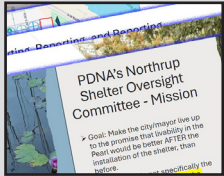



Digging Deep ... Shining a light

INSIDE


p. 3
Best advice is free


p. 10
A toast to co-op's successor


p. 12
Lincoln student news

Flawed strategy losing favor



BY ALLAN CLASSEN

Housing First—providing immediate permanent housing without prerequisites like sobriety or treatment—has endured locally as sacred doctrine without need to measure its effectiveness or side effects

Now some of Housing First's main proponents acknowledge that it hasn't worked.

A turning point came in September, when Andy Mendenhall, executive director of the city's largest social service agency, Central City Concern, shared his research with heads of several smaller, "old school" agencies—the kind that emphasize personal recovery. Mendenhall invited the executive directors of Union Gospel Mission (Matt Stein), Portland Rescue Mission (Erin Holcomb), Blanchet House (Scott Kerman) and CityTeam (Lance Orton) to lunch at Xin Ding Dumpling House in Old Town to hear him out face-to-face.

Mendenhall shared the findings of a 27-page white paper, "Exploring a New Approach to Housing," that he co-authored and had released on Sept. 10. The paper acknowledges that Housing First has not met its goal of moving homeless people into independent

living, while introducing unsustainable burdens on the housing agencies attempting to practice it as well as on the wider community.

Mendenhall called it "a model which cannot continue within this region."

Orton, a former homeless addict who now runs the nonprofit that helped him get back on his feet, called it "a 180-degree flip for Central City Concern."

"We were all delighted to see the largest housing provider in the state finally listening to what we have all been saying for many, many years," Orton told the NW Examiner later.

Orton followed up on the white paper by releasing his own, more conversational analysis:

"Far too often ... people are placed into apartments or supportive housing units while still deep in addiction or untreated mental illness. When that happens, they are not being set up to succeed. They are being set up for relapse, eviction and another turn back to the streets. It is heartbreaking for them, devastating for neighbors and unsustainable for the housing providers who carry the cost of repeated churn. If we truly want stability that lasts, housing must come hand-in-

Continued on page 8

August stabbing near Couch Park revealed series of breakdowns



Portland police arrest Victor Palmer-Regen in front of his home on Northwest 18th Avenue.

BY CAM RICHTIK

In late August, a man with a large knife emerged from his basement apartment near Couch Park and attacked two people who had been moving a tent on the sidewalk along Northwest 18th Avenue. To most, it seemed to be an unprovoked act of violence.

But to neighbors, it did not come out of nowhere. It rose from the collision of overlapping pressures: unsheltered homelessness

spilling into public space, a drug addiction epidemic and violent repeat offenders evading consequences. These factors have converged around Rose Haven women's shelter at Northwest 18th and Glisan streets.

The attack, neighbors said later, felt like a breaking point—the kind of event all fear but few expect to unfold on their own block.

Nearly everyone in the neighborhood has heard the

story by now. Ask around at a corner store, in the park or over a drink, and people recall it instantly. Before the violence, Victor Palmer-Regen wasn't anonymous. He was known to some neighbors for his short fuse and constant presence smoking cigarettes on the curb at 18th and Hoyt.

"You'd see him at all hours," one resident said. "He wasn't threatening, but he

Continued on page 12

NW Examiner Community Awards

Coverage on pages 6–7

The 30th annual NW Examiner Community Awards filled the Zion Lutheran Church fellowship hall with grateful smiles, warm reunions and moving stories about people doing remarkable things for their community. The free-to-all community gathering endures as evidence that "we should all get together sometime" need not be an idle wish.



Stadiumhood Neighbors took home a trophy. Photo by Walden Kirsch

**RARE END-UNIT TOWNHOUSE
AT JOANN'S PLACE**

Backyard Retreat with Deck & Delightful Garden



839 NW 25th Avenue

**3 Bedrooms - 2 Full & 1 Half Bathrooms
Vaulted Ceilings & Gas Fireplace
1,944 SF (Approx.)
RMLS # 690001044
\$849,000**

**AIA AWARD-WINNING HOYT SQUARE
CONDOMINIUM**

*Tranquil Central Courtyard and
Historic Alphabet District Outlooks*



1907 NW Hoyt Street

**1 Bedroom - 1 Full Bathroom
Parking & Storage Space
734 SF (Approx.)
RMLS #542500504
\$250,000**

**HISTORIC "705 DAVIS" CONDOMINIUM -
PERFECTLY POISED WITH SOUTH-FACING
BALCONY & WINDOWS ON THREE SIDES**

*Fully Renovated with Luxe Finishes, Old-World
Charm & The Art of Scandinavian Restraint*



2141 NW Davis #402

**2 Bedrooms + Library - 2 Full Bathrooms
South-Facing Balcony
1,340 SF (Approx.)
Storage Space + 2 Storage Units
RMLS # 626903938
\$895,000**

SALE PENDING

**MULTNOMAH VILLAGE FARMHOUSE
MOVED TO CURRENT LOCATION
WITH NEWER FOUNDATION &
BONUS UNIT**

1926 Charm with Modern Systems & Infrastructure



7107 SW 29th Avenue

**Unit A: 1,524 SF (Approx.) 2 Beds+Den
1 Full bathroom - Separate Driveway
Unit B: 1,147 SF (Approx.) 1 Bedroom
+Den - 1 Full Bathroom - Separate
Driveway
6,573 SF Lot (Approx.)
RMLS #478934354
\$675,000**

I recently had a transaction with the Volkmer team (they represented the sellers, and I represented the buyers) and they were incredible to work with; communicative, respectful, and collaborative. Our clients both were set on terms and the Volkmer team helped to make both sides of the transaction happy and we were able to get the transaction closed as a team! They are amazing at what they do, care about their clients and care about resolutions----hoping to do another transaction with the Dan Volkmer Team soon!

—Shannon Goyne, Licensed Real Estate Broker with Keller Williams Professionals

THE DAN VOLKMER TEAM

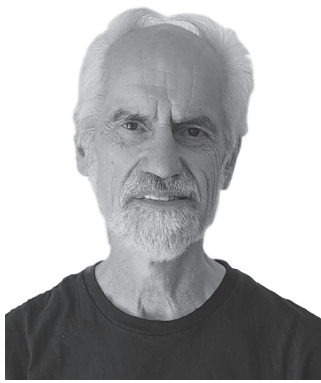
SPECIALIZING IN HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURALLY SIGNIFICANT PROPERTIES



From Left to Right, Licensed Real Estate Brokers:
Fritz Benz, Kim Hayworth, Mardi Davis,
Dan Volkmer (Principal Broker) and Kishra Ott

Archie - Chihuahua Mix: Resident Preservationist
Watson - Boxer: Resident Historian

Windermere
REAL ESTATE
Licensed in the State of Oregon
WINDERMERE REALTY TRUST
Team@Danvolkmer.com
503-781-3366



The best advice is free

“Report! Report! Report!”

