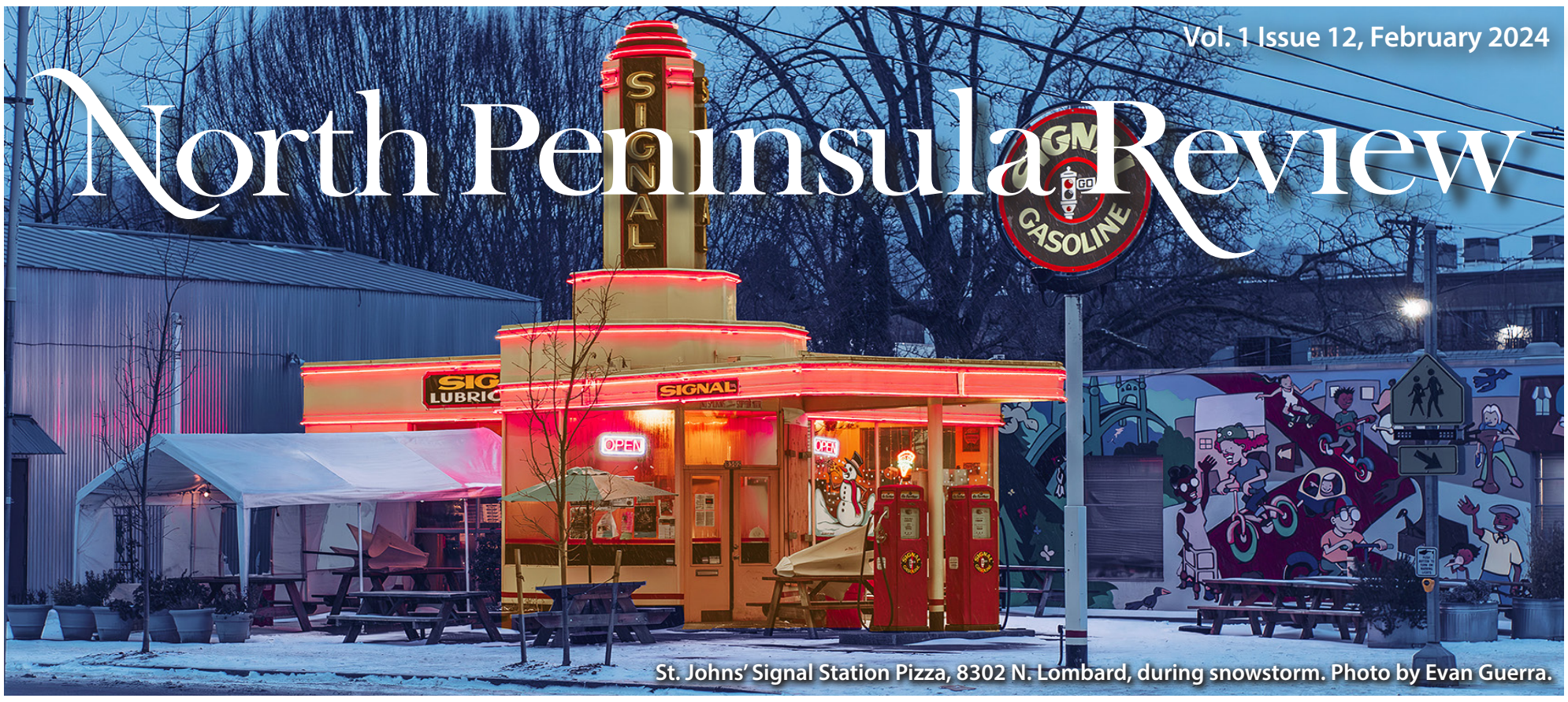
Vol. 1 Issue 12, February 2024

North Peninsula Review



St. Johns' Signal Station Pizza, 8302 N. Lombard, during snowstorm. Photo by Evan Guerra.

