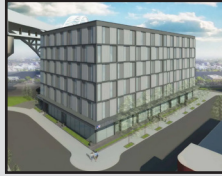




INSIDE



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the Dockside

OCTOBER 2025/ VOLUME 39, NO. 2

FREE

SERVING PORTLAND'S NORTHWEST NEIGHBORHOODS SINCE 1986

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Zimmerman takes on the freeway

Will fences make good neighborhoods?

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

City Councilor Eric Zimmerman has long had his eye on Interstate 405, particularly the dangerous, dirty and dire conditions under the ramps separating the Pearl and Northwest districts.

"I walked my dog under it every morning," Zimmerman told the NW Examiner, recalling his routines when he lived in the Pearl from 2010-15.

Few of his constituents dare repeat that route.

"It's become no-man's-land for the last couple of years," he said, noting that residents have changed their routes to avoid walking under the viaduct. "I heard it all the time."

With the opening of the Northrup Street Shelter across the street from the freeway at Northwest 15th Avenue, Zimmerman made his support for the controversial facility contingent on the city maintaining control along the freeway.

Mayor Keith Wilson declared a 1,000-foot radius around the shelter an "engagement zone" in which extraordinary

Continued on page 14



District 4 City Councilor Eric Zimmerman says maintaining safety and order under Interstate 405 is a necessity if the Northrup Street Shelter is to succeed. Photo by Walden Kirsch.



Mayor's

shelter-bed quota not absolute after all

Enough beds for the immediate need will suffice

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

For the first nine months of Mayor Keith Wilson's administration, his grand plan to end unsanctioned camping was tied to an immutable benchmark: 1,500 shelter beds by Dec. 1.

That shelter capacity was supposed to allow the enforcement of the city's camping ban, which would then legalize removal of the tents on streets and public places that have characterized and contributed to the

city's broad-scale decline.

The analysis behind these benchmarks was vague. Oregon law requires suitable accommodations for homeless people forced from their turf, but how many surplus beds must be available to legitimize a sweep?

Days after he was elected last November, Wilson estimated that 100-200 beds would be sufficient to force campers to move, a surplus he expected to reach as soon as his second month in office.

"You can't set up the tents anymore," he told Oregon Public Broadcasting, "You can't establish a campsite any more in Portland because we have a shelter for you."

"Once we have 100 or 200 empty beds a night, it stops," he said, predicting that this capacity would be online by June, if not sooner.

When June arrived and Wilson addressed two dozen community members touring the soon-to-open

Continued on page 7

Who speaks for the neighborhood?

Diversity, democracy, wealth all on the table

BY ALLAN CLASSEN

The fabled Northwest District Association, perhaps Portland's most influential neighborhood association in the last century, now contends with splinter factions countering or outshining its actions.

Separate advocacy groups for neighborhood parks, two alternative transportation bodies and a new public safety nonprofit have all bitten off chunks of the turf usually left to the city's officially recognized neighborhood associations.

This may not be the best way to run a railroad, or even a citizen-engagement system, but it can make for lively discussions. One such exchange broke out at last month's NWDA Planning Committee

meeting, as current themes in Portlandia 2.0 spilled out for the entertainment of all.

Parker McNulty, a developer and member of the committee, complained about city plans to replace parking on Northwest 25th Avenue with a bike lane.

"The city is making decisions without any prior conversation with the actual neighborhood it's affecting, which is insane," McNulty said.

"It goes back to Northwest in Motion. That's when they started adding bike lanes and all this other stuff. It comes down to top-down versus bottom-up decision-making."

Northwest in Motion remains a loaded issue in the district five years after its adoption. The assemblage of 22

transportation projects is largely completed, financed in part with funds overseen by neighborhood representatives, some of whom have regrets about supporting the program.

Jordan Lewis had a different view of NWiM. He was one of about 40 citizens who filled a meeting room in the Portland Building in August to protest the proposed removal of traffic barriers at Northwest 20th and Everett. They had been told the diverseters were part of NWiM, which they hailed as a model of community engagement.

"When it comes to top-town versus bottom-up—and since Northwest in Motion was mentioned—I just want to highlight that there's a demographic makeup to a lot

Continued on page 12

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More details on page 6

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YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO TO VIENNA
TO FIND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

–Dan Volkmer

Three Portland City Commissioners went to Vienna and returned waxing eloquently about neighbors living and coexisting across a jumble of incomes, playgrounds full of children, storefronts and reliable transits, calling this the gold standard of urban life. They returned to Portland "empowered" .

I don't begrudge them the trip – field trips are valuable resources, at tax payer cost – which were frugal.

Here's what's really irritating. The 'Nirvana in Vienna' moment can be experienced on a daily basis right here in our own backyard. But today try getting City Commissioners to show up at a neighborhood meeting, let alone seek neighborhood council.

Meanwhile, welcome to – Portland's Alphabet District. We are nationally recognized as a vibrant, mixed income, mixed use, diverse neighborhood housing all strata of incomes and housing types in a geographically small and walkable neighborhood. Parks full of children, grandparents, dogs, game players, sun bathers, picnics, concerts.

Several grade schools, churches of every denomination, grocery stores, cafes, social service agencies dispensing food, clothing, personal items, mental health counseling, shelter, subsidized housing, movie houses, a United Nations of restaurants, food pods, medical services – all within walking distance and there is abundant public transit.

We are the most densely populated mixed use neighborhood on the West Coast. We have encouraged density, supported responsibly managed social service agencies, protected our historic resources to maintain our character while preserving sustainable housing stock.

"Vibrant urbanism is achieved with these four essential ingredients: Density, Varied Buildings, Mixed Uses, Short Blocks." – Jane Jacobs, "The Life and Death of Great American Cities"

Would love some acknowledgement from City Commissioners that Portland is already a great city of vibrant communities.

THE DAN VOLKMER TEAM

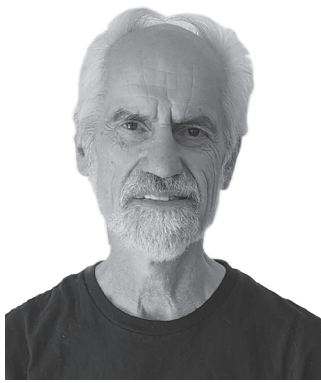
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Democracy’s shaky foundation

