

"Digging deep,
Shining a light"

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volunteers

SEPTEMBER 2022/ VOLUME 36, NO.1

FREE

SERVING PORTLAND'S NORTHWEST NEIGHBORHOODS SINCE 1986 [nwexaminer](#)

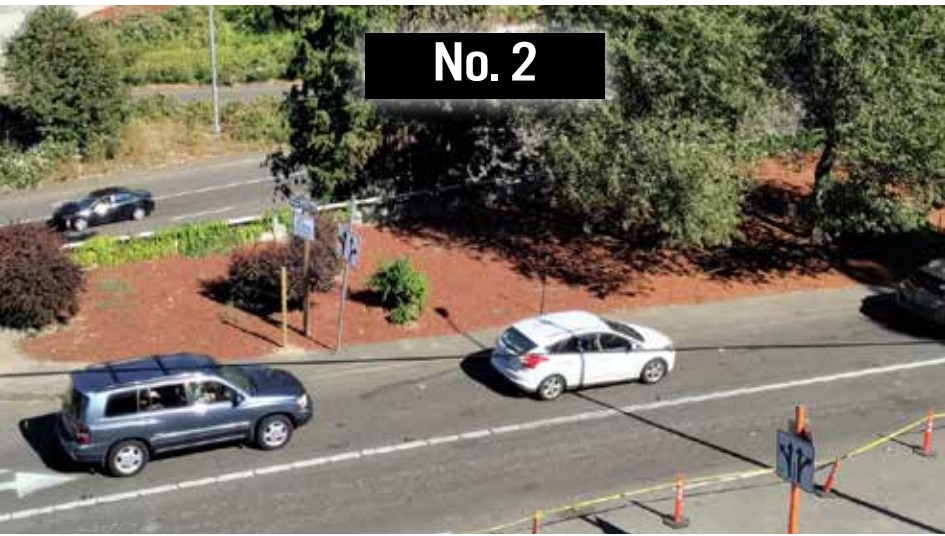


Which scene is UNSAFE?

ODOT says No. 2



The median strip east of Northwest 15th Avenue near West Burnside Street was strewn with trash before We Heart Portland volunteers cleaned it up. Photos by Wesley Mahan



The same median area was cleaned and covered with bark mulch in preparation for fall planting. Wire fencing was installed by volunteers to keep campers from returning — a violation the Oregon Department of Transportation intends to enforce.

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

The volunteers who cleaned up homeless camps along Interstate 405 this summer might have thought no good deed goes unpunished when the Oregon Department of Transportation ordered them to remove the temporary fencing they installed to prevent campers from returning and undoing their work.

"The T-posts and wire will have to be removed, as they pose a significant safety hazard for the public within the clear zone," ODOT Region 1 maintenance and operations manager Ted Miller wrote on Aug. 23.

John Hollister, a Pearl District Neighborhood Association board member who coordinated the weekly cleanups in addition to working about two hours a day on his own, was peeved that ODOT considered the comparative dangers of illegal campsites, punctuated periodically by explosions of propane tanks used in the manufacture of methamphetamine, and concluded that the cleanup program was the greater problem.

The neighborhood association has been teaming with We Heart Portland on a project that has made a noticeable dent in a situation that has foiled government actors for years. Since May, about eight

tons of trash and all 45 tents previously located between Northwest 14th, 16th, Burnside and Glisan streets have been removed.

"We and We Heart Portland are in contact with ODOT," Stan Penkin, president of the PDNA, told the NW Examiner.

"We are hopeful that we can work together with them to find solutions to maintaining the wonderful work that was done to clean up and beautify a highly visible corridor, while at the same time having helped some 25 unhoused people to services and shelter.

"The Pearl District Neighborhood Association donated \$10,000 to We Heart Portland to initiate a pilot program to clean up our streets while bringing a proactive, compassionate approach," Penkin said.

The program has collected about eight tons of trash "while helping 25 of our homeless neighbors to services or shelter," he said.

"Unlike traditional city-led sweeps, in which campers are moved but return within days or move around the corner, the approach has been to closely monitor

Cont'd on page 12



An apparent bicycle chop shop blocks the Northwest Naito Parkway sidewalk near the Harbor of Hope Navigation Center. The pedestrian at left was forced to use the street to get around the obstruction.

Safety first?

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

A safe rest village for homeless people is almost certainly coming to Northwest Naito Parkway.

City Commissioner Dan Ryan wants it to happen. As he pushes for the third of six such villages originally promised by the end of 2021, he is not restrained by normal land-use laws due to the city's declared and ongoing housing emergency.

Jim Winkler, owner of the 1.3-acre site near the Broadway Bridge, signed a three-year lease with the city July 31, sealing the deal for all intents and purposes.

The Pearl District Neighborhood Association is expending no political capital on what it deems a

Cont'd on page 6

SMELL THE JASMINE AND TASTE THE FRUIT
1913 Craftsman Garden Oasis in Willamette Heights



2125 NW 33rd Avenue

A refuge from the city, this well-loved home sits on a big lot, verdant with flowers, fruit and veggies. Extravagantly sized front deck, laden with jasmine and trellised grapes, is perfection for outdoor entertaining or a relaxing evening. Abundant Craftsman detailing in the interior is a testament to the artisans of 1913. Unfinished basement and attic present possibilities. House is being sold as-is and is just waiting for its next adventure.

3 bedrooms, bonus room, 2 baths, 2,632 Sq. Ft., carport/driveway. RMLS #22356386 \$750,000.

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This property will appeal to someone who appreciates architectural details, yet wants a blank slate to dream up a re-imagined purpose. It has been used as a single-family home, a duplex, an office, and has the potential to offer a live/work setup. Currently, the home has opened up walls with a partially demolished interior and does not have a functional kitchen, so the home will not qualify for a conventional mortgage. The spacious lot with a sweet front yard and an abundance of paved off-street parking is a bonus!

Bedrooms are up to you, plumbed for 2 ½ baths, CMI Zoning, extra parking, 2,632 Sq.Ft. RMLS #22548850 \$495,000.

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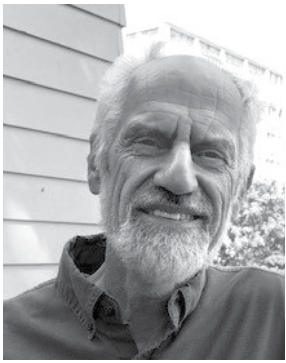


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It could be worse

Several democracies fell to authoritarian regimes in the 20th century, and last year’s insurrectionist attack on the Capitol came disturbingly close to succeeding. Many citizens in these countries apparently felt things had gotten so bad they wanted drastic action. Anything seemed better than the status quo.

While the best antidote for a failing democracy is more democracy, authoritarian leaders harness anger and an appetite for revenge. Repeatedly, it has ushered in consequence beyond imagination.

Antipathy for Portland’s government is now so strong that many want to transform it as rapidly and utterly as possible. The Portland Charter Commission got the drift and is calling for a reform package that not only ends our dysfunctional and bizarre commission system but adds novel and scarcely understood voting procedures and districts.

