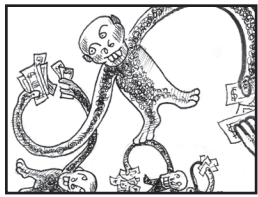




INSIDE



p. 3  
Tyranny of  
the minority



p. 8  
Bob Weinstein  
endorsement



p. 9  
Put Vadim  
on County  
Commission

OCTOBER 2024/ VOLUME 38, NO. 2 **FREE** SERVING PORTLAND'S NORTHWEST NEIGHBORHOODS SINCE 1986

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Although 19 candidates could barely fit on the Lincoln High School stage, the forum lasted only 80 minutes, thanks to a format allowing each candidate no more than one minute of speaking time.  
Photo by Wesley Mahan

# 30-candidate City Council race strains voter attention spans

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

Our forum last month pinned down 19 District 4 City Council candidates to yes or no stances on 30 policy questions. Despite protestations that these were not either/or questions, a lot was revealed with few words.

Candidates were divided on putting homeless shelters in residential neighborhoods and enforcing the city's ban on unsanctioned camping. They disagreed on requiring

apartment building developers to provide off-street parking. They split on putting more public safety dollars into Portland Police or Portland Street Response.

Cont'd on page 6

# Co-op members say enough, vote to dissolve Food Front

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

Food Front Cooperative Grocery officers at last accepted no for an answer, yielding to most members who no longer support dreams of reviving the store at 2375 NW Thurman St. that closed in April 2023.

Dissolving the co-op was favored by 53 percent of 411 voting members, almost three times the share who wanted to reopen. A substantial number (28 percent) picked a third option—exploring a vague public market concept—but even the two paths to keeping Food Front alive combined could not match the portion of member-owners who had had enough.

At a Sept. 3 co-op meeting before electronic ballots were distributed, there were clear signs of the fatigue.

"There are a lot of people who have moved on," board President Roman Shvarts said. "We have roughly 2,000 unsubscribes from our email list since last April or May,

so we have a lot of people just losing interest.

"Today we have 31 participants—last time, we had like 55. So there's definitely an overall drop in interest. A lot of owners want to move on," Shvarts said.

Member Steve Mayes said the board had misconstrued past member surveys reflecting "a strong indication that people are sick of the drama, sick of having this drug out."

The board misinterpreted an earlier survey in which about 90 percent of members supported a sale of the property to K-5 Holdings LLC for \$2.55 million, he said.

Shvarts announced in August that the 394-42 survey results gave "the board confidence in our decision, which we believe is best for our co-op."

The will of the members was obscured in the poll by the absence of an option in which to register dissolution. The board had hoped

Cont'd on page 12

## 29th Annual NW Examiner Community Awards

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Frank Moscow  
Ann Naito-Campbell  
Bob Wright  
Tad Savinar  
Lorene Scheer  
Stumptown Strays  
Glenn Traeger

More details on page 18



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–Beth & Kyle Kobel

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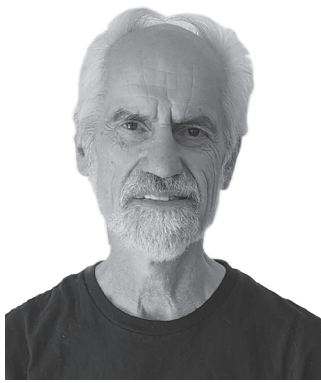


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Tyranny of the minority gets complicated

Charter reform was supposed to make city elections free and clean, but in the first test of the system, all-new ways to game the system have emerged.

The promise was that ranked-choice voting would turn rival candidates into teammates. Negative campaigning would go and cooperation would be in.

Even political insiders thought contenders could all be friends.

Dean Nielsen of CN4 Partners said ranked-choice voting coupled with multiwinner districts could lead to slates of candidates helping each other to victory.

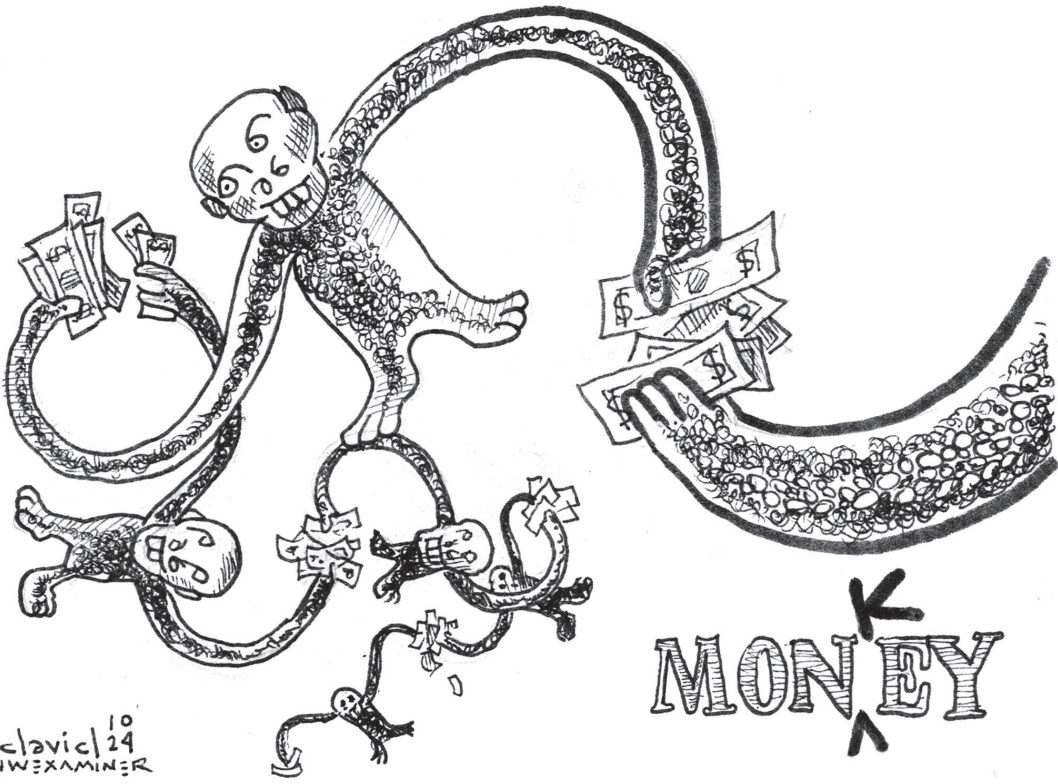
“With multiple winners, is your opponent really a competitor, or a potential colleague?”

Kari Chisholm of Swift Public Affairs suggested, “In a ranked-choice context, your closest ideological neighbor can actually be an ally because you want their voters to pick you as their second choice.”

And Jake Weigler of Praxis Political said, “My advice to every candidate is that you can swap donors; they can give to you as well as another candidate. With multiple winners, we now have ways to create mutual advantages that are quite rare in campaign life.”

The notable consultants quoted above shared their wisdom on the main campaign clearinghouse, Rosecityreform.org, in May.

Is it any wonder that many candidates applied that thinking and made reciprocal donations to help each other to unlock public campaign assistance?



At least four City Council candidates are being investigated by the Oregon Department of Justice for colluding to qualify for matching funds. Willamette Week reported that 10 others also participated in such swaps.

In their defense, no one seemed secretive about what they were doing. They shared emails and were overheard speaking openly at public events. This is the first run for office for almost all of the 100-plus council candidates, and they were not warned of this pitfall at campaign workshops held by the city.

Two national voting reform organizations that underwrote the initiative passed by city voters in 2022 reasoned that lowering barriers to elective office would help underserved population groups. No longer would it be necessary

to raise huge campaign chests, gain the support of powerful special interests or appeal to a broad spectrum of the electorate. No need to capture a majority of voters; 25 percent is good enough in this system.

Candidates who could not hope to win over most of the voters could gain office by appealing to each other, forming clubby cabals, sharing the wealth and ultimately perhaps even the power. In a process in which each voter can cast six votes, there would be enough go around.