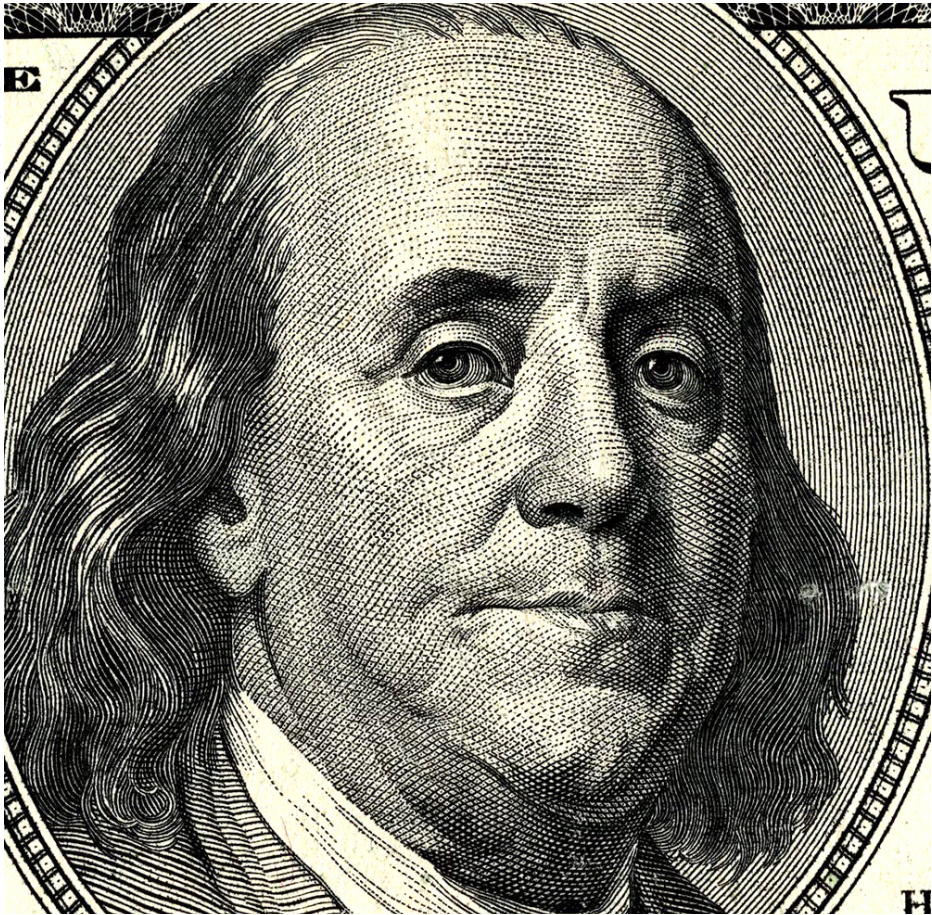
I have often proclaimed democracy to be the default position of Americans, a confidence reinforced by my experience with Portland neighborhood associations over the past 45 years. But I now accept the view that democracies are a rare and fragile form, hugely dependent on cultural and political traditions difficult to assemble but easily dismantled.

My embedded coverage of grassroots organizations has been telling me this all along while I optimistically saw mostly brightness and well-meaning people. I still see community activists in that light, but I am now thinking more deeply about the notable occasions when leaders run them off the rails. It is not the norm, and most activists may serve for years without seeing it. But the evidence is unmistakable.

Here’s the test: What happens when leadership consistently exercises inappropriate power and when counter-views are actively dismissed or thwarted? Do organizations self-correct? Do individuals stand up and demand accountability, and if they do, do others join them? Or do the mini moguls get their way until they move on of their own accord, leaving behind a weakened organization that never makes sense of what happened?

Unfortunately, it is too often the latter. Chairs of these organizations have a larger stake in these power struggles than their dissenters. Some board members may grouse privately or raise modestly framed points at meetings, but few risk a showdown they might lose, thereby jeopardizing friendships and their standing within the organization.

A few examples may be helpful in understanding these “threats to democracy” that have swirled in local neighborhood affairs I have covered.



- The president of a neighborhood association that became dormant under her leadership nevertheless was able to remain chair of the coalition of inner Westside neighborhood associations and rule it autocratically. Even after she resigned from that chair, she refused to share her association’s membership list, preventing other citizens from calling a meeting to elect new leaders. The coalition supported her in blocking a revival of the association for more than a year. Coalition directors would not cross her wishes even after she had left the board.
- I was banned from attending public

meetings of the same coalition later for reporting on a coalition staff member’s grievance against a board member, a grievance the board wanted to keep private. The board voted to keep me out of meetings that were contractually required to be open to all, as well as to cease all business dealings with the Examiner. The motion passed 9-2.

- Another association president erased or refused to share recordings of meetings, even after the coalition board ruled that he was required to do so. The board took his side without hearing any counterevidence and allowed him to contin-

ue defying their obligation under Oregon Public Meetings Law.

- The most glaring example of dictatorial control at the grassroots has been the Food Front debacle. For decades, board members tightened their control over all facets of operation until membership democracy existing in form only. After the store closed two years ago, the board chair made all decisions, interpreting membership input to meet his goals. He was overthrown too late to save a highly popular opportunity to sell to Market of Choice.

These petty dictators were not careful about violating rules and requirements. Defying norms and getting away with it establishes new norms, wearing down and further compromising those who should be gatekeepers. Restoring proper practices would call attention to prior laxity, inviting a soul-searching that would not be comfortable for any involved.

Whether on the national or hyperlocal level, unchecked autocrats degrade society and its capacity to self-govern. We should not be surprised. It is predictable and has been happening all around us.

How do we overcome the cancer within? Constant vigilance born in the knowledge that everything we have built can be lost.

Benjamin Franklin famously described the kind of government that was created by the Constitutional Convention in 1787: “A republic, if you can keep it.”

What did Franklin know that we have forgotten? ■

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Readers Reply

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

Vienna no quick solution

There has been a lot of talk about Vienna recently in Portland. I have been there numerous times and have learned that the social structure currently in place took decades to build. It was basically initiated around the end of World War I and the Habsburg Empire.

Social change is not spontaneous. Effective and durable change needs to be carefully planned and takes months or even years and resources. It should involve several generations.

Many people attribute their less-than-ideal situations to plain misfortune. And

history has taught that if the folks on the edges of society are left out, failure is inevitable.

I am not a city planner or engineer. I do, however, believe that a plan for the good of a citizenry needs to be compassionate and enabling for everyone.

Carol Lucas
NW 12th Ave.

Remember Pearl origin

Why have we forgotten the history of the Pearl District?

Portland’s politicians and activists keep injecting their fiscally suicidal agenda

of wealth- demonizing into what they perceive to be well-off enclaves, but they probably do not understand our city’s past successes. Unlike earlier urban renewal projects, the Pearl District did not replace a poorer neighborhood, and few if any people were displaced in the process. It was built on an area of mostly old, unoccupied railroad yards and warehouses, and when it was proposed in the late 1980s, urban planners were salivating over the prospect of creating the perfect egalitarian place of the future.

The plan was to make a neighborhood near downtown Portland denser, not more exclusive. The idea evolved

from the old 1972 Downtown Plan and the associated urban growth boundary. As a template of thoughtful urban progressivism, the yet-unnamed Pearl District was meant to prevent Portland from sprawling onto valuable farmland. The cost of utilities and residential services would be cheaper because the neighborhood was built to be vertical, not horizontal.