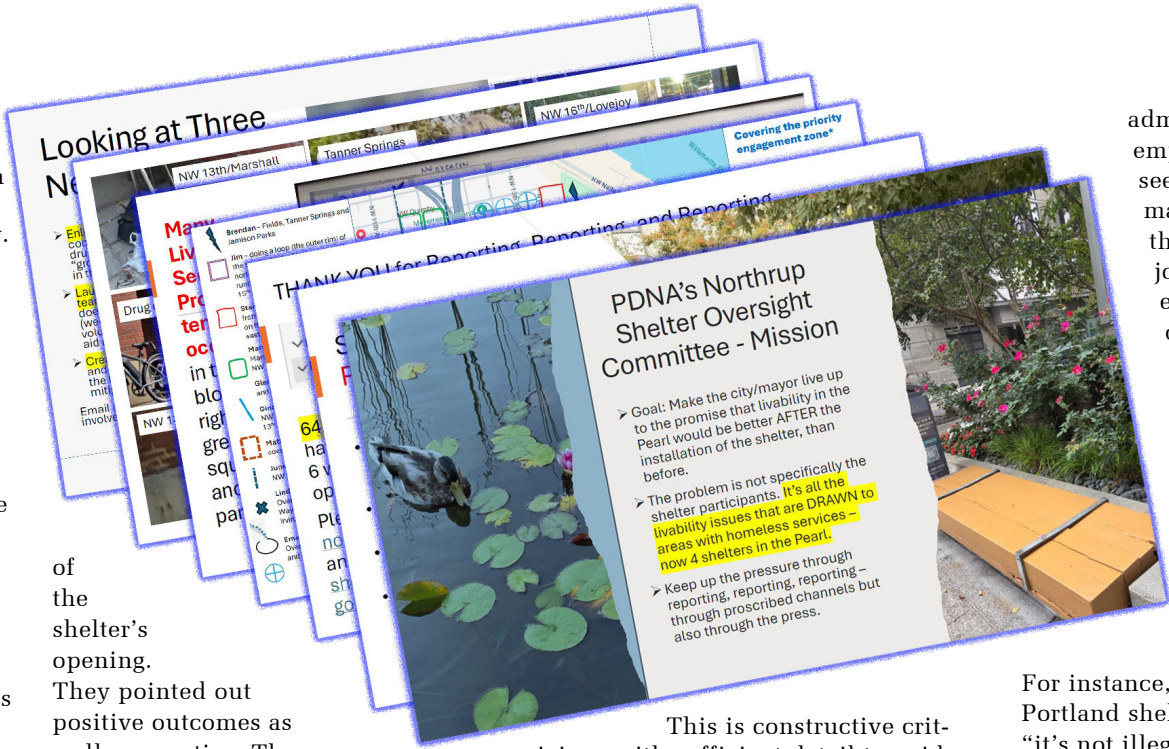
Anyone who has heard a presentation from local cops or public safety officials has heard that advice repeatedly. “But why report when you don’t get any response?” is a common retort.

What follows is a predictable explanation of how the system is designed around calls for service. Even if your call is not answered, it provides data that guides future allocation of resources. The squeaky wheel gets the grease, as they say.

There is truth in all of that, but it describes a most primitive and inadequate citizen engagement process, and one wasting enormous potential to improve our city and the lives of its inhabitants.

The Pearl District Neighborhood Association has produced a sterling model of a better way. Facing the siting of an overnight homeless shelter in the district that they deemed inevitable, neighborhood activists are making the best of the situation. In that Mayor Keith Wilson promised that the Northrup Street Shelter would improve conditions in the surrounding area, they aim to hold him to that standard.

They created the Shelter Oversight Committee and enlisted 10 people to daily monitor what was happening in each of 10 subdistricts. All neighbors were asked to help by reporting their experiences through official channels and copying the Oversight Committee, which would then know what the city knew about incidents and patterns. Two illustrated reports of their findings were issued in the first six weeks



of the shelter’s opening. They pointed out positive outcomes as well as negative. There was also minute detail—with photos denoted for time and place—all packaged in readable brief reports with clear highlights and pertinent statistics.

“Fairly good litter patrol and sidewalk cleaning within two blocks of the shelter by Portland Environmental Management Office,” noted the first report. “The problem is not specifically the shelter participants. It’s all the livability issues that are drawn to areas with homeless services—now four shelters in the Pearl,” stated the second. “Launch a humanitarian outreach team to help cover hours that the Northwest Community Conservancy does not have outreach available. The volunteers would provide deterrence and aid at the same time,” was recommended.

This is constructive criticism, with sufficient detail to guide program managers and administrators.

While good reading for all, a creative administrator could do so much more with such reports. What about inviting the committee in for a briefing and an exchange of ideas with people running the program? The official in charge could then excuse the neighbors before further discussion with staff and finalization of plans. The buck would still stop with the mayor or whoever he appointed to enact his plan. The role of citizens would remain advisory.

But the wealth of firsthand information rooted in knowledge of local norms and public expectations could vastly improve shelter operations and mitigation of neighborhood impacts. This is how a community feels heard and is willing to go along with programs it might otherwise oppose.

Without a show of respect from

administrators, ground-level employees are unlikely to see the bigger picture. They may resent the implication that they’re not doing their jobs well enough. Employees who must receive complaints from neighbors and too often make promises of follow-up that doesn’t happen through no fault of their own tend to become defensive and demoralized, often looking for a quick rejoinder to discourage further calls.

For instance, a neighbor of a North Portland shelter was brushed off with “it’s not illegal to sleep on the sidewalk.”

The best programs, whether in the public or private sector, cherish public feedback and will invest in it, often hiring outside consultants and carefully assessing the findings. Pearl neighbors have put a jewel of data, insight and community connection in the city’s lap. The mayor’s office is should treat it as such.

Good advice from below can be ignored or compartmentalized, but that comes with a risk. Citizens this skilled and committed to their community’s welfare will inevitably express their will in other ways. The humble advisers spurned today are also—in the fullest sense of our nation’s founders—its owners whom the government must ultimately serve.

COMMENT ON NWEXAMINER.COM or email: allan@nwexaminer.com

Readers Reply

Bigotry validated

The October 2025 “Shelter Watch” photo feature was shamefully irresponsible and hateful. There is zero evidence of any correlation (to say nothing of causation) between the images printed and the Northrup Street Shelter. No one makes any effort to explain how the opening of an overnight shelter at Northwest 14th and Northrup leads to people sleeping in the North Park blocks or erecting tents at Ninth and Irving. This is just more of the same anti-homelessness propaganda that the

NW Examiner regularly churns out, no doubt to the satisfaction of the neighborhood residents who enjoy having their own bigotry validated in print.
Allen Duarte
NW 14th Ave.

Peacock bullying

The New York Times article of Oct. 4, “What Happens When Socialists Are in Charge?” says, “Willamette Week, a local newspaper, reported on a group text in which the six progressives, referring to themselves as “Peacock”—short-

hand for ‘progressive caucus’—closely coordinated their votes and occasionally mocked their more moderate colleagues.” The article leaves out the fact that the six progressives likely violated public meetings law, when they pulled in a seventh councilor into the conversation. The six progressives were holding a meeting (via text) hidden from public view while the actual council meeting was going on. When they pulled in a seventh councilor, that constitutes a quorum of the council, and it is illegal for a quorum of the council to meet

privately. There has been significant pushback against the Democratic Socialists of America members because at times, they have acted like extremist bullies. District 4 Councilor Mitch Green threatened to withhold his vote on funding a performing arts center at Portland State University unless they dropped charges against students who vandalized the library during a pro-Palestinian protest. “If they want my vote, they’re going to

Cont’d on page 5



Sidney L. Eaton Jr.



Sidney L. Eaton Jr., a teacher at Catlin Gabel School for 30 years and longtime Northwest District resident, died on Sept. 16 at age 92. He was born on Jan. 27, 1933, in Hartford, Conn., and grew up in Needham, Mass. He attended the Noble and Greenough School in Dedham, Mass., received a bachelor's degree in

English at Princeton University in 1954 and a master's degree from Harvard University. He married Margaret Patten in 1964, and they moved to Portland in 1971. He taught English at Catlin Gabel from 1971 until his retirement in 2001. He is survived by his sons, Stuart and Bruce; and three grandchildren. His wife, Margaret, died in 2022. A celebration of life will be held in the Cabell Center Theater at Catlin Gabel on Nov. 1 at 1 p.m.

Andrew Haley Jr.



Andrew Gallagher Haley, a Pearl District resident, died on Oct. 9 at age 87. He was born on Jan. 26, 1938 in Washington, DC., and lived Nepal, Britain and Canada and several states before moving to Portland in 1993. A lifelong artist, his work included spanned kinetic sculpture, realistic oil paintings of landscapes and portraiture and abstract art. His work has been shown internationally and locally, including the Portland Museum Rental Gallery, Gallery 114 and NW Marine Art Works. He was the winner of the 2002 Betty Brose Award at Oregon State University, where his work is in the permanent collection. He is survived by his wife Mabel; three sons; and three granddaughters.

Douglas Capps



Douglas Linn Capps, a member of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral who had distinguished career in public service, died Nov. 14, 2024, at age 81. He was born in Omaha, Nebr., on Oct. 28, 1943, and moved with his family at age 9 to Portland, where he attended Irvington Elementary School and Grant High School. He graduated from Portland State University in 1967 and

received a master's degree from the University of Glasgow in 1969 and from Lewis & Clark Law School in 1973. Capps served as chief of staff to Portland Mayor Neil Goldschmidt and later became a senior executive at TriMet. As a private consultant, he worked with residents and businesses toward a paid parking system for the Northwest District in the early 2000s. He was president of the Rose Festival in 1994, was elected to the Portland School Board in 1998, was president of Artquake in the 1980s. He married Elizabeth Stavney in 1967. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; daughter Sarah Lorish; son, Lindsey; and two grandchildren.