Winter Light Festival pg. 3

Photo of arsonist who struck RV Campsite pg. 3

Dan Ryan enters race for City Council pg. 3

Thief steals car with two kids inside pg. 8

Abby's Closet Prom dress giveaway pg. 4

District 2 Candidate Forum March 6 in St. Johns

by Mark Kirchmeier, Ruth Lane, Barbara Quinn

WHAT: Candidate Forum for District 2

WHEN: Wed, March 6, 6:30pm - 8:30pm

WHERE: St. Johns Church, 8044 N. Richmond

WHO: Sponsored by the North Peninsula Review. Open to all.

Ever since St. Johns merged with the City of Portland in 1915 the process of electing representatives to the council has been by citywide vote. In the last 50 years, only one commissioner has been a resident of North Portland, current Commissioner Dan Ryan, who lives in the Arbor Lodge neighborhood.

That could soon be turned on its head. The City Charter Reform voters approved in 2022 will soon take effect. It creates four separate city districts. North Portland and Northeast Portland comprise District 2. Voters in each district will elect three commissioners as representatives.

Candidates can formally file June 5 - August 27. This will be a unique election in the city's history to date. Fourteen candidates have entered the race for the District 2 seat, including current Commissioner Dan Ryan.

Ryan and Tiffani Penson joined the race too close to the newspaper deadline to be included in this article.

In this edition the North Peninsula Review has asked each candidate to answer several questions.

Additional answers to two more policy questions can be found on our website edition: at www.NorthPeninsulaReview.com.

(Answers have been edited for space.)

MARC KOLLER

Neighborhood: Hayden Island
Job/Experience: Retired from global corporate work at director level in organizational development and customer education.

Why are you running?
I am running for City Council to apply my experience and knowledge of working with large complex organizations, to find workable solutions to our most pressing problems. I am the only candidate focused on the specific challenges of seniors and the disabled living on a fixed income. ♦

JOHN MIDDLETON

Neighborhood: Concordia
Job/Experience: For the past 10 years, head of a business-to-business courier service; board member of Community Warehouse; volunteer as Big Brother/Big Sister program, and helping neighbors.

Why are you running?
I moved to Portland at 12 and grew up here; it was a great city to grow up in. Now my children are out of the house. I want to help all the neighborhoods. Portland has all the resources it needs to resolve its current issues. I want to build a foundation of a city representative of all. My father told me wisdom = listen and collaborate. ♦

DEBBIE KITCHIN

Neighborhood: Sullivan's Gulch
Job/Experience: I have owned a small business with my husband for 30 years. We are residential and commercial remodeling and renovation contractors. We currently have 15 employees. Prior to that, I was a regional economist, working for two different government agencies for a total of 18 years. I have been a small business advocate active in economic development and community development. I have worked to promote economic growth and prosperity for neighborhoods, small businesses and communities of color.

Why are you running?
Portland is at a turning point. We desperately need to have a city government that works and that works for everyone. I am committed to working with all sides of the table to move our city forward. We need coordinated, effective responses to the multiple crises we are facing. Our City needs to work with the County and the state legislature and Governor to build a better Portland. I am a collaborator and bridge builder. ♦

MARIAH HUDSON

Neighborhood: Alameda
Job/Experience:
Currently senior healthcare communicator at OHSU, previously sustainability officer at San Diego State University; in higher education for 20 years.

Why are you running?
To help clean up our city, public safety and improve affordability so that working families like mine, and the next generation, can thrive here. As a working mom with a 1st and 7th grader in Portland Public Schools, creating a safe and well-run city is a personal mission. Collaborating with neighbors as chair of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods battling pollution, launching shelters and promoting affordable housing, has shown me the importance of aligning city policies with community priorities. Curtailing access to hard drugs fueling Portland's addiction crisis and enhancing Street Response to aid recovery is a top priority. ♦

more candidates page 2

Gonzalez condemns domestic terrorism at campsite

by Mark Kirchmeier

City Commissioner Rene Gonzalez and District Attorney Mike Schmidt have condemned an alleged politically-motivated arson attack on a planned RV campsite for homeless people at 10505 N. Portland Rd. near the Columbia Slough. The site is intended to house up to 200 people in RVs and tents. According to Gonzalez the arson has "all the markings of domestic terrorism."

The Portland Police Bureau reported that on Jan. 7 arsonists set fire to city-owned heavy equipment that were clearing the site. They said the fire caused thousands of dollars in damages to a forklift, bulldozer and excavator. Portland Fire & Rescue and Police are investigating the incident.

