

# Examiner

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Limits of reason



Walton's court



Ode to Music Mill

JULY 2024/ VOLUME 37, NO. 11

FREE

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William Temple House Executive Director Graham Craft (L-R), Multnomah County Library Interim Director Annie Lewis, Multnomah County Commissioner Sharon Meieran and Multnomah County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson had some fun at the groundbreaking for the new Northwest Library branch. Photo courtesy of Multnomah County

# 

# Where is the neighborhood association in this picture?

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

n official groundbreaking ceremony is not big news-unless, perhaps, one looks at who isn't

Two Multnomah County commissioners, the library's chief executive and a social agency head speechified and shoveled specially curated dirt at the site of the proposed Northwest Library last month. About 50

people, many of them county employees on the clock,

Instructions that the public was not invited were sent to the news media. The Northwest District Association, which had worked with project managers and architects for more than a year to improve the remodeling design, was not represented.

The neighborhood slot on the dais went to a local

social agency executive for his role in a focus group to make the facility accommodating to his agency's client base; primarily those dealing with mental illness and homelessness.

Had library officials sought a balanced local view on the thorny security concerns surrounding homeless people in libraries, NWDA was the logical choice. The neighborhood association had discussed that issue

Cont'd on page 7

# New sheriff in town

# **Latest addition to Food Front** board calling the shots

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

¶he Food Front Cooperative Grocery board considered terminating two members, Toren Orzeck and myself, June 25. A week after the hearing, no deci-

If little else is known, it is clear that there is a new sheriff in town. The board was chaired by its newest member, Mark A. Douglas, instead of President Roman Shvarts, who has been leading the organization this year.

Douglas has exchanged emails with Orzeck and me members.

"I really do hope you know there is no predetermined goal about revoking anyone's membership—at least for me," Douglas wrote. "If I came across that way, I do apol-

Three days later, he sent an update: "We will contact you as

Cont'd on page 13



Mark A. Douglas

# Parking discussions degenerate over role of consultants

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

The Northwest Parking Stakeholders Advisory Committee is meeting again after a six-month hiatus called by the Portland Bureau of Transportation due to disagreements over the body's proper role.

The two sessions since the break have

been run by a private consultant, whose performance has added another level of contention. The conflict has moved to the proper role of private consultants hired by PBOT to conduct the meetings.

Some committee members were alarmed to read in the June NW Examiner that Christine Moses of Buffalo Cloud Consulting is paid \$241 an hour and

that her fee is deducted from funds that could otherwise underwrite transportation improvements in the Northwest

Efforts to uncover the terms of Moses' assignment elicited vague answers from PBOT referring to her work for another committee on the Eastside.

"Christine facilitates our meetings for our Boise parking plan," PBOT Program Manager Kristan Alldrin said, "and over there it averages about four hours a

"Sarah's [Omlor from EnviroIssues, the note taker at the meetings] rate is about half her rate, so it's roughly about

Cont'd on page 12

#### 1925 VILLA FLORENCE CONDOMINIUM IN THE HISTORIC ALPHABET DISTRICT



### 507 NW 22nd Avenue #206

Enter the building via keypad entry, ascend to the 2nd floor and step into this home filled with architectural details and historic charm. Hardwood floors, crown molding, 3 walk-in closets, granite countertops, and tile bath. Entire building has been replumbed. Includes 1 dedicated storage unit, and 1 deeded parking space. A walk score of 98 is no surprise as this is conveniently located between NW 23rd & 21st Avenue with abundant shopping, dining and cultural offerings.

1 Bedroom / 1 Bath / 803 SF (Approx.) RMLS #24422955 \$345,000

#### 1959 MID-CENTURY IN KINGS HEIGHTS WITH CITYSCAPE AND MT. HOOD VIEWS



#### 2545 NW Mildred Street

Honoring the retro features, an extensive remodel was done in 2011, which resulted in a dramatic great room and opened up sight lines. The chef's kitchen features high-end appliances and has a Carrara marble island with a wet bar.

The main level Primary bedroom has a walk-in closet and bath. The exterior of the home offers a Mahogany deck, and a covered back patio with a quiet shaded garden. Attached 2 car garage with a 16x13 storage room for workbench, exercise or hobbies. The location is highly prized for its proximity to downtown, hiking trails, parks, and dining. Pittock Mansion, Hillside Center, Forest Park, NW 23rd Ave & Uptown Shopping Center are all nearby.

3 Bedrooms / 3 Bathrooms / 2385 SF (Approx.) 5227 SF Lot (Approx.) RMLS #24340017 \$1,150,000

#### 1907 W.L. MORGAN BUILDING CONDOMINIUM IN THE HISTORIC ALPHABET DISTRICT



#### 2046 NW Flanders Street #23

Designed by visionary developer W.L. Morgan this elegant building is a tribute to sophisticated city living. Unit #23 is a blend of timeless elegance and modern convenience.

Freshly painted walls, refinished fir floors, picture rail moldings, and spacious bedrooms featuring walk-in closets. Large kitchen with gas cooking. Amenities in the lower level include bike storage, laundry, and 2 dedicated storage units. <u>Located in a National Historic Neighborhood</u>, this walk score is 95.

2 Bedrooms / 1 Bathroom / 1013 SF (Approx.) RMLS #24189252 \$299,000

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#### 1950 MID-CENTURY MODERN IN KING'S HEIGHTS



### 315 NW Maywood Drive

Designed and built for Paul Neils, President of J. Neils Lumber Company. Neils envisioned this main-level living space on a premium plot within the sought-after King's Heights neighborhood, chosen for its sweeping 300-degree vista. Elevated above the street this residence offers privacy and views of the cityscape and 4 mountains.