What’s so wrong with politicians becoming friends?

Their first duty should be to their constituents. Candidates should be fighting for our interests, not for those in this

expanding class of would-be politicians.

It is in legislators’ interests to expand their powers, increase their compensation, loosen ethics standards and make rules favoring incumbency. If a body is made up of allies who do not question another’s motives, it becomes much easier to pass such laws and to do so without dissent or discussion.

The donation-swapping scheme drained public campaign funds that were not legitimately earned, defrauding taxpayers. Even naïve office seekers should have sensed that the ploy did not pass the smell test.

But the real culprits may have been the smart people in well-funded national campaign reform organizations that spoon-fed the Portland Charter Commission this uniquely

concocted system of ranked-choice voting and multiwinner districts. Portland’s extremely generous 9:1 campaign matching funds program also put the cheese on the trap.

The core philosophy behind these machinations on our electoral system is the bigger issue our city must address. If we no longer believe that majority rule works—or at least can be made to work—we will fall for other touted ideas of the day.

To address fears of the majority having too much power, the upper hand will be granted to those speaking for a minority of voters. There’s a term for that, but somehow in our rush to reform our electoral system, no one spoke of tyranny of the minority.

Readers Reply

Letters can be sent to: [allan@nwexaminer.com](mailto: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.

Delusional approaches

I don’t know who is more delusional, Rev. Nathan LeRud or Portland People’s Outreach Project [“Harm reduction or havoc creation?” September]. Trust me when I say that all of us see what’s going on at that corner and its adjoining areas, whether a nonbeliever or a churchgoer, and what’s going on is filth and criminality.

As a parishioner at nearby St. Mary’s Cathedral, I too chase away fentanyl users whenever I arrive for my weekly volunteerism. Vacant spaces are fair game to them. I did not know that

pastor Andreas Loeffler of St. Mary’s arranged for this community meeting, yet I applaud him for doing so.

Speaking strictly for myself, Jesus also instructed those who insist they cannot walk to simply realize that indeed they can walk if the spirit is willing. I find the brand of Christianity that enables victimhood to be misdirected. And also speaking as someone who worked in social services for years, I find any nonprofit—especially any government agency—that aids and abets truly bad behavior to be uncaring toward the common good.

Karla Powell  
NW 11th Ave.

Who funds the handouts?

We are new to downtown Portland and love the city, but the homeless and camp situation is out of control. The city will never come back unless this drug and homeless problem can be addressed. We want to help the city revive itself. It is a beautiful place being spoiled by those who don’t care, specifically the people using drugs on the street, rooting through trash cans and tagging the neighborhood.

We are glad to help people who are in need, but not at the expense of everyone else. I do not support handing out

drug paraphernalia. Who is Portland People’s Outreach Project, and why are they not required to identify their funding? It is obviously from people who do not live downtown.

Thank you for your work. Let’s keep shining a light on the issues. We want to stay in downtown Portland, but the city has to step up and make hard decisions.

Micki Roemer  
NW 12th Ave.

Cont’d on page 5



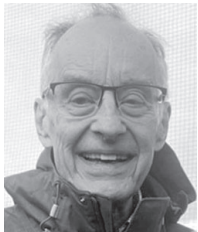


## Jacob Fried



Jacob Fried, a Portland State University professor who lived in Willamette Heights since 1965, died on June 29 at age 100. He served as an Air Force weather observer during World War II and earned a Ph.D. in anthropology from Yale University. He taught anthropology at McGill University Montreal before moving to Portland in 1965. He married Patricia in 1962. He is survived by his wife, Patricia; sons, David and Michael; and one grandchild.

## David R. Stegner



David R. Stegner, who lived in the same Portland Heights house for 67 years, died Aug. 21 from lung cancer at age 89. Stegner was born on May 18, 1935, in Portland and attended Rose City Park Grade School and Grant High School. He graduated from Oregon

State University with a degree in business in 1957. He served 28 years in the Army Reserve, achieving the rank of lieutenant colonel. He married Diana Hughes in 1965. He was a member of the Multnomah Athletic Club, where he was known as "Swimmer Dave." He is survived by his wife, Diana; son, Dwight; daughter, Dina Guppy; sister, Anne Bell; half-siblings, Sheila, Benson and Don Otto; and two grandchildren. Services will be held at Trinity Episcopal Chapel on Friday, Oct. 11, at 2 p.m.

## Dennis Gray



Dennis Gray, a longtime Northwest District resident and former doorman at The Earth Tavern, died Aug. 29 at age 83. He was born Sept. 27, 1940, and grew up in Los Angeles. After serving in the Navy at age 17, he returned to California, where he worked in the insurance industry. He married Terre Gray, and they had four daughters. In the 1980s, he moved to Portland and worked for Toyota until his retirement. He married Caroline Skinner, and they had one daughter. He had a 20-year

partnership with Laurie Sone, who died in 2021. He is survived by his daughters, Esmé Evans, Asia Wynne, Renee Gorham, Jillian Herring and Celeste Davis, sister, Lynne Spear; and 13 grandchildren.

## Rosemarie Rosenfeld



Rosemarie Rosenfeld, a member of Congregation Beth Israel, died Sept. 10 at age 93. Rosemarie Frey was born in Berlin on Aug. 25, 1931, and the family immigrated to the United States in to escape the Holocaust in 1938. They settled in Seattle, where she graduated as valedictorian of her class at Franklin High School. She graduated from Stanford University. She married Lloyd Rosenfeld, and they moved to Portland in 1954. After receiving a master's in social work from Portland State University in 1977, she began a career as a researcher for the dean of the Oregon Health Sciences University School of Nursing. She volunteered for the Oregon Jewish Museum, Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, Jewish Family & Child Service, Congregation Beth Israel,

Cedar Sinai Park and Planned Parenthood. She is survived by her sons, Dan and Eric; daughter, Meryl Haber; brother, Tom Frey; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

## Death Notices

**CHRISTOPHER CREW**, 36, grew up in Portland Heights.

**JOHN HOLDEN**, 94, member of the Multnomah Athletic Club.

**LYNN HUSBAND**, 91, anesthesiologist at Good Samaritan Hospital.

**MARY (CATLIN) LAAKSO**, 74, 1968 graduate of Lincoln High School.

**ROBERT LEHRER**, 88, 1955 graduate of Lincoln High School.

**LINDA RAWLINGS**, 84, resident of Forest Heights.

**JOSEPH R. STUDENICKA**, 83, graduate of Chapman Elementary School and Lincoln High School.

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Drug users congregated at Northwest 19th and Burnside streets by McDonald's.

## Had enough

I just received the latest edition of the Examiner: perfect timing. I live in the Wickersham Condominiums on Northwest 18th and Flanders and drive by the church area daily. Our neighborhood has changed quite a bit since 2019.

This was a great neighborhood. That's why we wanted to return to Portland after living in Southern Oregon for 15 years. I walk through the mess several times a week en route to Freddy's. A similar story is playing out along Flanders by Temple Beth Israel: drug deals going down daily, purposeless people hanging out, leaving all sorts of garbage and drug paraphernalia in their wake. It's quickly become the Northwest ghetto.

I've called the police several times, but there are just not enough of them to adequately address the problems. Given the deteriorating conditions in our neighborhood, we're planning to sell our beautiful vintage condo and get out of Dodge next spring. We've had enough.

Joel Sigel  
NW 18th Ave.

## Enabling addiction

Sept. 6 marked the third consecutive Friday that I joined with concerned neighbors to protest the Portland People's Outreach Project's weekly handout of clean syringes, snacks and medical supplies to the hordes of drug users near Northwest 19th and Burnside. Neighbors were joined by a much larger group of parents from Cathedral School, which is two blocks away.

PPOP does not collect used syringes, which are often discarded by drug users onto sidewalks and into gutters. Beleaguered residents have to carefully collect the used syringes and discard them safely.