An anonymous post on the self-described anarchist website, Rose City Counter-Info, claimed,"We burned bulldozers and excavators being used to build another Urban Alchemy site in North Portland…" The post accused the city of "pushing the most visible poor out of sight" and concluded, "We answer with fire." Another post on the same website claimed responsibility for setting fire to a family car outside Gonzalez's home on Jan. 12. In response, County DA Schmidt proclaimed that, "Acts of political violence and acts of political vandalism are unacceptable and will not be tolerated."

Burned heavy equipment at the RV campsite

Cody Bowman, Mayor Ted Wheeler's communications director, said that the arson won't deter the project. The city had intended to begin initial onboarding of camp residents at the end of March. Hank Smith, the mayor's Policy and Communications

continued page 3

Riders edge Jefferson 69-65 for PIL lead

by Mark Kirchmeier

No. 3-state-ranked Roosevelt narrowly led Jefferson 67-65 with eight seconds remaining in the game, when Rider guard Utrillo Morris zinged a pass to wide-open Demir Johnson for a thunderous, climatic final dunk and 69-65 win at home before a capacity-crowd of 900 people.

continued page 5

Arbor Lodge, Bridgeton, Boise, Cathedral Park, East Columbia, Eliot, Hayden Island, Humboldt, Kenton, Linnton, Overlook, Piedmont, Portsmouth, St. Johns, University Park, Woodlawn

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District 2 candidates *from page 1*

JAMES ARMSTRONG

Neighborhood: Woodlawn
Job/Experience: My wife and I own and operate three eye care clinics in N and NE Portland, including Cathedral Eye Care in St. Johns. My daily job involves managing our 30 employees, overseeing the finances, and being available for a multitude of tasks.

I work a portion of time in my original career as a forensic accountant. As a director for the firm Development Specialists, Inc (DSI), I work with a small team based out of Los Angeles that investigates and manages complex financial issues and fraud schemes.

Why are you running? I love Portland, and I'm especially drawn to our local neighborhoods. We need to provide effective services to help our struggling community members, while also restoring accountability to assist small businesses that face increases in crime and theft. I believe our city can maintain our progressive ideals, while also working to improve community livability.

I am optimistic that with the transition to districted representation, Portland will be guided by local leaders with better proximity to our problems. My involvement growing small businesses, along with advocating for the Alberta and St. Johns business districts, will provide the council with an experienced hand on turning plans into action. ♦

REUBEN BERLIN

Neighborhood: Beaumont-Wilshire
Job/Experience: After graduating from the University of Oregon, I worked with local non-profit organizations as a representative payee, housing case manager, and family case manager. In these roles, I provided direct assistance to individuals and families facing houselessness, mental health, addiction, and domestic violence. I worked in these roles from 2001 through late 2007.

I joined U.S. Bank in 2014. Throughout my career I am proud to say I have helped hundreds of individuals and families navigate the purchase and financing of their homes, often finding opportunities for first-time home buyers in Portland's difficult housing market.

Working for U.S. Bank has allowed me to work with many individuals, businesses, and organizations throughout North and Northeast Portland.

Why are you running? My focus is on re-establishing the livability of our city. The campaign will be centered on restoring public safety, partnering with mental health services, and finding solutions that provide for the economic vitality of Portland. This can be done by building collaborations with local government, businesses, community organizations, and neighborhoods. ♦

LAURA STREIB

Neighborhood: Cathedral Park
Job/Experience: In 2007, I founded and am executive director of Vibe of Portland – an arts and music educational nonprofit that is committed to providing quality access to the arts for youth throughout the Portland metro area. We provide classes, camps, and workshops.

In 2020 I started a creative consulting business, Aura Creative, that assists creatives and organizations with a wide variety of projects. I am also a current Board member (secretary) of the St. Johns Boosters Business Association and volunteered on the city's Arts Education and Access Fund committee for 7 years, chairing it for 4.

Why are you running? I am a collaborator, a creative problem solver, and someone who has started two businesses from scratch. The city is in a moment where the vision of Portland does not match the reality. This will take creative problem solving, building relationships, mending broken bridges, and strengthening coalitions with a wide variety of stakeholders.

