



INSIDE



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Whose harm
reduction?



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Food Front
facing division



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Building to
the stars



Name of division

Should Balch Creek keep a murderer's name?

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

Retired public school art teacher Nancy Helmsworth was drawn to the beauty of Balch Creek, making it the subject of multiple paintings.

“Little did I know how this theme would lead me in learning the rich and complex history of this area,” she wrote in explaining her campaign to rename the creek to honor Native American peoples.

That history spoke to her of colonization, exploitation and finally murder by Danford Balch, the creek's namesake.

Helmsworth, who lives nearby, has embarked on a two-year “social action” campaign to erase the name of the first white man legally hanged in Oregon. She contacted three tribal nations and took their suggestion to rename the creek *kulla kulla*, which means “bird” in an intertribal language used in the region.

Despite broad efforts to engage the community, she is chagrined at the apparent lack of interest.

“I have reached out to multiple newspapers and elected officials

Though largely overgrown, the marker at Northwest 30th and Upshur streets for Danford Balch, Balch Creek's namesake, is not forgotten by Nancy Helmsworth.

Cont'd on page 13

Awards night

29-year tradition getting better with age



Last month's NW Examiner Community Awards brought a standing-room-only gathering of neighbors to an elegant setting, Watermark at the Pearl. Ten awards were presented to people and groups making life in our neighborhoods better.

~ SEE PAGE 8 ~



Residents of the 2400 block of Northwest Overton Street—Ben Chaffin (L-R), Annie Duong, Jessica Bordley and Alex Leae—think having a party should not be a crime.

City reverses block party snub

State regulations were never the problem

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

The city that promotes all manner of non-auto activation of streets could not accommodate a block party on Northwest Overton Street.

A year after neighbors filed a permit—and on the heels of this reporter's queries—the Portland Bureau of Transportation reversed itself, apologizing for mishandling the affair.

“At the bureau, we have in recent months been rethinking how we can better support these types of community gatherings,” wrote Adrienne Schaefer-Borrego, supervisor of Portland in the Streets division of PBOT.

Annie Duong, who sought the permit last year for her 2400 block of Northwest Overton Street, did not anticipate the blizzard of red tape that grounded the gathering. She had received per-

Cont'd on page 7

HISTORIC LOUIS G. PFUNDER HOUSE
Designed by Architect Emil Schacht



2211 SW Vista Avenue

4 Bedrooms / 2 1/2 Baths
4,904 SF (Approx.)
10,018 SF Lot (Approx.)
Two Car Attached Garage
RMLS #24461417
\$1,320,695

THE HISTORIC ROOSEVELT
Designed in 1924 by Clausen and Clausen for George Heathman



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RMLS #24642732
\$255,000

THE HISTORIC AMBASSADOR
Designed by Architect Carl L. Linde in 1922

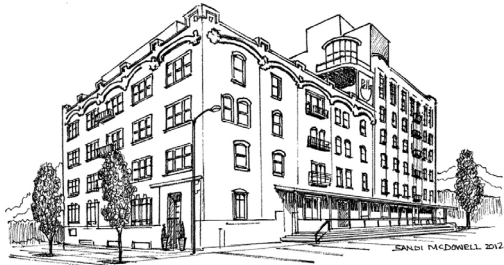


1209 SW 6th Avenue #503

3 Bedrooms / 2 Bathrooms / 1478 SF
(Approx.)
1 Off-Street Parking Space
RMLS #24335913
\$350,000

THE HISTORIC CHOWN PELLA

Built in 1920 and Converted to Lofts in 1996 by Ankrom Moisan Associated Architects

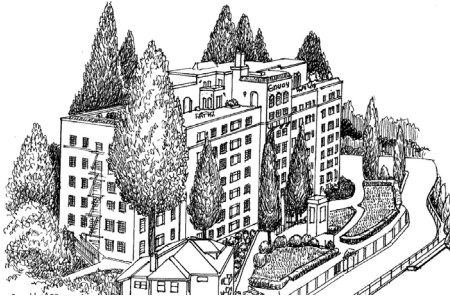


416 NW 13th Avenue #315

1 Bedroom / 1 Bathroom / 1001 SF
(Approx.)
1 Off-Street Parking Space
RMLS #24401931
\$299,000

THE HISTORIC ENVOY

Designed by Architect Carl L. Linde in 1929



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1 Garaged Parking Space
RMLS #24642732
\$299,000

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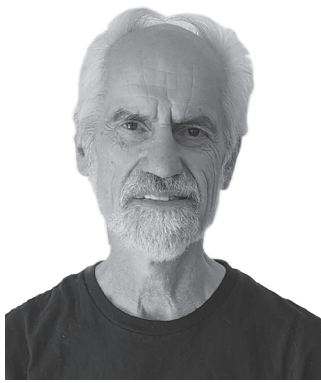
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Harm reduction for whom?

One cannot comprehend the political divide in Portland today without unpacking an approach known as harm reduction. The term gained attention last year when Multnomah County announced it would give tin foil and straws to fentanyl users so they could pursue their addictions more cleanly and conveniently.

Blowback was so swift that the idea had to be shelved. Still, other forms of harm reduction are carried out in the shadows with the help of our public agencies.

With hidden help from above, the Portland People’s Outreach Project distributes syringes, pipes and other supplies to drug users at seven sites around the city, including the notorious corner of Northwest 19th and Burnside that has drawn considerable media attention lately.

Needle exchange programs are a long-established practice around the country, and many—including PPOP—have dropped the exchange element. Syringe services programs, as they are now called, provide limitless clean needles, on the belief it is the surest way to discourage the reuse of dirty needles.

Harm reduction programs assume that drug users are best able to decide what they should put into their own bodies. Guilt and social disapproval are worse than useless, in this logic, and do not persuade users to change their ways. That will only happen when a user is ready. Meanwhile, clean paraphernalia and positive social support help keep people alive another day in which they may find a way out.

I call this militant libertarianism, a contradiction in terms suitable to the situation. If someone asks for a razor blade to slit their wrists, supposedly one should give them a clean blade and wish them well.

Extending to infinity anyone’s rights and prerogatives inevitably bumps up against the rights of others to live their lives in peace and of society as a whole to function. Defenders of harm reduction identify with those in the most pitiable state, taking license to belittle the concerns of housed and healthy people as trivial by comparison. Tents and trash on the sidewalk are downplayed as merely matters of aesthetics at which some choose to take offense.



Harm reductionists may seem the most extreme vanguard of a fringe culture. In Portland today, that would be a false assumption. The people behind the masks at PPOP handouts include health care professionals from the Oregon Health Sciences University. An OHSU newsletter touted the work of a nurse practitioner who volunteers at PPOP events.

The Multnomah County Health Department, though chastened by the reaction to tin foil giveaways, supports harm reduction programs while denying a specific connection to PPOP.

Before there was harm reduction, America tried Prohibition, a war on drugs, public education, interdiction, employer drug screening and countless other strategies. None “solved” the problem.

Harm reduction surmounts that test by declaring that illegal drugs are not a problem at all, purely an individual choice. A pandemic of early death, damaged brains and social breakdown is not a solution either, but if one calls it freedom and declares victory, that is success of a sort.

Complex problems rarely have once-and-for-all solutions. They may have to be managed, perhaps perpet-

ually. Many fatal human diseases can be kept at bay through treatment and scientific advance. That could also be called success.

As the moderator of a District 4 City Council candidates’ debate in September, I posed questions in order to distinguish the candidates’ positions. Almost all candidates can name the major problems facing the city and explain how we got here. They tend to offer similar strategies to deal with them. How is a voter to make a meaningful choice?