At the same time, the city was expanding the public transit network to diminish the need for cars. The result was a streetcar-served, family-friendly neighborhood, walkable and open to

Cont’d on page 5



Jean A. Matsumoto



Jean A. Matsumoto, who was interned during World War II due to her Japanese ancestry and later helped establish the Japanese American Historical Plaza, died Aug. 31 at age 90. She was born on Sept. 26, 1934, in Portland and raised on Southwest First Avenue. She attended St. Paul Mikki School near St. Mary's Cathedral until it was closed in 1942 and her family was interned in Idaho. After returning to Portland in 1945, she attended Shattuck Elementary School. In 1952, she graduated from Lincoln High School. She worked as a medical administrative assistant in a research laboratory at Oregon Health Sciences University. She helped found the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center and was a member of the Portland Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League. She was a lifetime member of the Oregon Buddhist Temple and became its first female president. She served on the Oregon Nikkei Endowment's first board of directors and received its Paving the Way Award in 2015. She is survived by her sister, Alice Ando.

Lynn Marks

Lynn Marks, who grew up in Kings Heights and graduated from Lincoln High School in 1953, died Sept. 5 at age 89. Lynn Lowenson was born on Sept. 22, 1935, in Portland. She graduated from Stanford University in 1957 and taught at Multnomah Elementary School. In 1959, she married Milton Marks, and they lived in Westport, Conn., for 26 years, before moving to Lake Oswego in 1985. They established the M and L Marks Family Fund through the Oregon Community Foundation. She was a member of Congregation Beth Israel. Milton died in 2015. She is survived by her sons,

Michael and Leland Marks; and brother, Lee Lowenson. Her daughter, Lianne Marks Klein, predeceased her in 1994.

Marcia Heitkemper



Marcia Heitkemper, a lifelong member of St. Thomas More Church who grew up in Portland Heights, died Aug. 5 at age 92. Marcia Tamiesie graduated from Holy Child Academy and the University of Oregon. She married Peter Heitkemper; he died in 2014. She is survived by her daughters, Tory and Heidi Wilcox; son, Peter Jr.; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

James Chellis



James Chellis, who lived on Southwest Vista Avenue in the 1970s and '80s, died July 11 of pancreatic cancer at age 82. He was born on July 13, 1942, in Topeka, Kan., and moved with family to Portland the following year. He graduated from Roosevelt High School, Portland State University and Lewis & Clark College, where he received a master's degree in education. He taught fourth and fifth grades at Sitton Elementary School and Laurelhurst Elementary School. Jim was a member of Portland First Baptist Church for 51 years. After retiring, he conducted downtown tours for school-age children through Urban Tour Group. He was a founding member of the Lionel Collectors Club of America. He is survived by his brother, Don; and sister, Janice.

Death notices

ADAM ROSS BECKER, 32, 2011 graduate of Lincoln High School.

DR. C. SABIN BELKNAP, 94, had a medical practice in Northwest District.

PETER HALL, 85, Multnomah Athletic Club member.

GARY JAY ETLINGER, 86, member of Temple Beth Congregation.

C. HUNT LEWIS, 83, grew up in Portland Heights.

The Northwest Examiner publishes obituaries of people who lived, worked or had other substantial connections to our readership area, which includes Northwest Portland, Goose Hollow, Sauvie Island and areas north of Highway 26. If you have information about a death in our area, please contact us at allan@nwexaminer.com. Photographs are also welcomed. There is no charge for obituaries in the Examiner.

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residents of all incomes.

People who ignore the past may diminish or denigrate the significance of Portland's older accomplishments. They are a classic example of throwing the baby out with the bathwater. Portland was a groundbreaker in the victory against sprawling suburbias. But victories are never permanent. Portland's questionable political ideologies of the moment probably reinforce that idea.

John Tomlinson
SW 21st Ave.

parking time for a 6 p.m. dinner and a 7:30 p.m. symphony. You would have to move your car after dinner in a two-hour zone but have to move to a four-hour zone. This has always been a problem when going to lunch-then-matinees. Four-hour meters might work, but you need to look for them. In addition, many single people I know don't feel safe in parking structures.

Meter extension inconvenient

Extending parking meter hours from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. will be a challenge for people who have a downtown meal before an event. Most of the downtown meters are limited to two hours, while some are four. Two hours is enough for dinner, but not enough for most concerts and plays--and certainly not enough for both meal and event.

Four hours may not be enough for a 5:45

I have been parking downtown for evening events at least once a week for years. And paying the maximum on the meters getting me to 7 p.m. But now it's not going to be so easy. My problem is not the increased cost. However, not being able to park, pay and eat and see a performance without moving my car at some point or taking my chances at being ticketed makes me uncomfortable and more unwilling to go.

Who in city government might seriously consider what this change will do to downtown businesses and performance venues?

Charlotte Rubin
NW Irving St.

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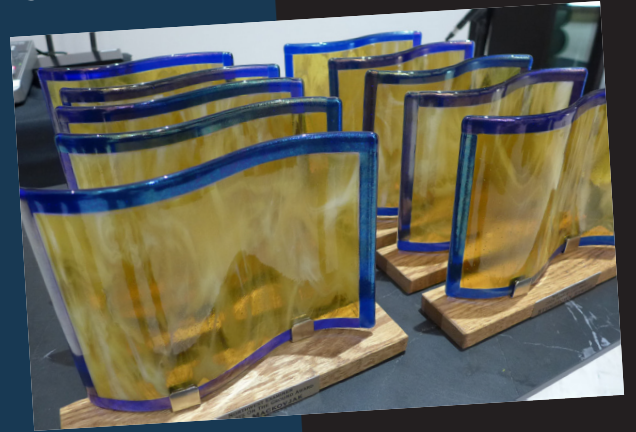
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Due to Timbers game at same time, consider parking downtown and taking MAX

"Mayor's shelter beds" cont'd from page 1

Northrup Street Shelter, 1,500 was a hard number. He refused to be negotiated downward should the 200-bed facility—the largest one opened to date—create more community disruption than anticipated.

"I can't," the mayor replied. "It's a numbers game. ... We can't wait. It's time to take care of our people."

Would he at least explain his plans at a community forum?

"I'll consider that, but it doesn't help to hear a room of angry people," he replied.

The day before a July 28 Town Hall on homelessness called by the Pearl District Neighborhood Association, Wilson relented and agreed to appear. The 580 who filled the Armory that night were not all angry, though loud guffaws and booing suggested many—if not most—were.

Target moves

By late September, as the shelter bed threshold goal appeared unreachable with only two months to go, Wilson decided that 1,500 was not an absolute prerequisite after all.

At a Sept. 25 meeting of District 4 Coalition leaders, Wilson laid out a different definition of success. He doesn't need a particular number of beds, just enough empty ones for the immediate need.