Meredith Savery



Meredith Savery, a one-time resident of Portland Heights, died Sept. 20 at age 88. Meredith Gore was born on May 12, 1937, in Los Angeles, where she graduated from Marlborough School. She graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1958 and from Drexel University with a master's degree in library science. She married Bill Savery in 1958. After living in Madison, Wisc., and Philadelphia, they moved to Portland in 1981. In 1990, she started a consulting firm working with nonprofits, including Friends of the Columbia Gorge, the Ford Family Foundation, Portland Farmers' Market and Self Enhancement, Inc. She was on the boards of the Chamber Music Northwest and Portland Baroque Orchestra and volunteered for Friends of the Columbia Gorge and Portland City Club. Her husband, Bill, died in 2021. She is survived by her daughter, Caitlin Szieff; son, Benjamin Savery; and three grandchildren.

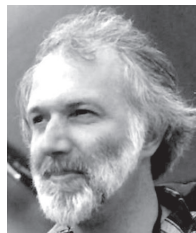
Elaine Lemmer



Elaine Claire Lemmer, who was active in the Portland Garden Club and managed its headquarters on Southwest Vista Avenue for two years, died Sept. 1 of glioblastoma multiforme at age 74. Elaine Jefferies was born on May 16, 1951, in Enumclaw, Wash., and grew up in Portland, where she graduated from Roosevelt High School. In 1973, she graduated from the University of Oregon. She married John Lemmer Jr. in 1976. She worked as a speech pathologist at St Vincent and Providence hospitals and later as a career counselor

at Sunset High School. In 2008, she opened a floral design business, Branch and Bloom. She is survived by her husband, John; daughters, Emily, Elizabeth Walter; son, John Henry III; sisters, Genie Glass and Connie Kleck; and eight grandchildren.

Thomas W. Wiecks



Thomas W. Wiecks, who grew up in Arlington Heights and graduated from Lincoln High School in 1964, died on Oct. 5 at age 79. He was born on July 22, 1946, and lived in Tillamook until his family moved to Portland when he was in the fourth grade. He graduated from the University of Oregon, and after serving in the U.S. Navy, began a career in advertising, eventually starting his own firm. He received several Clio Awards and others in radio and television. He married Carolyn, whom he met at Lincoln High School. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; his children, Sarah Howell and Jamie Wiecks; two siblings; and five grandchildren.

Death notices

JUDITH (FRANKLIN) SPANNAGEL, 84, promotions director at KGW.

BONNIE (JACKSON) GARRETT, 80, active in Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.

SHARON HICKS, 70, worked 48 years at Pendleton Woolen Mills.

DAVID C. STABLER, 72, longtime choir member at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.

ROBERT BURKE, 96, Multnomah Athletic Club member.

ROBERT J. NEALE, 92, Multnomah Athletic Club member.

CLINTON "RUDY" VALLIE, 75, coached the Multnomah Athletic Club's men's team to several national basketball championships.

EDWARD M. ULMAN, 83, Portland Heights resident.

ROBERT C. BISHOP III, 85, attended Lincoln High School and was a principal at Pendleton Woolen Mills.

Cornell Farm
NURSERY & CAFE

Brunch is calling.

Just ten minutes west of Downtown.
www.CornellFarms.com

We Digitize Everything

Think heaps of photos but don't stop there:

- Color Slides & Negatives
- Photo Album Flip Books
- LP's & Audio Cassettes
- Video Tapes in Any Format
- 8mm & Super 8 Film
- Classic Reel-to-Reel Audio Tape
- Ephemera, Documents & Letters
- Photo Gifts for the Holiday Season

Learn more and contact us through our website:
www.drgdigitalpdx.com

We'll organize your old media into one tidy digital folder that fits on a thumb drive.

We're located in your NW neighborhood.

DRGdigital

NÉGOCIANT

specialty wine shop,
cheese counter & café

Open Daily

655 NW 21st Ave Portland, OR
(503)384-2946 • negociantpdx.com

35 years dedicated to handcrafted framing

35 years dedicated to NW Portland

Katayama Framing
2219 NW Raleigh
www.katayamaframing.com

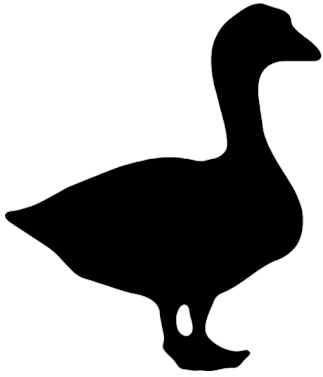


Mitch Green led a protest against Portland State University in April.

have to drop the charges on those students. And they're going to need my vote to get that money," Green said. This is a city official, a steward of public money, using his position of power to threaten PSU and give his tacit support

to vandalizing public property. These are glaring omissions in the coverage. Kara Colley SW Main St.

Join the flock!



The Goose Hollow Foothills League will hold its annual meeting on
Thursday,
November 20 at 7:00pm
at **Legends Condominiums**
1132 SW 19th Avenue 97205
All are welcome

This is your chance to run for a position or elect new board members. See what's going on in your neighborhood and come make a difference! For information about becoming a member or running for a position on the board, go to:
www.goosehollow.org



ACTIVE LISTINGS



\$1,155,000
1030 NW Johnson #611
2 bed, 2-1/2 bath
2 large terraces
Open House November 2nd



\$415,000
2525 Rogue Valley Terr
3 bed, 2-1/2 bath
Townhome in Bethany



\$349,000
1314 NW Irving #314
1088 sqft, 1 bed, 1 bath
Loft in the Pearl

COMING SOON IN THE METROPOLITAN



\$765,000
1001 NW Lovejoy #512
2 bed, 2 bath, large deck
SE Corner of Metropolitan

\$1,295,000
1001 NW Lovejoy #1301
3 bed (1 is a guest suite)
2-1/2 bath
Large deck with mountain views

COMING SOON IN THE GREGORY



\$399,000
420 NW 11th #503
1 bed, 1 bath
Large east facing deck
Cool loft in the Gregory

Representing Buyers and Sellers in Portland since 1993

- PDNA Board Member Livability & Safety Chair
- NW Examiner "2018 Civic Engagement" Awardee
- Pearl District Resident since 2000
- NWCC Founding Board Member



EVERETT STREET
AUTOWORKS
Old Town

FALL IS HERE!

Save where it counts!
10% OFF ALL LABOR
OFFER EXPIRES ON 12/6/2025

Schedule online @:
www.esautoworks.com
503.221.2411
509 NW Everett St
Open M-F 7am-6pm

EcoBiz
www.EcoBiz.org

Artfully Placed.
Distinctively Yours.

From cherished heirlooms to contemporary works, we install and arrange art with precision, professionalism, and a designer's eye. Let us create harmony between your walls and your collection.

thornton
art and design

ThorntonArtAndDesign.com | (503) 467-8704

PAULSON COLETTI
TRIAL ATTORNEYS PC

personal injury
wrongful death
product liability
medical malpractice

FLEX-O-GYM

EXHIBIT A

1022 NW Marshall Street #450 Portland OR | (503) 226-6361 | paulsoncoletti.com

30th Annual NW Examiner Awards Night



Upper left: Musicians Olivia Duffy and Rene Berblinger set the tone.
Upper right: Val Aitchison (left) and Wynne Wakkila helped set the stage.
All photos by Walden Kirsch

Lower left: Paul Gelormino (left) and Kevin Cosgrove, directors of the new Northwest Local Journalism Foundation.
Lower right: For the first time, Zion Lutheran Church hosted the Community Awards.



Major Sponsors

NW Local Journalism Foundation • Walt Weyler • Dan Volkmer Team

Co-sponsors

Bristol Equities • Downtown Self Storage • Judie Dunker Group
Nob Hill Bar & Grill • Pearl District Neighborhood • Downtown District Association
Northwest District Association • Goose Hollow Foothills League



THE JOINERY



Handcrafted American furniture that's here for good

Made in Portland for more than 40 years, The Joinery designs and crafts furniture to last a lifetime.