It’s like scanning a display of 50 varieties of laundry detergent, each touting fresher, brighter clothes.

The question I should have included in the debate (and which all candidates should be asked) is: What do you think of harm reduction?

I believe there were some adherents on stage in September, and their answers would have given voters insight into their approach to life and public policy. If the harm reduction camp remains a secret society, it avoids democratic scrutiny and the salutary effect of compromise. Public-funded agencies that condone this approach without engaging in the necessary public debate must realize that they skate on the thinnest ice. ■

Readers Reply

Letters can be sent to: allan@nwexaminer.com or 1209 SW 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.

Open letter to OPB

I feel let down by Oregon Public Broadcasting’s recent article, “A Portland cathedral has offered a food pantry for 40 years. Some neighbors blame it for recent crime spike.”

There has been a spike of crime around Trinity Episcopal Church, but no neighbors that I know blame it on the food pantry. They blame Trinity for its permissive attitude toward open drug use on their property.

It is honorable work to feed the hungry. However, I take issue with The

Very Rev. Nathan LeRud’s assertion that “I have a sense of where I think Jesus would be on this campus, and it’s probably standing in that food pantry line hanging out with people who are marginalized and generally invisible to most of society.”

My question is about what Jesus would say about the open drug use on campus. Would Jesus say, smoke up all you want or would he say I am sorry for your suffering, but it’s not okay to do drugs on the church grounds?

The article barely mentions the Portland People Outreach Project’s needle exchange next to McDonald’s on West

Burnside, which is on a Safe Route to School and near Lincoln High School, Metropolitan Learning Center and Cathedral School.

After PPOP hands out clean needles to users, drug dealers show up to sell them drugs on Friday nights. Come Monday morning, students walk on sidewalks strewn with needles, if not several people passed out.

Neighbors shared their concern with PPOP for months without response. When someone from PPOP finally reached out, they spoke about the importance of their harm reduction work but showed no concern about the

harm to our neighborhood. OPB’s article places the blame on neighbors, makes Trinity look like a saint, and gives PPOP a complete pass. Kara Colley SW Main St.

Don’t vote for Penkin

District 4 voters should pay attention to some very pertinent actions by candidate Stan Penkin. At the October 2022 Neighbors West Northwest board meeting, Penkin (the representative of the Pearl District Neighborhood Association) introduced

Cont’d on page 5



John H. Herman



John H. Herman, who grew up and lived much of his life in Portland Heights, died Sept. 28 at age 85. He was born Jan. 18, 1939, in Portland, where he graduated from Ainsworth Elementary School in 1952 and Lincoln High School in 1956. He attended the University of Oregon. He worked for Jantzen, White Stag and Edelweiss Skiwear, and founded three sports wear companies: Insport, DuUel and SportCo. He chaired the board of the Oregon Historical Society and had leadership roles in The Boys and Girls Club, Oregon Sports Hall of Fame, Oregon Consular Corps and Multnomah Athletic Club. He was honored by the University of Oregon Foundation with the 2015 Pioneer Award. He was married to Betty BuZard Norrie from 1965-75 and to Carol Herman from 1981-2003. He is survived by three stepsons Rick, Joe and Charlie; seven grandchildren; and his loving partner of 11 years, Pam Dunkin.

Joyce Tofte



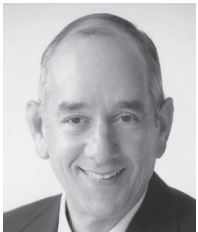
Joyce Sonia Tofte, a Northwest Hills resident who volunteered at Legacy Good Samaritan Medical Center and the Assistance League of Portland, died Oct. 11 at age 87. Joyce Walyer was born on Aug. 20, 1937, and graduated from Jefferson High School. She married Robert Tofte in 1958; he died in 2015. She is survived by her daughter, Linda; son, John; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Donald Hart



Donald Regan Hart, a longtime Northwest Portland resident and former employee of LeGrand Steel, died Oct. 5 at age 83. Hart was born in Portland on March 25, 1941, and graduated from Central Catholic High School and Portland State University in the class of 1965. He married Karlene Strom in 1961. He is survived by his wife, Karlene; his children, Kathleen, Donald, Kristen and Patrick; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his daughter, Cassie.

Dr. Jeffrey Stevens



Dr. Jeffrey Stevens, a medical pioneer and member of Congregation Beth Israel, died on Sept. 24 at age 81 after a long battle with lymphoma. He was born on Dec. 24, 1942, in Newark, N.J., and moved to Southern California with his family as a child. He graduated from Beverly Hills High School, UCLA and Stanford University School of Medicine. He married Linda Boverman in 1975 and moved to Portland, where he headed the nuclear medicine department at Portland Adventist Medical Center. In 1989, he was recruited to create the Oregon Health and Science University Division of Nuclear Medicine, which he led for 20 years. He retired in 2020. He was a member of the Multnomah Athletic Club, where he won many club tennis tournaments. He is survived by his wife, Wendy Lane Stevens; son, Jacob; sister, Judy Schwartz; and two grandchildren.

John Becic



John Nicholas Becic, who grew up on Northwest Vaughn Street and attended local schools, died Oct. 21 at age 94. He was born on Oct. 20, 1930, and attended St. Patrick's Grade School, Lincoln High School and University of Portland. After serving in the Korean War, he became a CPA, spending his entire career with one firm and working mostly in Medford. He married Inez Olsen in 1954; she died in 2019. He is survived by his children, Susan Wainwright, Sandra Obradovich, Joanne Stormberg, Carolyn Becic; sister, Lucille Martin; 13 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. The family suggests donations to the John N. Becic Endowed Scholarship at the University of Portland.

Josephine Pope



Josephine Pope, a civic activist who grew up in Portland Heights, died on Oct. 2 at age 87. Josephine Day was born on Dec. 6, 1936, and attended Ainsworth Elementary School and Catlin Gabel School, where she later taught fifth grade and chaired the board. She also attended Stanford University. She married Peter Talbot Pope in 1964; he died in 2018. She chaired the task force that led to creation of the Portland Parks Foundation and became its first chair. She also chaired the Hoyt Arboretum and Leach

Botanical Garden. Mayor Vera Katz awarded her a Spirit of Portland Award in 2001. She helped create the Holly Farm Park in 2007. She volunteered at the NW Pilot Project for more than 20 years. She is survived by her daughters, Maria, Emily and Molly; son, Peter; and nine grandchildren. A memorial service will be held at Trinity Cathedral on Dec. 17, at 3 p.m.

Death Notices

PATRICIA (LUCAS) BEALL, 83, 1958 Lincoln High School graduate.

SPENCER REILLY, 26, 2016 Lincoln High School graduate.

MARGARET (MISETICH) HILL, 98, Multnomah Athletic Club member.

MARK JOSEPH KRALJ, 69, Arlington Club member.

SHANNON LEONETTI, 74, Multnomah Athletic Club member.

DOUGLAS HOUSER, 89, past president of the Arlington Club.

RONALD M FISHBACK, 78, Multnomah Athletic Club member.

MOSHE E. LENSKE, 99, 1943 Lincoln High School graduate.

LILLIAN (SCHAMBRON) CARSON, 98, 1944 Lincoln High School graduate.

ELAINE SAVINAR, 96, Congregation Beth Israel member.

JEAN (McMICHAEL) WINN, 1952 Lincoln High School graduate.

JOHN HOLDEN, 94, Multnomah Athletic Club member.