Most issues are interrelated. To build the economy, we need to have safe walkable streets to encourage commerce, affordable housing to keep people safe in their homes, time for activities in our parks with maintained accessible facilities, infrastructure to keep the power on and the garbage collected, all the while we reinvest in our schools. We need to support creatives and arts organizations. ♦

DAVID BURNELL

Neighborhood: Woodlawn
Job/Experience: Advisory board member for City Team Portland, 1st co-chair of the Portland Government Transition Advisory Committee; Contributing Author to the Suicide Intervention and Prevention Plan; 1st co-chair to the Crisis Systems Advisory Work Group that oversaw the 988 hot-line rollout in Oregon; Certified Substance Abuse Counselor and Qualified Mental Health Associate Registrant for Cascadia Behavioral Health; and Precinct Committee Person for the Multnomah County Democratic Party.

Why are you running?
To make the necessary positive changes needed to get this city back on track, it will take a team of people who come from diverse backgrounds with diverse expertise and the ability to know when to listen, lead, and act. One of the biggest problems Portland has faced with its city leaders is the paternalistic attitude of "trust us, we will fix it," i nstead of reaching out and listening to the local individual communities that are being directly impacted by the day-to-day decisions made at City Hall.

As a person who has firsthand experience leading, listening, and working directly with the community I will be an excellent member of Portland City Council. ♦

JONATHAN TASINI

Neighborhood: Eliot
Job/Experience: I am the founder and executive director of Just Transition For All, a global organization dedicating to setting a "high bar" for workers who are displaced due to efforts to address climate change (https://justtransitionforall.com/). For the past 40 years, I've run organizations, and been an organizational and communications strategist, almost exclusively devoted to workers' rights and unions. I was president of the National Writers Union for 13 years, for example.

Why are you running?
Virtually every major issue we confront—from houselessness to addiction—cannot be solved unless people have more money in their pockets. The metro minimum wage in our city is $15.45-an-hour. Which means that a person working 52 weeks a year, 40 hours a week, with no vacation, would earn a gross income of $32,136. That is LESS THAN the federal poverty level for a family of four. I will propose a significant hike in the city's minimum wage.

Second, grand rhetoric isn't enough. From talking to scores of voters, the one unifying theme I hear: they want competent members of the City Council who have a record of getting things done, who possess actual skills. ♦

BROOKLYN SHERMAN

Neighborhood: St. Johns
Job/Experience: I work for Portland Public Schools as a SpEd school bus driver. I also help run my family walking tour business, Slabtown Tours. I graduated from Portland State last year with a BA in Business Management. I have been involved in a few political campaigns as a staffer, volunteer, and candidate.

Why are you running? I grew up in Portland and have been involved in more community groups than the word count will allow me to mention. I want to address the cost of living and work to make sure Portland stays a place where Portlanders can afford to live in. ♦

Two additional questions below were posed to candidates. Their responses are in the online edition at NorthPeninsulaReview.com. Also included is candidate contact and website info.

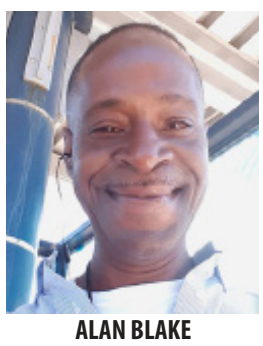
1) Do you support continued funding for the planned RV homeless camp at 10505 N. Portland Rd., and the Peninsula Crossing Trail Safe Rest Village?

2) Do you support the proposed $800 million Parks and Fire infrastructure bond measure and, if so, putting funds toward restoring Columbia Pool?

CHRIS OLSON

Neighborhood: Sullivan's Gulch
Job/Experience: I have ten years of experience in the non-profit sector. I currently work as a communications specialist for the Neighborhood Health Center, a nonprofit health facility serving low-income and at-risk patients in the Portland area. I've also worked on progressive voter registration initiatives and local campaigns

Why are you running? Our city has been through challenging times, but I see a lot of good in its people. Portland needs to be a city that works for everyone. I want to create opportunities for all Portlanders to succeed. We need authentic and empathetic leadership to turn this city around. ♦



ALAN BLAKE

Neighborhood: Lloyd District
Job/Experience: I have worked numerous jobs over the years and I like to think of myself as a career taxpayer.