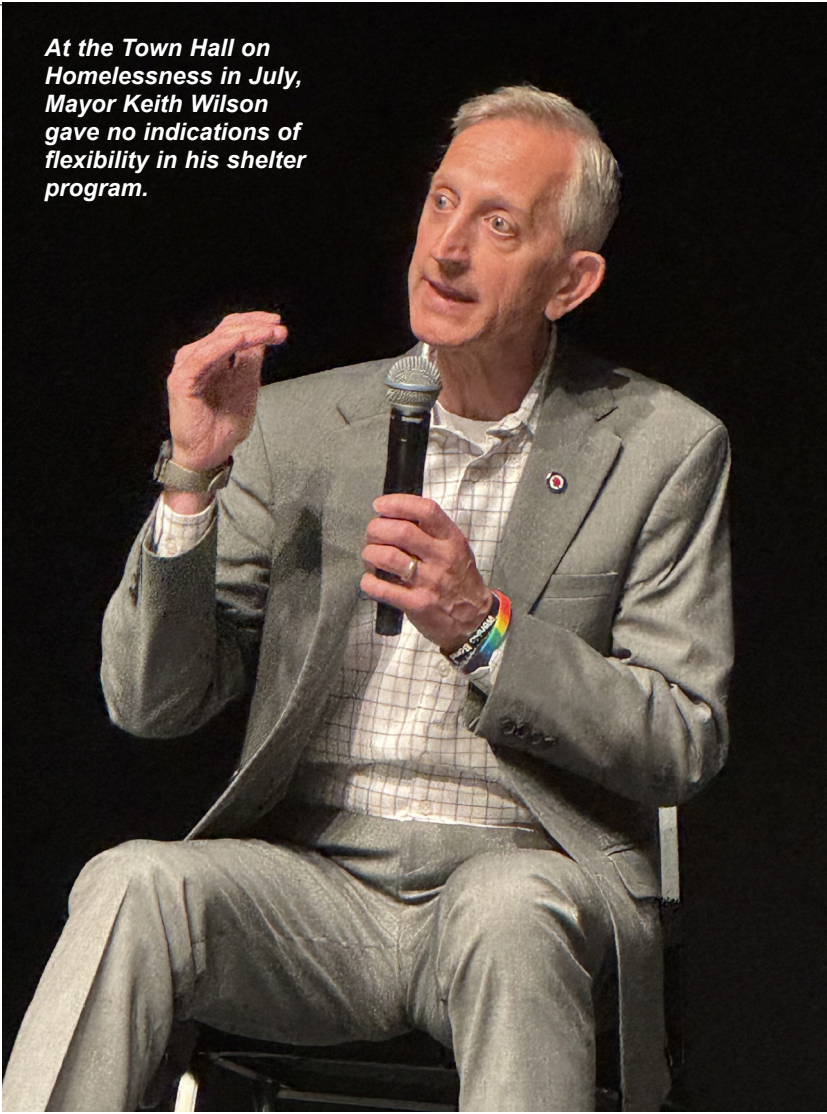
Wilson said 1,300 beds will soon be online, but "we don't need that many. We really want to have 200 or 300 empty beds every night, so ... we'll always make sure that somebody has a safe bed every night. That's our promise, to ensure nobody's left outside,

With that revelation, Wilson had come full circle to his campaign position, a supply adequate for the immediate need would suffice.

That made sense to two neighborhood representatives on the Zoom call.

"I think his 1,500 target was more of a goal to ensure adequate capacity," Pearl District

At the Town Hall on Homelessness in July, Mayor Keith Wilson gave no indications of flexibility in his shelter program.



"We don't need that many. We really want to have 200 or 300 empty beds every night."
— Mayor Keith Wilson

Association board member Glenn Traeger said. "My understanding is that the key factor for enforcing the camping ban is simply whether shelter beds are available, not a fixed number. If beds are open, I don't see why the mayor couldn't move forward with enforcement."

Northwest District Association President Todd Zarnitz was encouraged by the mayor's new interpretation of the standard.

"The goal should be to get people off the streets as quickly as possible, not to achieve arbitrary benchmarks," Zarnitz said.

Some contend the city already has an adequate supply. In addition to the 1,500 overnight beds Wilson proposes, Multnomah County currently operates 24-hour shelters with a total of about 3,000 beds. The latest figures from the Joint Office of Homeless Services are from 2022, when there were 1,400 beds, 19% of which were vacant on average.

John DiLorenzo, the lawyer who brought the successful suit against the city for violating the Americans with Disabilities Act by allowing campers to block sidewalks, said Portland may enforce its ordinance against camping in public "provided there is room in the shelter system at any particular point in time."

"1,500 is an arbitrary number not connected to any law or court decision," DiLorenzo told the NW Examiner.

Rob Layne, communications strategist for the mayor's Portland Solutions program, said there never was an "aha moment" when it was decided to relax the 1,500 bed standard, just a growing confidence that the supply was sufficient for the need.

Wilson also recently announced plans to begin moving campers off the street Nov. 1, first with citations targeting people having outstanding warrants or those involved with current crime, such as drugs or weapons.■

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Shelter watch

Pearl District residents have been monitoring changes to their neighborhood since the Northrup Street Shelter opened Sept. 2. Although city staff have responded promptly to many of their reports, they see negative incidents on the increase across the neighborhood.



Photo of North Park Blocks scene south of Northwest Glisan by Christopher Klemm, who regularly photographs and reports issues. Bicycle is parked on 900 block of Northwest Johnson beside a sleeping dog and companion. Klemm said the city is “importing urban blight night after night.”



At least one camper considered it a good site to build on, nailing together pallets and plywood at Northwest Ninth and Irving streets. Photo by Cam Richtik.



Brendan Jamieson has reported frequent problems in Tanner Springs Park. “This is the fourth morning in a row that I have spotted trash and/or vagrants under this bush at Tanner Springs Park,” Jamieson said. “This lovely park has been subjected to increased vandalism since the Northrup Shelter opened.”



Naomi Pollock took her young grandchildren to the playground in the North Park Blocks last month but changed plans after finding adults “splayed and unconscious all over the ground. ... This is unacceptable” she said. “I have owned a home in the Pearl and paid property taxes on it for over 25 years, and now I can’t even take my grandkids to the local playground.”



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GREATER NORTHWEST PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT MAP

SLABTOWN PARK

Ownership of the half-block parcel at Northwest 20th and Pettygrove streets has been transferred to the city, but Portland Parks & Recreation has not begun a community engagement process on its design. The Northwest District Association has been attempting to schedule a meeting with the bureau’s project manager.