LYNN HUSBAND, 91, anesthesiologist at Legacy Good Samaritan Medical Center.

ROBERT (BOB) LEHRER, 88, 1955 Lincoln High School graduate.

BRONWEN "WENDY" ROSS, 83, 1959 graduate of Ainsworth Elementary School and Lincoln High School.

DAVID STEGNER, 89, Multnomah Athletic Club member.

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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a motion to ban Allan Classen, editor of the NW Examiner, from all NWNW board meetings, effective immediately. All but two board members present voted in favor of the motion. It was further moved that NWNW would cease doing business with the Examiner.

Classen remained excluded until the pressure of public opinion, threatened legal action and the election of a new, reform-minded NWNW president brought about the end of his banishment. The ban on doing business with the Examiner, however, remained in place.

It is important to delve further into the implications of these actions. Penkin's action was beyond doubt a gross violation of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the Oregon Attorney General's Public Records and Meetings Manual and the Office of Neighborhood Involvement Standards. I believe his actions constitute a failure both in fiduciary duty and of the Standards of Conduct for Officers in Oregon Nonprofit law.

The decision to cease doing business with the Examiner was both spiteful and malicious—worthy of Donald Trump. For years, the Examiner had printed (and NWNW paid for) the monthly Neighborhood Activist, which listed all the neighborhood association meetings, fulfilling the public notice requirements and needs of all. That practice has never resumed despite its obvious practicality. I am reminded of the old saw about cutting off your nose to spite your face.

I do not believe anyone who has behaved as Penkin has done should hold a responsible public office here or anywhere.

Roger Leachman
SW Vista Ave.

Election memories

National Election Day used to be fun, almost like a holiday. The fall colors were in their glory in Northwest Portland, the air smelled like wood stoves and ripening apples and you got off work, and you went to the local voting precinct, which in my case was the basement in an old house on Northwest 22nd Place. There were kindly looking people running the precinct, some of whom you knew. You showed your driver's license, received a paper ballot and went into a small booth to vote.

The ballot was dropped into a lock box, and you knew there was a certified chain of custody of those paper ballots all the way to election headquarters on election night. It was an atmosphere of friendly trust that few questioned because the system was simple, and there weren't many loopholes that could be exploited.

That was the way it was in Oregon up until the late 1980s, when the state devised the dehumanized mail-in voting system, the country's first. Computer technology, anonymous internet systems and election officials now control everything in the process. The friendly, certifiable personal process at precinct level has been removed, and many people understandably no longer trust the voting process. Voter registration and ballot handling are now a fluid and seemingly uncontrolled system.

As Charlie Chan once said, "Truth like football—received many kicks before reaching goal."

John Tomlinson
SW 21st Ave.



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1001 NW Lovejoy #602 \$436,000

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1030 NW Johnson #501 \$524,000

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Northwest Overton Street neighbors have found ways to get together, even if it sometimes demands creativity. Recent block parties have taken advantage of barriers placed for the Portland Marathon.

"Block party" cont'd from page 1

mits for past block parties, but this time, PBOT threw down a gauntlet of fees and requirements.

- \$100 application fee.
- \$150 expedited application fee (event less than 30 days out).
- Permit fee (up to \$200).
- \$496 to reserve a complete street closure (31 metered spaces at \$16 each).
- A registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit partner.
- Detailed site plans.
- Provide insurance.
- Submit a tracking form and flyer.
- Rent traffic control devices.
- Noise and alcohol permits (if applicable).

PBOT staff told her that block parties are simply not allowed in metered areas.

Duong, seeing PBOT publicity promoting block parties, questioned why parking meters should override their ability to close their street for a few hours.

"We are in a residential neighborhood with mostly houses on our block, and when the meters were added (despite our not wanting them)," she wrote, "it was advertised that [metering] was for the benefit of the neighbors, to minimize parking from non-residents. A block party does not hurt our ability to park."

"We appreciate your reaching out to us so we can help make sure you have a positive block party experience!" replied Rod Beard of PBOT.

"Unfortunately, the locations on which we can ... permit street closures for block parties is based on state laws and regulations and city traffic codes. Based on those aforementioned rules

and regulations laid out on our webpage, we are not allowed to issue permits based on metered parking streets."

Beard said block parties can only be held in metered areas under a Community Event program, but that would run into the list of costly prerequisites listed above.

In early 2024, Duong was still negotiating. What about a Sunday event?

"Even if meters are not in operation on Sundays, the space is still at that level of demand, and therefore not an option for a block party on any day of the week," read an email from the block party team.

"Ultimately, block parties are free and intended to be a streamlined process to bring neighbors together. This location no longer lends itself to that, but with the help of your neighborhood association, a community event is an option."

That was the apparently the end of the road. After five months of dialogue, PBOT was just repeating its inviolable standards.

Noel Johnson, a friend of Duong's, had served on the Northwest Parking Stakeholders Advisory Committee. The committee was established in 2012 to represent neighborhood interests regarding administration of parking meters in the district. Prohibition of block parties on metered blocks was a side effect never brought before the committee.

"It is a great example of new structural barriers to hinder and/or control micro-community events," Johnson wrote in an email to the NW Examiner. "I especially hate how PBOT is trying to blame this on others (i.e. state laws) when that is totally bogus."

Schaefer-Borrego admitted to that bit of scapegoating by PBOT.

"The reasoning behind block parties

not being permitted in metered areas is not due to state law but due to our own PBOT administrative rule that is intended to ensure the safety of events that are allowed in our streets.

"Historically, the label of metered versus unmetered districts was a way for us to distinguish easily between low-traffic streets versus higher traffic commercial streets.

"However, we also know that parking management has evolved, and in our vision for a vibrant, dense city, we want to encourage more street activation. We have in recent months been rethinking how we can better support these types of community gatherings. After talking with our traffic engineer about this, he feels the traffic volume is low enough that we can process this as a block party moving forward.

"I'd also like to apologize on behalf of my team for some miscommunication," she concluded.

Duong said neighbors ultimately held a block party this year without a city permit, taking advantage of barriers put up on their block for the Portland Marathon.

"That it takes such attention to obtain basic pro-social outcomes is odd," Johnson reflected, but also predictable, given "city staff mindsets."

Jozell Johnson, a member of the stakeholders committee and Northwest District Association board, reflected later on the presumption that this block has heavy parking demand or that significant meter revenue would be lost. Almost all of the parking here is by residents, who have residential permits which exempt them from metered charges, Duong said. ■

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HOME AT LAST

Northwest Neighborhood Veterinary Hospital veterinarians **REBECCA PRULL** and **NICHOLAS GOWING** created **STUMPTOWN STRAYS**, a nonprofit that provides free surgeries and treatment for homeless animals and places them in permanent homes. Since 2021, 650 animals have found permanent homes.



ART OF CITIZENSHIP
COMMUNITY LEGACY

In a career exceeding 50 years, **TAD SAVINAR** has risen to prominence in several fields of art. Increasingly, he has become an advocate for urban solutions unconcerned with personal credit or private gain.



SHARING THE LOAD

FRANK MOSCOW founded **ADOPT ONE BLOCK**, which now has 9,500 ambassadors across the city and beyond who clean up their own block and team up on larger projects. "It's all about taking pride in one's place," he said.



HISTORIC PRESERVATION

BOB WRIGHT commemorated the citizen-led campaign to designate the South Park Blocks as a National Register of Historic Places landmark by commissioning and installing bronze plaques on site.