Why are you running? I'm running for office because I feel our seniors are not being prioritized and to end senior citizen homelessness. [Asked if he supports funding for Safe Rest Village and funding restoration of Columbia Pool:] I can't give an answer if I support the funding for the Peninsula Safe Rest Village. I would like to know more about this and also the proposed 800 million dollar Parks and Fire infrastructure Bond measure. I tend to vote for Fire and Parks. ♦

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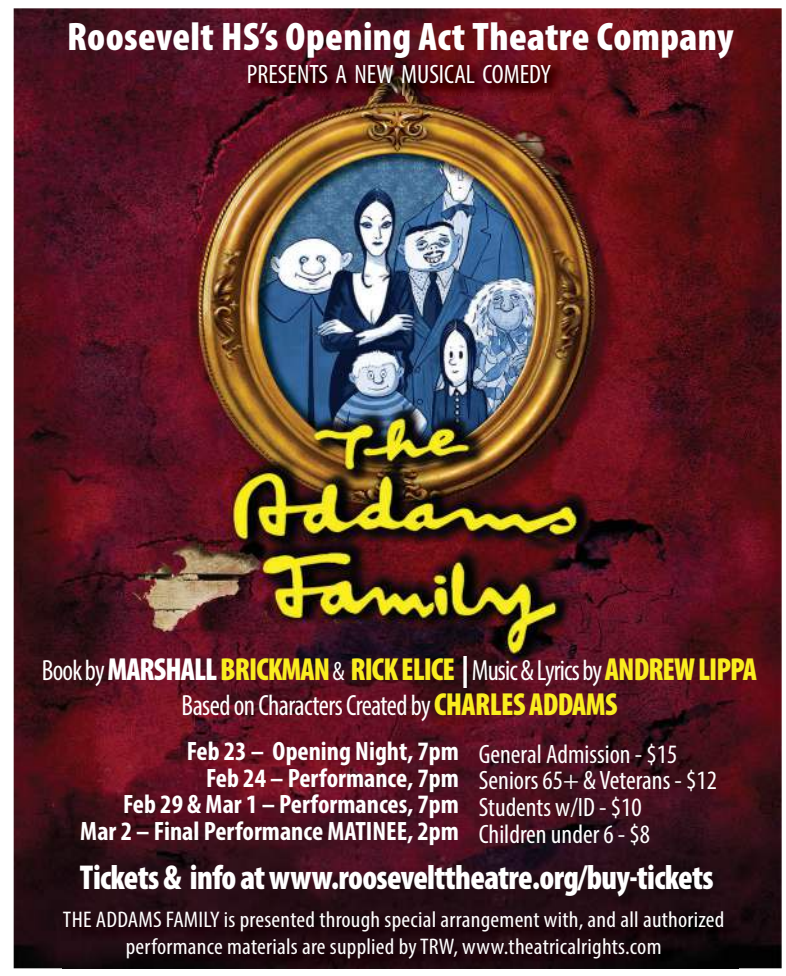

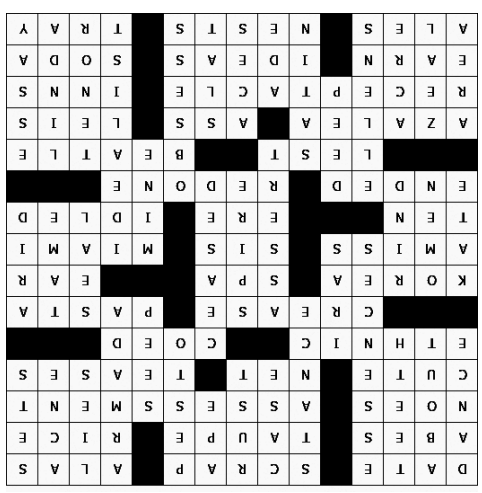

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DiscoLights by sculptor, Ivan McLean, at Green Anchors in St. Johns, a pop-up site

2024 Winter Light Festival features pop-up sites in North Portland

During the darkest time of year, one Portland event brings the city together to celebrate creativity, culture and community through light.