In a new twist, a counter-protest group showed up, shouting support and praise for the work of PPOP. The attitude of

PPOP staffers and the counter-protesters is that theirs is an altruistic effort to respectfully aid street drug users to live their lives as they choose. PPOP and supporters are self-righteously dogmatic in their logic, coming off as the left's version of MAGA extremists.

Just a block away, a naked woman lay face down on a blanket. She refused help from PPOP staffers, one of whom said that it was the woman's right to refuse help and remain naked on her blanket. That hands-off attitude is mirrored in PPOP's philosophy that enables drug addicts to continue to waste away on our streets.

Dennis Harper  
NW 18th Ave.

## Report drug crime

When drugs and drug addicts exist in our neighborhood, it brings unpredictable behaviors, criminal activity, gun violence, vandalism, trash and graffiti, all of which threaten our personal and neighborhood safety. Our Northwest neighborhood has been flooded with fentanyl, and the addicts are enabled.

These addicts are openly doing and dealing drugs on our streets, sidewalks, front yards and parks. This population is not interested in treatment and needs to be held accountable for tarnishing our neighborhood.

Stop the enablement. See something, say something. Report drug hotspots in our Northwest neighborhood to: Multnomah County Sheriff 503-988-0560. Crime Stoppers of Oregon, text CRIMES (274637) with "823HELP" as a subject line. Call police dispatch 503-823-3333 and press zero. Report drug activity via this link: <https://www.portland.gov/police/drug-complaint>. Email the mayor: [mayorwheeler@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:mayorwheeler@portlandoregon.gov).

This drug crisis is a tragedy and the burden is on us to return safety to our neighborhood.

Kathryn Shymanski  
NW Irving St.

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"Co-op members" cont'd from page 9

There was surprising unanimity on supposedly controversial topics. None would say that the city has gone too far to accommodate bicycling. Only two indicated that behavioral health issues are the primary cause of homelessness. All but two support outdoor dining shelters and other non-auto uses of our streets. Only one stood against confiscating illegal drugs from street users.

Most believe neighborhood associations reflect their constituencies, though five did not and two abstained. That's hardly a ringing endorsement in a forum co-sponsored by a coalition of neighborhood associations and a neighborhood newspaper.

The forum's main purpose was to distinguish candidates on the issues, and it did. Each candidate left a unique fingerprint on issues and dilemmas facing the city.



### Eli Arnold

As a Central Precinct Portland Police bike officer, Arnold wants more police staffing rather than diverting resources to Portland Street Response. As someone having daily encounters with addicts and people living on the streets, he appreciates the magnitude of the problem but does not think more funding for homeless services is the answer. He opposes homeless shelters in residential neighborhoods and was one of only two opposing conversion of street space to non-auto uses.



### Bob Weinstein

Weinstein, the only former elected official in the race, has been a neighborhood advocate who sees local government failing the community, whose policies for affordable housing, homelessness and public safety are not working even where ample funding is available. He says the Office of Civic and Community Life, chartered to support neighborhood associations, is actually weakening them, a view held by about one-third of the candidates.



### Sarah Silkie

Silkie, a Portland Water Bureau engineer, emphasizes the compassionate approach to homelessness. She would not enforce the city's ban on camping in public and favors shelters in residential neighborhoods. She would not prioritize police funding over more support for Portland Street Response. She does not think Portland neighborhood associations reflect their communities. She was one of only two who think dining shelters are not a good use of streets.



### Stan Penkin

Penkin was the only other candidate refusing to pick the primary cause of homelessness. A longtime Pearl District Neighborhood Association president, he believes community building should be a higher priority for neighborhood associations than providing oversight of city policies. As a leader of a comprehensive private security and social service nonprofit in the Pearl, he is ambivalent on an issue he has faced directly: whether police foot patrols are more valuable than rapid police response.



### Chad Lykins

Lykins also emphasizes the need for more housing. He would increase maximum building heights in the Central City even if not associated with greater density and would not require apartment builders to provide parking. On the former Alpenrose Dairy site, he sees an opportunity to "create something wonderful" with higher-density development. He does not think neighborhood associations are reflective of their constituents.

## Watch this candidate forum:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=hUxepnwWPjs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hUxepnwWPjs)  
or [shorturl.at/Zbs2e](https://shorturl.at/Zbs2e)



### Eric Zimmerman

A longtime local government insider, Zimmerman is endorsed by far more elected officials than any opponent. He wants to fast-track development, considers design review an unnecessary step that can stop projects and told the Goose Hollow Foothills League that he would double the height limits in the Central City. Outlier barely describes this position. He does not think additional funding is the answer to our homelessness problem.



### Bob Callahan

An attorney, Callahan did not go along with the pack on many policy stances. He does not believe greater funding is needed to address homelessness, opposes homeless shelters in residential neighborhoods and was one of only two against non-auto use of streets. He took the only stand in favor of policy oversight as the priority for neighborhood associations. He's for four-way stops instead of traffic diverters. He wants more enforcement of laws protecting the livability of residents and viability of businesses.



### Ben Hufford

Hufford, an architect, is all about incentivizing housing construction. "I'm in this seat because we have a housing emergency." He would not require off-street parking for new apartment buildings. He's against homeless shelters in residential neighborhoods. He thinks City Hall is weakening neighborhood associations and prioritizes expansion of police staffing over Portland Street Response.



### Olivia Clark

Clark would be a developer's friend, seeing more housing as a path toward affordability, favoring new construction over saving existing housing, seeing design review as an unnecessary cost burden, and she was one of only three favoring greater height limits even if not associated with more density. The latter would increase land values and expand luxury-level opportunities. She agrees with a consensus among developers that inclusionary zoning is not working. She would enforce the public camping ban now.



### Tony Morse

A former addict in longterm recovery, Morse abstained on identifying either lack of housing or behavioral health as the primary cause of homelessness. "You can't answer difficult behavioral health questions in a yes or no format," he said. He abstained on three hot-button questions about the cause and remediation of homelessness. He does not favor homeless shelters in residential neighborhoods.



### Mitch Green

Green is pro-union, an Army veteran, energy economist and a community college professor, none of which seemed to predict his positions on the 30 policy issues. He supports more housing development and greater investment in homeless remediation. He abstained on nine questions—more than anyone else. He refused to say neighborhood associations must choose between community building activity and policy oversight because "robust engagement builds democracy and enables oversight," one of the most insightful comments within the format's 60-second speaking time limit.



District 4 Candidates' Forum

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Does maximizing housing construction moderate cost of housing?
Is saving existing housing preferable to building new housing?
Is Design Review worth the costs it adds to development?
I favor increasing building heights even if it does not increase density
Inclusionary zoning is generating more affordable housing in PDX?
Do you favor the conversion of street space to non-auto uses?
Are dining shelters a good use of the right of way?
Has the city gone too far in accommodating bicycles?,
Should apt builders be required to provide off-street parking?
Do you prefer four-way stops or traffic diverters at neighborhood intersections?
Favor homeless shelters and services in residential neighborhoods?
Should city's ban on camping in public spaces be enforced now?
Is behavioral health the primary cause of homelessness?
Is the lack of housing the primary cause of homelessness?
Is greater public investment needed to address homelessness?
Do Portland neighborhood associations reflect their communities?
Is diminished city funding for neighborhood assos a problem?
Should SE neighborhoods be part of the Westside Dist 4 Coalition?

Arnold	Callahan	Clark	Dinapoli	Doyle	Freeman	Green	Henry	Hufford	Lykins	Morse	Penkin	Ross	Silkie	Thompson	Trimble	Vitavin	Weinstein	Zimmerman
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Candidates engaged with attendees before and after the forum at Lincoln High School last month.

The thinking behind the questions

Often arcane thought went into the questions presented to council candidates at the Sept. 9 forum. Some unpacking may be useful. The intent was not to test for correct responses but to reveal the preferences and priorities of candidates. This is what went into some of the “loaded” questions.