Flagship Showroom
Now Open in the Pearl District
102 NW 9th

503.788.8547 • thejoinery.com



Hope Starts Here.



William Temple House



Help Spread
HOPE

GIVE
to keep challenges
from turning into
crises.



Community Planning
GREG THEISEN

He got involved with the Northwest District Association Planning Committee to save trees, and stayed around 34 years to ensure the neighborhood's voice was heard on a variety of issues.



Defender of the Realm
PETE COLT

Before there was Stadiumhood Neighbors, Colt patrolled this neighborhood alone, cleaning up trash, calling the police and making sure those up to no good kept moving on.



Parks & Culture
BILL TRUNCALI

He is helping reclaim public spaces, and Jamison Park in particular, with needed improvements and maintenance plus well-attended concerts and events. It could not be done without money, and Truncali happens to be very good at raising it.



Voice for Democracy
MAJA VIKLANDS HARRIS

Harris' Rose City Reform website and podcast became the unofficial clearinghouse for information, insight and background on the complex city charter reform measure, and she continues to report on its implementation.



Community Planning
RACHEL CLARK

For a generation, she has been running the Goose Hollow Inn and at the center of a cluster of businesses and properties that form the heart of the neighborhood and been its culture keeper.



Care for the Commons
JOAN WHITCHER

The Pearl District Neighborhood Association has several teams of volunteers who go on regular foot patrols, pick up trash and build community bonds. Whitcher has been part of almost all of them for more than a decade, quietly and joyfully serving where needed.



Voice of the People
KATE FULTON

There seemed to be no hope of breaking the autocratic board control of the Food Front Cooperative Grocery until she told the full story at a membership meeting and toppled the dominant officers, leading to the sale of the property to a buyer they overwhelmingly favored.



Lifetime Achievement
MIKE LINDBERG

Lindberg served on City Council 17 years, extending respect to individuals, neighborhoods and fair democratic processes too often missing in recent years. His work since then as a behind-the-scenes adviser to policymakers and friend to important causes has been no less valuable.



Forest Stewards
COALITION TO PRESERVE FOREST PARK

CAROLE HARDY (L-R), WILL AITCHISON, PAUL MAJKUT, PAT BOWMAN AND MIKEY BROOKS
A broad collection of forces came together to stop Portland General Electric's power line plan that would have chopped through Forest Park. Combining costumes, people power and technical expertise, this band gained a unanimous denial by the Portland City Council.



Stronger Together
STADIUMHOOD NEIGHBORS

MICHELLE MILLA (L-R), JANET PARKER, DAVE GRAY, PETE COLT, BRUCE CHIRRE, KAREN CHIRRE AND BRITTA DIETRICH
In two years, they have become effective advocates for a neglected area straddling West Burnside Street. They brought high-ranking officials on neighborhood tours that opened eyes and got action.

Unique, Personalized Skincare Treatments



Sheila McCoy
Owner-Operator
Since 2002

- Facials & Skin Therapies
- Brow Tattoos and Maintenance
- Holiday Specials & Gift Certificates



LMU Salon

1136 NW Hoyt Street, Suite 260 · Portland, OR 97209
503-351-7254

Zion Lutheran Church Welcomes You



For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:8-9.

Liturgical worship Sundays at 11:00, Bible study at 9:45
Zion Lutheran Church was designed by master architect Pietro Belluschi
1015 SW 18th Avenue at Salmon St., www.zion-portland.org



Central City Concern Executive Director Andy Mendenhall is at the center of a debate over the future of Housing First policy. Photo by Walden Kirsch

"Housing First" cont'd from page 1

hand with recovery."

No persuasion was needed for Orton to pile on the indictment of Housing First, but the white paper even got through to HereTogether, a coalition built to pass and monitor the 2020 Metro Supportive Housing Measure, which is pumping \$250 million per year primarily into permanent housing. Social support to the homeless and formerly homeless is included, but many sources say that element has been an afterthought.

A month after Central City Concern hit the brakes, HereTogether also revealed a turnabout.

"To be successful, Housing First depends on strong wraparound support, addiction services, case management and mental health care," read an Oct. 7 statement HereTogether.

"Too often these programs lack the necessary resources to implement Housing First as intended. At the same time, fentanyl has transformed addiction into something faster-moving and deadlier than what service providers faced even a decade ago. So how do we adapt our thinking to the reality we are facing?"

"These realities don't invalidate Housing First," HereTogether concluded, "but they should push us to keep questioning assumptions and improve our approach."

Just as significant, the statement cited a New York Times opinion piece, "Forced drug treatment isn't horrific. It's a relief," by psychiatrist Keith Humphreys, the senior drug policy adviser in the Obama administration.

Housing First, like a similar approach to addiction called "harm reduction," puts individual freedom paramount and makes changes in behavior merely options offered to sufferers.

"Critics of mandated treatment who assert that intervention undermines an individual's autonomy forget that addiction itself saps that autonomy," Humphreys wrote. "Mandatory treatment that gives people their good judgment back is a restoration of their autonomy, not a violation of it."

While a new perspective is emerging locally, President Donald Trump's executive order in July lit another fire by threatening to end federal funding for Housing First and harm reduction programs.

Was Trump's order the real reason local agencies saw the light?

Mendenhall's research says the Housing First model failed of its own merit and must be transformed whatever the level and resources or funding. Property insurance on Central City Concern's apartment buildings has multiplied sixfold in the past six years due to \$1.4 million in loss claims, most of them caused by "behavioral health events," the white paper found.

Orton accepts that as the main reason the agency came around.

The evidence was piling up under Mendenhall's eyes.

Staff turnover among "client-facing" workers surpasses 50% annually due to declines in safety, understaffing and worker burnout, he found.

"CCC staff report deep emotional burden 'watching people get more ill' and feeling helpless to get clients the psychiatric services they need to prevent eviction," the paper continued.

Central City Concern, with more than 2,300 affordable housing units, is not the only affordable housing provider buckling under such circumstances. The paper estimated a total of "6,000 units



RUSSELL FELLOWS PROPERTIES, LLC



CASSIDY CAMPANIAN
REAL ESTATE BROKER

Portland-Metro Area
Licensed in Oregon



Thinking about buying your first home, upgrading to your forever home, purchasing a vacation home, or selling to start a new chapter? I'm here to advise, share my expertise, and handle all of the details so you don't have to.

Forest Heights

Chehalem Mountain



West Hills Elegance

Sold - \$910,000



Wine Country Estate

Offered at \$1,195,000

LET'S TALK ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES

- ☎ Call or Text: 971-645-1071
- ✉ Cassidy@CassidyCampanian.com
- 🌐 CassidyCampanian.com

Learn More



JOIN THE NWDA!



NWDAPORTLAND.ORG

Join your all-volunteer neighborhood association... supporting and advocating for Northwest Portland since 1972!





Above: Erin Holcomb (LR), Scott Kerman, Matt Stein and Lance Orton, the executive directors of four local agencies, were called together to hear Central City Concern's change in thinking

Left: Lance Orton, in front of the agency he directs, CityTeam, says housing without recovery services has not worked. Photo by Walden Kirsch

of affordable housing at risk of foreclosure or losing money in the metro area.”

It doesn’t take an accountant to see the cliff, Orton said. Central City Concern has 190 vacant apartment units in the downtown area due to physical damage and a shortage of suitable tenants.

The agency would not confirm or deny that number or explanation for vacancies.

“They can’t keep anyone in their units,” said Orton, referring to misbehavior that drives other tenants to move out.

Partnership for Progress, an advocacy organization led by three former City Council candidates, Vadim Mozyrsky, Eli Arnold and Bob Weinstein, published Orton’s statement.

“We have a drug addiction problem, not a housing problem,” said Mozyrsky, who has run

unsuccessful recent campaigns for the city and county councils.

He is cynical toward those running what some call the “homeless-industrial complex.”

As for the failure of Housing First, “Mendenhall must have known this two or three years ago,” he said. “Now, all of a sudden, they change their tune and realize treatment is the highest priority?”

He believes the housing and social service providers only went along due to the county’s financial leverage.