Upon entering the home, expansive windows and glass doors opon entering the nome, expansive windows and glass doors connect the interiors with the surrounding gardens, patios and level lawn. An expansion in the 1990's created a 3 bedroom home with 2 ensuite bedrooms, including a spacious primary suite. Further upgrades include luxurious bathrooms, new roof with remote-controlled skylights, and HVAC. Heated secret garden studio is perfect as an art studio, home office or hobby space. Located just minutes from vibrant NW 23rd Avenue.

3 Bedrooms / 3 1/2 Baths / 3452 SF (Approx.) 12,632 SF Lot (Approx.) RMLS# 24188830 \$1,250,000

#### 1901 RESTORED CRAFTSMAN IN WILLAMETTE HEIGHTS



#### 3320 NW Thurman Street

This restored Craftsman home offers a versatile floorplan catering to a variety of uses, with home offices, extended guest set-ups (with kitchenettes) and social gatherings from intimate to grand.

Extensive improvements to infrastructure, systems and surfaces from 2012-2024 include Seismic retrofitting, updated plumbing, electrical, furnace, kitchen, all baths and so much more. Each room on the main level leads to the outdoors. A covered porch wraps around the home on 2 sides and connects to the private backyard.
The owners teamed up with Metcalf Design and created a unique and comfortable residence that masterfully integrates past with present, resulting in a home that is truly an homage to a bygone era.
Cross over the Thurman Bridge and stroll down to the shops and restaurants on NW Thurman, or go the other direction and hike through Forest Park.

5 Bedrooms / 3 1/2 Baths / 4812 SF (Approx.) 7500 SF Lot (Approx.) RMLS #24393569 \$1,300,000

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PORTLAND BUSINESS JOURNAL 2023



# 10-year plans and the limits of reason

ov. Tina Kotek wants Oregon to build 360,000 homes over the next 10 years to fix the state's housing crisis. She pushed through a \$278 million funding package and created an advisory council to see that it happens.

As speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives in 2017, Kotek used all her leverage to enact another grand plan to end homelessness, a bill that essentially ended single-family zoning in the state.

In between these broad strokes, Metro voters approved a \$650 million housing bond measure designed to get at the root of the problem—a presumed housing shortage—within 10 years. The city of Portland also did its part with a \$258 million housing bond, following up with a bond to provide social services needed by people moving from the streets into stable housing.

One might think that all of these attacks on the root cause would be evidence in themselves that the strategy was not working. Could their diagnosis be wrong? Apparently, that never occurred to the people in charge. As the saying goes, you can't reason someone out of an idea they weren't reasoned into.

The plans involved numbers and timetables, but none were given the even-handed scrutiny appropriate for massive social endeavors. They have instead been driven by pitches to fear of even greater social breakdown and appeals to moral conscience. That is not a sin in itself. Such appeals do not, however, foster democratic dialogue. When you're on the right side of a moral issue, compromise can be seen as cowardice.

Kotek made that abundantly clear in testimony before her legislative colleagues in 2017.

"House Bill 2007 would get rid of some of the loopholes that allow NIMBYism to block development ... where wealthy neighborhoods simply want to self-segregate and prevent affordable housing development in their communities.

"We have to acknowledge that land-use regulations at the local level have history, they are political and they should be scrutinized to ensure that they do not perpetuate the racialized inequities that have been built into

"We don't have to be reminded that we just finished a winter in which a lot of people didn't have a place to



live," she concluded.

Most would agree that providing a roof for everyone is a higher moral value than protecting the livability of comfortable neighborhoods. As long as the argument stayed on her high moral purpose— homes for all and overcoming racial segregation—she was in charge. The bill (renamed Senate Bill 1051) passed the House 59-0 and the Senate 23-6.

No one seemed to raise a more critical question: Would this measure produce the results promised? She referred vaguely to research suggesting that it could, but her prescription was based on shaky social, economic and political assumptions that have not been borne out.

Seven years later, evidence mounts that chronic homelessness is more closely associated with addiction and mental health than a simple shortage of homes. Funding and public policy, however, are locked into maximizing housing construction. And where public money

flows freely, a self-interested network of agencies and business interests flourishes. The housing-industrial complex, as it is derisively called, will not readily relinquish its hold on programs and theories that keep it endowed.

A more democratic approach to our homelessness crisis might have begun with similarly lofty goals. But it would have been designed to adjust to changing circumstances and evidence. It's always easier to learn from the past than to predict the future.

Society needs its moral visionaries, reformers and saints. They call on our consciences to right wrongs and save us from ruin. They push the wheels of government in directions it should go. But a zealot at the helm of public power is doubly dangerous: prone to pursue the extreme or infeasible and exceedingly hard to reason off a cliff. ■

# Readers Reply

Letters can be sent to: allan@nwexaminer.com or 1209 NW Sixth Ave., #303 Portland, OR 97204. Letters should be 300 words or fewer; include a name and a street of residence. Deadline: third Saturday of the month.

### **Insane drama**

What is going on with the old Food Front space? The drama among the board members is insane. It sounds like the wishes of the members and neighbors are being sidelined.

I just want a grocery store there ASAP, and Market of Choice sounds like an easy solution to everyone's problems. Jason Hilbourne

### Let members decide

The Food Front property has been fenced and decaying for over a year ["Food Front buyers may be getting cold feet," June]. It's a sad coda to

something we all loved. In December, when members voted overwhelmingly for a new grocery store on the property and Market of Choice made an offer and a 10-year commitment to do just that, the future seemed bright.

Since then, the Food Front board has been distracted with fanciful concepts that don't meet member preference for a grocery and don't make sense financially. Meanwhile, time, money and opportunities slip away.

All this time, the board could have allowed members to vote yes or no on the only firm offer they received, from Market of Choice. The board has had the ruby slippers this entire time. The board could put Market of Choice's offer to a membership vote today,

declare a job well done and we'd have a grocery instead of an empty eyesore of a property and a looming \$1 million debt repayment. As a Food Front member, I urge them to do just that.