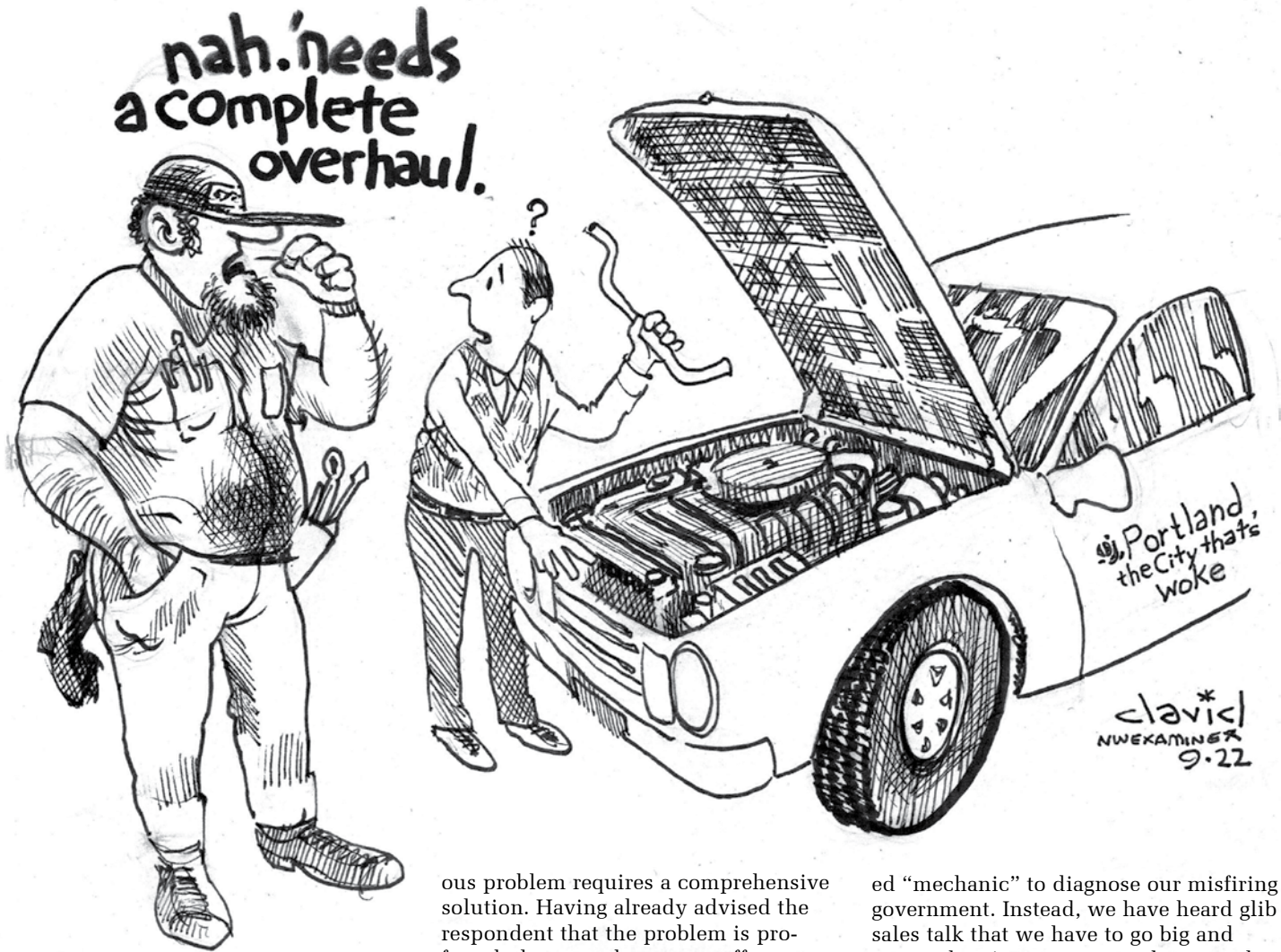
The commission concluded that the component parts of the ballot measure would not work separately. But is that so? Did it have evidence to suggest that, or is this just a grab bag from which you snatch all you can while you can?

The commission had the answer in front of it all along. Commission spokespeople constantly cited successes in places that used either ranked-choice voting or multimember districts. Those were the only examples in the United States available to them because no jurisdiction here has ever combined them.

That should have been taken as proof that they can work as standalone measures, but the spin masters kept telling us the opposite was true. After meeting for 18 months, commissioners did not acknowledge the contradiction in logic they had swallowed.

What were they thinking?

We get a clue from a poll underwritten by Building Power for Communities of Color. An arm of this organization pro-



vided the official public outreach for the commission, and BPCC now leads the campaign to promote the ballot measure. The poll was co-funded by Represent.Us, a nonprofit advocating for ranked-choice voting. Both organizations have a stake in a particular outcome of charter reform, and it showed.

The poll asked respondents which of two statements they agreed with more: “Portland government is such a mess that we need to pass this whole package of reforms.”

“We should only focus on changing Portland’s form of government.”

This is what is called “push polling.” The first sentence implies that a seri-

ous problem requires a comprehensive solution. Having already advised the respondent that the problem is profound, the second sentence offers a response couched as limited.

At a superficial level, it seems logical that large problems need large solutions. But a commission with ample time and resources should have been able to identify the essential flaw in our governmental dysfunction. Instead, a scatter-gun approach was recommended. No one examined the manifold possibilities of unintended consequences.

A badly running car engine doesn’t necessarily need a total overhaul; it may just need a spark plug. At least, replacing the faulty spark plug and checking results before going further would be prudent. Portland voters deserved a competent and open-mind-

ed “mechanic” to diagnose our misfiring government. Instead, we have heard glib sales talk that we have to go big and accept drastic measures we know nothing about because—trust us—that’s the only way.

We also know that leaders and/or staff members for the commission had polling evidence that 72 percent of the voters wanted separate votes on the components of the proposal, not all or nothing. That polling result was not shared with the whole commission, which had been led to believe that voters wanted the issues combined.

The Charter Commission trusted advocacy organizations as its only experts and scrubbed information that did not fit its narrative. This is no way to build better government we can all trust. It resembles past leaps of faith mixed with despair that ended catastrophically. ■

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.

Appalled by demolition

The August NW Examiner brought terrible news for our neighborhood: the possible bulldozing of the Elysian Garden Apartments [“No going back,” August 2022].

At a time of crisis and chaos in our city regarding homelessness, an utter lack of affordable housing space and a history of developers ignoring commitments to build affordable housing, occupied units

being bulldozed for another greedy developer is beyond appalling.

Everything today is built on the almighty dollar, the “sacred golden calf” we all worship. Other values—such as quality of life for the less fortunate, less wealthy, less entrepreneurial, less able, compassion, respect for diverse ways of being and living—are apparently things of the past.

Jane Jacobs, writing “The Life and Death of Great American Cities” in 1961 could have included a chapter about Portland as it hurtles forward quashing

diversity of housing, character and vitality for cold, high-rise, expensive shrines to the affluent and soulless life of the future. What was great about Portland is slipping away.

We’ve watched it happen for 70 years and grieve for what we’ve lost and are losing.

Jere Grimm
NW Aspen St.

Cont’d on page 5

The NW Examiner

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Raymond G. Jubitz III



Raymond Guy Jubitz III, who grew up on Southwest Vista Avenue and attended Ainsworth Elementary School, died May 17 at age 78. He was born in Seattle on Nov. 15, 1943. He attended Lowell High School in San Francisco and the University of Oregon. He graduated

from the California Maritime Academy in 1965. He married Nansie Sellers in 1966, and they moved to Ann Arbor, Mich., where he received an MBA at the University of Michigan. He served as an engineer in the U.S. Navy during the war in Vietnam. He worked with shipping companies in Seattle and San Francisco before becoming managing director of Columbia Marine Lines, a Portland tug and barge company. He served a two-year fellowship with a peace organization in Connecticut and volunteered for International Executive Service Corps, a retired senior volunteer organization. For 11 years, he served as a director in Malawi, Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka. He was the executive director of the Jubitz Family Foundation and helped found New Thought Ministries of Oregon and served two terms as chair of the board. He and Nansie led a campaign to purchase a Lake Oswego church, which changed its name to New Thought Ministries of Oregon. He is survived by his wife, Nansie; and sister Kathy Gage.