“To get the money, they had to drink the Kool-Aid and say Housing First was the way to go,” Mozyrsky said.

Sharon Meieran, who could not get traction on this issue during her two terms on the Multnomah County Council, told the Examiner that “Housing First is finally being exposed as a failure. A lot of folks

have felt this for a very long time.”

Although the model might have worked if teamed with robust treatment, she said, that has never been the case locally. Still, few buck the system because the funding process demanded it.

“You can’t speak out against Housing First or they will vilify you and cut your funding,” she said.

Agency heads who “couldn’t be seen as agreeing” with Trump’s executive order can now defer on behalf of protecting their revenue stream.

“It provides cover for a lot of organizations that knew it hadn’t worked but couldn’t say anything,” Meieran said. “People are secretly thanking heaven they’re off the hook.”

[COMMENT ON NWEXAMINER.COM](#)
or email: allan@nwexaminer.com

Private sector Housing First experiment comes to same end

In 1992, Rob Justus founded JOIN, a nonprofit creating permanent housing for the homeless.

Frustrated with the inefficiencies and government requirements involved with funding affordable housing, he cofounded Home First Development in 2009, fulfilling his pledge to produce low-rent housing without public subsidy. As the name of his private venture suggests, he still believed in getting people a roof over their heads was the highest priority.

Home First has built about 1,500 low-rent apartment units, but the process of getting vouchers and social services for low-income households “was a disaster,” said Justus, who recently retired from the business.

Multnomah County controlled the assignment of rental vouchers, taking the screening of prospective tenants out of the landlord’s hands, he said. Tenants he accepted directly could not get the supportive services they needed, and those the county referred to him were chosen without regard to their readiness to live on their own.

“The core of the problem goes back to Multnomah County,” he said.

Whether called Housing First or Home First, having a home may not be enough to end homelessness.

All is Bright AT THE OREGON SYMPHONY. LET YOUR Holiday Tradition SHINE.



CIRQUE NUTCRACKER
NOV 29 & 30



GOSPEL CHRISTMAS
DEC 6 & 7



MERRY-ACHI CHRISTMAS
WITH MARIACHI SOL DE MÉXICO®
DE JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ
DEC 10



HOLIDAY POPS
DEC 13 & 14



ELF IN CONCERT
DEC 20 & 21



PINK MARTINI NEW YEAR'S
EVE CELEBRATION
DEC 30 & 31

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
ORSYMPHONY.ORG/HOLIDAYS
ENGLISH/ESPAÑOL 503.228.1353

OREGON
SYMPHONY

Fuller's endures despite 2023 fire



Fuller's at night evokes the 1942 painting by Edward Hopper, "Nighthawks."

By MICHAELA LOWTHIAN

Fuller's Coffee Shop, 136 NW Ninth Ave., is a busy, classic diner with a red neon sign. Founded in 1947, it's been in this corner spot at Ninth and Davis streets since 1960.

What it isn't is a leisurely brunch spot to while away hours. It's efficient and friendly, and it's easiest to get a red stool at the U-shaped counter if you come alone, or a plus one.

When my dad first took me here, Fuller's was frequented mostly by postal workers and others eating before going to work downtown. Later, when I brought my very young daughter here, the short-order cooks made bear figures with the batter: a big round pancake for the face, two small ones for the ears.

Not much has changed, even considering a 2023 fire. The staff refills the coffee into brown mugs with agility. The wraparound counter fits people elbow to elbow for omelettes, huevos rancheros, scrambled eggs and bacon.

Keep to yourself like the Edward Hopper's "Nighthawks," or enter a group conversation, whatever.

During the week, there's a \$5 hamburger, as well as favorites such as Monte Cristo and chicken salad sandwiches. On a recent Sunday, families and couples sat on the red stools and fueled up for the day. A little girl seated with her grandmother turned her napkin into a smock and ordered pancakes. A quote from Anthony Bourdain on the menu asks, "What nicer thing can you do for somebody than make them breakfast?"



Mark New, left, toasts Food Front board members and supporters Oct. 24 after signing papers transferring the co-op's assets to his company, Development Company of the West, Property Services. The sale price was about \$1.5 million. New, who plans to divide the building into two spaces, said there has been high interest among prospective retailers due to the characteristics and projected growth of the immediate neighborhood.

Briefly . . .

DAVE'S HOT CHICKEN will open at 831 NW 23rd Ave. in the former Santa Fe Taqueria spot. PBOT may require a "Chicken Pick-Up Permit" for all the delivery drivers circling the block.

THAI PEACOCK, the busy restaurant near Powell's on Southwest Ninth Ave., has leased the restaurant space in the courtyard of the Elizabeth Lofts at 333 NW 10th Ave. This spot has been empty for many years.

PROPER PINT opened its third location at 2251 NW Quimby St. in Slabtown. With two side patios and a fire pit outside, green tile and banquettes inside, it's a very pleasing spot. Kings and Daughters beer is on tap (plus 19 others) and Timbers and Thorns games are shown on screen. Dial the red phone to order from Woodstock's Bridge City Pizza, said to be Portland's best Chicago-style pizza.

Chef Gabriel Pascuzzi opened **HEY LUIGI**, an Italian cocktail bar, at 2175 NW Raleigh St. across from New Seasons in Slabtown.

JOHN'S CAFE, 301 NW Broadway, is temporarily closed due to a medical issue.

CIDER BITE, a taproom at 1230 NW Hoyt St., closed last month after 10 years in business. A news release blamed "COVID restrictions, multiple break-ins, vandalism ... and a significant decline in tourism and downtown foot traffic."

CORCORAN PRIME, formerly known as The Agency, moved its real estate offices from the Pearl District to 1680 NW 21st Ave.

KING LIVING, a luxury furniture company founded in Australia in 1977, opened a showroom at 338 NW 23rd Ave. last month.

NOBBY NEWS

Vol. 31, No. 11 "News You Can't Always Believe" November 2025

Lil' Shotz and the big hoop

The Nob Hill Bar & Grill acquired a prized piece of basketball history last summer, the hoop Bill Walton played on while growing up in La Mesa, Calif.

It's mounted over the bar, continually drawing wistful glances from patrons imagining that some special magic might pass on to any who would touch it. The possibility of theft is such that not even Lloyd's of London has shown interest in insuring it.

So Ewan the bartender, a Wallace Park historian and former professional sausage eater comes by several times a day to make sure the hoop is OK. Lil' Shotz, though not imposing in height, has become the ultimate rim protector.

If you see Lil' Shotz on duty, say



thanks and buy him a little shot. And don't even think you can dunk on him.

BURGER COUNT
1,357,246

Enter your name for a monthly drawing.
This month's burger winner is Lyn Salcedo.

Nob Hill Bar & Grill

937 NW 23rd Avenue • 503-274-9616



Host your Event at the Hostel!

Your guestroom is ready!

Meet-up groups, social gatherings, book clubs, panel discussions, trainings, ...

Ask for our catering menu!

7am – 10pm every day

Neighborhood Friends & Family Discounts

479 NW 18th Ave (& Glisan)
www.nwportlandhostel.com
503-241-2783 #pdxhostel

1810 NW Glisan St
www.hostelcafepdx.com
503-417-8143 #pdxhostelcafe

4th Saturday Neighborhood CleanUp

Nov 22, 9am–11am: help pick up litter in our neighborhood; sponsored by SOLVE.
Check out our website for more info or email info@hostelcafepdx.com.

MARSHALL UNION MANOR

RETIREMENT LIVING FOR SENIORS 62 YEARS OR OLDER



AFFORDABLE QUALITY RETIREMENT LIVING
STUDIO & ONE-BEDROOM APARTMENTS

No COSTLY BUY-INS OR APPLICATION FEES
RENT SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE/INCOME LIMITS APPLY

2020 NW NORTHRUP STREET
PORTLAND, OREGON 97209
503.225.0677
WWW.THEUNIONMANORS.ORG

ENJOY THE CONVENIENCE OF SENIOR LIVING!

OFFICE HOURS:
WEEKDAYS 10:00AM - 4:00PM
APPOINTMENTS GLADLY SCHEDULED!