Susan Stone NW Savier St.

### Place over price

There are many things that are very concerning regarding the future of the Food Front property as you have reported. I am concerned about what happens in the long run to the gathering place, a place to bump into friends and neighbors, a place where we experience the reality of belonging to community if we don't plan for this in the sale of the property?

On May 25, the Food Front board of directors advised members, "If none of the offers meet our requirements, we will officially put the building up for

Far more important than selling to the highest bidder is how do we maintain the integrity of that corner of our neighborhood?

Susie Stragnell NW Savier St.

### For Market of Choice

I live in the Northwest Alphabet District and try to shop locally, walking as much as possible. I was excited to hear that the former Food Front might

Cont'd on page 13

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### Robert A. Hoyt



Robert Allan Hoyt, a rare book dealer and longtime resident of Northwest Irving Street, died June 1 from complications of a stroke at age 89. Hoyt was born on Aug. 7, 1934, in Portland, where he attended public schools. He studied at Reed College and the Art Institute of Chicago. He served in the Army in the mid-

1950s. He worked at the Old Oregon Book Store and then as an independent appraiser of rare books. The sale of his Edgar Lazarus-designed 1892 house at 2343 NW Irving St. was the subject of a March 2015 NW Examiner story. He married Jacqueline Smart in 1960 and they divorced in 1966. His second wife, Darlene, died in 2011. He is survived by his son, Christopher Hoyt; and stepson, James Hunt.

### **Christopher Bleiler**

Christopher Bleiler, a Northwest Portland resident and co-founder of Fix Studio, a multidisciplinary design company in the Northwest Industrial Area, died suddenly on Dec. 4 at age 56. He was born in Milwaukee, Wisc., on May 15, 1968, and grew up in Mequon, Wisc. He studied Graphic Design at the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design. He moved to Portland in 1995 and married Jennifer Jako in 1999. Fix Studio is a. He helped design retail, restaurant and entertainment venues nationally and locally, including for Lovejoy Bakers, Basta's and Ken's Artisan Bakery. He also worked for LAIKA Studios and was an actor. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer; child, Biancastella; mother, Mary Joan Tobin; stepmother, Marylee Bleiler; sister, Melinda Stover; and brother, Andrew Bleiler. A celebration of life, will be held on Saturday, July 20. For details, contact producerjako@gmail.com

### **Neil Goldschmidt**



Neal Edward Goldschmidt, the former Oregon governor and Portland mayor who lived in Goose Hollow the past 20 years, died of heart failure on June 12 at age 83. He was born June 16, 1940, in Eugene, and received a degree in political sci-

ence from the University of Oregon in 1963. He attended law school at the University of California, Berkeley, and in 1966 became a Legal Aid lawyer in Portland. He married Margaret Wood in 1965. He was elected to the Portland City Council in 1969 and was twice elected mayor, resigning in 1979 to serve as the U.S. Secretary of Transportation. He served one term as governor of Oregon and then became a lobbyist for major corporations. A scandal involving his sexual abuse of a 14-year-old girl broke in 2004. He married Diane Snowden the same year. He is survived by his wife, Diana; son, Joshua; daughter, Rebecca; and a stepchild.

### John Woodworth



John Roderick Woodworth, a former resident of Portland Heights, died June 9 at age 98. He was born in Portland and grew up in Eugene, where he graduated from University High School in 1943. After service in the Navy during World War II, he graduated from the University of Oregon in business administration

in 1948. He married Carol Becker in 1973, and they moved to Portland, where he worked for Ray F. Becker Co., a steel fabrication firm, serving as vice president until his retirement. He was a member of the Multnomah Athletic Club, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral and Waverley Country Club. He is survived by his wife, Carol; son, Thomas; daughter, Nancy Hanna; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

### Karolyn Neupert Gordon



Karolyn Neupert Gordon, a Portland Heights resident, died May 23 at age 82. Karolyn Koenig was born on Aug. 13, 1941, in Portland. She attended Beaverton High School, the University of Portland and the University of Oregon. She married Karl Neupert; he died in 2002. She married Barry Gordon in 2013. She

served as board chair of the Neupert family business, Consolidated Supply Co., a plumbing and water works wholesaler, which grew to 11 locations under her leadership. She served on the boards of Self Enhancement Inc. and Austin Family Business at Oregon State University. She was a member of the Multnomah Athletic Club, the Portland Golf Club, the Town Club and Junior League.

### **Death notices**

ELIZABETH LIBBIE ALLEN, 76, 1965 Lincoln High School graduate.

JOHN A BARR, 87, 1953 Lincoln High School graduate.

STANLEY G. BOLES, 77, partner at Bora Architects.

JUDITH FITCH CURRAN, 85, 1956 Lincoln High School graduate.

MARCELLA (WIES) HOWELL, 95, 1946 Lincoln High School graduate.

MARGOT LEONARD, 62, founded Bima restaurant in 1994.

MARILYN (SOUTHWARD) McGARY, 89, 1951 Lincoln High School graduate.

TATIA MORRISON, former principal of Chapman Elementary School.

DAVID COLDER POVEY, 83, 1958 Lincoln High School graduate.

**DEBORAH (DANIELS) ROBERTS**, 66, 1976 Lincoln High School graduate.

ANN SNYDER, 72, 1970 Lincoln High School graduate.

JAMES BRUCE TITUS, 62, 1979 Lincoln High School graduate.

VIOLET (WHITTMAN) WATT, 88, 1953 Lincoln High School graduate.

ALBERT WONG, 98, 1946 Lincoln High School graduate

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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Bill Walton returned to his old playground in Wallace Park in 2021. Greg Hermens, co-owner of the Nob Hill Bar & Grill, holds his granddaughter, Elle Cohen.