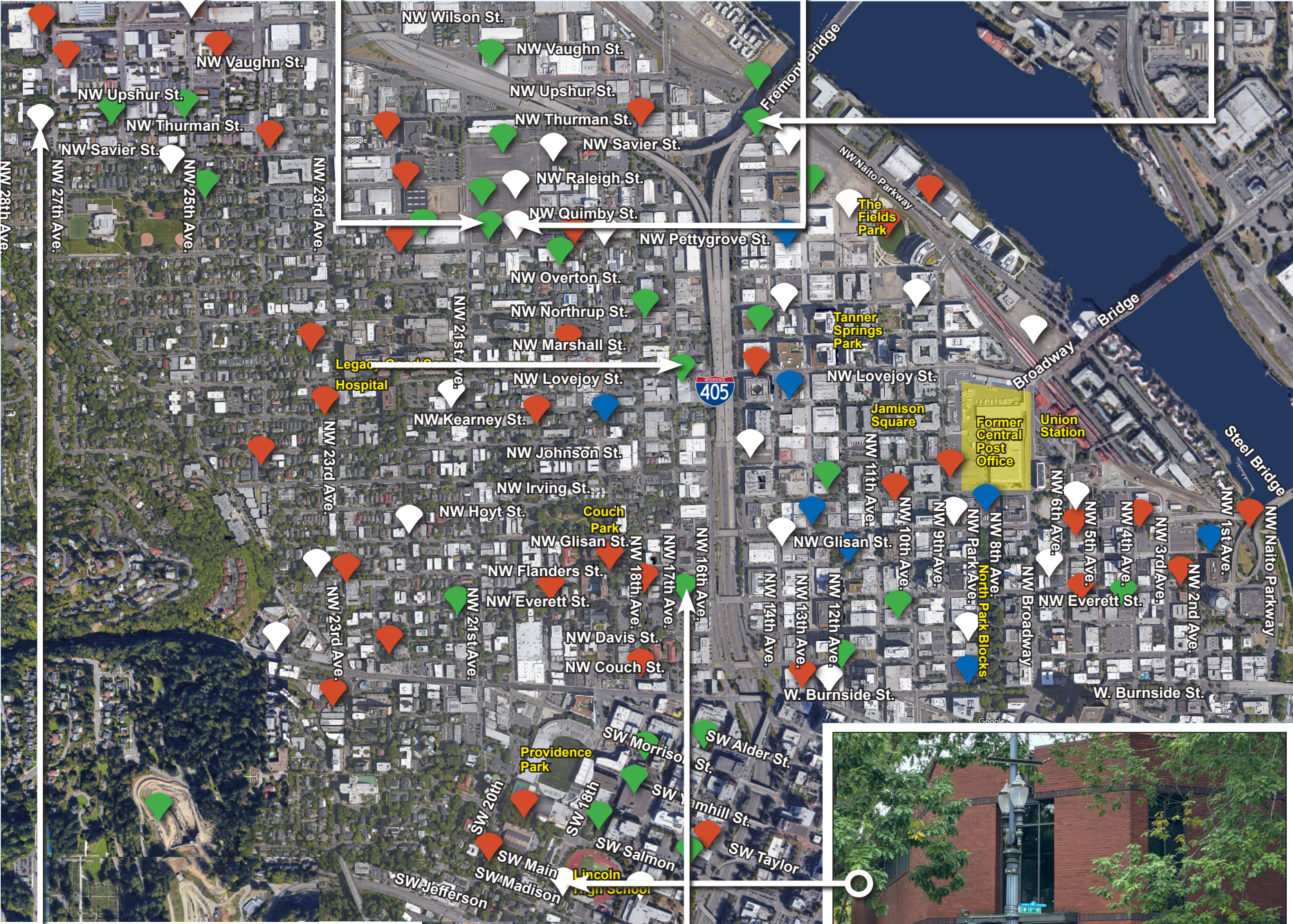
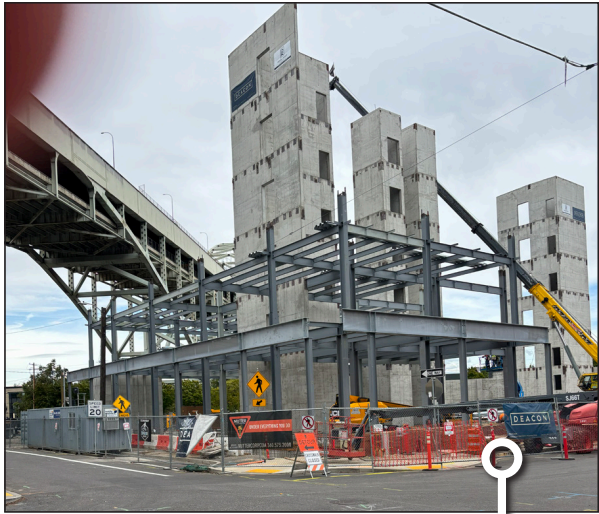
SLABTOWN LIBRARY

The new Northwest library branch on Northwest Pettygrove Street, across from the proposed Slabtown Park, is expected to open Jan. 10. The current branch at Northwest 23rd and Thurman will close on Nov. 25.



STORAGE CONSTRUCTION

Construction is proceeding on a six-level self-storage building at 1730 NW 14th Ave. The ground floor will be devoted to retail and office use. Weston Investment Co. is the developer.



FOOD FRONT

Mark New of Development Company of the West, Property Services, who is redeveloping the former Food Front property at 2375 NW Thurman St., will divide the building into two spaces and seek tenants who “emphasize food.” Construction will begin early next year.



1628 NW EVERETT ST.

Don Tankersley Construction Co. is adding a basement apartment to the 1880 house at 1628 NW Everett St. that has been its headquarters since 2020. Originally known as the Thomas and Lizzie Whalen House, it was moved from the path of Interstate 405 in 1980.



1776 SW MADISON ST.

A cluster of commercial properties centered at Southwest 17th and Jefferson streets is for lease, four of them due to the departure of the Native American Rehabilitation Association. The most prominent structure is the three-story brick office building at 1776 SW Madison St. The listings are with Norris & Stevens.



For an interactive and continually updated version of this map, visit: NextPortland.com
Also see the development map maintained by the Goose Hollow Foothills League: goosehollow.org/images/GooseHollowDevelopmentMap.pdf



The Dockside endures in the shadow of newer development.

Dockside still going strong

Cozy waterfront dive serves up one of NW Portland's best breakfasts

By MICHAELA LOWTHIAN

The **Dockside Saloon & Restaurant** has lived many lives. In the (Long) Before Times, it was a commissary for the rail workers. Historic photos of Portland’s working waterfront and terminals hang on the walls. There’s a signed photo over one of the booths of boxer Rocky Marciano, who visited once. It then became famous in the ‘90s after former owner Kathy Peterson found evidence in the outside trash that proved ice skater Tonya Harding plotted to whack fellow skater Nancy Kerrigan’s knee.

The slow fade from industrial to residential is on view from the windows here, as is the rise and fall of economic times. During COVID a patio with heaters was built out front. Today’s owners respect the deep history but updated the menu and put a new door on the women’s restroom. But the soul

of the Dockside doesn’t really change; the hash browns remain the same. Young and old, working people and tech bros alike, we all agree nothing beats the Dockside for breakfast.