Marshall Union Manor has been part of Northwest Portland for more than 40 years. Our residents enjoy the ease and diversity of urban living. For residents with cars we have off street parking, but many of our seniors prefer to utilize the city bus or the street car which stops just outside our building. We offer a beauty/barber shop, community vegetable garden, in-house library, and numerous clubs and activities. Enjoy Retirement to its fullest!

10 Northwest Examiner, NOVEMBER 2025 / nwexaminer.com

The Cardinal Times

Editorial Board: The deployment of federal agents is definitely not what Portland needs

By EDITORIAL BOARD

It's true, Portland isn't perfect, but deploying the Oregon National Guard will not help us. We attend high school in downtown Portland every day; it isn't a conflict-ridden place. We feel comfortable going off campus for lunch and spending time in downtown neighborhoods after school.

Some things we appreciate about Portland: the Timbers and Thorns, food, people's open-mindedness, the access to nature and the quiet that comes with it, people's creativity, Voodoo Doughnuts, the thrifting culture, just to name a few.

We also appreciate that Portland is a sanctuary city, and states on the city website that it is "committed to protecting and supporting the immigrants who contribute so much to the health, prosperity, and vibrancy."

Due to Portland's status as a sanctuary city and history of social justice protests, President Trump is targeting it. Trump is threatening to deploy the National Guard as he emphasizes it as critical to ending what he views as "violence" in Portland. He is confusing Americans' First Amendment right to protest, in this case against ICE, with violence, but they are not the same thing.

In response to Trump's attempt at troop deployment, Governor Tina Kotek and Mayor Keith Wilson stated that Oregon does not need or want the National Guard deployed.

Time Magazine recently published an editorial by Wilson, regarding how President Trump is painting a "hellish" picture of Portland to justify deploying troops.

"We must recognize that the American consensus on Portland was purposefully broken, and it's hurting our city," wrote Wilson. "That perception was shattered by the 24-hour ecosystem of divisive clips, some new, most from a half-decade ago, all intended to feed anger and division. This ugly ecosystem



In frustration with the Trump Administration and their deployment of federal agents, Portlanders protest on October 18 at the "No Kings Protest."

By SAGE COLLEY

cannot build togetherness, and it cannot serve the shared interests of our nation; it can only hold us back."

The state of Oregon and Portland have opted to fight the deployment in court. Portland's government website has a page on the deployment of federal troops. According to the page, "The City of Portland and the State of Oregon are fighting the order [to deploy troops] in court. Oregon Attorney General Dan Rayfield said the deployment was 'not acceptable' and did not meet the legal requirements."

On Monday, October 20, when this Cardinal Times issue went to print, a ruling by the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit lifted a temporary block on the deployment of the National Guard. For up-to-date information, refer to Portland's government

website on the deployment.

It is the opinion of the Cardinal Times Editorial Board that the deployment of the National Guard will do more harm than good in addressing Portland's needs.

The National Guard has been utilized in history to combat protests from Kent State University in 1970, to the Black Lives Matter protests across the country in 2020. These deployments only served to escalate conflicts further.

The deployment of the National Guard to Portland would have the same result. There are already protests springing up in Portland in response to threats of the National Guard being sent to Portland, such as the No Kings Protests and Portland's World Naked Bike Ride.

Additionally, deploying the National Guard requires excessive resources and taxpayer money. The government of California stated that the deployment of the National Guard to Los Angeles cost \$120 million in taxpayer money.

Instead of spending hundreds of millions of dollars on deploying the National Guard to Portland, this funding could instead be used to fix some of the problems that Portland actually faces.

The Willamette Week, a Portland-based newspaper, compiled a list of 47 ways the National Guard could help Portland. Some of the suggestions were comedic, such as putting on a laser light show, but the biggest takeaway from this article is that the National Guard does not truly belong in Portland.

As students who experience Portland every day, there are issues here, but they are not the ones Trump or the National Guard are trying to address.

Instead, if the federal government wants to aid Portland, it should focus on existing problems, including but not limited to a lack of housing, limited mental health resources, and maintaining the parks in our city.

CHIRP! THE LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC COLUMN

By SKYLAH FOSTER

This month, autumn's chill has finally started to seep into my bones. I don't know about you, but whenever the leaves start to change color, I just want to curl up in my favorite sweater and listen to some chill folk music. Beautiful songwriting paired with acoustic guitar has a way of warming me up better than any cup of tea.

Elizabeth Cotten is a quintessential 1960s folk artist. Most are probably familiar with her song "Freight Train," which has been covered by Joan Baez, Ani DiFranco and others. I would encourage everyone to dive deeper into her discography, including her albums "Shake Sugaree" and "Vol. 3: When I'm Gone." Some of my favorite Cotten songs are "When I'm Gone" and "Oh baby it ain't no lie." I would also recommend Nick Drake's "Five Leaves Left." Drake was a talented artist who went relatively unnoticed in his time. He recorded a few albums before tragically passing away in 1974. "Five Leaves Left" is Drake's first album, and has some of my favorite songs by him on it. I especially love "River Man" and "Cello Song."

Additionally, I watched the movie "Harold and Maude" (directed by Hal Ashby in 1971) for the first time recently and loved it and its great soundtrack featuring Yusuf/Cat Stevens songs.

A modern folk artist I have been enjoying is Haley Heyndrickx. Like some kind of magician or benevolent deity, she manages to transform what in the hands of another might be inanimate songs into living creatures. Her hymns have thrumming heartbeats of guitar strings, bodies of lyrical imagery, and gentle breaths of harmonies. Her album "I Need to Start a Garden" best displays the anthropomorphic abilities of her songs.

Some exciting albums that are coming out on Halloween are Bob Dylan's "Through the Open Window: The Bootleg Series Vol. 18" and Florence and the Machine's "Everybody Scream."

"Through the Open Window" is a collection that features 139 tracks recorded between 1956-1963, capturing Dylan's early musical career, before he went electric. "Everybody Scream" is Florence and the Machine's sixth studio album.



Bob Dylan's "Through the Open Window: The Bootleg Series Vol. 18" and Florence and the Machine's "Everybody Scream."

By SKYLAH FOSTER

Portland's swifties: What's happening with the beloved birds

By SAGE COLLEY

Seeing the swifts is a classic northwest Portland tradition, known and loved by many Portlanders. For over 30 years, September has meant the swifts returning to the Chapman Elementary School chimney for their nightly roosting, according to The Bird Alliance of Oregon.

The swifts' spiral entry to the chimney has been a beloved spectacle for as many as 3,000 people. But since 2024, the Swifts aren't at Chapman.



The Chapman chimney now stands empty because the swifts no longer use it.

By SKY COLLEY

Through the Swift Watch program, the Bird Alliance of Oregon has provided the public with information on the swifts and also monitors the number of birds each night.

Brodie Cass Talbott works as an Adult Engagement Manager for the Bird Alliance and has been seeing the swifts since he was a kid. He says that predators are the main reason for the swifts leaving.

"They were facing a lot of pressure from predators, which has been a traditional thing at roosts [...] and it seemed like eventually the predator pressure was just a little too high at Chapman, and they decided to

roost elsewhere," said Talbott.

The swift's movement away from Chapman may also be a sign of bigger problems for the species.

"They [are] definitely declining and so that's why we do these community science surveys to try and keep track of that and be able to gage what are the ways that we can help," said Talbott.

Even though the swifts aren't at Chapman this year, the Bird Alliance is hoping that they may return in the future. Talbot says the swifts have relocated to

many different locations, one being Abernathy Elementary School. There has also been an increase in their numbers on the east side, and in the chimneys of houses.

Many students miss the tradition and connection of watching the swifts.

Senior Clara Sameck went to Chapman Elementary School and has been watching the swifts for years. "When I heard that the swifts were gone this year I was sad because now the kids going to Chapman won't be able to see the swifts like I did," said Sameck.



There was no shortage of armored vehicles or police officers during the four-hour standoff. Photo by Curtis Holloway

"Overlapping" cont'd from page 1

could flip fast."

Kyle Lookreddy saw him early that morning. "He was sitting on the curb smoking, playing on his phone, totally normal, lighthearted," Lookreddy recalled. "We talked for a minute ... He even joked with me."

A few hours later, Lookreddy would recognize him as the suspect at the center of a police standoff.