# **Bill Walton: Northwest's** unforgettable neighbor

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

ill Walton's place in basketball and American society was documented by tributes after his death in May at age 71. The New York Times ran a 1,400word story, and the nation's premier sports website, The Athletic, explored the breadth of his impact on people far beyond the court.

Walton was also an unforgettable neighbor in the Northwest District, a part of the city he loved so much he chose it for three different homes in the approximately three years he lived in Portland. His first house at 2327 NW Kearney St. was the ultimate hippie pad where seemingly anyone was welcome to drop in. He also lived on Northwest Quimby Street, a block from Wallace Park, and in Willamette Heights.

He was seen everywhere. Milt Olshen, who owned and operated Irving Street Pharmacy, told of Walton walking down the street—his young son riding his shoulders—to make small purchases and leave big

He played pickup basketball at Wallace Park with whoever happened to be there. Rich Philofsky was one of the Wallace Park hoopers Walton blessed by getting them into Trail Blazer games sans tickets by having them deliver his prescriptions to the Memorial Coliseum dressing room and then slipping into the arena. It was Philofsky's fondest memory.

Walton was the grand marshal of a Northwest neighborhood parade, which he led on his bicycle, smiling all the way.

He especially loved Wallace Park. Invited to speak at the centennial celebration of the park in 2021, he sent a letter calling it a "better-than-perfect place.

"I was a young man when I found Wallace Park 47 years ago," he wrote. "I was in need of many things, and I found them all. We would come to play, to learn, to grow, to find peace, solitude, fresh air and clear skies. We did it all, right here at our glorious Wallace Park. Wallace Park made me the person I am today."

Some have suggested renaming his favorite park for him. The Northwest District Association had what may be a better idea: naming the basketball court Walton Court. A motion to make that recommendation to the city passed unanimously.







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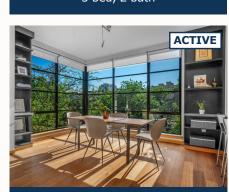
\$749,000 1030 NW Johnson #223 2 bed, 2 bath



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\$630,000 726 NW 11th Ave #310 2 bed, 2 bath



\$434,000 1400 NW Irving St #527 1 bed, 1.5 bath



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Above left: The initial design had narrower steps, offset entry. Above right: The revised design is more open.

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Library

Multnomah County Interim Director Annie Lewis was thrilled to celebrate the coming library. Photo courtesy of Multnomah County

"Left out" cont'd from page 1

thoroughly, balancing the needs of readers with those whose behavior and condition may make other library users and staff feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

As the city's sanctioned avenue for citizen participation, neighborhood associations are open to all and committed to speaking for the entire community. But to Multnomah County and managers of the Library Capital Bond Project, focus groups were the favored reflection of community will. In their thinking, NWDA misses certain population groups.

Participants in the four focus groups—labeled as seniors, social services, families and Lincoln High School—shared thoughts on what libraries mean to them. The sessions were conducted by Hennebery Eddy Architects, also the designers of the project.

"What are your favorite things about libraries?" and "What qualities in a space make you feel comfortable and safe?" were typical questions. Participants were also asked for their color preferences for the decor.

Meanwhile, the NWDA Planning Committee was tackling the big picture: How will the library branch serve the wider needs of the neighborhood? How will it fit into the surrounding blocks, and how will it project its function as an essential public institution? The committee insisted that the main entry

be switched to its north side, facing the proposed park and public square across Northwest Pettygrove Street. Initial plans put the entrance on a comparatively featureless block on Overton Street.

The committee also advocated for a more prominent and stately entry befitting a public library. Dumpster storage, ramps and blank walls should be minimized. The front steps should be wider and the main door more prominent and aligned directly with the steps.

Not all of these suggestions made it to the final design, but most were incorporated to some degree. The committee submitted a detailed letter of support to the city while asking for further consideration of enumerated topics.

The focus groups were easier to accommodate. They expressed preferences and few criticisms before being thanked with gift cards and excused without further involvement.

Steve Pinger, co-chair of the NWDA Planning Committee, had much higher expectations for the community engagement process, generating a series of email exchanges that highlighted the divergence in philosophies.

Katie O'Dell, deputy director of the library bond project, defended the course taken.

"Our project scope does not include an additional stakeholder/focus group with NWDA, and we are not

Continued on page 8



## Marshall Union Manor

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Seemingly everyone had a hand in preparation for the new library. Photo courtesy of Multnomah County.

"Left out" cont'd from page 7

able to expand that scope," O'Dell wrote. "The library's community engagement ethos ensures listening to a wide array of voices, focusing on those most often left out. NWDA will have input through the design review process, and of course, you as an individual can participate in any future open houses or online engagements as they are planned.

"We strive to both keep the association informed while also providing equitable opportunities to others as well," she

Pinger did not appreciate the county outflanking the association with its own assessment of who should speak for the neighborhood.

"The NWDA, hopefully, includes those voices as well, and importantly endeavors to aggregate many varied inputs into a consensus viewpoint as a chartered, city-recognized neighborhood organization," he replied.

Pinger wrote that NWDA was involved

with plans for the park across Pettygrove Street from the library as well as with the developer of the adjacent Slabtown Square.

"I believe that the NWDA is in the somewhat unique position of looking to the potential integration of each of these adjacent but separate design elements into a cohesive and reinforcing sum of the parts. It is from this perspective that we look forward to participating in the initial conceptualization of the project," he said.

### Thorn in the side

Since at least 2016, administrators of Portland's neighborhood system have contended that neighborhood associations predominantly reflect the wishes of upper-income homeowners, and it is government's job to magnify voices deemed to have been left out. Multnomah County feels the same way, apparently.

Chuck Duffy, an NWDA president in the 1980s who later worked for Mayor Bud Clark and returned to the NWDA board in 2018, has had a front row seat to much of the evolution of the Portland neighborhood association system.