**Does maximizing housing construction moderate the cost of housing?**  
This is taken as conventional wisdom by political leaders, the news media and advocacy organizations coast to coast. I believe the relationship may be inverse, but no candidate bit on it. Perhaps they just didn’t want to be thought of as flat-Earthers.

**Is saving existing housing preferable to building new housing?**  
This question also weighed the benefits of housing construction, setting it against another objective valued in neighborhoods, and it split the candidates.

**Do you favor increased building heights in the Central City, even if not coupled with increased density?**  
Thin skyscrapers produce the most expensive space in the city, but some see them as an engine for downtown renewal. Candidates were divided down the middle.

**Do Portland neighborhood associations reflect their communities?**  
Five candidates said they do not, a position city officials have often taken to discount neighborhood association input. Can candidates win with such a stance when they represent a more local slice of the city?

**Are dining shelters a good use of the right of way?**  
There was almost universal support for this COVID-era innovation. Al fresco dining trumps parking even if some of the structures look trashy.

**Has the city gone too far in accommodating bicycles?**  
Because many residents grouse about it, I thought this one would draw a divide, but it did not.

**Is increased police funding more important than more funds for Portland Street Response?**  
Humanitarian intervention to avoid police shootings of disturbed individuals was touted during the Defund the Police summer of 2020, but it was a 50-50 proposition with our candidates.

**Are four-way stops preferable to traffic diverters at neighborhood intersections?**  
The city prefers diverters, but the candidates came down about 2:1 for stop signs.

**Is greater public investment needed to address homelessness?**  
It may seem self-evident in that the problem is not diminishing, but the ample and unspent resources suggest we’re paying more than enough already.

**Are police foot patrols more useful than rapid response to emergency calls?**  
Neighborhood people love the idea police walking their neighborhoods, but any kind of policing will suffice for now by an 8-3 margin of candidates. Many were undecided, though.

— Allan Classen

COMMENT ON NWEXAMINER.COM  
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# Bob Weinstein yes, Stan Penkin no

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

The NW Examiner does not have the resources to adequately compare the qualifications of all 30 candidates running in City Council District 4.

We can, however, say something about the candidates we have covered in their roles as citizen activists over the years. District 4 contenders Bob Weinstein and Stan Penkin have been quoted many times in the Examiner. Penkin has been president of the Pearl District Neighborhood Association the past eight years, and Weinstein, though never elected to a position with the Northwest District Association, has regularly raised issues and volunteered time to livability projects.

We endorsed Weinstein as soon as he announced his candidacy last winter. He was a four-term mayor of Ketchikan, Alaska, where he was a school superintendent and worked on constituent outreach for a U.S. senator.

Weinstein knows how government works, how it fails and the human factor that makes the difference. He knows budgeting, and has set himself apart from other contenders by critiquing instances of Portland mismanagement, such as paying temporary administrators on 12-month contracts an extra six months pay and benefits in severance despite no obligation to do so. He identified overstaffing in city communications, where no reduction is planned in the 85 people working in various bureaus despite the consolidation under one city manager. He predicted the huge additional costs in converting to the new city charter, which was sold to voters under the promise of no financial impact.



“Bob Alaska” had a long career in government and politics in Alaska before moving to Northwest Portland in 2018.

The new council of 12 will be shy on this kind of nuts-and-bolts expertise. Weinstein would provide that essential knowledge and judgment.

Alone among the 100-plus council candidates citywide, Weinstein has frequently issued press announcements on the city actions of the day, pointing out where he would have acted differently. Voters have been given a clear road map of his priorities and where he would have taken different directions.

We are not endorsing Penkin. While his influence in City Hall is substantial, he has at key junctures favored secrecy over candor. This practice has forced him to apologize to his neighborhood association board at one point (related to his motion to block me from attending Neighbors West/Northwest coalition meetings) and to divide his board

at another time when he would not admit error on a privately negotiated settlement with the developer of The Sutton apartment building. He has frequently defended closed meetings of citizen organizations so that leaders “could speak more freely.”

I have no such background on the other candidates, though some impress me. I believe Eli Arnold, a bike cop in the Central Precinct who has worked positively with neighborhood associations, would be a valuable council member. Law enforcement intertwines with the central conundrum of our time—the homelessness, mental illness and addiction playing out on our streets—and policy debates devoid of his experience would be incomplete.

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VOTE BY NOVEMBER 5

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Army veteran, LGBTQ leader and activist, and dedicated public servant

I am the only candidate in this race who has worked directly with the community to restore public safety and order in downtown. But there’s still more to be done.

I will use pragmatism and my experience as a dedicated public servant to address our homelessness, housing, and public safety crises. My goal is to ensure that working families and residents feel safe and supported in our city.

I believe in Portland’s potential because I know it can return to the great city it once was.

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ENDORSED BY

Nathan Vasquez  
Multnomah County District Attorney-Elect

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# Mozyrsky: the clear path for Multnomah County



Vadim Mozyrsky



Meghan Moyer

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

### Who are public sidewalks for?

Multnomah County Council candidates Vadim Mozyrsky and Meghan Moyer answer that question very differently, as was revealed in their recent City Club debate.

The two have a history on this point. Mozyrsky and Moyer were on opposite sides of the 2022 lawsuit against the city of Portland for violating the federal Americans with Disabilities Act by allowing campers to block sidewalks.

Mozyrsky had learned of blind residents unable to reach the Oregon Commission for the Blind offices on Southeast 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue due to obstructed sidewalks. He contacted Disability Rights Oregon, where he had been a board member, to see if they would take up the cause. The organization turned him down.

John DiLorenzo Jr., an attorney with Davis

Wright Tremaine, later filed a case that produced a \$600,000 settlement and a mechanism to ensure future compliance with the law.

Moyer, the director of public policy for Disability Rights Oregon, said her organization was right in rejecting the case.

“Disability Rights Oregon did refuse to take that case for good reason,” she said. “I’m proud I had no part in that. I think it was an abuse of a law [in that it] targeted other people with disabilities in a gross and cynical use of the ADA.”

Drug addiction and psychological/mental disorders are defined as disabilities by ADA, but do those conditions excuse disabled people who block the rights of other disabled people? The act provides no such pass, as Moyer knows.

And since when is expecting people to clean up after themselves and respect others

considered targeting?

Moyer also found the suit illegitimate because it was not brought by “some benevolent lawyer from above.”

Moyer was playing to a liberal audience. Her organization does not restrict its legal representation to unpaid saints either.

“DiLorenzo is a major property owner who has worked with developers in Portland for decades, and developers funded that lawsuit,” she said.

By Moyer’s logic, people in certain demographic categories can do no wrong, while people in other categories can do no right.

A question from the audience about the impact of behavioral health centers in neighborhoods also showed the chasm between the candidates.

Moyer would not accept the premise that such facilities harm neighbors or reduce prop-

erty values, calling those “inaccurate and unfair stereotypes.”

“People with disabilities are a naturally occurring part of our community, and living next to them is not a burden,” she said. “It does not actually lower your property value.”

Moyer puts innate traits in the same category with behaviors causing harm to others and society.

Mozyrsky drew a distinction.

“It is about compassion, but it’s compassion for everybody, not just for certain groups,” he said. “It’s compassion for the plaintiffs in that ADA lawsuit. ... They needed compassion as well the people on the street who were blocking their way.

“315 people died on our streets last year. It is not compassion saying that we can’t use our public safety net in order to get those people into treatment.”

Moyer is in the advocacy business, using legalisms to excuse outrageous behavior by some while villainizing those who disagree with her. Multnomah County government has been a haven for this kind of thinking and has become a dysfunctional entity as a result.

Sound government involves balancing rights and responsibilities while respecting public opinion and seeking pragmatic solutions. A society that cannot distinguish between the right of a blind person to pass down a sidewalk and the supposed right to block that sidewalk with personal property and garbage has lost its way.