Susie Tamiyasu



Susie Tamiyasu, a resident of Northwest Place, died Aug. 7 at age 97. Susie Kaneshige was born May 30, 1925 in Torrance, Calif. She graduated from Ontario High School in Ontario, Ore. She worked at She-dRain umbrella company, Lorentz Bruun Construction and was an insurance underwriter. She also worked after hours at the family restaurant, New Tokyo in Portland's Chinatown. She married Masao Tamiyasu in 1945; he died in 1998. She later married Tommy Wong, who died. She is survived by her sister, Betty Nakamura; brother, Kiyoshi Kaneshige; and her son, Larry Tamiyasu.

Richard F. Porter



Richard Franklin Porter, a longtime resident of Southwest Montgomery Drive, died Aug. 2 at age 93. He was born on April 13, 1929, in Portland, grew up in Forest Grove and attended Hayward High School in Castro Valley, Calif. He graduated from Harvard University in 1950 with a bachelor's degree in political science. After serving in the U.S. Army in Germany, he earned a degree at Stanford Law School. He practiced law for more than 20 years at the Portland law firm of Gilley, Busey & Porter. He married Quinland Daniels in 1963. He was a member of the Mazamas and climbed most of the peaks in the Cascade Range. He was president of William Temple House, treasurer of Oregon Society of Artists and a member of the Multnomah Athletic Club. He is survived by his wife, Quinland; daughters, Frances and Sarah Porter-Braun; son, John; and four grandchildren.

Martin Crommie



Martin Dean Crommie, a Northwest Portland resident from 1974-90, died July 10 at age 70 from a collision while riding his e-bike. He was born on June 16, 1952, in Portland and attended George Smith Elementary School, Markham Elementary School and Jackson High School. He earned a GED in 2010 at PCC Cascade Campus. He worked for a vendor shuttling parts between buildings at Intel the past 10 years. He is survived by his mother, Arlene Millering; sister, Judy Taylor; and brothers, Jay and Daniel. A celebration of his life will be held on Sunday, Sept. 18, noon-4 p.m., at Lucky Labrador Beer Hall, 1945 NW Quimby St.

Agnes 'Andy' Dignan



Agnes "Andy" Dignan, who attended Cathedral Grade School and Lincoln High School, died Aug. 9 at age 90. Agnes Ann Friedle was born July 12, 1932. She received a bachelor's degree from the University of Oregon. She married Pat Dignan in 1954, and they moved to Long Island. They returned to Portland, where she chaired the Junior League of Portland and Albertina Kerr. She founded Business Communication Center in 1979. She is survived by her brother, Fred; sons Todd and Teddy; daughter, Laurie; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Her husband, Pat, died in 2021.

Thomas Showalter



Thomas Eugene Showalter, a longtime resident of Willamette Heights, died July 18 at age 89. He was born March 22, 1933, in Freeport, Ill., and graduated from Byron (Illinois) High School in 1952. He received a degree in education from Western Illinois University. He taught in Turkey, Germany and England. He married Mary Ellen Holbrook in 1962, and they moved to Portland. He taught junior high school science in Oregon City, retiring in 1998. He then earned a real estate license to help Russian immigrants acquire affordable housing.

He was active in the Mazamas for decades. He was a board member of Friendly House and an elder at First Presbyterian Church. He is survived by his daughter, Rachel Inman; and brother, Guy. He was predeceased by his wife, Mary, in 2021. A memorial service will be held Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church of Portland.

Virginia Townend



Virginia Townend, who was active in civic affairs, died Aug. 5 at age 102. Virginia Knight was born March 4, 1920, in Baltimore, where she attended elementary and secondary schools. She received a bachelor's degree in 1941 from Goucher College in Baltimore. She married Henry Townend in 1955, and they moved to Portland in 1957. She volunteered at Legacy Good Samaritan Medical Center as a Green Lady and was an active member at First United Methodist Church. She helped raise funds for the move of St. Helens Hall, where her children attended school, from Southwest Vista to Beaverton, where it became the Oregon Episcopal School. She was an OES trustee for many years. She also served on the Portland Junior Symphony and Oregon Symphony boards. She is survived by her daughters, Susan, Nancy and Sally; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her husband, Henry, died in 2004.

Shirley Prehn Kern

Shirley Prehn Kern, who graduated from Lincoln High School, died June 4 at age 95. Shirley McGuirk was born Feb. 19, 1927, in Portland, where she lived her entire life. She attended the University of Oregon. She married Charles T. Prehn in 1949; he died in 1996. She later married James Kern; he died in 2011. She is survived by her daughter, Gretchen Fisk; sons, Peter and David; brother, Tom; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Her son, Charlie, predeceased her.

Death Notices

DENNIS BOONE, 75, 1965 graduate of Lincoln High School.

JOHN M. DEENEY, 87, who had an office at 2386 NW Hoyt St. for many years.

ARLENE KAY (HATORI) DOUGHTY, 64, attended Lincoln High School.

CARRIE SAITO, 83, member of First United Methodist Church.

REV. ALLYN C. RIEKE, 83, member of First United Methodist Church.

JEANNE (HALSEY) STEED, 97, member of the Multnomah Athletic Club.

NESTER W. TAN, 95, 1945 graduate of Lincoln High School.

MERRITT K. CHAFFEE, 88, member of the Multnomah Athletic Club.

ROSEMARY C. HEERMAN, 69, graduate of Catlin Gabel School.

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Readers Reply *continued from page 3*

We can do better

The demise of Elysian Garden is not a done deal. The replacement building still has to pass muster. It raises problems, such as where residents of the 170 units are going to park. Northwest Upshur Street parking is already strained, and excavating to build parking affects a fragile watershed.

There are the landmark trees on the site, and businesses that will not survive that kind of construction.

But speaking of this as if it is a done deal is telling. We at Elysian Gardens feel this keenly. Where will we go? Rents of even the “affordable” units in the new building will probably be out of range for many of us living here. We hear that, with the present cost of construction, Portland cannot afford to build for those who cannot afford it. That is the deal that has been done.

We are seeing the disappearance of housing for singles with working-class incomes in our city. We have to believe there is still time to create something better.

Jen Peterson
NW Upshur St.

Open letter to Mayor Ted Wheeler

I was born in Portland, went to Irvington and Shattuck grade schools and graduated from Lincoln High School. After graduating from Pacific University, I married and practiced optometry in Portland for 53 years. At age 77, I moved to Spokane to marry my high school sweetheart.

Several weeks ago I came back to visit my son and daughter, who live in Gresham. My daughter took me downtown to visit my ex-boss on Southwest Market Street. All I saw were tents across from our beautiful auditorium. The next day, a friend picked me up to go to a cemetery. Along Southeast Division and Powell, all I saw were tents, used RVs and lots of debris.

This is not the Portland I grew up in and not the one I left 11 years ago. It breaks my heart.

Spokane has a homeless problem, but we are dealing with it so as not to have all our streets lined with tents and debris.

I hope someday I can come back to the Portland I grew up in and loved to work in.

Dr. Floyd Geller
Spokane, Wash.