JUSTICE FOR ALL

Philanthropist and civic leader **ANNE NAITO-CAMPBELL** organized **RISE AGAINST HATE OREGON** three years ago in response to the rise in anti-Asian hate crimes.



BOOTS ON THE GROUND

CHRIS MACKOVJAK has been keeping the Pearl District Neighborhood Association Foot Patrol effective and energized for five years, recruiting, training and leading volunteers who are on patrol three times a week.



AUTUMN SHARP, MAX STEELE AND KARA COLLEY

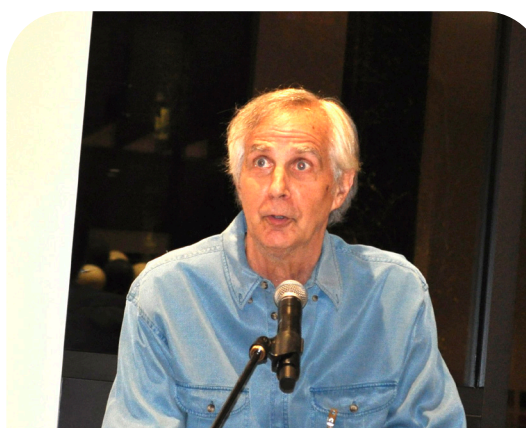
PROTECTING THE COMMONS

In less than two years, **FRIENDS OF COUCH PARK** has taken on thorny issues in and around the park and brought about significant improvements. Their weekly "talking circles" are a model of open democracy and community building.



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

After a career organizing low-wage workers, **LORENE SCHEER** help establish a local chapter of the Extinction Rebellion, an international organization addressing climate change. She focuses on the petroleum tanks along the Willamette River, which are colossally vulnerable to earthquakes.



COMMUNITY BUILDER

GLENN TRAEGER has served the Pearl District wherever needed, whether promoting events to reactivate the neighborhood, raising funds for the pet waste station project or negotiating a good neighbor agreement for the River District Navigation Center.



KIM KOSMAS, AUDREY YUE, NORA GRUBER AND RALPH BROOKS.

SMOKEY'S HELPERS

Volunteers serving on five Northwest Firewise Teams in and around Forest Park help reduce risks of wildfire and educate the wider community about the possible consequences to lives and nature.

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Co-op board divided over scheme to launch a new “Food Front brand”



The Food Front property remains fenced off as a proposed sale awaits completion.

By ALLAN CLASSEN

The remaining members of the Food Front Cooperative Grocery board are divided on the organization’s future as a Nov. 12 annual meeting approaches.

Board member Sanela Fusonary and Collin Ferguson, who left the board in late October, contacted about 150 co-op members, asking them to participate in plans to “take over the Food Front branding” and launch a “new cooperative entity.”

While 53 percent of the membership voted to sell the property and dissolve last summer, Ferguson believes that “47 percent of roughly 200 active members,” who voted against that motion, may be interested in a new venture.

Kate Fulton is the only known board candidate intending to run for the new board.

“Members were encouraged to join the board in prior communication to be on the ballot,” said Roman Shvarts, board president.

Meanwhile, a proposed sale of the building and land at 2375 NW Thurman St. to K-5 Holdings LLC for \$2.55 million is in a due diligence period, which could extend as much as 120 days after a sales contract is signed.

Dining news



RUSE BREWING & CRUST COLLECTIVE
Ruse Brewing & Crust Collective will be opening soon in the former Please Louise space at 1505 NW 21st Ave. in the L.L. Hawkins Building.
Ruse Brewing features Detroit-style pizza, craft beer and cocktails. The company opened its first restaurant on the Vancouver, Wash., riverfront.



CAFFE MINGO
Caffe Mingo and Bar Mingo, 807-811 NW 21 st Ave., remain closed after a major fire in August. Cleanup work is underway, but no plans to reopen have been announced. A GoFundMe campaign has raised \$73,000 for the approximately 35 workers who lost their jobs, some of whom gathered for the photo.



BAJALA
Lizbeth Sanchez (left) and Juan Flores have opened Bajala, a fish taco cart, in the cart pod at 1845 NW 23rd Place between Thurman and Vaughn streets. They specialize in seafood dishes from Baja California, where they grew up.

ZULA
Mediterranean bistro Zula closed last month after a year and a half in business at 1514 NW 23rd Ave. Its menu was influenced by Moroccan, Greek, Lebanese and Iranian dishes and cocktails.

SUBWAY
The Subway sandwich shop at 2121 W. Burnside St. closed last month.



NOBBY NEWS

Vol. 30, No. 11 “News You Can’t Always Believe” November 2024

The Waste of Daylight Saving Time

Big Time Jared would like to do something about the annual confusion over Daylight Saving Time. He is, after all, a horologist (which is either an expert on horoscopes or time pieces). So Jared is volunteering to set watches at the Nob Hill Bar & Grill for all comers starting at 2 a.m., Sunday, Nov. 3. No more wondering if the fall forward or spring back—Jared knows. But he’d rather not have to do this twice every year. He proposes that Daylight Saving time fade away by getting rid of one minute every year for 60 years. In one lifetime, there will be nothing left to save. Only a horologist would have thought of this. So bring your watches, clocks (no sun dials) into Nobby’s and see how much time can be wasted.

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GREATER NORTHWEST PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT MAP

MONTEGOMERY PARK AREA

City Council will hold a hearing Nov. 21 on a public benefits agreement for the Montgomery Park Area Plan. The Northwest District Association objects to a streetcar extension and private land accessible to the public as sufficient benefit for the property value spike to result from the rezoning in the plan.