There are other reasons to vote for Mozyrsky, but the City Club exchange says enough. Multnomah County will continue on the self-defeating path of enablement if Moyer is elected. With the election of Vadim Mozyrsky and Sam Adams in District 2, we could have a sensible majority in the County Commission to address real problems.

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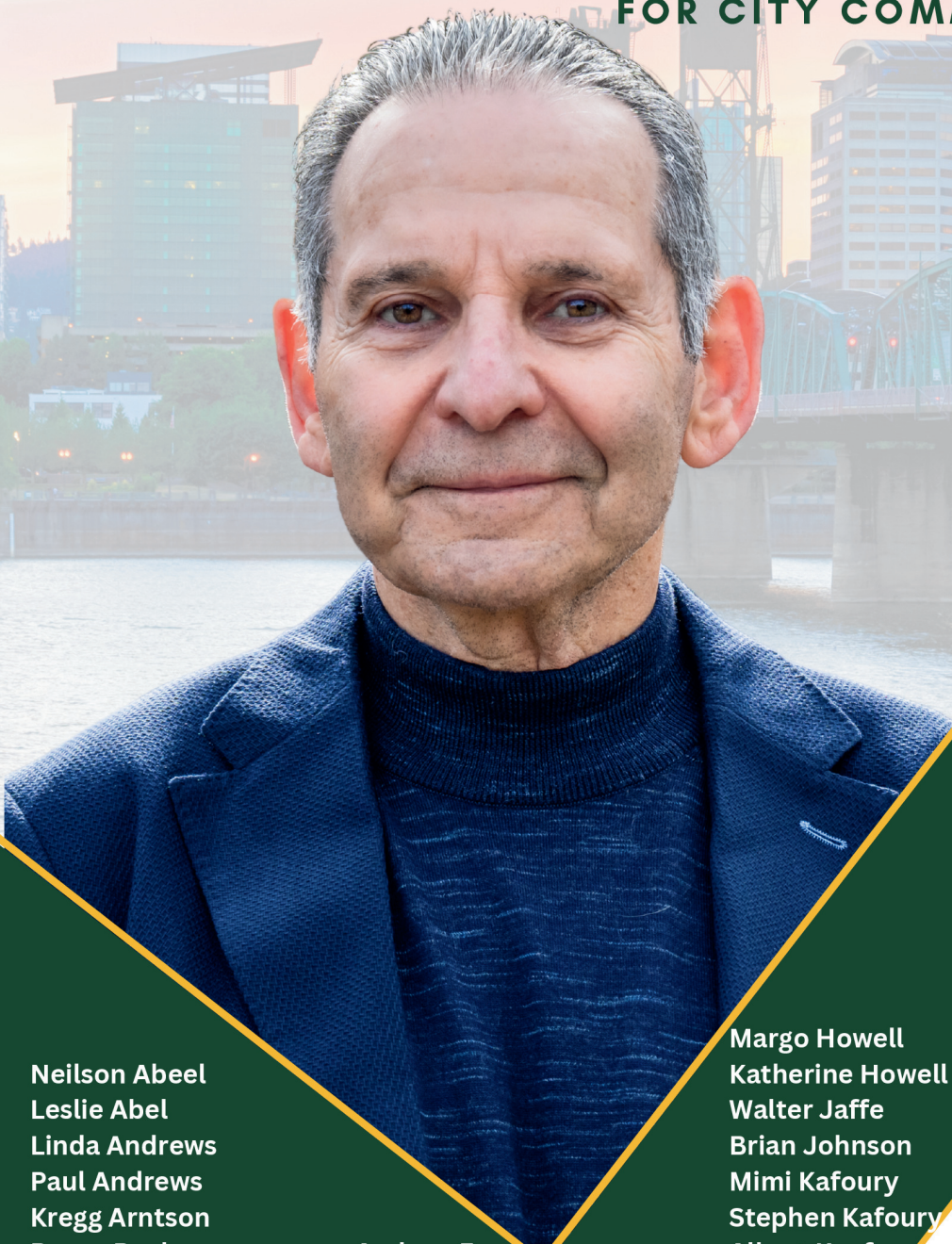


# Stan Penkin #1

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# GREATER NORTHWEST PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT MAP

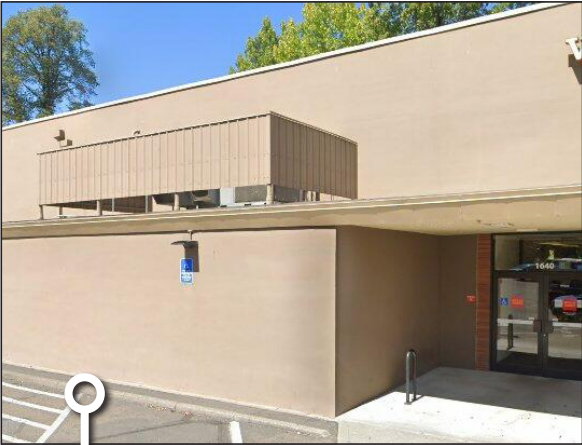
## MONTEGOMERY PARK

The City Council will hold a hearing on the Montgomery Park Area Plan on Thursday, Oct. 24, at 2 p.m., aiming for final adoption of the plan by Dec. 18. The Northwest District Association and the Northwest Industrial Business Association have major reservations about the plan's impact on livability, transportation and industrial jobs.



## WELLS FARGO BLOCK

The block between Northwest 18th, 19th, Savier and Thurman streets, formerly occupied by a Wells Fargo Bank, was purchased by a group of Oregon investors for \$2.25 million in June. The structure is surrounded by a security fence, but no plans for development have been announced.



## MILLHOUSE APARTMENTS

Millhouse apartments at 1985-1988 NW Savier St. are nearing completion and signing leases. Rents start at \$1,550 for a 401-square-foot studio and top at \$4,764 for 1,337 square feet. Minimizing the impact on St. Patrick Catholic Church immediately to the east was a critical point in design negotiations.



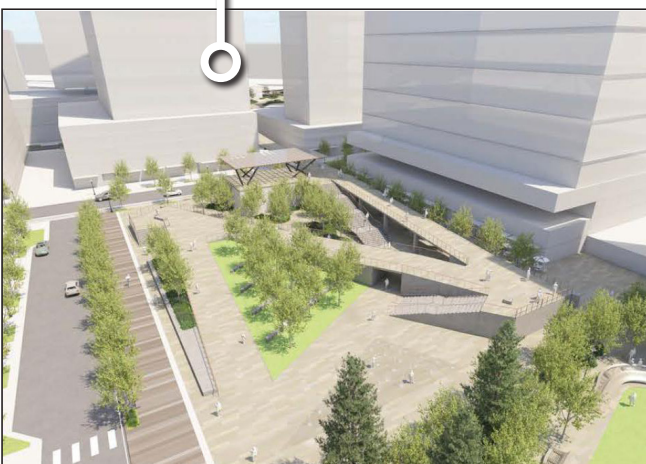
## SLABTOWN PARK

The city of Portland is at last in control of the property at Northwest 20th Avenue and Pettygrove and is preparing the ground for installation of a 200-by-200-foot park. A dispute over responsibility for soil contamination held up plans for the park, which was intended to be the first—not one of the last—parcels to be completed under the city-adopted Slabtown Master Plan of 2012.



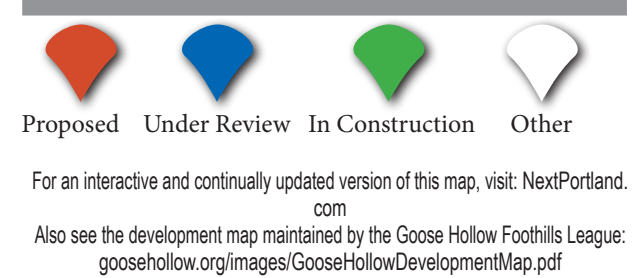
## 519-27 NW 21ST AVE.