Villages not safe

Who is advising the city to put in an unsafe safe rest village on Northwest Naito Parkway? A previous village at Northwest Glisan and Broadway could not eliminate the shootings and constant drug abuse, so why are they shoving another low-barrier SRV into our neighborhood without a management plan?

It is time the city hires a professional to organize a proper place for the homeless, with services and neighborhood safety paramount. The city and county do not have the background to grab hold of this serious, dangerous issue.

Is Commissioner Dan Ryan thinking of consequences? It seems the city has been running helter-skelter without a viable plan that includes management and security. The consequences could be deadly for our once-quiet neighborhood.

A low-income apartment building would be preferable to an unsafe village.
Jo Ann Timbanard
NW Naito Parkway

Correction:

Last month’s letter to the editor by Gail Cronin incorrectly referred to the Northwest District Association as the organization that had “bullied” Steve Pinger. The organization involved was Neighbors West/Northwest, a coalition of neighborhood associations of which NWDA is a member.

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Above: A pedestrian winds through tents and trash under the Steel Bridge along Northwest Naito Parkway.
Right: ADA infrastructure is of little benefit when wheelchairs cannot get around cluttered sidewalks near the Harbor of Hope Navigation Center.



“Many residents in our building avoid walking north from our property at night—toward the Navigation Center and proposed village.”
Brian Harvey,
The Yards resident

“Safety first” cont’d from page 1

fait accompli. Late last month, it finally scheduled a special zoom session at 5 p.m., for Sept. 8 at 5 p.m, prior to the organization’s monthly board meeting at 6 p.m. to hear the discontents of its constituents.

Even that modest accommodation came about only because a loose federation of residents at Waterfront Pearl, a 193-unit condominium building, McCormick Pier Apartments and The Yards Apartments persisted for months to be heard.

The residents are aware that their opposition casts them as NIMBYs, even in the eyes of some of their neighborhood representatives.

Safety is the principle all sides come together on—or at least use against each other.

Joan Neice at Waterfront Pearl maintains a website, neighbors4safesmartshelters.com, that lays out the case against the safe rest village. Brian Harvey, representing tenants at The Yards, uses “keepnaitosafe” as his email name.

But safety means different things to different people. And whose safety comes first?

Waterfront Pearl resident Alberto Santaballa, a former software developer from Miami, visited Portland seven years ago and was immediately struck by what he called “the best city in the United States.”

“I was head over heels with Portland,” Santaballa gushed.

“I’m actually in Portland,” he kept telling himself after his arrival. “I’ve made it.”

The euphoria did not last.

“My first few years here were incredible,” he admitted.

However, “a very steady” decline in the quality of life in the city ensued. Places he loved to spend time in in the central city became “almost impassable.”

Where Santaballa once walked daily for the sheer fun of it, he came to see as dangerous. He wanted to attend an event at the Japanese Memorial in Waterfront Park, “but I was scared to walk there.”

The area around the Steel Bridge is dominated by tents, trash, needles and people he finds intimidating, blocking the pedestrian route to downtown. Many walk in the street to get around sidewalk obstructions.

Could get worse

This is all before the proposed safe rest village. Santaballa and many of his neighbors believe the 60-person village will attract campers to the perimeter, just as happened by the Harbor of Hope Navigation Center adjacent to the village site.

“I have asked dozens of times about the spillover encampments outside Harbor of Hope being reported and moved per the good neighbor agreement,” he wrote. “I have now restated that question seven times, making sure to include Harbor of Hope management, the mayor’s office, Dan Ryan’s office and Transition Projects management, and I still don’t have an answer.”

“There was a propane tank fire in one of the tents directly in front of Harbor of Hope that took a car with it. Now there are tents within 100 feet of Harbor of Hope using a fire hydrant to lean junk against.”

Santaballa continued: “Our neighborhood’s public safety is already jeopardized with a 120-bed, low-barrier homeless shelter. We cannot abide another low-barrier site with no safety protocols, untrained staff and bad management. My hope is strong that the SRV will be blocked, and that at some time in the future, the Harbor of Hope can be removed and its damage undone.”

If residents of the higher-end Waterfront Pearl fit the image of NIMBYs, The Yards is public housing, and its occupants raise similar concerns.

“The city has learned that the easiest place to site such projects is next to the people least able to fight back,” Harvey wrote in a letter to PDNA President Stan Penkin.

“While the typical wealthy and con-

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Tents extending into Northwest Naito Parkway and obstructing the sidewalk are an everyday occurrence around the Navigation Center.

nected residents of our city have been engaged, there has been no outreach to our building, and the residents here were universally unaware of the village’s siting prior to recent, tenant-led canvassing — even though we are the most affected residential property and in need of the most culturally competent and concerted outreach efforts,” he continued.

“Many residents in our building avoid walking north from our property at night—toward the Navigation Center and proposed village,” he wrote. “There is no argument to suggest that the city will live up to any promises it may make, or that a new GNA will lead to better outcomes.”

While Naito neighbors consider management of spillover effects at the Navigation Center to be inadequate, the proposed village will have even less stringent controls. The lease requires merely that “the safe rest village team” will “pursue” a good neighbor agreement with community groups and “attempt to have an agreement in place within six months after opening.”

A stakeholders advisory meeting held July 22 brought eight public employees together with one neighborhood representative, Penkin, for a 50-minute session in which the position of local government was spelled out.

“The Navigation Center had different conditions (as it’s a permanent structure) than this SRV will have, given that it’s going to be temporary,” stated the official notes of the meeting.

Better alternative?

Neice emphasizes that Naito Parkway residents are not against shelters and services for homeless people. They oppose low-barrier shelters—open to all regardless of backgrounds or behavior—

in dense residential areas.

“We support innovative solutions like Bybee Lakes Hope Center, which uses existing facilities and succeeds by bringing services to homeless individuals in a safe place,” the website states.

Neice said people have moved to Waterfront Pearl to downsize, lower their carbon footprint and enjoy walking downtown and spending time in public places.

“They have not felt comfortable doing that for a long time,” she said.

They try to do more than their part. Many pick up trash in their vicinity and more broadly as part the neighborhood association’s Clean Team and foot patrol.

They have at times picked up human excrement “because the city won’t do it.”

The PDNA board heard these and other complaints from Naito Parkway residents in May and June, though not always sympathetically.

PDNA Vice President David Dysert, who referred to receiving 50 emails from Waterfront Pearl residents, saw little benefit in devoting meeting time to hearing the concerns.

“If this is just another forum for people to complain,” Dysert said, he wanted no part in it.

“The opponents are highly motivated, and a forum will be dominated by them,” he said, noting that a forum would give the impression that the neighborhood association has power to block the proposed village.

In June, the board decided to sponsor a forum on the safe rest village but made no arrangements. Three weeks after the board’s discussion, the lease was signed and PDNA’s leverage vanished.

The Sept. 8 forum may be too little, too late, but Neice considers it better than nothing. She had hoped PDNA would have applied the same kind of energy it did in 2017-18 when Penkin organized resistance to construction of Fremont Place Apartments. Nevertheless, it’s an opportunity she intends to make use of.

“Our primary goal remains to oppose it and have the city collaboratively seek workable, alternative solutions at another site,” she said.

Penkin outlined the terms and goals of the event.

“We would invite Commissioner Ryan’s Safe Rest Village Team to attend and provide no more than a 10 minute update and then open up the remainder

of the time for questions and comments,” he wrote.