By late morning, police responded to reports of a stabbing near 18th and Johnson, two blocks north of Palmer-Regen's apartment. Investigators said two people were injured while moving a tent on the sidewalk. Both victims survived, though the man was seriously injured.

Missed opportunity

Palmer-Regen was known to neighbors for an uneasy mix of charm and volatility. Court records show Palmer-Regen had two misdemeanor assault convictions from 2023, a felony DUII that same year and a pending assault charge from April 2025. He was serving probation

when he missed a hearing in August, prompting a warrant for his arrest on Aug. 25, two days before the attack. That open warrant, paired with his probation violation, should have been enough to detain him, but no action was taken.

Standoff

After the attack, Palmer-Regen retreated to his basement apartment. Within minutes, police surrounded the building and ordered residents to stay indoors. The confrontation lasted for four hours as heavy armored vehicles, canine officers and the Portland Police Bureau's Special Emergency Reaction Team were deployed.

Security footage provided by a neighbor captures the tense sequence of events. A police robot descended the narrow basement stairwell and reportedly detonated a charge that blew open the red front door—an explosion that shook nearby windows.

Afterward, Palmer-Regen can be seen pacing and shouting from inside the apartment. A police drone hovers over the walkway while officers position themselves near the gate of the fence surrounding the property.

At one point, Palmer-Regen emerges from the doorway holding a cigarette. Startled by an officer stationed on a neighboring patio with a rifle trained on him, he raises his hands briefly before retreating. From inside, he yells, "You exploded my door!" and hurls profanities, extending his middle finger.

After tossing the spent gas canister and continuing to argue from the stairwell, he eventually surrenders. He exits slowly, arms spread, telling the officer, "Shoot me, bitch." Then, cigarette in mouth, he walks out onto 18th Avenue and is taken into custody without further incident.

Charges filed

Prosecutors charged Palmer-Regen with two counts of second-degree assault, two counts of unlawful use of a weapon, one count of unlawful use of mace, and first-degree criminal mischief. Citing Palmer-Regan's violent history and repeated probation violations, the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office sought preventive detention under ORS 135.240(4). A judge agreed, ordering him held without bail pending trial.

The same record that now justified keeping him in custody—his prior assaults, missed hearings, and open warrant—had not been enough to detain him before the stabbing. Palmer-Regen remains in custody at the Multnomah County Justice Center. His next court appearance is scheduled for December.

Cracks in probation system

State and local officials warn that Oregon's parole and probation systems are overstretched. A report from Oregon Public Broadcasting published just nine

days before the stabbing noted that community corrections departments across the state were facing a \$60 million budget shortfall, jeopardizing the supervision of about 22,000 people recently released from custody. In response, counties planned to cut staffing and scale back access to housing and treatment support.

Officials said the crisis had already begun to force hard choices: triaging resources toward the most high-risk cases and reducing oversight for others. Routine supervision, once a central part of preventing escalation, has become harder to enforce. Many violations such as missed check-ins, skipped restitution payments or failed drug screenings go unaddressed.

That's what happened with Palmer-Regen, who remained in the community unsupervised.

Neighborhood responds

As official order has broken down, neighbors have banded together to do what they can. Friends of Couch Park meets weekly, standing in a circle in the park and discussing whatever topic seems most pertinent. Meetings include updates on city policy, park improvements and safety coordination with local schools.

The group hosts park cleanups and family-friendly events designed to keep the space active and welcoming. It was founded in 2023, when the park's eastern edge was overrun with tents and open drug use. Parents walking their children to school reported encountering people smoking fentanyl on benches.

Continued on page 14

CZ BECKER COMPANY

WOOD FLOORS

A Family Owned Business Since 1982



CCB #48132

- Restoration Repairs & Refinishing
- State of the Art Dust Containment
- Installation of New Wood Floors
- Environmentally Friendly Finishes

503.282.0623

czbecker.com

Italian Language Immersion

Adult Classes

Beginner - Advanced level language classes

Various culture classes - wine, conversation, film, history, music

Children's Classes & Camps

Summer culture camps

Preschool, Weekend & Afterschool Classes

Mommy & Me Playgroup



Authentic Italian language & culture education since 2006

info@scuola.us · (971) 270-0470 · http://scuola.us



REALTY
PORTLAND



Scan here to see these properties and more!



1631 NW Everett #100
2 bed / 1 bath,
\$265,000

Call Stuart Stevens
(503) 858-4089



1001 NW Lovejoy #390
Live/Work Loft
\$379,000

Call Stuart Stevens
(503) 858-4089



5033 SW Texas St
4 beds / 3.5 baths
\$1,100,000

Call Chris Mackovjak & Amanda Folkestad
(503) 805-2098

www.RealtyPortland.com



nwexaminer.com / Northwest Examiner, NOVEMBER 2025 13

"Overlapping" cont'd from page 13

"This is a school," group President Kara Shane Colley recalled thinking. "This is not acceptable."

Within weeks, neighbors started gathering every Friday—not to chase anyone away, but to show that regular people still care about the park.

"We're here to bring it to life," Colley said.

They began by walking the grounds, picking up trash, and introducing themselves to others in the neighborhood. They learned to report camps through the city's 311 system and established direct contact with park rangers. They also started organizing small events—free cocoa, board games, community art projects—to attract families back.

"If kids are here, it feels safe again," one member said. "That's the point."

Their approach is deliberate: Maintain compassion, but insist on boundaries.

"I think I was afraid to say, 'You can't do your drugs here,' because then someone would say, 'Oh, she's anti-homeless,'" Colley said. "But children deserve a voice, too."

Holding space with compassion

Friends of Couch Park members see their role as a bridge between services and safety—recognizing that compassion and enforcement are not opposites.

"We can hold complex thoughts in our heads," Colley said. "We can care about people struggling with homelessness and addiction, and also care about our kids and our park."

The group has cultivated relationships with Portland Parks & Recreation, the mayor's office and the Portland Police Bureau.



Friends of Couch Park President Kara Shane Colley and her husband, Sky, say they care about people struggling with homelessness and addiction but also are concerned about safety for children.

The group also works closely with the Metropolitan Learning Center and nearby congregations on beautification and mural projects. They've coordinated graffiti removal and are exploring art installations on fences that were once tagged.

If the criminal justice system allowed one resident's instability to escalate into a SERT team emergency, neighbors have built a system of early social, nonpunitive resilience.

"If you're present every week, you can notice when things start to go wrong," Colley said. "We're just neighbors, but sometimes that's what makes the difference."

"It's all the small things that make the neighborhood better," Friends of Couch Park member Max Steele said. "We just don't give up."

COMMENT ON NWEXAMINER.COM
or email: allan@nwexaminer.com

11/19 - 12/8

E|W|F MODERN

UP TO 40% OFF

BLACK FRIDAY SALE



FURNITURE SHOWROOM | INTERIOR DESIGN SERVICES | EST. 2002
1122 NW GLISAN ST. PORTLAND, OR 97209 - 503.295.7336 - EWFMODERN.COM

Supporting local, independent journalism.
(We ❤️ the NW Examiner)

Rich Earth
organic skin care studio



RichEarthOrganicSpa.com | NW 23rd Avenue
Welcome by appointment

One more round won't fix anything.
But still...one more round?