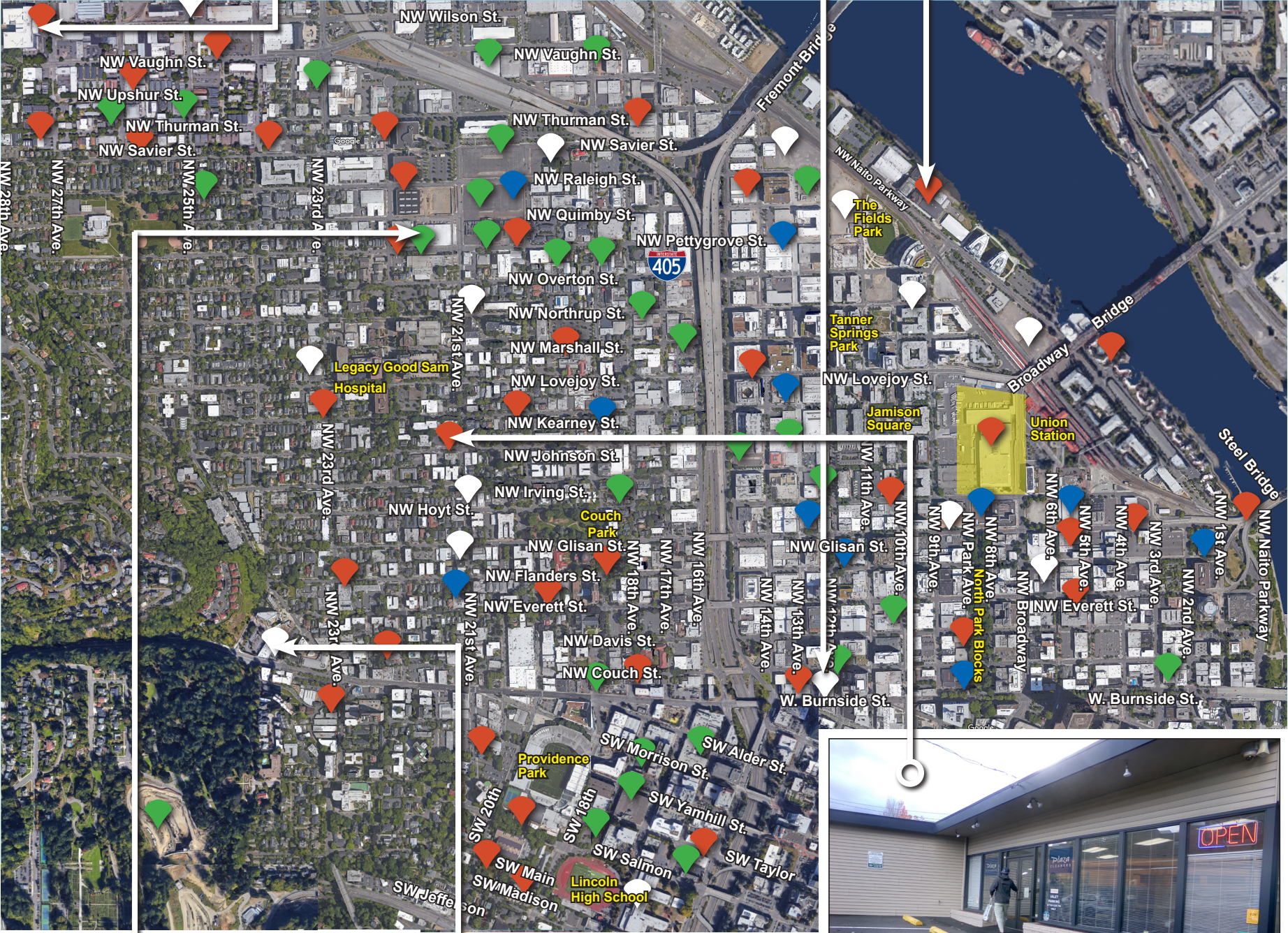
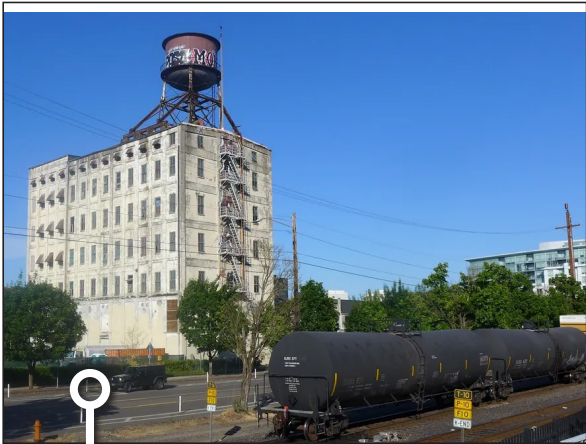
BREWERY BLOCKS

Two of the Brewery Blocks sold for a total of \$101 million in August and September. Guardian Real Estate Services and a national investor bought the 242-unit Louisa Apartments at 123 NW 12th Ave. for \$80 million. Menlo Equities bought the block that includes Whole Foods for \$21 million.



CENTENNIAL MILLS

A development group headed by Stuart Lindquist bought the 4.4-acre Centennial Mills site for \$1.25 million last month, ending plans by local developer Tim Ralston to build housing there. Prosper Portland, the city's redevelopment agency, acquired the land in 2000 for \$7.7 million.



2260 NW PETTYGROVE
WDC Properties is erecting a four-story, 24-unit apartment building at 2260 NW Pettygrove St. under its EkoLiving brand. The no-frills micro units have no parking and some of the lowest rents for new construction.



UPTOWN SHOPPING CENTER
San Diego-based Tourmaline Capital purchased the 130,000-square-foot Uptown Shopping Center for \$36 million last month, a modest increase from the \$30 million paid by Atlas Uptown-Retail LLC in 2007.



NW 21ST AND JOHNSON
Plaza Cleaners will be replaced by a four- or five-story apartment building if preliminary plans by Schnitzer Properties come to fruition. A pre-application conference is scheduled Nov. 5 to review city requirements. The building would have about 100 units, ground-floor retail and 68 underground parking spaces.



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

The Cardinal Times

SINCE 1897

Local business shares frustration about vandalism but applauds collaboration with non-profit

By MEGHAN WHITTEN

Tursi Soccer is a soccer store in Portland that has been selling Timbers, Thorns and other community soccer team-themed merchandise since 1986.

Cam Murry works at Tursi. Murry said that to advertise their products and brands in the store, Adidas and Nike would wrap the store in marketing material.

Murry said that although this idea was good in theory, it was not successful in downtown Portland because of the frequent graffiti and tagging.

“Obviously most taggers are looking to throw up their name and they see that advertising as fair game so [the advertisements] would get covered the same night they got put up,” said Murry.

Another employee at Tursi Soccer, Jen Hrynco said that the graffiti made the building look run-down and hurt their reputation.

“I feel like a lot of people didn’t think that there was any business here,” said Hrynco.

Instead of continuing to cover the building in advertisements and clean up the graffiti, Murry and Hrynco

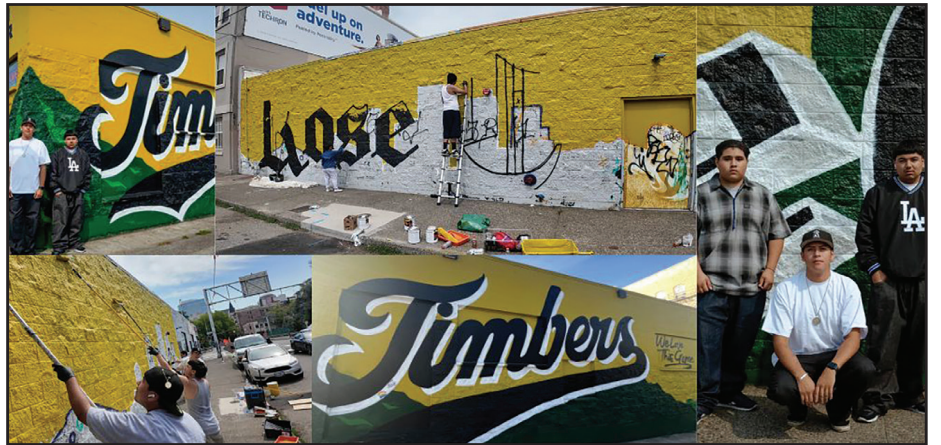
reached out to Cada Casa.

Cada Casa is a non-profit organization based in Portland that, according to their website, advances equity by providing accessible, impassioned educational experiences, athletic programs and civic engagement opportunities for students, with a focus on Latine, BIPOC, and disadvantaged communities.

Cada Casa created “Cultural Analysis of New Age Spray” (CANS), an after-school program where students analyze the cultural significance of spray-paint-based art while learning fundamentals in street art.

The executive director for Cada Casa, Tymon Emch, is also a chemistry teacher at Beaverton High School. Emch said that this project was inspired by Chicano activists in Central Valley California as well as Gothic style typography.

“[There is a rule] in the world of graffiti...there’s a big hierarchy,” said Emch. “It is really interesting because you can see this hierarchy in action along [Interstate 5] kind of on the way to Delta Park. And what you’d see is someone do something that’s called a throw-up, just a real quick piece. It’s



The soccer-themed mural outside of Tursi’s Soccer on 14th and Taylor was completed by Cada Casa, a non-profit organization. One of Cada Casa’s programs, “Cultural Analysis of New-Age Spray” is an afterschool program where students analyze the cultural significance of spray-paint-based art.