“I believe the city is deeply committed to placing an SRV at this site. [However], a forum will allow people to openly voice their concerns, opposition or support that can be heard by our city leaders. Should the city indeed proceed with the SRV, even with strong opposition, it is incumbent upon us to do all we can to assure that there be a strict enforcement process with clearly defined accountability to avoid negative impacts to the neighborhood.” ■

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Jennifer Delpero (white coat) and Haley Hamilton (next to her) lead a close-knit team in the kitchen.

Can Font: Spanish chic



Dessert options include flan and tapioca pudding.

BY GERRY J. GREEVE

A summer stroll along the Pearl’s three parks can spark anyone’s appetite. The route is within a block of an Italian trattoria, marketplace and cafe, a burger tavern, a gourmet taco cafe, artisan pizza, two Japanese restaurants, a Moroccan-inspired café, Cool Moon Ice Cream and more.

My wife Margo and I often pick an outdoor table at Can Font. We ask Hostess/General Manager Haley Hamilton for a seat on the wide sidewalk overlooking Tanner Springs Park, where one can watch children and puppies while enjoying some of the most mouthwatering Spanish cuisine in Portland. Start with a few appetizers, move on to a fine entree or try one of the magnificent paellas.

The restaurant’s roots go back to Barcelona, where *can font* means “house of the fountain” in Catalan. It flourishes today because a hardworking and close-knit team battled through the tough days of COVID.

Hamilton, owner Alain LanzMujica, Chef de Cuisine Jennifer Delpero and paella master Hugo Castellanos have taken the menu to new heights while maintaining unexcelled service and atmosphere.

Can Font is chic. The glass-walled

dining room is contemporary elegance with crystal and white cloth. The bustling kitchen is open to view, as is the attractively comfortable cocktail bar. The back wall has a massive photo mural of Antoni Gaudi’s masterpiece, Casa Mila. Outside seating, in the Spanish tradition, is *sol o sombra* (sun and shadow) The crowd is enthusiastic and talkative, the servers are warm and remember your being there before.

Chef Delpero’s robust array has 20 or more appetizers, each large enough for multiple diners. *Pulpo a la Plancha*, octopus and scallops with a patina of seared skin and tender meat on a beautiful potato puree, is one of their specialties. I love the *Salteado* (saute) of octopus, prawns, and scallops.

One of the most popular tapas is *Pata-tas Bravas*—unimaginably delicious roasted potatoes, savory with slight bite of Pimenton dulce and Harissa. Add the steak bites option and you have a meal. *Gazpacho* and *ceviche*, anchovies and smelt, seven or eight vegetable dishes, three preparations of Spanish *jamon* are also on the menu. It is easy to dine on the tapas alone.

Chef Delpero is from near Princeton, N.J. She and her husband Vincent (a cook at Papa Haydn) both graduated from the prestigious Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park. Moving here

NOBBY NEWS

Vol. 28, No.9 “News You Can’t Always Believe” September 2022

FBI raids Nobbys

When agents of the Federated Burger Institute stormed through the Nob Hill Bar & Grill, they left no stone unturned. Looking for recipes and cooking tips illegal for an out-of-work chef to have in his possession, the agents were relentless.

Jerry, the head chef who had been let go for suggesting nude Tuesday for morale purposes, sat at the bar, sipping his beer as if he didn’t have a worry in the world. After all, he seemed to be above the law



for a while now. As he watched agents move box after box from Nobbys, his thoughts turned to the weather. “Yeah, I’ll bet the weather’s nice in Brazil,” he said. “Really very nice in Brazil.”

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Pulpo a la Plancha, octopus and scallops with a patina of seared skin on a potato puree, is a Can Font specialty.

in 2013, she quickly dove into the fine dining pool with stints at Departure, South Park and Hunt & Gather. She personally drives the majority of the dishes, while Castellanos focuses on the six different paellas. Delpero's love of noodles and sushi might someday entice her to study Japanese cooking, but her birthday dinner wish would be a medium rare steak with buttered mashed potatoes, probably from RingSide, her and Vincent's favorite restaurant to go to on their day off. I am therefore not surprised that her steak bites and filete minion y empedrado (pebbled vegetables) are as tender and succulent beef as any you will find in the city.

One night, Hamilton organized a pairing of Spanish sherries and uniquely wonderful dishes. A dark and nutty oloroso paired with beautiful, beef-filled potato croquette; then a fino inocento matched with a ceviche of five seafoods. Their flavors are complementary and reinforcing. I had never associated sherry as an accompaniment to a meal, but found it quite a treat.

In Spain, Hamilton studied the Cava's, Rioja's and Riberas that fill the solid wine list and drive the robust cocktail menu. She started in the food industry at the popular Gubanc's in Lake Oswego when attending Wilson High School. She is fastidious about service and

demands that it match the classic notes of this graceful dining room. Most evenings she is at the final station organizing and expediting the array of dishes for your table.

You can have a terrific, inventive and satisfying meal here without the paella, but everyone should try this amazing dish. The delicious saffron stock is tailored to match the proteins and vegetables, producing a crisp harmony of flavor and texture. Critical to understanding paella is that different proteins in it exude differing amounts of liquid so constant attention by Castellanos to each paella cooking is critical.

Castellanos currently does six styles: vegan, chicken, pork and three seafoods, including one with squid ink. The squid ink paella is a great example of umami—a depth of savory delight enhancing the shellfish and sofrito.

Complete your visit with a fine glass of dessert sherry to join the flan (or cheesecake or flourless chocolate cake). The flan is perfectly formed, silky smooth and bursting with flavor. A rare treat is tapioca pudding with tangy pineapple.

CAN FONT
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Food News



Groundworks Coffee moves

Groundworks Coffee Co. moved its café from 2355 NW Vaughn St. to the Montgomery Park atrium in July. The company also moved its roastery and headquarters to Southeast Portland.

Cooperativa closing

Cooperativa, an Italian-style marketplace comprised of five eateries, is closing Sept. 3. Chefs Sarah Schafer and Anna Caporael, who started Cooperativa two years ago after closing Irving Street Kitchen, struggled from the beginning with COVID-related limitations. Located in the Tanner Point building at Northwest Ninth Avenue and Overton Street, the marketplace included a café, sandwich shop, pastaria-pizzeria, gelato shop and bar.

Everybody Eats PDX gone

Everybody Eats PDX, a Black-owned restaurant featuring soul food and seafood, closed recently without explanation. The space at 138 NW 10th Ave. is for lease.



New Seasons workers organize

Employees at New Seasons' Slabtown store filed for a union election last month, following the course of New Seasons workers at the grocery chain's Southeast Division, Sellwood and Orenco Station locations, who are working with the independent New Seasons Labor Union.

"I can't remember the last day we were fully staffed," said Hans Heintze, who has worked for New Seasons for five years.



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NW PORTLAND / PEARL DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT MAP

RIDGELINE

Ethos Development LLC has purchased the Trovo Design building on an adjacent lot to expand its redevelopment plans for the site of Elysian Garden, a 36-unit courtyard apartment complex at 2631 NW Upshur St. The four/five story replacement building planned, recently dubbed Ridgeline and projected to have about 165 units, was designed for a 200-by-200-foot lot. The parcel now becomes 250-by-200 feet.