Realtor Brad Thurman has coming here since 2016. “Best hash browns on the planet, so they’re worked into every meal,” he said. “My go-tos the breakfast burrito and biscuits and gravy, or the Terry’s Scramble. It’s all good.”

Thurman says going to Dockside is like walking into Cheers. “Everyone knows you, like family vibes.” He loves the community he finds here nearly every weekend, naming longtime staff Krissi, John, Angel, Becca and Christy as the reasons why.

“I’ve sold several condos across the street over the years. The selling highlight is always the proximity to Dockside.”

Reese discovers Escape From New York Pizza

By MICHAELA LOWTHIAN



My neighbor Reese, 13, had never been to Escape from New York Pizza.

Portland’s pizza origin story, our first real pizza. A little bit punk rock, a little bit worn out. Everything a pizza shop should be.

Owner Phil Geffner has given me Escape from New York T-shirts over the years, so I threw one on and grabbed Reese. “They have the best ginger ale,” I told her. “What’s that?” she asked. “Like a spicy 7Up, I guess.”

What would Reese think?

We rolled in, and it was busy. Reese’s first question was, “Why is it called Escape from New York?”

“That’s because that’s the owner’s favorite movie. It’s got Kurt Russell in it,” said a friendly young man throwing dough in the window, who complimented my shirt and told us about the new design up front.

Reese ordered a cheese slice and a ginger ale. I showed her

the newspaper sitting on top of the garbage can. “That’s the Sunday New York Times,” I explained. “They have two copies of it here every day for people to read. The Sunday one has a magazine, a book section, arts. It can take you all week to read it.”

“Look at the floor. It’s worn out from people coming in here,” Reese said.

We noticed three old cash registers on the back counter near where we were sitting. Reese went back up to the front and asked, “What’s the deal with those cash registers back there?”

Another friendly guy explained that they use them for parts to keep their main cash register going. “You can mess with them if you want.”

She downed her slice and ginger ale while taking in all the old photos on the walls as we left.

NOBBY NEWS

Vol. 31, No. 10 “News You Can’t Always Believe” October 2025

There's something in the air

Jenny Duchene, a part-time horticulturalist, thinks there a connection between the Swifts leaving Chapman and potatoes growing on trees. Something’s going on around here and it’s exciting, says Duchene

For the second straight year, the potato tree in front of the Nob Hill Bar & Grill had a bumper crop.

"Last year we made a wonderful fresh potato salad, and this year we’re going with sun dried potato chips", Nobbys chef Tylor said.



The magic potato tree is in bloom

“Money that grows on trees is out there,” Duchene said. “I just haven’t found it yet.”

The Swifts are magical, and after 30-plus years using the school’s old chimney, they left us gifts.

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Business briefs . . .



HEARTH AND VINE will open in the former Henry's Tavern spot at 10 NW 12th Ave., in the Brewery Blocks. Plans call for a major remodel of the multifloor space, closed since 2019.

The **STARBUCKS** location at 2328 W. Burnside St. next to Zupan's is among the hundreds of shops the company is closing across the country. Other Portland closures include shops at 1211 SW Fifth Ave. in the PacWest Center and 1742 SW Sixth Ave. in the Portland State University Urban Center.

CC SLAUGHTERS remains open as offers by potential buyers are weighed. The gay nightclub in Old Town had planned to close in August after 44 years in business.

CREDO BEAUTY location with a new cosmetics outlet at 817 NW 23rd Ave. last month.

CONSTANTINOPLE, a restaurant serving Turkish and Ottoman food, will take over the building at 410 NW 21st Ave., which had been the home of Carina Lounge since 2017.

FALAFEL STREET CAFE, a walkup food and coffee shop, is now part of Silver Dollar Pizza at Northwest 21st and Glisan streets.

DUER, a Canadian company featuring active jeans suitable for professional wear, will hold its grand opening on Friday, Oct. 17, at 820 NW 23rd Ave.

The former Henry's Tavern will be the new location of Hearth and Vine.

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Plans to remove the traffic diverter at Northwest 20th and Everett streets this summer galvanized opposition by bicycle activists.

"Diversity" cont'd from page 1

of these meetings, like the meeting I'm in right now."

Lewis was referring to age and perhaps other demographic markers as essential to democratic process.

"What spurred a bunch of turnout of younger people to this meeting was the proposed removal of the Northwest diverters. ... If there's this accusation of NIMBYism or obstructionism, I think there were really bad optics. Not that I'm assigning this to the neighborhood association, but whoever worked to get the diverters removed ... that was really bad PR for this neighborhood association."

Lewis had said a mouthful. NIMBYism is an epithet neighborhood associations are sensitive to, and he was implying the charges would stick whether true or not.

Northwest District Association President Todd Zarnitz, who was chairing the committee meeting, was having none of it.

"Hold on, wait a second," Zarnitz said. "That was not driven by the neighborhood association. We had nothing to do with removing or suggesting that the diverters should be removed at all."

He wasn't finished.

"I bristle at the idea that there's a certain demographic of people here. We've been a neighborhood association since [1969]. We hold public, open meetings. Everything we do is public, and people can either attend or not attend. We constantly recruit people, so whatever the makeup of this room is, it's people who care about their neighborhood and want to be here and have time to contribute.

"So I bristle at the idea that we should be criticized for that, or that we all look too much alike for people looking in from the outside. I find that disturbing, to be honest."

Lewis had another point. Planning Committee meetings are held at the wrong time.

"It is 8 in the morning. This is also a sign of my privilege: I have one of those coveted email jobs. ... A lot of people cannot attend a meeting at 8 in the morning," he said.

Ian Irwin helps facilitate the Portland branch of Strong Towns, a national network raising environmental and urban design issues. He also recently joined the Planning Committee, though his perspective is that of an outside critic to the association.

"I think the traffic diverters are a good example of how the NWDA doesn't always align with the broader neighborhood. Some of that, I think, is about who's able to attend the meetings, like Jordan was saying.

"The diverter issue is something we barely talked about, and when we did, there was a lot of support for removing the diverters in the meeting—not unanimous, but significant. There was a big turnout and mobilization around the diverter issue, which I think also shows that people appreciate things the city has done for the neighborhood, such as the bike lanes and the diverters, and efforts to calm traffic, like this bike lane at 25th and Vaughn."

Ben Gilbert also took on the association's legitimacy.

"The neighborhood association had less than 60 people vote in the last election," Gilbert said. "I joined the neighborhood association recently, and demographically, it does not represent the neighborhood. That's just a fact."

Gilbert said the district has "a lot of different groups with different interests. ... That's why we need bike infrastructure, to move away from on-street parking being the number one priority. This is not [zoned as] a single-family neighborhood."

If that was not enough social division for the morning, Irwin brought up income disparity.

Irwin did not believe disclaimers from committee members that "we're actually not one of the richest districts in the city."