By MEGHAN WHITTEN

not the pretty stuff. And then you’re allowed to go over that if your piece is a bit more complicated.”

In a commissioned project for Tursi, CANS and several high school students in the Portland metropolitan area created a mural at Tursi’s downtown location.

The mural uses Gothic typography and lettering inspired by the Latino

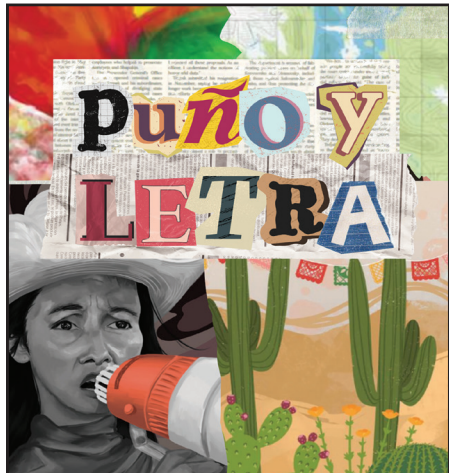
community and the Portland Timbers.

Murry and Hrynco have seen success in the implementation of this mural.

“It has multiple layers of that spray paint deterrent paint which means that it is really easy to wash off spray paint if it gets tagged, but so far we haven’t had to wash anything off yet so it actually works,” said Hrynco.

A new chapter begins for Puño y Letra magazine

By AMANDA SCHUBERT



Puño y Letra, Lincoln’s magazine written in Spanish, is a welcoming and inclusive community where students can express their voices.

By AMANDA SCHUBERT

Puño y Letra, Lincoln’s student-run magazine written in Spanish, has fostered a welcoming and inspiring community for both students and readers for the past nine years. This year, partly due to budget cuts and Spanish department needs, the magazine has transitioned from a class to a club.

Spanish teacher Trevor Todd, the adviser of Puño y Letra, believes the magazine has provided an inclusive community where students can express their voices.

“It’s a space for a published form of student writing, voice and opinion, including current events, storytelling and lived experience,” he said. “It’s a vehicle for student voice and awareness-raising for our readers. ... It’s a validation of a shared experience, too.”

By providing a platform for student voices, the magazine captures the various experiences of its writers and pro-

vides a platform for them to share their stories with a larger audience.

“We have a readership of 1000 and usually make 1000 copies for each edition,” said Todd. “The copies go out to all the high schools in town, including in Tigard, Tualatin, and Gresham. All of these regional schools and groups get our magazine. I want the stories to get out more than anything.”

Claire Corcoran, a co-leader of the current club remembers when the magazine was produced during a class.

“Students come to Puño y Letra and have a safe space to talk with other Spanish-speaking students in their native language,” she says, “It was a fun [class] and an escape. According to Todd, due to budget cuts and needs from the Spanish department, the class has transitioned from being offered as an elective to becoming a club. This new change will mean adjustments for

students who worked on the magazine during class.”

“It’s hard to meet more often, and also recruit Spanish-speaking students to write articles for the magazine,” Corcoran said.

The magazine aims to continue to engage with the community by sharing its work and connecting with students in the Portland Metro area.

“I want ... to keep being what our members want the club to be. I want to still get physical copies out into the community. We’ve always had them go out to our Mecha Latino Student Union conference, as well,” said Todd.

If you are in search of a welcoming environment, a space to come together and share experiences, play games, watch movies, talk and more, then Puño y Letra is a great club to join.

Demand for IB classes directs which courses are offered

By SCARLETT DEMPSEY

Lincoln is one of two International Baccalaureate (IB) high schools in Portland Public Schools (PPS), and has the largest program in the state of Oregon, offering over 30 different IB courses out of the total 57 courses in the IB program.

In the past, Lincoln has offered IB courses such as IB Environmental Systems and Societies (ESS), IB Computer Science and IB Higher Level (HL) Mathematical Applications, which are no longer offered.

Lincoln IB coordinator and Theory of Knowledge teacher Kim Bliss says several factors contribute to which IB courses are offered at each school.

“The strategy for [offering an IB course] is, number one, having a teacher that expresses interest and is capable of teaching the course,” said Bliss. “Step two is having enough students. Step three is going to departments and talking about what it would mean to add an elective [...] and getting agreement from that group that we want to add another course.”

This combination of factors means that the IB classes offered at one IB school may not be offered at another.

Isabel Blindert is a junior at Cleveland High School, the only other IB school in PPS, and is enrolled in IB German at Lincoln because Cleveland doesn’t offer the course.

“I was drawn to German when fore-

casting for my freshman year for the primary reason that my entire father’s side of the family are fluent speakers with most living in Germany,” said Blindert. “The process of getting enrolled in this class at Lincoln was pretty easy, as originally I did not plan on making the trip to Lincoln. [...] I decided to go to my counselor and got switched to Lincoln by just having a conversation with her.”

Bliss expresses his hopes for future IB courses offered at Lincoln.

“There hasn’t been a lot of discussion [about adding new courses],” said Bliss. “I am hopeful that we can maybe offer ESS again. I am hopeful that we can add Sports Health and Exercise Science if we can find a teacher who is



Lincoln has the largest International Baccalaureate (IB) program in the state of Oregon, offering over 30 different IB courses.

By SCARLETT DEMPSEY

interested in that.”

"Name of division" cont'd from page 1

... with no response,” she said.

Letters to 18 homeowners whose property abuts Balch Creek garnered four responses: two for, two against.

Letters of support were submitted by the Chinook Indian Nation, Bird Alliance of Oregon, Forest Park Conservancy and the Northwest District Association. Her art exhibits at Gallery 114 and Mt. Hood Community College drew support for renaming from 40 of 51 attendees surveyed.

Still, nothing resembling a community discussion has occurred. The neighborhood association board discussion elicited one negative statement, after which the board voted 6-1 to approve the letter without further deliberation.

Helmsworth understands why the tribes have not been more outspoken. She said one tribal representative told her, “We will never do this ourselves because it’s so politically controversial, and there’s so much blowback on it.”

Helmsworth found an ally in NWDA Parks Committee Chair Tanya March, who submitted a 275-word statement later adopted by the association’s board.

March called the renaming “a meaningful opportunity to honor the indigenous heritage of this land.

“We believe this name change will bring a positive and much-needed recognition of the indigenous roots of the area, while removing the honor from a figure whose legacy does not align with the values we uphold today,” she wrote.

Her letter also praised thorough community outreach “ensuring that this proposal reflects the will and spirit of our neighborhood.”

Helmsworth intends to submit her proposal in time for the semiannual meeting of the Oregon Geographic Names Board in January.

Good proponent

“She’s a good proponent,” said Doug Decker, vice president of OGNB, which rules on name change applications. “She’s really been doing the homework.”

That homework could soon be put to the test. The state board follows procedures and policies adopted by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, which has final say on decisions by state name boards. Those federal policies include:

- It must not be defamatory or derogatory and should be acceptable to a majority of the residents in the local area.
- The proponent should contact local landowners involved to determine if there is any opposition to the proposed name.
- OGNB will conduct a review process and request comments from all Oregon American Indian tribal organizations, appropriate county commissioners and local historical societies. If the proposal generates a high level of public interest, an article will be placed in the local newspaper to inform the local population.

Decker said the board will consider various reflections of public sentiment, including newspaper stories.

That means Richard Gronostajski’s views, which barely left a ripple at the NWDA board meeting, may get a second hearing.