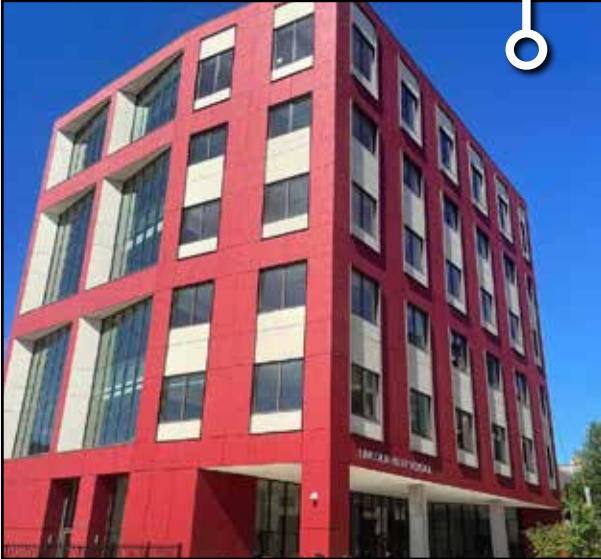
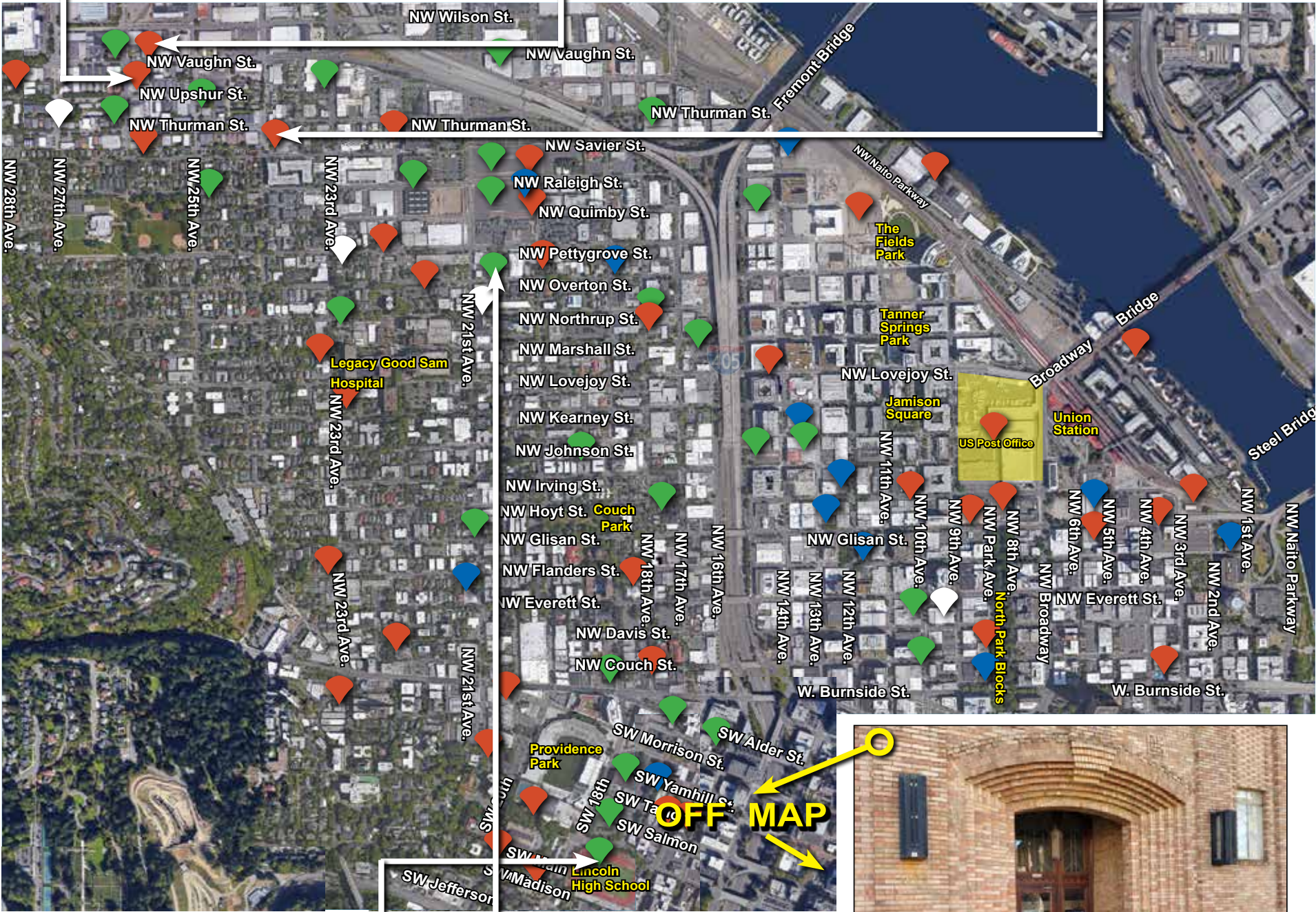
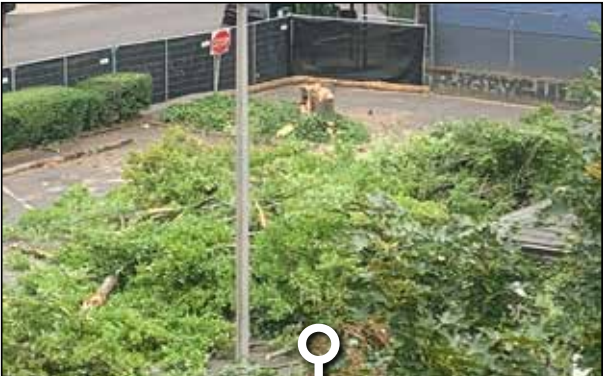
TROVO DESIGN

Robert L. Thomas is selling the 1925 industrial building where he has operated Trovo Design, a metalcraft business, since 1986. The buyer, Ethos Development LLC, intends to demolish the structure to expand the apartment building already planned on the parcel to the east.



FOREST PARK POST OFFICE

Demolition of the Forest Park Post Office began last month with the cutting of two substantial trees along the parking lot. Customers are directed to use the main Portland post office at 745 NW Hoyt St., the Central Station at 204 SW Fifth Ave. or the Waterfront post office at 101 SW Madison St. until a branch at 2017 NW Vaughn St. opens. Urban Development Partners plans to build a four-story office building as its headquarters on the parcel.



LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

A grand opening celebration of the new Lincoln High School at Southwest 18th and Salmon will be held Saturday, Sept. 17, at 10 a.m. Tours of the campus will be led from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. For more information, visit lincolnbond.pps.net.



NORTHWEST 20TH AND PETTYGROVE

Two buildings are under construction on the superblock bounded by Northwest 20th, 21st, Pettygrove and Raleigh streets. The crane at left is for Slabtown Square, a mixed-use building with 200 apartment units surrounding a public square. The crane at the right is associated with a 180-unit apartment building. The half-block in the foreground now used for staging the current projects is to be a public park.



PARKWAY APARTMENTS

The delay period for Portland State University's application to raze Parkway Apartments/Residence Hall at 1609 SW Park Ave. expires Sept. 29. The Downtown Neighborhood Association and the Architectural Heritage Center oppose demolition of the 1931 structure, which is deemed by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office to have "contributing" historic merit.



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

Diversity questionnaire irks neighborhood representatives



BY ALLAN GLASSEN

As the city of Portland applies a social equity lens more broadly, some neighborhood representatives are questioning the ramifications.

Individuals appointed by the Northwest District Association to sit on the advisory body overseeing parking policies and expenditures in the neighborhood were aghast at the questionnaire they received from the Portland Bureau of Transportation.

NWDA Planning Committee co-Chairs Greg Theisen and Steve Pinger were recently appointed by their association to represent it on the Northwest Parking Stakeholders Advisory Committee.