The annual Portland Winter Light Festival is February 2-10, 2024. It is open to all ages, free to attend and one of the most popular winter festivals in the city. This citywide outdoor arts celebration includes a number of pop-up sites in North Portland. See pdxwlf.com for more.

Creative and inspiring light displays are aglow every evening of the event. The festival features more than 200 art experiences focusing on the theme *Glowing Under Pressure*.

Festival Art Map

The festival art map on pdxwlf.com allows you click on the pinpoints for more information on each art display around the city.

The map displays the 13 pop-up sites in North Portland. They are in the St. Johns, Kenton, Hayden Island, Piedmont, and Boise neighborhoods The sites feature interactive light-based art installations, vibrant performances and kinetic fire sculptures as public art installations for the community to enjoy.

For its 9th year, the festival has special anchor sites along with the pop-up sites. Here are the details:

Anchor Sites

The event has anchor sites open on Fridays and Saturdays from 6-10pm with special performances, artwork and activities located in the heart of Portland. These locations provide a starting point for a night of exploration and celebration of the incredible art displays.

2024 anchor sites include:

- Pioneer Courthouse Square
- World Trade Center Plaza
- The Electric Blocks at SE 2nd & Clay

Opening Night Fire Performance

On Friday, February 2, join the opening night festivities featuring the *Garnish Fire Conclave*. The event is at Pioneer Courthouse Square, 701 SW 6th Ave., at 7pm. This performance is followed by Cirque Luminescence, Bright Heart Circus and Portland Samba.

Illuminated Bike Ride

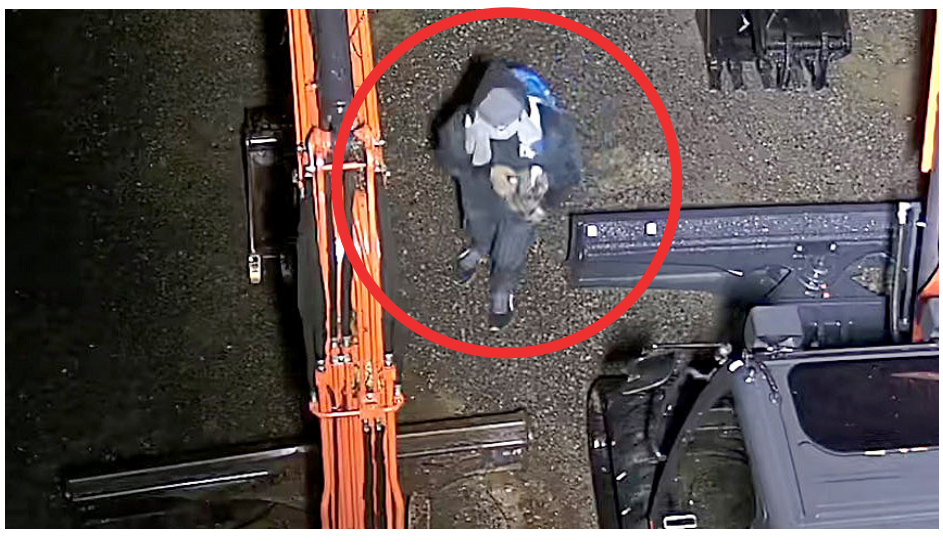
Get ready to bike the lights with fellow riders on Saturday, February 3. You're invited to dress up your bike, and yourself. Meet at the Rose's Equipment Supply parking lot, 125 SE Clay St., at 7pm. The ride starts at 7:30pm and ends at Director Park at 8:30pm.

Lantern Procession

Join Risk of Change for a Lantern Procession on Saturday, February 10, at 7pm. Meet at the Salmon Street Springs, SW 1st Ave. and SW Salmon St. at 7:30pm and walk to Pioneer Square. You're encouraged to wear illuminated costumes and bring giant puppets, lanterns, simple colorful flags and lit objects. ♦

Posted by victoria on Living on the Cheap

Domestic terrorism in St. Johns *from page 1*



One of two arsonists caught on video while vandalizing a city-owned RV campsite in St. Johns

lead, plans to initiate a Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA) process with the St. Johns Neighborhood Association in order to build a relationship with neighbors for exchanging important information. He also hopes the GNA advisory group can allocate funds for livability improvements.