"This business about neighborhood associations not reflecting the entire population is a government-created myth," said Duffy, who now lives in South Carolina. "The myth has been created because city officials over the years have found that neighborhood associations can be an effective to the detriment of the city's desires."

Neighborhood associations bring expertise and knowledge of city codes, policies and practices.

"That expertise can be a thorn in the side of government," he said.

Focus groups represent the desire "to cherry-pick the people who agree with their proposals," he said.

Unlike neighborhood associations, these "pop-up groups have no accountability, no open meetings, no bylaws" to ensure that they speak for a constituency,

Duffy was surprised that the denigrating of neighborhood associations has spread to Multnomah County and found it "unbelievable" that an NWDA representative was not asked to speak at the library groundbreaking.

Liz Sauer, communications manager for Library Capital Bond Projects, defended the handling of the public involvement process, which she called "transparent, expansive and robust."

Sauer said there was not enough room for more than four speakers at the groundbreaking.

### Reinforcing cycle

The consequences of governmental orchestration of public participation can create a vicious cycle:

- First, it dilutes the voice of independent neighborhood associations, relegating them to just one voice of many.
- Then, the "underserved" populations take advantage of their special access to City Hall, a fast track they justify by saying neighborhood associations are inhospitable to them.
- The neighborhood associations, thus, have a harder time recruiting minorities, who don't need to engage with their neighbor associations because they have a direct connection to decision-makers.
- Finally, government officials conclude that neighborhood associations are not representative of their full communities, which to the degree that it is true owes partly to their own thumbs on the scales.

Duffy and others contend that this pattern perpetuates common aspersions about neighborhood associations.

"You could call it the big lie that we don't represent everybody when, in fact, we are the only group that does," he said.

"Chuck says much of what the county needs to hear," Orloff said. "I would only emphasize what public agencies need to take from this event: Involve neighborhood associations in everything from planning to hosting events within their bailiwick."

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# Statement of John DiLorenzo to the Portland City Council





Last year, I had the pleasure to represent the plaintiffs in the Tozer ADA lawsuit, which resulted in a settlement agreement with the City and benefits for our neighbors with disabilities who can now navigate many city sidewalks.

Part of the settlement agreement requires the City to provide us quarterly reports as to its progress. Since last July, the City has engaged in over 4,000 encampment removals which approximate 8,000 to 12,000 tents. The City employs Rapid Response, a bio-hazard removal company to perform these removals and has agreed to pay Rapid Response more than \$26 million over its 4 year contract through this year.

The number of tent removals so far has exceeded the number of houseless persons living on our streets according to the last point in time count. So, where are all the new tents coming from?

They are coming from the JOINT OFFICE OF HOMELESS SERVICES. The Joint Office maintains forms, like those I have brought with me today, that show every check out of supplies from the warehouse.

In his letter of June 4 to the County Chair, Comm. Gonzales said it remains unclear as to how many tents and tarps have been distributed by the Joint Office, only to be left to the City to clean up.

Well, these forms answer that question. Since our settlement agreement last June, the Joint Office has distributed another 6,554 tents and 24,172 tarps. Certain groups and direct recipients have, in turn, placed these tents and tarps back on our sidewalks and neighborhood streets where the clean-up cycle repeats and millions more dollars are expended. The County has supplied us an XL spreadsheet which has allowed us to list by numbers of tents and tarps the particular groups that have been involved in placing them in the neighborhoods. Even your own contractor, Rapid Response, checked out 58 tents and 248 tarps since our agreement — tents and tarps which they arguably were paid again to clean up.

Your agreement with the Joint Office requires the County to indemnify you from all expense and cost you incur as a result of the County's actions. At minimum, I believe the Costs of the ADA lawsuit, your costs of performing under the settlement agreement, and the tens of millions of dollars you have expended for the Impact Reduction Program should be reimbursed to you by the County due to these imprudent policies.

And of course, if you truly desire to engage in harm reduction, you should sever your relationship with the Joint Office altogether and use the \$42 million of dues you pay each year to provide a more compassionate response – sheltering people as opposed to allowing them to languish on the streets.

Supply Distribution Recipient	Tarps	Tents
4D Recovery	296	75
Ainsworth United Church of Christ All Good NW AS IS Church Beacon Village Blair's Beautiful Bounty Blanchet House of Hospitalit Bridges to Change Inc Cascadia Behavioral Health Cascadia Magical Activists Catholic Charities CENTRAL CITY CONCERN City Street Outreach Clackamas Services Center Clean Start Cool Camp Collective Cultivate Initiative Defense Fund PDX Dignity and Peace, INC EMO Fire & Glory in Christ	78 20 244 490 286 y 0 190 1 236 266 214 N 680 394	20 5 65 130 75 0 79 90 70 70 260 100 50 35 70 74 40 90 65
Ministries	. 80	20
Foster-Powell Neighborhood Association Fresh Air PDX Grace Church Portland Grant Park Church H.O.P.E Team Halospace	d 190 194 172 348 152 228	50 50 50 85 50 55

Supply Distribution Recipient	Tarps	Tents
Hands that Help	94	25
HAYHO_	132	35
Historic Park Rose	286	75
Hygiene 4 All	230	60
Iron Tribe	170	55
Janus Youth	368	95
Jewish Family & Child Services	248	65
JOIN	248	60
Jovita	114	30
Just Helping Our Society	288	70
MCHD/Corrections Health	0	0
MCK PDX	266	70
Meals on Us PDX	388	100
MHAAO	368	95
Multnomah County	185	81
NARA	270	75
New Avenues for Youth	134	35
Night Strike City Team	98	25
NSFTW	226	70
Old Town Community	246	90
Association (OASIS) On the House Portland	346 194	50 50
Operation Night Watch	368	95
Oregon Harbor of Hope	40	10
Our Streets PDX	210	55
OUTSIDE IN	230	75
Outside The Frame PDX	246	70
P:ear	172	40
Path Home	20	10