They assumed that designation by their neighborhood association waived the need for further screening.

Pinger was “surprised and taken aback” by the nature of the questionnaire.

Theisen said he was told that providing answers was optional, but he remains skeptical.

“They say they don’t use them, but then they do,” Theisen said.

Theisen chairs the diversity, equity and inclusion initiative at the Port of Portland, where he is senior planner, and does not oppose diversity goals. The singular focus on the topic bothered him, however.

“They didn’t ask anything about parking or transportation. I didn’t answer any of the questions,” he said. “I didn’t feel the questionnaire was applicable. ... I was not convinced they were coming from a neutral place.”

Last December, PBOT staff told the advisory committee that all of its programs “must reduce racism and exclusion.”

NWDA President Parker McNulty, who is also on the advisory committee, asked, “Is this a PBOT mandate? Why is racism being brought up [regarding] transportation and parking? Is there something I’m missing here, where people based on race have different rights for parking in different areas?”

“I am working with the PBOT equity

and inclusion group to come up with a plan that addresses your question,” Rae-Leigh Stark, Northwest Parking District liaison, responded.

“Paid parking is a step in the direction of equity because parkers pay to use curb space and those who don’t drive don’t pay for it. If it is all free, someone has to pay for that asset, for example.

“Your question is: How does that fit into antiracism and equity?” Stark continued. “All policies that we do, they fit into it. We are coming up with a plan over the next several months to introduce it into the committee’s work.”

Diversity-framed questionnaires are not limited to the city of Portland.

NWDA board member Noel Johnson said he was recently subjected to similar inquiries before serving on the Metro Central Enhancement Grants committee.

“They only cared if I would put DEI foremost,” he said. “I know what they wanted me to say, but I just couldn’t do that.” ■

The Northwest Parking District was created to:

- Bridge the gap between parking availability and demand
- Support a full range of transportation options within the context of neighborhood livability and economic vitality
- Efficiently manage parking
- Reduce reliance on single-occupancy vehicles

Source: *Portland Bureau of Transportation website: <https://www.portland.gov/transportation>*

Portland Bureau of Transportation questions for prospective citizen advisers

Please answer the following universal questions. No more than 250 words per question.

1. Describe your relevant skills, knowledge and lived experience as well as any volunteer, work and/or educational experience that would serve the advisory body’s ability to meet its mission.
2. What excites you about the possibility of serving on this advisory body?
3. If selected and appointed to serve, what would you hope to accomplish during your service?
4. The City of Portland seeks to build diverse representation on advisory bodies in terms of race, ethnicity, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, age, religion and geographic identification, as well as advocacy experience, community involvement, volunteerism, occupation and education.
 - a. Describe your experience working in community, diverse groups or public bodies, and provide examples in which you contributed to productive group processes and collective work in a collaborative, multicultural and/or multilingual setting.
 - b. Describe your ability to listen and consider other perspectives which may be different from your own.
 - c. Address your commitment to and experience supporting and/or advancing equitable outcomes. Refer to examples from your school, work, community, places of faith, family, etc.

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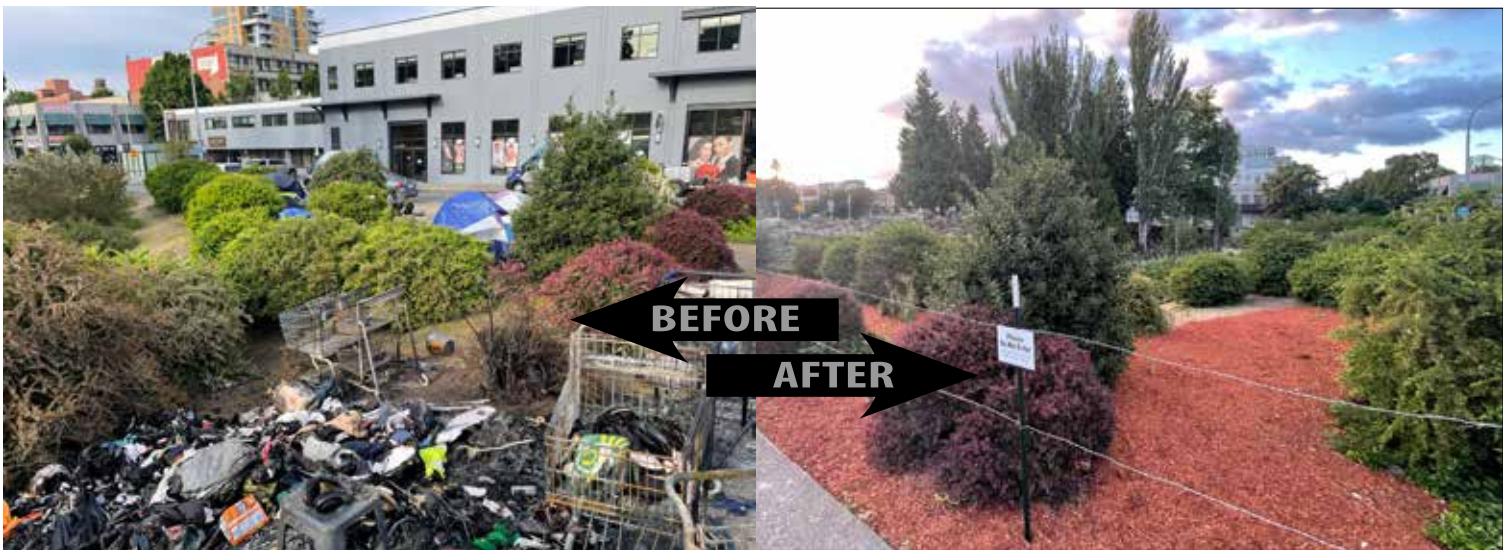
Rachel Clark, Lisa Naito, Vadim Mozyrsky, Amanda Fritz, Mike Lindberg, Maria Rojo de Steffey, Chip Lazenby, Alisa Pyszka, Stephen Kafoury, Margaret Strachan, Jim Francesconi, James Posey, Chuck Duffy, and Steve Moskowitz invite you to our VOTE “NO” CAMPAIGN KICKOFF.
Come together with diverse city leaders to discuss why we need to vote no – and support a sensible alternative!



Northwest 15th Avenue and Glisan Street



Northwest 15th Avenue near West Burnside Street



Northwest 14th Avenue and Couch Street

"Which unsafe" cont'd from page 1

the areas that have been restored and continue to work with campers who might return.

"These areas have further been beautified by the spreading of 35,000 pounds of bark dust and minimal fencing to maintain these highly visible areas as an example of what can be done.

"After more than three months, the areas have remained clean and free of

trash and tents and have drawn positive attention from the city and other neighborhoods across the city seeking similar solutions.

"I understand that government alone cannot solve all our problems, which is why I believe it takes communities and government working together.

"It is unfortunate that government has not been able to clean up the vast amount of trash and unsafe encampments in this area without community

effort and that ODOT is now questioning what was accomplished."

Miller at ODOT expressed gratitude to Penkin "for what you do.


"We just need to be coordinated and approve work," he wrote in an email. "The T-posts and wire will have to be removed. ... We would like to see this removed as soon as possible and would like a timeline from you to do so.

"The staff at the district office will work with you all if you want to apply

for an Adopt-A Landscape permit and follow our lead as to what can be done on ODOT property."

Three Facebook posts suggest on which side of the set-to the public may fall.