Anyone with information about the arson is asked to contact Detective Meredith Hopper at meredith.hopper@police.portlandoregon.gov. ♦

If you like this story subscribe at: www.NorthPeninsulaReview.com

Business Corner

Weather hits local businesses hard

Mo Bachmann

I'm sure you've seen the countless pleas from businesses all over town, calling for support after this week of horrendous weather? From burst pipes, power outages, floods, to lost weeks of sales during the slowest part of the season for many shops, it's been rough for all of us.

During all of this, I've also seen heroic efforts from countless businesses across town–coordinating getting food to shelters so it doesn't spoil, crowdfunding for friends, fundraising to help get our homeless neighbors into motels, businesses handing out hand and feet warmers, blankets and more. Kim Jong Grillin,' for example, had every single thing that could go wrong go wrong, and he's still out there hooking up industry workers or anyone that needs it with a free hot meal.

That's the kind of story that really strikes me. It's important to remember that supporting local businesses doesn't just support the owner – when you come out and spend money in our shops and restaurants, you will see those dollars spread out into our community. Small businesses aren't just hubs for the exchange of goods for money – but they are where the bartender who has become one of your best friends works, where the antique store owner is always hooking you up with free stuff because you both laugh about the silly and delightful things you both collect – where the shoe store owner donates unsold stock to a clothing closet a few times a year, or where the owner will always give you a hot meal if you need one, no questions or payment required.

Personally, I want to thank every one of you that ventured out after the thaw and checked in, bought some treasures and wandered down the street to the next place to do the same. Every time you come in and spend a few bucks, you are helping me recover from whatever latest catastrophe has hit my business, and I appreciate you every single time. The next few weeks are tenuous for so many of us as we try to repair our shops, replenish our stocks, get our employees and once in awhile ourselves paid, so please get out when you safely can, pick up lunch from a place like The Groovy Floret in St. Johns that's suffered several break ins and continues to be an enthusiastic community hub for tasty food and funny memes.

Head to the new Salty Teacup location on N. Vancouver Ave (@saltyteacup on IG) or donate to her GoFundMe because she's had 2 break-ins in a week, and is struggling to recover after her move to a new location. Maybe checkout the Go Fund Me for DB Dessert Company on Alberta, a wonderful Black-owned bakery that lost their entire main room when the pipes froze and burst during the storm.

Keeping places like this thriving, means they'll be there for us next time we need a gift for a special occasion, a delicious 7 layer dip for our sports party (obviously I don't know what football is, haha), or the perfect sweet treat to cap off the next good week. Go see your best friend bartender and tip them extra (after stealing all the cocktail straws just for funsies). Every little bit of support goes a long way, I promise!

Outside of this latest storm, the economy has many of your favorite businesses in a precarious place, a feeling I have no doubt that many of you are feeling in your personal lives as well. We can, and we will get through this together. Hang in there, we can do this!

Salty Teacup GFM: https://gofund.me/7cc3593f

DB Dessert Company GFM: https://gofund.me/db4760b5

Mo Bachmann,
President of the Kenton Business Association, organizer of promotional events in the Kenton town center, and owner of Kenton Antiques.

Ryan enters race for City Council seat

by Mark Kirchmeier

Portland City Commissioner Dan Ryan has now joined a field of 14 candidates running for a Portland City Council District seat that will represent North and Northeast Portland. There will be three seats available under the new city charter.

Ryan first won election to the City Council in 2020 under the previous system where commissioners were elected to at-large positions by a citywide vote. Under the new Charter Review system, all current Council positions will be eliminated at the end of the year.

Commissioner Dan Ryan

Ryan is a Roosevelt High School graduate and current Arbor Lodge resident. He is the first North Portlander to serve on the Council since fellow Roosevelt alum Mayor Terry Schrunk left office in 1973. As a commissioner, Ryan has overseen the Parks & Recreation Bureau and been the lead elected official for the planned $102 million Northgate Park Aquatic Center. He also steered the citywide Safe Rest Village (SRV) program that provides housing for the homeless that includes addiction and social services. One of the sites is the Peninsula SRV along the railroad cut that has been both lauded and criticized.