Supply Distribution		
Recipient	Tarps	Ten
PDX Alliance for Self-Care	114	30
PDX Saints Love	310	80
Portland Blues & Jazz	444	
Dance Society	114	30
Portland Downton	on 50	40
Neighborhood Association Portland Industrial Workers	JII 30 S	41
of the World	326	80
Portland Mutual Aid		
Network	328	8
Portland Park Rangers	76	10
Portland Rescue Mission Portland Street Car	0	0
Portland Street Medicine	310	80
Portland Street Response	0	0
Potluck in the Park	308	80
PPOP	308	80
Project Homeless	328	9(
Project Respond Providence Health &	98	60
Services BOB	56	1
RACC	36	1
Rahab Sisters	326	80
Rapid Response	248	5
Retevis Community Service	s 284 80	7: 2:
Right 2 Survive Rose Haven	228	6
SAFES	168	4:
Saints Peter & Paul		
Episcopal Church	110	2

Supply Distribution Recipient	Tarps	Tents
Salvation Army Outreach Team SE Uplift Neighborhood	293	75
Coalition Severe Weather Individua	210 I 2940	65 735
South Burlingame Neighborhood Association St Johns Safe Light St. David's Episcopal	250 80	65 70 20
St. Michael and All Angels Church Straightway Services Street Books Street Roots Stroll The Fuller Family Foundation The People's Depot The Web Transition Projects (NAV) Trash for Peace	114 306 248 304 208	30 80 65 80 60 70 70 70 95 5
Turning Lives Christian Ministries Union Gospel Mission University of Portland Nursil Urban League Waste Not Food Taxi WeShine PDX William Temple House	246 248 ng 0 98 188 168 266	65 65 0 25 50 50 70
TOTALS	24172	6557

To tell Multnomah County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson what you think of the county's actions, call 503-823-4000 or email mult.chair@multco.us

# Going Out **41**





Snappy's takes advantage of ample sidewalk space on Northwest 23rd Avenue.



Nam Tao Huu promises healthy desserts soon.

Katelyn Williams is not shy about calling her plant-based desserts ice cream.

### Kate's Ice Cream

featuring plant-based desserts and gluten-free waffle cones, opened at 1430 NW 23rd Ave. in the former home of Southland Whiskey Kitchen. Katelyn Williams founded the company in 2019 and has two stores on the Eastside.

### Snappy's,

a 1990s- style sandwich shop, opened its second Portland location at 930 NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave. In addition to deli sandwiches, the menu includes salads, soups and fresh-baked cookies. There are picnic tables on the front sidewalk and in a backyard patio in addition to seating for 14 indoors.

### Nam Tao Huu,

featuring healthy desserts made from soy milk, is coming soon to 921 NW 23rd Ave. Blue Star Donuts last occupied the space.

# Langbaan, one of the first

one of the first restaurants to serve a Thai tasting menu in America, was named the country's most outstanding restaurant at the James Beard Foundation Awards ceremony in Chicago. Founded in Southeast Portland in 2014, Langbaan moved to 1818 NW 23rd Place in 2021.

### Live music at NW Hostel Café

479 NW 18th Ave.

LIVE MUSIC AND OPEN MIC Mondays, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

MR. BEN, LIVE MUSIC FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES Tuesdays, 5-6 p.m.

OLD-TIME MUSIC JAM\* Thursdays, 7-10 p.m.

**BLUES/JAZZ HAPPY HOUR** First and third Saturdays, 4-6 p.m.

**IRISH JAM\* Sunday** 1:30-4:30 p.m.

\*Listen or bring your instrument

# NOBBY NEWS

Vol. 30, No. 7

"News You Can't Alwavs Believe"

**IULY 2024** 

# Join Nobby's rewards program

The Nob Hill Bar & Grill has a rewards program without the fuss of a punch card or smart phone.

Loyal Nobby patron Joe Lilly can tell you how easy it is.

"For every 100 burgers you order, you get a patch," Lilly said.

And when you collect 100 patches, which he found was "no difficulty at all," you get a free shirt to sew them on.

Now everyone knows he's a special customer the moment he walks into the bar. He finds an empty table in a matter of moments. Such is the power of wearing a shirt with 100—count 'em—hamburger patches covering every square inch.

"Being a Nobby regular certainly has its rewards," he said, and he



wasn't kidding

Be the first one on your block to discover the rewards of dining regularly at the Nob Hill Bar & Grill.

BURGER COUNT 1,319,796

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# GREATER NORTHWEST PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT MAP

#### NORTHBOUND 30

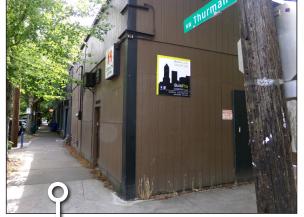
Construction of Northbound 30, a cluster of five-story apartment buildings proposed at Northwest 29th and Nicolai streets, is on hold while the developer, Noel Johnson, considers the city's direction regarding mass timber housing and bureau consolidation. The construction fence sign was ordered earlier and reflects a prospective name change.

#### CRACKERJACKS BUILDING

A proposal to remodel an early 20th century building at Northwest 28th and Thurman streets into a tavern and retail food hall with rooftop dining has apparently stalled, with no activity in 12 months. The corner section was last occupied by Crackerjacks Pub. The developer is Erik Opsahl of Nascent Collective LLC.

### MASON EHRMAN BUILDING

A California-based developer plans to transform the seven-story Mason Ehrman Building at Northwest Fifth and Everett streets for mixed use, with 49 residential units, 9,000 square feet of offices and 3,500 square feet of retail space. A courtyard will be created in the center of the 1908 structure. A two-story 1940 warehouse to the south will also be remodeled for mixed use.



W Vaughn St.