The former home of O'Brien's and Wimpy's taverns on Northwest 21st Avenue has been remodeled as a clinic, with private rooms, sauna and spa. John Kinsman of Commercial Integrity NW is offering the property for sale, not lease, a reflection of changing market conditions. The spaces have been vacant since 2016 and last sold for \$985,000 in 2021.



## NORTH PARK BLOCKS EXTENSION

Three preliminary design options for the North Park Blocks extension project are being considered by the Pearl District Neighborhood Association. This example includes two largely open blocks and a series of ramps on the northern block ending at Northwest Johnson Street. Construction of the southern block is expected in 2027.







After Food Front closed in April 2023, members and workers, including Lisa Bogar, yearned for some way to reopen the store. A year and a half later, the board learned that most members had moved on.

**"There is no good or feasible way to distribute the funds to owners due to the way membership list has been kept."**  
— Roman Shvarts, Food Front president

"Co-op members" cont'd from page 1

that the sale to K-5 would produce sufficient seed capital to revive a Food Front store as a tenant in its old location.

Board member Sanela Fusonary said negotiations on the sale were hung up on the terms for a right of first refusal to rent from K-5.

"It will be up to them and up to us," Fusonary said, "if we can demonstrate that we can do something there in the same space."

Longtime member Caroline Skinner explained in August, "I almost don't care who buys it at this point, as long as it's a clean sale with NO entanglements. I want to see the Food Front building sold as soon as possible before anything really expensive happens on top of our current costs."

The survey questions did not provide

an opportunity to register that viewpoint.

"They only gave one choice," she said, "so I voted yes because I want this to be over."

Members like Skinner were not handing the board a vote of confidence but the exact opposite, a signal that they did not trust the board to make any moves.

A Food Front annual meeting will be held on Nov. 12.

Meanwhile, the board is tending to matters considered essential before winding the co-op out of existence—purging members who have "spread misinformation." Dan Anderson, a member since the 1980s, is scheduled to be excommunicated at a closed session Oct. 22.

"We are not obligated to discuss anything with you prior to the meeting," read Shvarts' email to Anderson, "but ...

some things that you did could be: ignoring a cease and desist letter, providing false information that was published, ignoring the investigation the board is able to conduct, ignoring the very strict instructions not to disseminate information, etc."

If the board rules against him, he would become at least the fifth member (including this reporter) to be terminated this year.

Removal from the membership rolls is an abstract concept because no one knows who is properly a member.

Shvarts announced in September that "there is no plan to distribute any proceeds [from a sale] to owners. There is no good or feasible way to distribute the funds to owners due to the way membership list has been kept."

Any effort to sort out valid memberships would "not be worth the administrative costs."

In the alternative, revenue from the sale could be distributed to local non-profit organizations. The board is seeking volunteers to fill vacancies to assist with such issues.

Jere Grimm, who joined soon after to co-op was founded in 1972, offered some perspective.

"I remain hopeful that, in tribute to the 50 years during which Food Front played a small, but key role in modeling the concept of local, organic, sustainable agriculture and local food product development, the 411 voting members will continue to hold and work for those values in whatever way and wherever they are able."

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Black Star Grill

Dodo Dumpling

## Opening

### Black Star Grill

Enoch Aggrey plans to move his Ghanaian food business from a food truck parked next to 1902 NW 24th Ave. the past two years to a brick-and-mortar restaurant at 1010 NW 10th Ave. A soft opening was scheduled in late September.

### Dodo Dumpling

Harrison Mal plans to open Dodo Dumpling at 1902 NW 24th Ave., a house leased to many restaurants since the 1980s. The website, [dododumpling.com](http://dododumpling.com), emphasizes natural flavors and balanced nutrition.

### Le Petit Café

Le Petit Café, which serves sandwiches, French baked goods and coffee, opened in August at 2031 NW Front Ave. in the Field Office building.

### Takibi

After a chimney fire in January forced a closure for repairs, Japanese restaurant Takibi reopened last month with a new menu and plans for a ramen cart this fall. The restaurant at 2275 NW Flanders St., is attached to Snow Peak, a Japanese camping company. It was named one of the best bars in America by Esquire Magazine in 2022.

## Closing ...

### Santa Fe Taqueria

Santa Fe Taqueria (*pictured above*), a fixture at 831 NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue since 1990, closed Sept. 30. Founder-owner Danny Cardoso is closing Santa Fe and Maya’s Taqueria in downtown Portland and retiring.

Cardoso called Maya’s the city’s “first authentic taqueria,” introducing family-style Mexican food four years before opening Santa Fe.

### Mermosa

The wine bar and brunch restaurant Mermosa, 1422 NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave., closed last month but will continue its catering business. Desiree Noisette, identified as the first Black woman to own a wine company in Florida, opened Mermosa in mid-2023.

“We can no longer justify the ultrapremium rent on Northwest 23rd Ave.” Noisette posted on her website, “especially when the vast majority of our guests travel in from other neighborhoods, cities, states and countries to visit us.”

NOBBY NEWS

Vol. 30, No. 9    “News You Can’t Always Believe”    OCTOBER2024

Potato tree comes through

Anticipating the red potato one day becoming Oregon’s official state vegetable, Allison, our arborist, biochemist and bartender, has tended a red potato tree for several years. Right on cue, the tree produced its first crop in time for the governor’s official declaration last week honoring the noble tuber.

The Nob Hill Bar & Grill will use the potatoes in salads, soups, home fries and sometimes as stain removers.

Allison has now turned her attention to developing a yellow onion tree and a plant-based sausage shrub.



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14
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# The Cardinal Times

## Lincoln staff members call for more state funding following budget cuts due to 2023 teacher’s strike

By MO DAMTEW

Last November, Portland Public Schools (PPS) and the Portland Association of Teachers (PAT) waged one of the longest teacher strikes in recent American history, closing schools including classes, clubs and athletic programs for over three weeks. The district then made \$30 million in budget cuts in June, citing “investments in staff” as a cause behind the reductions. PPS isn’t the only district saying there isn’t enough money in the system. School districts all across Oregon have been fiercely demanding that legislators in Salem provide additional support for their schools as they navigate ongoing financial challenges. Superintendents from Portland, Salem-Keizer, Bend-La Pine and Medford schools posted a YouTube video declaring the situation a “crisis” in May.

Governor Tina Kotek has made a proposal to add \$515 million to the State School Fund over the next three years, but Principal Peyton Chapman is concerned that it won’t be enough.

“It won’t cover the increased costs of teacher salaries and facility needs,” Chap - man said.

Chapman points to the rising costs of higher education and the growing need for mental health services as examples of why adequate funding for schools is essential.

“College tuition is going up, houselessness, mental health needs, all of those are really important and if we have solid education for everybody then I think we’ll prevent some of those problems,” Chapman said.

She also mentions that although Lincoln was able to keep most support staff and elective programs in place for now, it will only get tougher to preserve those amenities in the future if help doesn’t arrive soon.

“We’re not going to have as much flexibility,” Chapman said.

One of the services at risk of closing is the school library, which is already havin to cut back on hours. This year the library is closed during lunch and after school, unlike in previous years.

Librarian Lori Lieberman worries that this change will negatively impact students’ academic performance. She recalls several students who relied on the quiet environment of the library to study for classes, and whose academic progress could suffer due to fewer opportunities to access necessary resources.

“It’s a disservice to our wonderful students,” Lieberman said. “We’ve really taken a huge step back.”

She also thinks that some of the community around the library has been lost.

“I think of kids who used to come to the library every day. They would come and get five books and come back the next day, get five more books. It’s hard to foster that love of reading when the library is constantly closed.”

Lieberman knows of other school libraries in Oregon who have been experiencing similar problems, highlighting a trend that has been growing for years. Data from the National Center for Education Statistics shows a 19% drop in school librarian po-



Lincoln staff push for increased state funding as district financial constraints force the school’s library and other programs to reduce services.