“Erasing history is very disturbing,” Gronostajski told the board. “The worst virtue signaling I’ve heard of for a while.”

He explained his critique further in an interview with the Examiner.

“It’s doing something in order to appear that we are more virtuous than we actually are,” he said.

Such gestures are meaningless if no lands are returned or tangible benefits bestowed, he said.

Kathy Sharp, a member of the Parks Committee and a periodic NWDA board member since the 1980s, submitted a 400-word polemic to the Examiner.

“Balch Creek was never named in honor of Danford Balch. The name identifies the territory where his family settled,” Sharp wrote.

“I have heard him called a colonizer; aren’t we all?” she continued, referring to U.S. military bases around the world and exploitation of natural resources by U.S.-based corporations.

Land acknowledgements and name changes “are hollow words from a nation that builds pipelines across waterways and native reservations,” she said.

As for Balch himself, “many a father would be upset to find his 16-year-old daughter running off with the neighbor. Don’t be distracted by platitudes and shame about past behaviors of individuals. We cannot know what they thought and suffered.

“It seems we want to hold yesterday’s people to today’s vision of what is right and politically correct,” Sharp concluded.

Leave it alone

Chet Orloff, a longtime Northwest Portland resident and former director of the Oregon Historical Society, has served on the Oregon Geographic Names Board for more than 30 years.

Orloff has extensive experience in naming places and landmarks. He chaired the committee that named the Tillicum Bridge and was appointed by former Mayor Sam Adams to create standards for naming and renaming sites within Portland.

“My opinion is to leave it alone and focus on giving names to unnamed sites within Forest Park,” Orloff told the Examiner.

He is not even certain Balch was guilty of murder, given cloudy accounts of the shooting, which he believes may have been accidental.

“I’ve met Nancy and have mentioned to her and (repeatedly) to Doug Decker that I thought that Balch was a perfectly appropriate name for the creek,” Orloff said, “but I don’t have the energy to do all that she’s doing in order to keep the name.”

While the process of recognizing historic figures through place names is spelled out in federal policy, the corollary—removal of a designated honoree—is uncharted water.

Three blocks of Southwest Jackson Street that include the home of the Native American Student and Community Center at Portland State University are being renamed to disassociate from President Andrew



Nancy Helmsworth is drawn to the beauty of Balch Creek, where she comes often to paint.

Jackson, a notorious Indians fighter.

Mount Howard in Eastern Oregon, named for Civil War Gen. Oliver Howard, retains its name despite Howard having commanded U.S. troops against the Nez Perce tribe, which was led by Chief Joseph. But Howard, who led the Freedmen’s Bureau, was also the namesake of Howard University, a historically black school.

Orloff raised these examples to illustrate how the renaming game gets complicated.

Helmsworth is not interested in attaching *kulla kulla* to an unnamed Forest Park feature. Balch Creek is where she draws inspiration, and its namesake raises only negative associations.

“Dan Balch was a colonist who received his land for free in 1850 via the Donation Land Claim he and his family settled. But before long, in 1858, Dan murdered his son-in-law in a drunken rage, not approving of his daughter’s elopement.

“Continuing to refer to a creek with a murderer’s moniker is an insult to the original people whose land was stolen and to all people striving to live in a civilized society, past and future. It’s not funny, nor quirky ... it is unjust and was an act of violence that ended an innocent persons’ life.” ■

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Pearl neighborhood challenges unlimited building heights

By Allan Classen

The City Council is considering the removal of building height limits in most of the central city, and the Pearl District Neighborhood Association is saying no.

The council discussed a recommendation from the Planning Commission intended to spur housing construction on Oct. 30. The action came in response to state legislation adopted in May that requires local jurisdictions to facilitate height and density adjustments to their zoning codes.

“But the Planning Commission went further and recommended unlimited height except in historic districts or view corridors,” said David Dysert, president of the PDNA and its land-use chair.

“We are not afraid of density or height; we welcome it,” Dysert wrote in a position statement to city officials. “Yet even in the best of times, we’ve seen maximum height left on the table.”

“The Planning Commission’s recommended amendment to the Housing Adjustment Compliance Project is an ineffective tool for generating housing production in the Central City. Height limits are not the barrier to housing production, especially affordable housing production. Economics is the chief obstacle here.

“Portland has small blocks, and building tall buildings on small floorplates is one of the most cost prohibitive construction types.

Affordable projects will not pencil. Even luxury sector development does not pencil in this economic environment. Portland rents cannot support current costs.

“Offering unlimited height as a knee-jerk reaction to Senate Bill 15437 without any due diligence on efficacy or respect to public process sets a bad precedent. It is irresponsible to suggest the current code is the problem to Portland’s housing challenges. If Portland wants to send a loud message that it’s open for business, we should be focusing on what actually caused our reputational damage.”

In addition to the extreme content of the proposal, Dysert questioned the expedited process that brought it forward.

“This proposal came out of left

field,” he said, noting that Bureau of Planning & Sustainability staff and the Portland Design Commission were “all taken off guard.”

“No one from permitting or planning has yet to reach out to me,” said Xavier Stickler, chair of the Downtown Neighborhood Association land-use committee, “and despite efforts, I have yet to be connected with someone who can tell me more about this proposal.”

Northwest District Association Planning Committee co-chair said, “I’ve been completely unaware of this entire process going on next door.” ■

“Offering unlimited height as a knee-jerk reaction to Senate Bill 15437 ... sets a bad precedent”
— David Dysert, PDNA president