### 2889 NW THURMAN ST.

A single-family home at 2889 NW Thurman St. is the only completed part of a larger project planned to span the block and face Northwest Upshur Street. In 2021, that plan called for five stories on the north end and a total of four units.



### **BREAKSIDE BREWERY**

A roof deck atop Breakside Brewery at Northwest 22nd and Raleigh streets is under design review. A deck was approved when the building was remodeled in 2017, but the current revision enlarges the deck, adds shade sails while contemplating an elevator instead of an external stairway.

### BLOCK 7

With plans to erect a 17- story tower on Block 7 in partnership with Mill Creek Residential officially paused, the Multnomah Athletic Club is open to alternative ideas. MAC President Andrew Randles told the Goose Hollow Foothills League in May the club is "ready to have a conversation" regarding the long-vacant block surrounded by Southwest 19th, 20th, Main and Madison streets.









Proposed Under Review In Construction

For an interactive and continually updated version of this map, visit: NextPortland.

Also see the development map maintained by the Goose Hollow Foothills League: goosehollow.org/images/GooseHollowDevelopmentMap.pdf



Christine Moses of Buffalo Cloud Consulting

"Parking discussions" cont'd from page 1

"The cost of our facilitator is included in office supplies?" ... It's reached a state of absurdity."

 Steve Pinger, Northwest **Parking Stakeholders Committee member** 

SAC member Dan Anderson was not satisfied with the guesstimates or with responses to his follow up questions.

PBOT Parking Manager Erika Nebel told Anderson that this was not a subject on which the bureau sought the committee's advice.

"But we're also not trying to hide anything," Nebel said, "so we're happy to supply that information."

She may have been willing, but further information was not provided at the meeting or afterward.

SAC member Steve Pinger, still not considering the matter settled, followed up with an email to PBOT asking for budgets and amounts charged to the district's account for staffing and facil-

Alldrin replied that "Erika and I answered your questions to the facilitator costs and FTE [full-time equivalents] paid through Northwest parking revenue at the last SAC meeting."

"Kristan, are you referring to ... the explanation that the facilitator costs were included in expenditures for 'meeting and office supplies'? Recall that this explanation was only offered after a SAC member asked why that budget item had increased from \$4,000 to \$30,000."

Alldrin directed Pinger to make an official public records request if he wanted to know more.

But the discovery that consultants were paid out of office supplies allocations was a story that reverberated at neighborhood association meetings in the following days.

"The cost of our facilitator is included in office supplies?" Pinger asked rhetorically at a Northwest District Association Planning Committee meeting. "They need some sort of accountability, whether that's our role or not. It's reached a state of absurdity."

Joni Johnson, an NWDA board mem-Pinger wondered what Alldrin ber who attended the June SAC meet-

ing, was troubled by "sloppy and poorly structured" handling of finances and operating procedures. She characterized the financial reports provided to SAC members as "eighth-grade-level," and too simplified for multiyear plan-

Johnson, who has worked as a human resources director for public and private entities, said excluding the SAC from the selection of a facilitator was a mistake. She also found the staff overly focused on its authority to expel individuals from meetings while being inattentive to details that contribute to productive outcomes.

If that isn't enough to fuel further strife, neighborhood representatives may come to question why they are underwriting a \$120-an-hour notetaker when the videotaped meetings automatically produce written transcripts. The hand-produced notes have not been posted to the PBOT website, though PBOT public information officer Dylan Rivera promised that they would be.

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## WHEN YOU NEED HELP, WHO YOU GONNA CALL?

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fire, Ambulance, and Police.

to reach dispatch for and Police.

I NEED SOCIAL SERVICES:

food, employment, housing or childcar

to get help accessing housing or childcare.

I NEED LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES IN PORTLAND AND MULTNOMAH COUNTY:

**OR** 503-823-4000

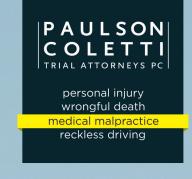
to ask a question, request assistance, or report an issue related to local government.













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"New sheriff" cont'd from page 1

soon as the board has come to a unanimous decision to announce to the members and yourself."

It was the first mention of unanimity as the standard for revoking a membership. Food Front bylaws do not specify such a requirement.

Both Orzeck and I asked to have the reasons motivating the disciplinary action. I was accused of printing "false and misleading" statements in the May edition of the Examiner that "caused the loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars."

The losses were not specified, though Shvarts had complained earlier in an announcement to members that dissent by members had caused unnamed "buyers to reconsider their interest in the property."

The cause against Orzeck had to do with contacting Skylab Architecture principal Jeff Kovel, whose plan to include Food Front in a partnership to redevelop the

NW Examiner Editor Allan Classen made an official request to inspect Food Front records in May, to no avail.

property was favored by Shvarts. The board approved a motion in April to ask members to ratify such an arrangement, but further action stalled, presumably because Skylab had second thoughts.

Douglas laid out the next steps forward for the co-op in a June 26 email to me:

"Once we have member buy-off on what makes most sense to pursue—be it a sale to another grocery like Market of Choice or a property investor looking to repurpose it for a grocery as well, or just outright selling—we can at least move forward with the net proceeds to further the mission of the co-op in some way. Though, an outright sale is very undesirable, it might also need to be one of the options for members to vote on to if only eliminate it."

Three parties have interest in the property, Shvarts said at the termination hearing, one offering substantially more than Market of Choice's \$1.9 million purchase proposal from last November.

Douglas joined the board in May, joining four incumbents, all of whom have been appointed within the past year to fill vacancies left by resignations. His biography is posted on the co-op website:

"I have worked in the food and grocery industry for over 25 years. I have worked in senior roles in finance, sales, marketing and development; in publishing roles with Dreyer's Ice Cream, PepsiCo, Odwalla; and in mobile cookbook development (including "The Joy of Cooking" and Mark Bittman's "How to Cook Everything."