By MO DAMTEW

sitions nationally since 2000.

“They are just at their wit’s end,” Lieberman said. “It seems like they have groups that are against them, and state legislatures that are against them.”

Facing these challenges, Lincoln staff members like Chapman are putting pressure on Oregon lawmakers to allocate more funds during the 2025 legislative session in order to reverse the decline and secure a bright future for students.

“I really hope the state steps up and fully funds K-12 education and higher education,” said Chapman.

## Brat: The album that created a new lifestyle

By SYDNEY ISAAC

It was the beginning of summer and neon green covered social media feeds across the globe.

Released by Charli XCX on June 7, the album “brat” took over the world. The songs in the album have a combined total of over 913 million streams on Spotify. Consisting primarily of club-pop and electronic music, “brat” touches on themes of adulthood, friendship and partying.

Charli XCX stated in a TikTok post following the album release that being a ‘brat’ is to be, “that girl who is a little messy and likes to party and maybe says some dumb things sometimes ... [She is] very honest, very blunt, a little bit volatile.”

Within days of the album’s release, social media users took on the “brat” mindset, coining the 2024 summer as “brat summer.”

“[Typically] people pick out little songs and make trends out of them,” said senior Tessa Jacobs. “I feel like [“brat”] was kind of revolutionary, because it was an entire album that people made their entire personality in life for multiple months.”

Earning Charli XCX the highest Billboard rank of her career, “brat” reached No. 3 on the Billboard Top 100 just a week after its release.

How did ‘brat summer’ stay on everyone’s feeds for so long?

“Having a distinctive color and distinctive font makes a brand identity that is instantly recognizable, instantly replicable,” said political economy teacher, Patrick Magee-Jenks. “It feels like there’s an in-group if you use it.”

Jacobs believes that the phenomenon of ‘brat summer’ has had an impact on the lives of Lincoln students.

“The whole ‘brat summer’ thing definitely impacted people’s summers ... I think that everyone has chilled out a little bit,” said Jacobs.

Magee-Jenks has a different perspective.

“There has always been similar attitudes [like those of ‘brat’]. ... ‘brat summer’ has given young people permission to embrace a feeling that is not on its own novel.”

On Sept. 2, Charli XCX posted on Instagram “goodbye forever brat summer.”

However, the question still remains, will the internet be gearing up for a “brat fall”?



Charli XCX released “brat” this summer. The album’s lime green background and bold black letters form the simplistic yet striking aesthetic that shaped the “Brat Summer” trend.

By SYDNEY ISAAC

## New phone policy promotes student engagement

By SCARLETT DEMPSEY AND CORAL PLATT

As students walk into each class this year, they are directed by teachers to the room’s “phone home,” a locked box in which they leave their phone during the period.

Lincoln’s cell phone policy states that if a student is seen using a phone during class hours, they must turn in the phone to the front office for the remainder of the day and will receive a Stage 1 referral. After a second violation, they must turn their phone in to the front office for a parent or guardian to pick up and will receive another Stage 1 referral. After three violations, the student will be given a Stage 2 referral. For five consecutive days, they must drop off their cell phone in the office each morning and pick it up after school.

In the event of an emergency, teachers are instructed to bring the phone boxes outside with them so that students can contact their parents.

The Lincoln Cell Phone Policy explains that the new policy was implemented to benefit students. KGW8 reported that the Portland Public Schools Policy Committee states, “Research indicates that cell phone use can impact adolescent mental health and well-being ... Creating a policy on the use of personal smart devices is critical for students to achieve the outcomes we believe they are capable of.”

Senior Natalie Jolma believes the phone policy has an opposite impact than intended.

“It doesn’t teach us self control when [our phones are] just locked in a box. The second we get home or it’s passing period, every-

one is locked to their phones,” said Jolma.

The use of phones in class is not a new phenomenon. According to a study conducted by Education Week, over 97% of students reported using their phones during school hours.

Maureen Kenny, an IB Biology teacher at Lincoln, has found that the phone policy solves this problem.

“It’s very refreshing not to have to see those devices out while we’re doing class,” she said.

Even though Jolma has found that the policy is causing students to be more attached to their phones outside of class hours, she has noticed the impact of not having her phone during class. “Multiple times, I’ve reached for my phone and it hasn’t been there,” she said. “[These are] times the box has definitely prevented me from going on my phone.”

Freshman Raleigh Rice believes that, while the policy is intended for students’ benefit, this is not the reality.

“I think in [the school’s] mind, they think they’re doing us a favor, but they don’t really realize how much of an upset it could be for the students,” she said.

While Jolma believes that the policy has helped her be more focused in class, she agrees that not having her phone can sometimes be inconvenient.

“Multiple times, I’ve wanted to set reminders on my phone, and I often [use] my phone to check when a date is or look something up,” Jolma said. “There have been times where it would actually be practical to have my phone [in class].”



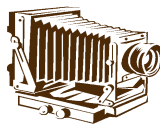
Lincoln’s new phone policy requires students to lock their phones in a box for each class period. The school designed this policy to improve mental health and academic performance.

By CORAL PLATT

While there are mixed opinions about the effectiveness of the new phone regulations, Kenny says the implementation process has been smooth.

“I have not [seen students struggling to comply], which is shocking to me,” Kenny said. “I think we all expected that we’d get a lot of opposition. We’re not ... It’s been shockingly simple so far.”





## Going Back



Juliette Galltier serves Sunday breakfast to Mike and Daisy Winslow.  
Photo by Julie Keefe



The Earth's old home has been replaced by a series of businesses at the corner of Northwest 21<sup>st</sup> and Irving streets. Mostly regional bands played there in the 1970s, and psychedelic advocate Timothy Leary made an appearance.



Jere and Ray Grimm in her studio at Thurman Street Pottery in the mid-1990s.  
Photo by David Johnson

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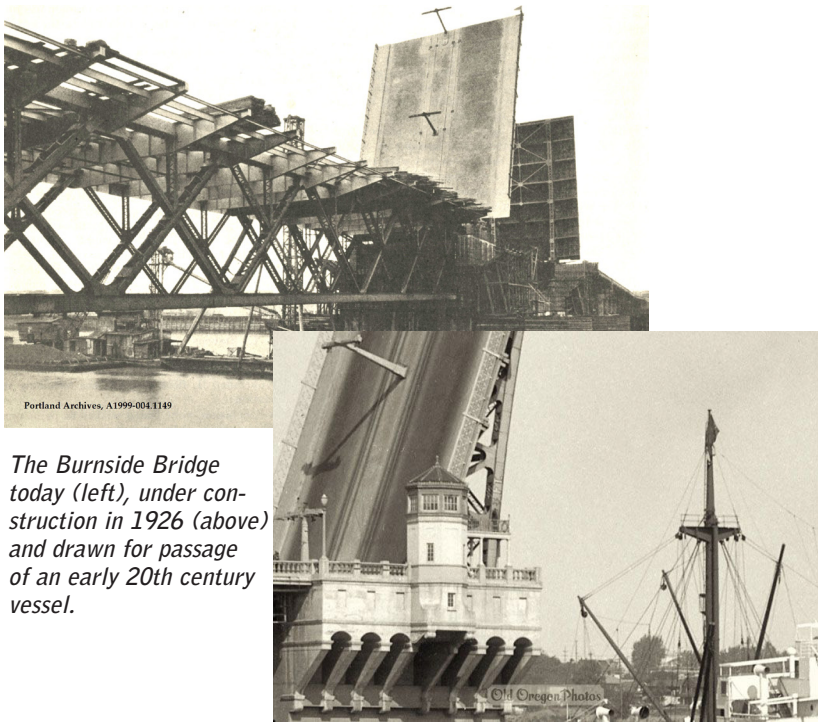
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The Burnside Bridge today (left), under construction in 1926 (above) and drawn for passage of an early 20th century vessel.