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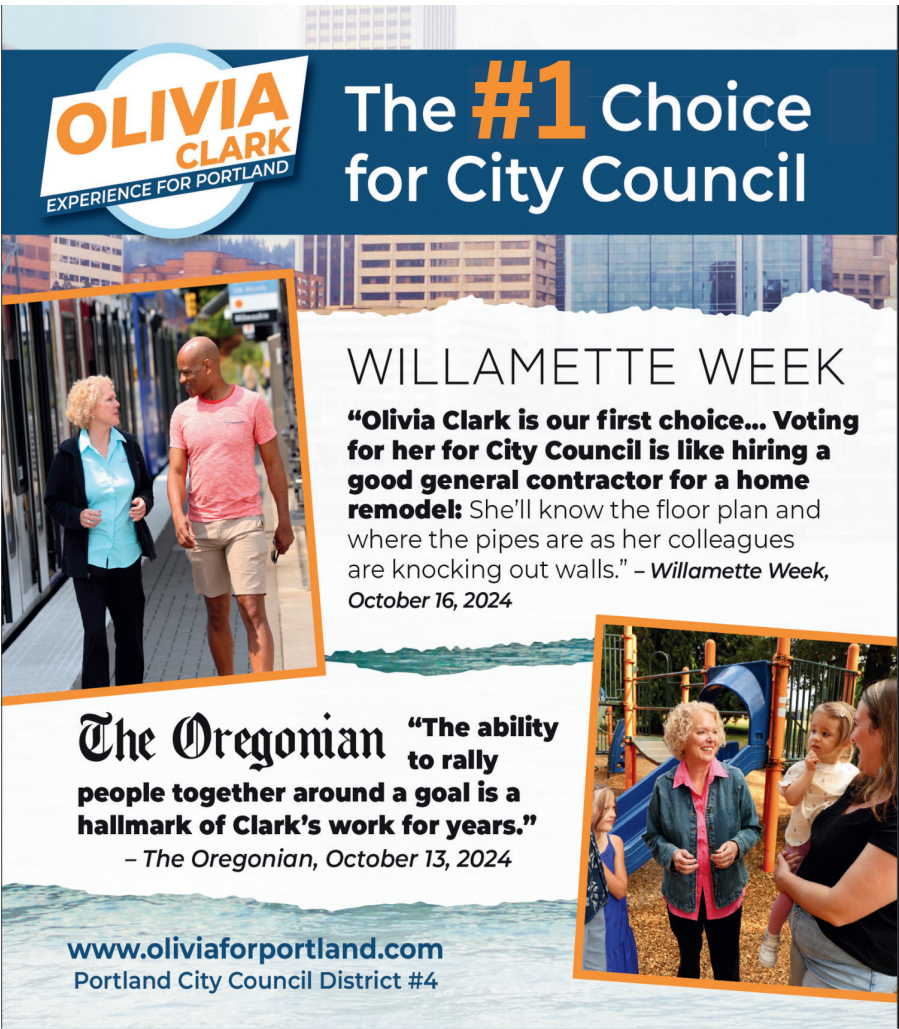
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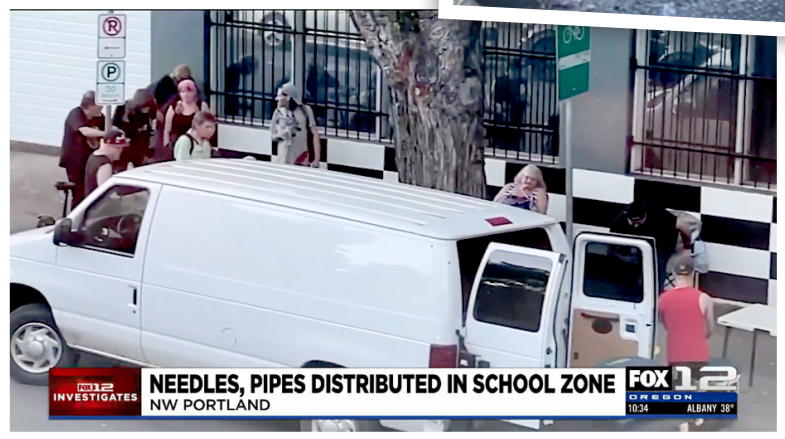
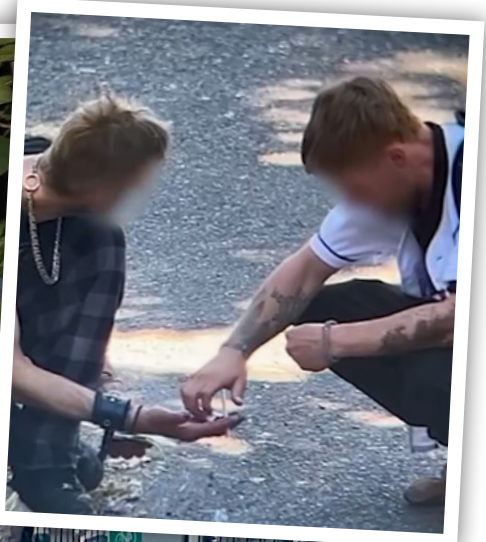
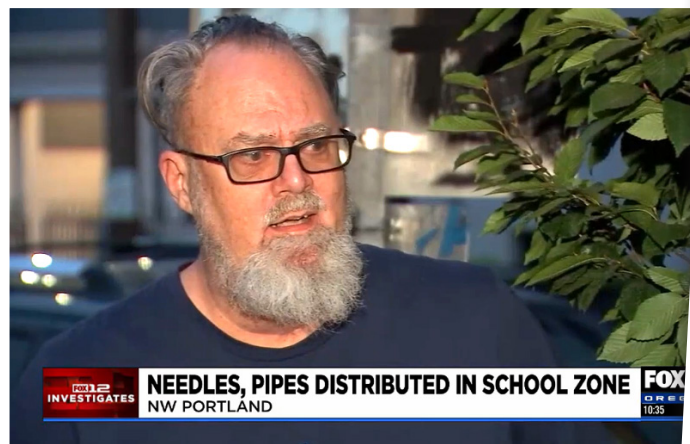
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The city of Portland is considering placing boulders in a median area at Northwest 16th and Couch streets to discourage camping. The strategy is supported by parents at the adjacent Cathedral School but opposed by some residents of the Empress Condominiums immediately south.

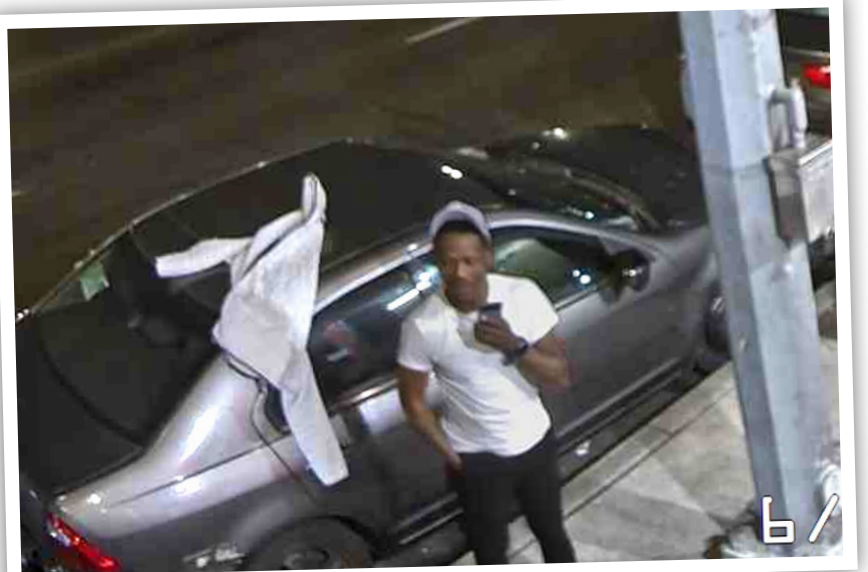


A five-minute segment on Fox 12 Oregon last month dramatized the chaos associated with Portland People's Outreach Project drug paraphernalia handouts near Northwest 19th and Burnside streets every Friday night. Neighbors say drug users draw drug dealers, who block traffic and terrorize residents. A video showed a cluster of men shouting profanity-laced threats and blocking the path of a resident trying to reach her home until police escorted her to safety. She was unable to press charges because their masks prevented identification. "The effort to reduce harm is actually creating it in exactly the wrong place," said newscaster Pete Ferryman.



Reiko Nitto is the Portland Rotary's most recent Lincoln High School student of the month. She runs on the Cardinal cross-country and track teams and has been a varsity swimmer for two years. She's a blood drive coordinator for the Red Cross and a youth partner for Meals on Wheels.

Helen Colletti was named Lincoln High School Student of the Month for October by Portland Pearl Rotary. She participates in the Constitution Team and Parliamentary Speech and Debate, volunteers at Ainsworth Elementary School and is a CommuniCare Program leader.



Portland Police are looking for a Black male in connection with a shooting of two men at West Burnside Street and Fifth Avenue June 29 at 1:10 a.m. Anyone with information on this person or the shooting is asked to email crimetips@police.portlandoregon.gov attn: ECST and reference case number 24-16075.



Portland Police arrested two people on Northwest 19th Avenue near West Burnside Street and impounded a vehicle last month. Police have focused on this area, which is the site of weekly drug paraphernalia handouts by Portland People's Outreach Project.



Longtime Northwest District resident Chris Sweitzer is exhibiting 15 new oil paintings of neighborhood scenes, including the Thurman Bridge and Stone House in Forest Park, at Friendly House through December.



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