"I left New York in late 2001 and moved back to the West Coast, eventually landing back in Oregon, where I when to high school and college."

In 2005, he co-founded Culinate Inc, a software development company, retiring after 10 years with the company.

His goal is to work toward "a successful next incarnation of our co-op."  $\blacksquare$ 

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become a new location for Market of Choice. I am in favor of this proposal and hope it comes to fruition. We need to be a complete neighborhood with a variety of commercial establishments to support residents.

Laurie Richards NW Overton St.

### Right to vote

The Examiner's coverage of Food Front raises serious concerns: As a resident of Northwest Portland, I would like to know why the board has not asked members to vote on Market of Choice's offer. Isn't the board required to put a firm offer for the property out to members for a vote?

Having a nice market in that location is great for the residential community and the other surrounding businesses.

I hope that the board asks the membership to vote on this issue and respects the outcome of that vote. That is the right thing to do.

Jane Clark NW 29<sup>th</sup> Ave.

### Let members decide

I pass the shell of the building that was Food Front daily and am saddened and bewildered each time. Having followed the coverage of the saga of Food Front in the NW Examiner, I wonder what happened to the Market of Choice offer to open a store there.

Among the ideas for the space, Market of Choice makes the most sense. I hope Food Front members are given the chance to vote on going forward with the Market of Choice offer, and I'm grateful to the neighbors who worked so hard to bring about this possibility.

Greta Hilbourne NW Savier St.

### Support streetcar plan

The June Examiner ["Neighbors say no to streetcar"] portrays a misleading account of the neighborhood's view of the Montgomery Park Area Plan Proposed Draft that was presented to the Planning and Design commissions jointly on May 21. The draft plan is the product of more than five years of work with diverse community perspectives represented on the project's stakeholder advisory committee, of which I was a member.

The article fails to identify positive testimony at that hearing, including from Northwest Active Streets, property owners and neighbors. The proposed streetcar extension would be part of the much-needed reconstruction of Northwest 23rd Avenue north of Lovejoy, marrying typically 50 percent federal transit funds with local sources. The draft area plan would facilitate the construction of 2,000 housing units, including 200-plus units of affordable housing and family wage employment in a sustainable environment on what is now vacant and underutilized land. The streets would welcome neighbors to walk or bike in a less car-dependent setting. Proposed zoning revisions provide for a transition between preserved industrial land and mixeduse redevelopment. It is a far preferable alternative to expanding our urban growth boundary into prime farmland that is void of supportive infrastructure and services.

Yes, there are concerns, particularly with respect to existing industrial businesses and the impact of rising property values. The draft plan has tried to address these concerns, but more deliberation is needed. We encourage readers to go to: portland.gov/bps/planning/mp2h/mpap-proposed-draft to learn more. The Planning Commission will be reviewing concerns and working with staff to make adjustments before taking the draft plan to City Council in the fall.

Phil Selinger Northwest Active Street





## A Benefit for



# Richard Levin Sings the Winners featuring

The Linda Lee Michelet

By Band

## Performing classics by the legends

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Irving Berlin

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**Louis Prima** Miles Davis

Les Brown

### Billy Strayhorn

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Jimmy Giuffre

# Thursday July 18

## Wilf's Restaurant

800 NW Sixth at Union Station, Portland

**Tickets** 

# \$35 Premium Seating \* \$25 Lounge

\$40 minimum purchase per person at Wilf's

Doors open 5 pm - Showtime 7 pm

This concert is sponsored by Harris Matarazzo, Attorney at Law in support of the Oregon Music Hall of Fame.

Buy event tickets online at https://bit.ly/LLM Winners



Learn more about Linda Lee Michelet at https://lindamichelet.com





Four members of the Sauvie Island Volunteer Fire Department and three from American Medical Response were honored last month for helping rescue a patient from sudden cardiac arrest. The patient made a full recovery. From left to right: Rob McDonald, Zach Buchanan and Mikhail Lamadrid of AMR, Sheila Bailey, Dave Wolfe, Bryan Tice and Chris Lake of SIVFD.

Station. The Linda Lee Michelet Big Band will perform jazz classics. See facing page for ticket information.

Michelet said her Peggy Lee tribute concert at Currier's Music Millennium in 2003 launched her professional career. The record store had a Northwest District location from 1977-2007.

A benefit concert for the Oregon Music Hall of Fame and its co-founder and president, Terry Currier, will be held Thursday, July 18, at Wilf's Restaurant & Jazz Bar at Union



Neighbors of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, concerned about inaction over IV and fentanyl drug users congregating on church grounds, will hold a meeting with Portland Police officers, nursery school operators and neighbors at St. Mary's Cathedral in July. Interested persons are asked to email petecolt@protonmail.com.



Janet Young is the incoming president of Portland Pearl Rotary Club. Young, a retired economic development consultant, lives in the Pearl District. The club meets weekly at 7:30 a.m. at the Ecotrust conference room, 721 NW Ninth Ave. Guests are welcome.



Friends of the Washington Park and Zoo Railway celebrated the 65th birthday of the Steamer Oregon and Washington Park Station last month. The group's goal of restoring the full loop through the park was given a boost when the Metro Council created a task force to consider the restoration.



About 30 volunteers helped clean up the Alexandra Viaduct in Willamette Heights last month, removing 40 bags of garbage and camping detritus from the ravine and bridgeheads. The event was led by Sam Beebe.



Free park concerts begin this month at Wallace Park July 18 and 25 and at Couch Park Aug. 1. Activities begin at 5 p.m., followed by live music from 6-8 p.m. The concerts are sponsored by the Northwest District Association with support from local businesses and individuals.

- July 18: Six Ways From Sunday
- July 25: Ned & Wendy The Band
- Aug. 1: The Druthers

2430 Summit Court



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