# Let's save a bridge tower (or two)

BY FRED LEESON  
buildingonhistory.blogspot.com

Two diminutive, octagonal towers, each a mere 11 feet wide, rate high among Portland's best-known landmarks. Ask almost any Portland resident where the image above is located and the answer likely will be: "Burnside Bridge."

Two operator's towers with tile roofs were built on the two heavy bridge piers to provide controls for opening and closing bascules to allow large ships to pass. Both have small staircases; one has a bathroom and the control equipment, while the other is used for storage.

Neither will survive when Multnomah

County builds its new "earthquake ready" bridge now in the preliminary design stage. The new bridge will replace the one that opened in 1926.

There is no need or space for retaining the historic towers in whatever form the new bridge takes. Which begs the question: Will they be demolished or can a new use be found for one or even both?

The county is well aware of the significance of the towers. However, the budget for the new bridge must be limited to bridge construction, and not for potential preservation and re-use of the towers somewhere else.

However, because the bridge and towers are

listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the county cannot destroy them willy-nilly.

Steve Dotterer, a board member of the Architectural Heritage Center, sits on a committee charged with monitoring what happens to the bridges historic elements, including the towers and balustrades (railings). He said there have been exploratory talks with the county, but it is clear that county funds cannot be used for erecting a tower at a new location.

Heather Flint Chatto, the AHC's executive director, said preservationists probably need to figure out a public/private venture that could preserve one of the towers, perhaps in Waterfront Park as some sort of kiosk that includes a

historic description.

The towers were designed by the Portland architectural firm of Houghtaling and Dougan. They may have been added after one of the design engineers criticized Portland for having ugly bridges. Houghtaling and Dougan also are known for designing the former Washington High School and the downtown Portland Elks Lodge, which is now part of the Sentinel Hotel.

While destruction of the operators' towers is not imminent, it is a good time to start working on a preservation plan.

Join Building on History's email list by writing "add me" to fredleeson@hotmail.com

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# 29<sup>th</sup> Annual NW Examiner Community Awards

## 2024 AWARD WINNERS

Firewise NW teams • Friends Couch Park  
Chris Mackovjak • Frank Moscow • Ann Naito-Campbell  
Bob Wright • Tad Savinar • Lorene Scheer  
Stumptown Strays • Glenn Traeger



**Saturday,  
October 19**  
Doors open 6pm  
Ceremony 7pm



**New location  
Watermark  
at the Pearl**  
1540 NW 13th Ave.



**Complimentary beverages & snacks**  
**All are invited — No admission charge**

**Free valet parking, enter on NW Quimby between 13th & 14th avenues**

**Honoring 10 individuals and groups who have  
made life in our community better**

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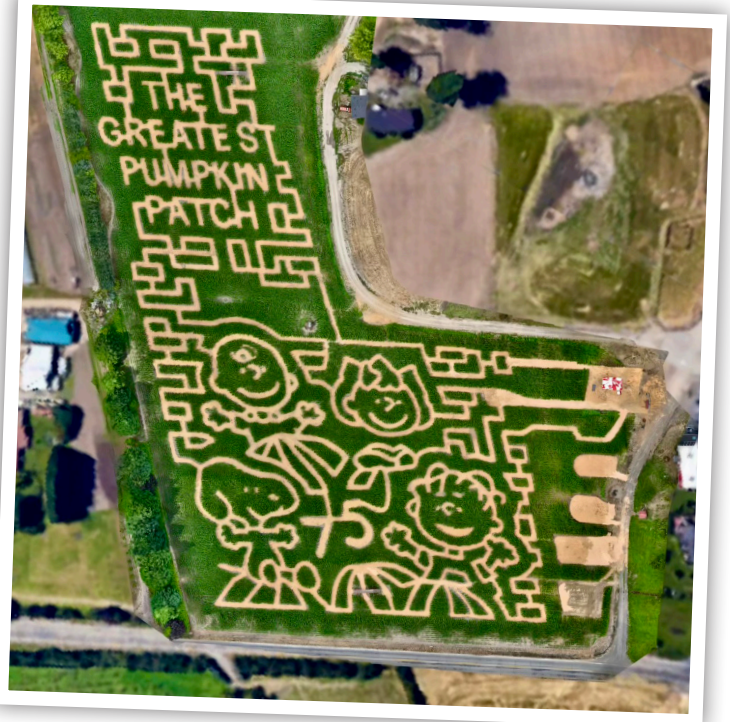




# Snapshots



Disturbing images continue to be generated in the vicinity of Northwest 19th and Burnside, where two institutions draw people with drug paraphernalia and food. A naked woman lined up for a meal on Sept. 11 at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, the same person who has been seen lying naked on the street or standing against traffic and refusing assistance. The fire was at a drug camp at the corner of Northwest 18th and Johnson on Sept. 28. The photos were taken by neighbors.



The MAiZE at the Pumpkin Patch on Sauvie Island celebrates the 75th anniversary of the Peanuts cartoon strip with a maze, pumpkin carving and a concert by honky tonk band Western Supply Company on Oct. 12. It will be open daily through Oct. 31. For information visit [portlandmaize.com](http://portlandmaize.com).



Vaux swifts seem to have found chimneys other than at Chapman Elementary School this year, peaking at about half their usual numbers and tapering off to zero by Sept. 22 instead of continuing into October. The Bird Alliance of Oregon is not sure of the cause but notes that larger numbers were seen in Northeast Portland.



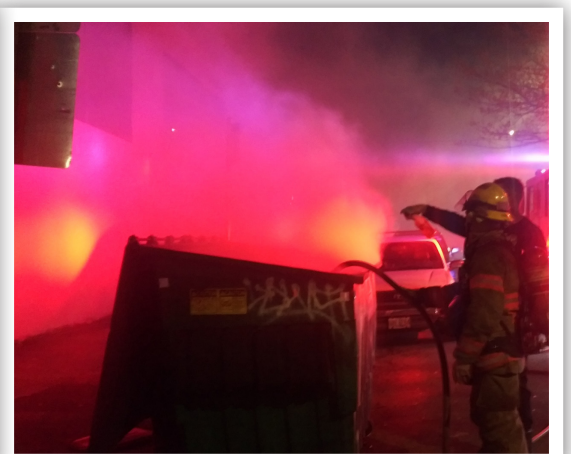
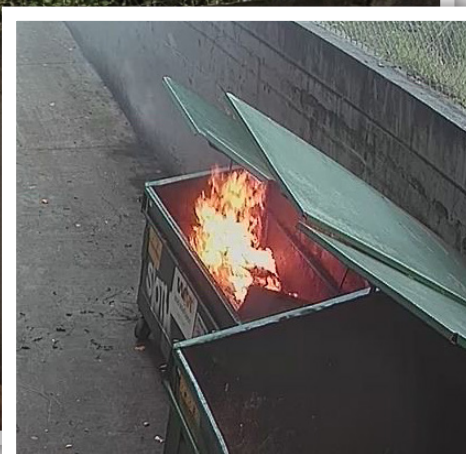
The 29th annual NW Examiner Community Awards on Saturday, Oct. 29, will have a new venue—The Watermark at the Pearl at 1540 NW 13th Ave. (at Quimby Street). Ten individuals/groups will be honored for their contributions to life in the neighborhoods served by the NW Examiner. No tickets or reservations required. Complimentary food and beverages (cash bar). Free valet parking in the building (entrance on Quimby).



Fall Festival at Wallace Park last month drew hundreds of neighbors to live music by Hit Machine, 20-plus booths, food carts, kids' activities and a dog parade. The Friends of Wallace Park board members Dean Yioulos, Angel Stech, Laura Knapp, Kyle McAvoy, Sandy Moore and Jim Brayton.



Dumpster fires, drugs and criminal activity caused owners of the Empress Condominiums at Northwest 16th and Burnside streets to install a heavy duty security gate recently in the building's back alley. Photos by Wesley Mahan.





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