"This just shows what is possible when people work together to help each other in a kind and considerate manner," wrote Slabtown resident Jill Ripes. "Thank you for posting this, I had no idea that this took place, and I'm sure a



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We Heart Portland volunteers prepare for a work-day under a sign that could be their motto.

Volunteers find huge collections of needles and trash between the boulders.



Many of the We Heart Portland volunteers are former homeless people who have made turnabouts.

lot of others did not as well.”

“John, thank you for all the hard work you’ve put into this project,” wrote Pearl resident Amy Wood. “I participated in one of the We Heart Portland cleanups that you organized a couple months ago. I appreciate your passion for helping people and cleaning up the neighborhood.”

“I’m so happy to read that the folks impacted were supported in many ways instead of just pushed out,” wrote Erin Blenkiron of the King neighborhood. “This is one way to support the community!”

Wes Mahan, resident manager of the Empress Condominiums at Northwest 16th and Burnside streets, observes the social drama along the freeway from his fourth-floor window. (Mahan is an independent graphic designer whose clients include the NW Examiner.)

“I was struck by the hypocrisy of ODOT putting up signs saying it’s a criminal act

to camp or pitch tents or put up structures, then doing nothing about it, until citizens clean up. And then ODOT gets all outraged at the cleanup.” ■

AUG. 31 UPDATE:

“Sadly, it looks like ODOT is going to take it all down after today’s deadline for We Heart to take it down. I’m assuming they won’t remove the bark dust too,” Stan Penkin wrote.

“We will have to monitor camping and trash after the fencing is down. Between all of us, we should keep a log and photos of the areas going forward to have on the record.

“With much appreciation to everyone trying to keep our city clean and safe and helping the unhoused.”

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Twenty five years ago I presented the editor of the NW Examiner a cartoon I thought appropriate for his publication. The subject was illegal sales and distribution of damaging drugs from a West-side parking lot. The editor bought it, albeit with a slight change of caption.

Ever since July of 1997, I've been committed to augmenting the editorial page of the NW Examiner.

Allan Classen, the owner/publisher/editor of the NW Examiner, has established both himself and this newspaper as a trusted institution in Northwest Portland.

I've been lucky enough to—quaintly enough—hitch my wagon to Allan's success. For this alone, I'm grateful.

But I'm further grateful that readers of all ages have come to accept and hopefully enjoy my work.

Thank you, dear reader, for your continuing support of the NW Examiner.

And, truth be told, I've lived everywhere in Portland except in Northwest Portland. Observing, if you will, from a distance.

I've been drawing a cartoon for the Examiner for 25 years.

Someday I'll finish it.

Jeff Cook

[DAVID]

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The protected bike lanes on Northwest Broadway are being extended through downtown to Southwest Clay Street as part of the Portland Bureau of Transportation's Central City in Motion project, thereby connecting Portland State University to the Broadway Bridge.



The Pumpkin Patch at 16511 NW Gillihan Road on Sauvie Island opens this season's MAiZE Sept. 3 and will be open daily through Halloween. Other attractions include a market, gift shop, café, animal barn and hayrides. For information, visit www.portlandmaize.com

Reader Andy Smith photographed a BNSF rail car blocking Northwest 17th Avenue between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. recently, which he called a common occurrence. Smith has called and written the railroad company about violating its own policy to not enter this stretch of track until having clearance to cross the Steel Bridge. BNSF has not responded to an offer to comment.



Dancing in the street is expected at the fifth annual Goose Hollow Days Street Festival Saturday, Sept. 17, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at Southwest 16th and Salmon. Live music, food, history tours and art are also part of the neighborhood association-sponsored fair.



A man depicting the ghost of Abraham Lincoln bides time on the Tilikum Crossing while waiting for City Commissioner Carmen Rubio to overturn the recommendation of the Regional Arts & Culture Commission and restore the Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt statues to their podiums in the South Park Blocks.



A large RV without license plates, mirrors or lights was parked on Northwest 16th Avenue by Cathedral School intermittently last month, receiving many visitors who left after a few minutes carrying small packages. Photo by Wesley Mahan



The giant bear mural at Groundworks Coffee Co., 2355 NW Vaughn St., had to be removed when the company's rental agreement for the building ended in June. The mural was painted by Jeremy Nichols.



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The Kendall Bergstrom Team 971.356.6085



The Pearl

\$1,295,000

2,000 SF • 2 BD • 2 ½ BA | **ML# 22684765**
Lee Davies | Jennifer Holland | 503.468.3660



.33 ACRE LOT

Bull Mountain

\$1,290,000

4,283 SF • 4 BD +Bonus • 3 ½ BA | **ML# 22127457**
Julie Williams 503.705.5033 | Jeni White 503.964.0576



Forest Heights

\$1,050,000

3,584 SF • 4 BD • 3 ½ BA | **ML# 22685708**
The Apa-Clarke Team 503.806.9773



ON THE GOLF COURSE

Claremont

\$920,000

2,625 SF • 3 BD • 3 BA | **ML# 22362723**
Lee Davies | Jennifer Holland | 503.468.3660



Bonny Slope

\$895,000

3,488 SF • 4 BD • 4 BA | **ML# 22023607**
Shelly Brown 971.221.2641 | Beth Flora-Horton 503.706.6849



SW Portland

\$849,900

2,950 SF • 5 BD • 3 BA | **ML# 22419472**
The Dirk Hmura Team 503.740.0070



ON THE GOLF COURSE

Claremont

\$819,900

1,423 SF • 2 BD • 2 BA | **ML# 22659519**
The Dirk Hmura Team 503.740.0070



NW Portland

\$817,500

1,539 SF • 2 BD • 2 ½ BA | **ML# 22086829**
The Kendall Bergstrom Team 971.356.6085



Beaverton

\$779,900

2,654 SF • 4 BD • 2 ½ BA | **ML# 22576196**
The Apa-Clarke Team 503.806.9773



Vermont Hills

\$760,000

2,616 SF • 4 BD • 2 ½ BA | **ML# 22315798**
Sarah Pitzman 971.322.8863 | Kate Mitchell 503.318.4800



Ridgeview Heights

\$699,000

2,952 SF • 5 BD • 3 BA | **ML# 22649375**
Coleen Jondahl 503.318.3424 | Debbie Walker-Quintana 503.820.1626



SE Portland

\$640,000

2,706 SF • 3 BD • 2 BA | **ML# 22034551**
Shelly Brown 971.221.2641 | Beth Flora-Horton 503.706.6849



Beaverton

\$625,000

1,542 SF • 3 BD • 2 BA | **ML# 22326428**
Lauren Sinha 503.705.8636 | Eli Cotham 971.380.1363



The Pearl

\$615,900

1,068 SF • 2 BD • 2 BA | **ML# 22041146**
The Dirk Hmura Team 503.740.0070



The Pearl

\$555,000

1,022 SF • 1 BD • 1 BA | **ML# 22550778**
Jason Cassell 503.953.5444 | Bob Harrington 503.913.1296



NE Portland

\$425,000

975 SF • 3 BD • 1 BA | **ML# 22154057**
Amanda Rust 503.830.7249 | Kate Mitchell 503.318.4800



Stonewater

\$410,000

1,155 SF • 2 BD • 2 BA | **ML# 22098220**
Renée Harper 503.314.7691 | Connie Apa 503.805.7474



Aloha/Beaverton

\$399,000

1,460 SF • 3 BD • 2 ½ BA | **ML# 22025359**
Nicole Jochum 503.894.6650 | Dave Shuster 503.504.3283