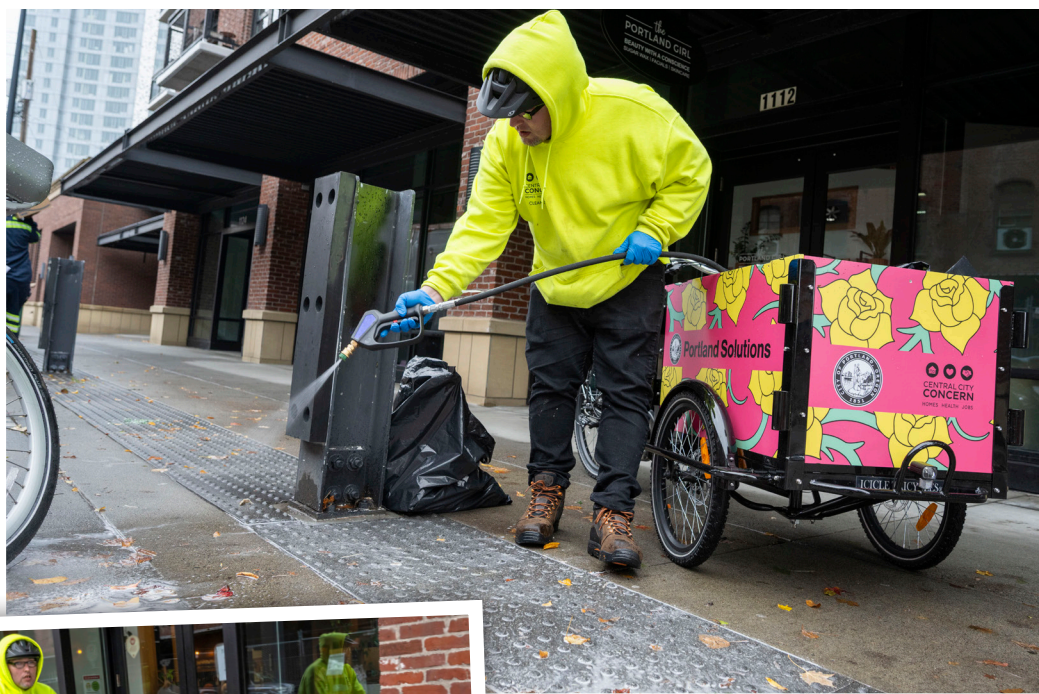
EMERALD LINE

At the corner of NW 15th and Thurman

FOOD
COCKTAILS
PARKING

Monday – Friday
11:00 to 2:00
Monday – Saturday
4:00 to 9:00

@EMERALDLINEXPDX
THEEMERALDLINE.COM



A new program is employing crews of formerly homeless individuals to clean streets and sidewalks within 1,000 feet of homeless shelters and on main streets. The program is operated by Central City Concern with funding from the mayor's Portland Solutions office. The vehicles were made in Old Town by Icicle Tricycles, a locally owned company.



Portland Police are asking for public assistance to help solve the shooting death of Krystal Lynne Pendergraph, 39, whose body was found in a car parked on the 2200 block of Northwest Kearney Street. Detectives are seeking video surveillance footage between 5:30 and 7:30 a.m., Oct. 11, from anywhere in the vicinity. Write to Homicidetips@police.portlandoregon.gov or call 503-823-0479 using reference case number 25-280342.



Lincoln High School senior Finn Usher was named the September student of the month by Portland Pearl Rotary. Usher is an offensive lineman on the varsity football team, a Flock leader and has extracurricular involvement with culinary arts and the library.



The Northwest Community Conservancy, a security and livability nonprofit serving the Pearl District, hopes to raise \$48,000 to drive off crows and reduce the droppings they leave behind. Operation Hawk employs a falconer and a Harris's hawk to scare the birds away, a method practiced in downtown Portland for years. Photo by Walden Kirsch



The first of more than 100 rolls of perennial rye grass sod is rolled out in Fields Park Oct. 29, the last phase in reopening the park after nearly two years of construction due to Pacific Power's tunneling project to connect power lines under the Willamette River. Photo by Walden Kirsch



Nursun Schmidt was chosen as the Portland Pearl Rotary student for October. Schmidt, who was adopted from Ethiopia at 10 months and returned briefly at age 3, said he overcame a sense of being different through running. "I discovered that difference doesn't have to divide us--it can connect us," he said. He has been on the Lincoln cross country and track teams.

Thank you!

It's the season to be thankful, and the reason I am especially grateful at this time of year is our annual Community Awards event. It always brings together people who care deeply about their community—all of them friends, though they may never have met.

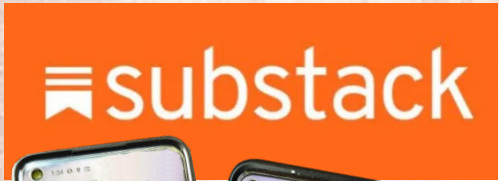
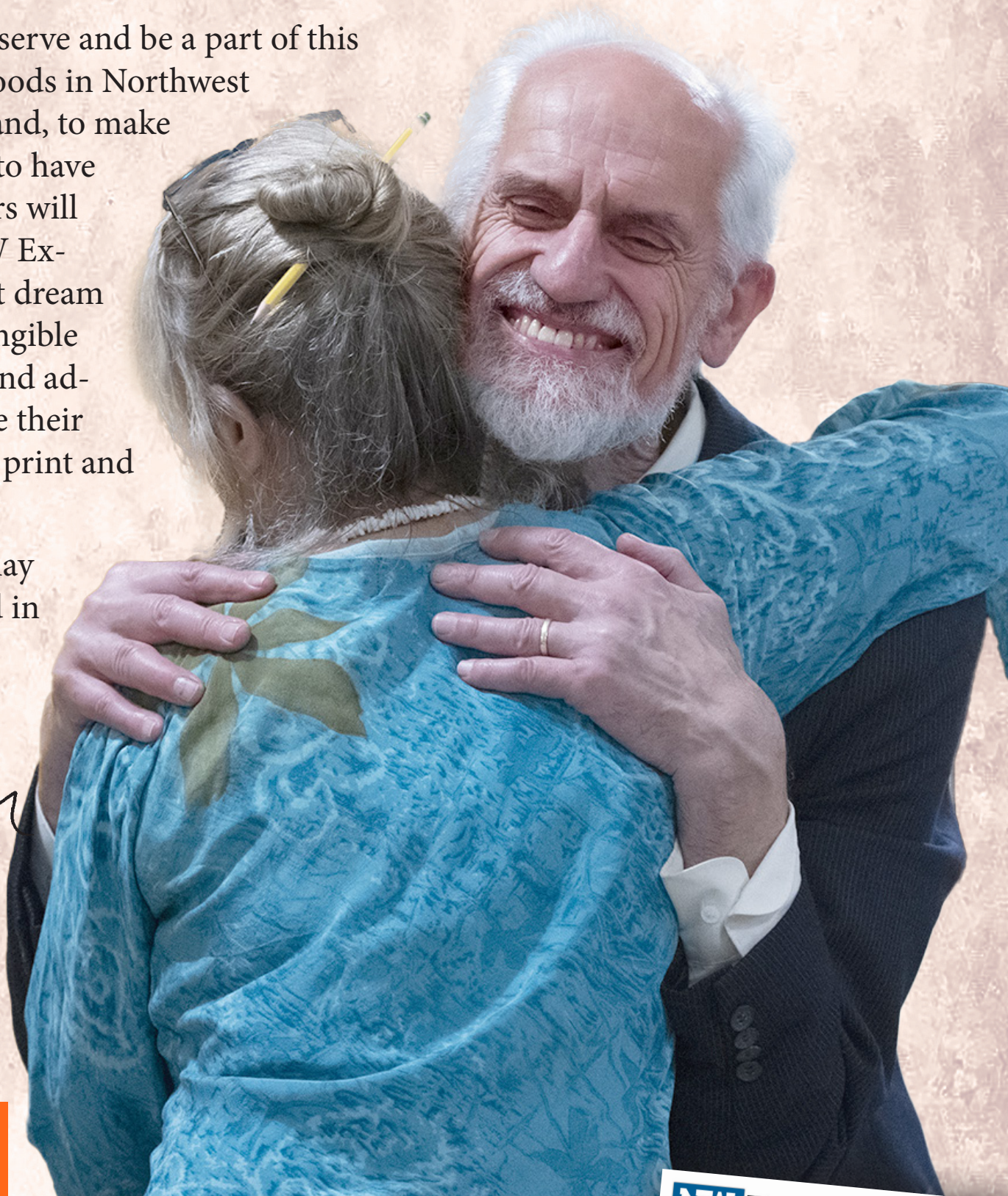
It's a connection to our past. Bud Clark won the Lifetime Achievement Award in 1996, and this year I hugged his daughter, Rachel, as she won the Community Builder Award.

It is a great honor to serve and be a part of this cluster of neighborhoods in Northwest and Southwest Portland, to make a living doing it and to have confidence that others will in time carry the NW Examiner forward. That dream is becoming more tangible each day as readers and advertisers demonstrate their support for both our print and online versions.

Thank you all, and may you each be enriched in this season of Thanksgiving.

Allan Classen

Allan Classen
Editor & Publisher



To subscribe or donate to the NW Examiner:
DONATE.NWEXAMINER.COM