"You can see here—at least this is my zip code [97210]. It's not the highest, but it's third highest, after 97209, which is \$85,000, and 97221, which is also \$85,000. ... I just wanted to put that out for additional context when we try to 'play poor' and say we're not actually that rich as a neighborhood."

Doug Knauer, a resident not on the committee, offered the closing comment.

"What I like about this group so far—as I've been sitting in—is the fact that there is robust conversation that goes back and forth, and I think the moderation you're doing, Todd, is helping to keep that pretty well organized.

"Ultimately, all we can do as an advocacy group is take all of that in and then come up with the position that we agree on and move forward with that."

The following week, Connor Lennon, a Northwest resident who commutes daily by bike to his job in Southeast Portland, agreed to be photographed for this story. Lennon has been attending Planning Committee meetings lately "to have meaningful conversations with my neighbors. ... By working together, we often come out on the other side with a great letter to a city body or a deeper understanding of each other.

"I have a lot of thoughts on bike infrastructure," he said. "This is my main form of transportation, and I am lucky to feel comfortable biking most places. I know many of my colleagues don't feel the same." ■

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‘Off and away!’ Yondr is here to stay

By MATTHEW KLEIN and RAVI WEINROBE

Portland Public Schools (PPS) announced on August 25 that schools in the district must require students to keep their personal electronics off and away during school hours. Earlier, an executive order signed July 2 by Oregon Governor Tina Kotek mandated that all school districts in Oregon must create rules limiting smartphone use.

Along with a number of other PPS high schools, including Franklin and Ida B. Wells, Lincoln has decided that Yondr pouches are the solution for controlling phone usage during the entire school day.

Last school year, Lincoln’s phone policy required students to lock their phones in a box for each class period, but students could still use their phones during lunch and other parts of the day.

Yondr pouches are secure, magnetically locking fabric pouches designed to store phones, as well as other digital devices such as AirPods, in environments such as schools where cellphone use is prohibited.

According to the company’s website, Yondr was founded in 2014 by Graham Dugoni to create phone-free spaces that reduce distractions and encourage social interaction.

Vice Principal Travis Johnson is strongly in favor of Yondr pouches. He lets students in the building each morning and has been overseeing the implementation of the new pouches. In the first weeks of school, Johnson says he’s seen a significant positive impact, especially during lunch.

“I think what’s new is ... a super loud lunchroom because people are talking. I’m not seeing, specifically, the row of boys not saying a word, but having 10 people all around a table gaming. That doesn’t exist. They’re all talking,” said Johnson.

Not every student has noticed such a dramatic change.

Sophomore Sophie Rhodes said she sees “a lot less people on their phones” inside the building compared to last year, but also that phone use returns quickly once lunch starts and students leave campus.

“As soon as I leave [off campus] for lunch, I see everyone on their phones already,” Rhodes said. “I didn’t realize that people being on their phones during lunch last year was a big problem, so I feel like it’s kind of the same amount.”

Senior Katherine Warner-Frey says that although she puts her phone in the Yondr, some of the people she knows choose not to.

“I feel like a lot of the kids I see will usually put something else in it [their Yondr]. Whether it be a calculator or another phone,” said Warner-Frey. “As long as they keep their phones in their backpacks, it’s not distracting them in class. I think it is just easier at the end of the day to just walk out [of school rather than stand in line to unlock Yondrs].”

While some students choose not to lock their phones away, others have attempted to unlock their Yondr pouches via destructive methods.

“There was someone trying to whack their Yondr pouch open in [one of my classes] this morning,” Rhodes said.

Some students say they have concerns about locking away their phones.

Although freshman Easton Longbine sees the benefits of Yondr pouches, he believes that the safety concerns are important to consider.

“If there’s a shooter in the building, and your phone is in a Yondr pouch powered off, locked away, how are you supposed to call 911 [or contact parents]?” asked Longbine.

Johnson acknowledges that safety concerns were considered in the school’s decision-making process.

“I would say most phones that our students have have voice activation. I tested this out accidentally the other day. I put [my phone] in a Yondr Pouch



Starting this year, students are required to place their phones in Yondr pouches—locking fabric pouches designed to help control phone usage—for the duration of the school day. A student holds their Yondr pouch to one of the Yondr pouch unlocking magnets located at the school exit at the end of the day.

By RAVI WEINROBE

and I said ‘Siri call 911.’ The next thing I heard was a 911 operator. So in an emergency, you actually can talk through the Yondr Pouch,” said Johnson.

The Cardinal Times staff tested this multiple times and found Siri activation worked consistently, even when the phone is locked in the pouch.

While many students dislike losing access to their phones, Johnson stresses that Yondr pouches make a positive social impact.

“It ... takes a certain level of maturity to be able to see that. I would encourage people to understand the frustration, but maybe see the bigger picture. There’s time to be on cell phones later,” said Johnson.

National Chinese Honor Society brings together Chinese language learners

By SIRENA CHEN

Language learning is more than just a class, but immersion in a new culture. The National Chinese Honor Society (NCHS) is a new club that aims to support Chinese language learners and promote interest in Chinese culture and studies. The club welcomes any student who is currently enrolled in a Mandarin class.

The founders are juniors Allison Hu, Cheryl Hung, Yueyue Wang and Anika Rigby (Rigby is a reporter for the Cardinal Times). They created this chapter of NCHS because they see a lack of community for learners of Chinese.

“[We] bring more opportunities to people who are learning Mandarin,” said Wang. “There are also other experiences outside of school for Mandarin-speaking students.”



Founders of NCHS hard at work. Left to right: Allison Hu, Anika Rigby, Cheryl Hung.
By SIRENA CHEN

One focus of the club is to promote traditional Chinese fashion, especially during Chinese holidays. The club also hopes to partner with Lan Su Chinese Garden, where members of NCHS will be able to volunteer by hanging lanterns or manning an information stand.

The club’s first challenge is coming up with the \$40 fee to register a new chapter of NCHS. Each student member must also pay an additional \$4 to join the club.

“Since this is actually our very first year that Lincoln has ever done this, it costs a bit more money,” explained Hu. “We’re going to have a fundraiser.”

The National Chinese Honor Society meets every Friday A-day at lunch.

Free breakfast on Portland bridges connects community

By SAGE COLLEY

Do you like free food? Do you walk or bike to school? Breakfast on the Bridges might be a great option for you!

On the last Friday of every month, Breakfast on the Bridges serves free breakfast for bikers and pedestrians commuting to work at four locations: the Steel Bridge, the Tilikum Bridge, the Blumenauer Bridge and the Flanders Crossing. From 7-9 a.m., commuters are served coffee, donuts and fruit, along with donated foods from local businesses. Past donors include Spielmans Bagels and Rose City Coffee Company, along with many others.

Shift, the organization behind Breakfast on the Bridges, started in September 2022, with the goal of creating events for cyclists.

Junior Maja Dietrich-Kennett has attended Breakfast on the Bridges at the Flanders Crossing as a pedestrian several times over the past year.

