreach program that involved summer camps, Sunday school and religious services. They also took their message to people in jails, nursing homes and homeless missions.. The church bought a bus to bring Black children predominantly from Northeast Portland to Sunday school and other programs.

In 1955, Portland Mennonite Church

became an independent congregation, no longer dependent on financial support from the denomination. By that time, summer Bible school enrollment had reached 200 and church membership included 17 Black people, one Chinese man and several of Jewish and Russian backgrounds.

An ambitious summer camping program, the first in the denomination, brought children and youths to campgrounds near Scotts Mills.

Wayne Gingerich (1931-2011), a Portland Mennonite member and mail carrier who worked out of the branch post office in the Montgomery Ward (now Montgomery Park) building, became well known along his routes in the

Northwest neighborhood. Gingerich had many friends among the Croatian community centered at St. Patrick Catholic Church. Gingerich joked that some of them assumed he was one of them because his name also ended in “ich.”

Marcus Smucker, who became pastor in 1963, was attuned to social changes brought on by the Civil Rights Movement and Vietnam War. Many conscientious objectors fulfilled their draft obligations through community service in Portland hospitals or the Mennonite Voluntary Service Unit in northeast Portland.

The church’s busing program ended in the 1960s. For a few years, Sunday school classes were held in Northeast Portland. Plans to establish an indepen-



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NOBBY NEWS

Vol. 28, No.11 “News You Can’t Always Believe” NOVEMBER 2022

Kevin Mullane, 1951-2022

For seven years, Kevin Mullane wrote “all the news that’s fit to print” in the Nobby News.

He often wrote about pranks and disagreements among regulars at the bar. But he would touch subjects of national or international scale as long as there was something funny or uplifting to say.

He died last month at age 71.

Not one to stand on formality, he left no directions as to how he would wish to be remembered. But it’s safe to

say he would have advised all who knew him or read the Nobby News to get together with friends and offer a toast to a community where everyone knows your name. Cheers.

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Northwest Portland



Children were a focus of the Mennonite Mission, which held summer camps and Bible classes in addition to Sunday school and worship services.



dent congregation there, however, failed to draw local adult leadership and were abandoned.

Instead, the congregation moved to Southeast Portland with a new focus on serving the area around the Sunnyside Elementary School. The Smuckers were among about half-a-dozen households who moved to the Sunnyside neighborhood, becoming part of the community rather than “missionaries.”

Baloney Joe’s, a homeless shelter at the east end of the Burnside Bridge until 1987, had important Mennonite links. Its name was derived from sandwiches prepared in volume by a Mennonite minister, Joe Yoder, who ran the shelter. The shel-

ter was later operated by Michael Stoops, who came to Portland to work in the Mennonite Voluntary Service Unit. Stoops left Portland in 1987 amid a sexual scandal.

Portland Mennonite Church, 1312 SE 35th Ave., will celebrate its anniversary Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 12-13, with a neighborhood cleanup, open house, dinner, hymn sing and video slide show, panel discussion, worship service and reception, all open to the public. (For details, visit portlandmennonite.org/online-bulletin.html.) ■

Editor’s note: I am a member of Portland Mennonite Church and will be leading a tour of the building Saturday, Nov. 12, 9:30 a.m.-noon.



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The long campaign



Reconfiguration of the Northwest 15th and Couch intersection is a year behind schedule, and the Portland Bureau of Transportation says it will fine Brown Contracting \$1,270 per day beginning Nov. 11 until the project is finished. PBOT blames discovery of an underground oil tank, streetcar tracks, supply chain issues and faulty manufacture of the 15th and West Burnside signal arm.



Neighbors of Tanner Springs Park have observed its transition from a natural habitat for plants and animals to more conventional landscaping. Reader Don Hew submitted this photo showing a swath of reeds mowed flat. "It invites trampling, compaction and erosion, as well as being unattractive to wildlife," Hew wrote. Portland Parks & Recreation's introduction of Roundup pesticide two years ago led to the resignation of many volunteers with Friends of Tanner Springs Park.

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Dez Nadel, 12, raised \$653 for the Oregon Humane Society by renting parking spaces in the driveways of seven participating Northwest Pettygrove Street neighbors during the annual Vaux's Swift migration in September.



A Multnomah County jury awarded more than \$10 million to two plaintiffs injured in the 2016 natural gas explosion at Northwest 23rd and Glisan streets. DOSHA beautician Kristen Prentice (center) was awarded \$6.5 million and NW Natural employee Eric Rader (second from right) \$3.9 million. Both suffered severe inner ear injuries and post-traumatic stress syndrome. Nearly half of the judgments were for punitive damages against Loy Clark Pipeline Co. The plaintiffs were represented by Jason Kafoury (L-R), Greg Kafoury and Mark McDougal.



Alyssia Menezes was honored as the Lincoln High School September student of the month by Portland Pearl Rotary. Menezes facilitates the Stumptown Speaker Series, participates in band, speech and debate, varsity golf and has helped 500 elementary and middle school students learn about mental health.



Portland Police are investigating the death of Erika Evans, a 26-year-old woman from Austin, Texas, who was shot in Wallace Park in September. Sgt. Jerry Cioeta told neighborhood representatives that the victim and assailant had "an ongoing issue against each other."

Lincoln High School senior Will Minns was Portland Pearl Rotary's student of the month for October. Applying his interest in history and architecture, he produced a video on the history of Goose Hollow and made a presentation on the Ecotrust Building, where the Rotary Club meets. He is on the Lincoln track and cross country teams.



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Shelly Brown 971.221.2641 | Beth Flora-Horton 503.706.6849