“It’s really nice, because I go and I get free food

before school, and I can talk to people there,” said Dietrich-Kennett. “I’ve met a lot of new people who live right next to me that I never knew.”

Breakfast on the Bridges is completely led by volunteers.

Kaitlyn Bishop is a volunteer for the Flanders Crossing location and started volunteering there after stopping by for the free breakfast numerous times.

“I really enjoy seeing everyone just out and about,” said Bishop, “whether it’s on their way to work, whether it’s just they’re walking around in their local neighborhood.”

Bishop emphasizes the positive impact that Breakfast on the Bridges has on people in Portland.

“It really does promote people to interact with the local community, whether it’s others that are choosing an active form of transportation to get to work, [or] it’s just you live in the area,” Bishop said.



At the Flanders Crossing at 7 am, the Breakfast on the Bridges volunteers set out the food and coffee in preparation for the event.

Courtesy of KAITLYN BISHOP



Fencing near the entrance to Interstate 405 protects parcels that were frequent campsites. City Councilor Eric Zimmerman made fencing of the freeway a priority, and the Oregon Department of Transportation found the funds for fencing.

"Zimmerman" cont'd from page 1

measures would be taken to not only curtail crime but maintain cleanliness and civil conditions. City crews have expanded their cleanup efforts and given extra attention to citizen complaints associated with the shelter. It has been an uphill effort, based on the volume of photos and incident reports sent by Pearl residents daily.

Zimmerman said those efforts will not be enough if the freeway land remains wild. That's why he has championed the most tangible wall of defense to date: metal fencing surrounding Oregon Department of Transportation land north of West Burnside. Temporary fencing went up in September and permanent fencing of the kind already seen along I-405 south of Burnside is coming.

If residents call the I-405 underpass no-man's land, the city and state have perpetually called it the other side's responsibility. When an intergovernmental agreement between the parties expired in June, along with state payments to the city for camp removals from ODOT land, the system that had been maintaining a modicum of

order fractured.

When residents attempt to file complaints on the city's website, they are advised that "as of July 1, the city of Portland does not have the authority to address camping or related impacts" and they should contact ODOT.

However the blame is parsed, problems festered even before the shelter opened Sept. 2.

Pearl resident Monte Pitt noticed "many more tents under 405 close to the shelter in the last number of weeks," a situation partially attributable to reduced ODOT efforts to remove them, plus giving campers 10-day notice rather than three days to move.

"Is this where the clients are going when they leave the shelter?" Pitt said. "It seems crazy that the city would spend all this money and effort to put this new shelter in place only to have the camping problem next door explode."

Pitt said the matter must be corrected before the shelter expands from 40 beds to 200 in December.

"Frankly, once the shelter is fully functional, there should be no camping

allowed under 405," he wrote.

An emergency transportation funding package pending in the state Legislature could restore funding for a new agreement on camp removals as well as how far the fencing will extend.

Zimmerman said this is no time to wait for the money to arrive.

"We cannot backslide here," said Zimmerman, who asked "the mayor to continue with the cleanup under 405 regardless and billing back ODOT retroactively."

Pet project

Before the shelter was proposed, the councilor was working to tame the freeway. In April, the Examiner reported on his plans to use his council office budget to fund a pilot program hiring formerly homeless people through Central City Concern to clean up along I-405. Recently, City Councilor Olivia Clark contributed another \$100,000 from her budget. That project is approved, and crews should be on the ground soon.

Fencing was the next step in Zimmerman's freeway-taming mission.

Working with Portland Solutions, a program in the mayor's office, attractive metal fencing was installed along both sides of I-405 south of Burnside, with the help of \$900,000 in special funding from ODOT. ODOT has since contributed a similar amount to enclose sections north of Burnside. Depending on action by the Legislature in the last days of September, that fencing could surround the notorious land under the freeway along Northwest Thurman Street between 19th and 20th avenues, the scene of sprawling encampments and several fires fueled by exploding propane tanks believed to be used to cook drugs.

Linda Witt, who chairs the Pearl District Neighborhood Association Shelter Oversight Committee, has found in Zimmerman a committed ally who has exerted influence behind the scenes.

Witt is grateful he cares about the freeway dividing and sometimes plaguing the neighborhood.

"Clearly, it's a pet project of his," she said.

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Summer festivals

Right top & middle: The **End of Summer Pearl Party** on Sept. 13 devoted two blocks of Northwest 13th Avenue to entertainment and food.

Below left: Entries in the **Wallace Park Fall Festival** dog parade await the judges' ruling. The day of fun, music and games in the park was coordinated by Friends of Wallace Park board members Liz Duffet (L-R), Erik Opsahl, Jim Brayton, Kyle McAvoy, Angel Stech, Janet Schaefer, Sandy Moore and Dean Yioulos.

Bottom right: The eighth annual **Goose Hollow Street Festival** Sept. 14 included a raffle, music, food and drinks—plus a real goose—along 20th Avenue.



A Ford with expired plates has been allowed to park in a metered spot at Northwest 14th and Raleigh streets since August. "He never pays any citations or tickets left on the vehicle and continues to drive and park daily in the same exact location after being reported over 24 times," RJ West told the city. Officers made seven visits between Aug. 4 and Sept. 5 to issue warnings, but the car has been "gone when the officer returns, which closes out the case," Julie Roe of the Parking Enforcement Division said.



A group of Pearl elders has been staging their own events around Fields Park on nationwide protest days. "Many of us are challenged by the size and power of the larger gatherings," Joan Morris said. "We hope to prevent the growth of a fascist regime in the United States." They plan to turn out for another No Kings protests on Oct. 18.



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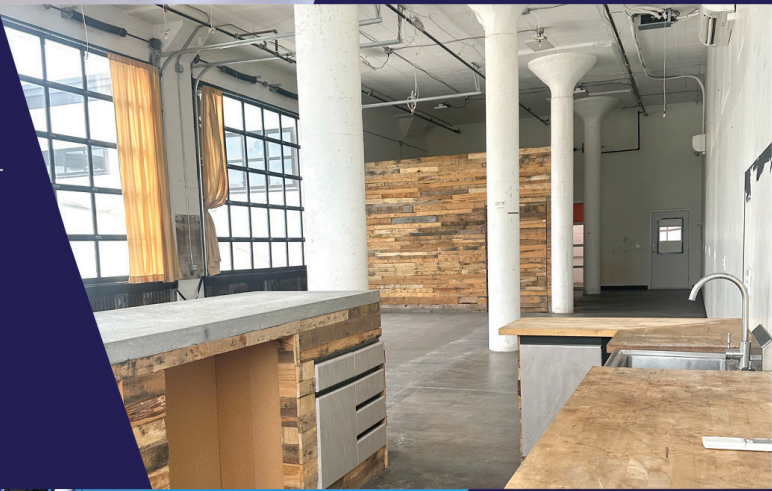
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