He also cleared the Peninsula Crossing Trail of unauthorized camping and trash, and has helped secure the future of both the Kenton Firehouse and the Interstate Firehouse. Ryan briefly considered running for Mayor to succeed retiring incumbent Ted Wheeler, before deciding instead to run for one of the new District 2 Council seats. ♦

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North Portland real estate market may be warming

by Mark Kirchmeier

Mortgage rates have inched down from last summer and might get low enough to kick-start the North Portland residential real estate market. The average 30-year mortgage rate has now fallen to 6.69%, after 7.0-plus interest rates last summer. Will that be enough to motivate more home-buyers?

"Fall of 2023 was a difficult time and felt like almost everything came to a standstill," explained Kate Wille of Porch Light Realty Group with Keller Williams. "There was hope it would pick up at the start of 2024, but then snow and ice stalled showings and action."

As the weather has warmed, so has the market. "Just last weekend a home in St. Johns that we listed in early November ended up with multiple offers going up 5% over the listed price," she said.

> "We're seeing more buyers feeling comfortable about the market and interest rates"
>
> *~ Nikkie del Guidice, Farrell Realty*

Wille believes that buyers were on the sidelines monitoring rates the past few months and as interest rates drop into the mid 6% range, some buyers are coming out of the woodwork.

"Our stager who handles most of our North Portland listings says they were quite slow the past few months, but are currently almost booked up for March and April," Wille said, "which tells me we'll see an uptick in inventory over the next few months."

With more homes hitting the market, will there be enough buyers to absorb them? "Many of my clients in St. Johns bought homes in the past 10-15 years with low or refinanced interest rates under 3.5%. As they contemplate a new home, they have been hesitant to make a move when the interest rates today are twice their former rate. Many of these clients would be what we call "move up buyers," those who would be buying a larger, more expensive home. But coupled with their low mortgage balance and interest rate, it makes the move less appealing," she said.

Breylan Deal-Eriksen, owner of Deal & Company Real Estate on North Lombard Street, said that despite 2023 being a slower year in terms of number of sales, local sellers still experienced success with property sales achieving prices within 1% of their listing value. He attributed that partly to low inventory levels. When there are too few houses for sale, property values remain high. The market peaked in spring of 2022.

According to Nikki del Guidice, co-owner of Farrell Realty, "homeowners with those sweet 2%-3% interest rates aren't in a hurry to let go of their mortgages. Instead of moving up, they're choosing to stick around and spruce up their homes or add on more space."

Things have been picking up since the new year, which is not historically uncommon, she explained. "With recent rate reductions, and more expected in the next few months, we're seeing more buyers feeling comfortable about the market and interest rates, she concluded.

It could be a sure sign of a warming trend that the Lombard branch of Umpqua Bank is hosting a free *Home Buying Strategies* workshop from 6-7:15 pm, Wednesday, Feb. 28 at 3333 N. Lombard Street. ♦

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2024 Abby's Closet Prom Dress Giveaway

Need a prom dress, but can't afford to spend hundreds of dollars? Abby's Closet has you covered. Attend the nonprofit's upcoming prom dress giveaway.

Abby's Closet inspires confidence and respect in high schoolers by providing free formal dresses for prom or other memorable events. High school students are invited to the Abby's Closet Prom Dress Giveaway March 16 and 17 at the Oregon Convention Center. The two-day event lets teens choose a dress that fits their unique style free of charge.

At this year's event, there are more than 7,000 dresses to choose from. Styles range from vintage to brand new, short to long, and sizes 0-20+. Students of all gender identities, abilities, sizes and socioeconomic status are welcome.

Dresses are organized by size and color to make it easy to browse the selections. Also, there are personal shoppers onsite to help. There are large open fitting rooms and some private fitting rooms.

Students can also choose one free accessory to complete the outfit. Accessories include shoes, purses, wraps, jewelry and makeup.

Claim Your Spot - Online registration opens February 2024.

All students must register online. One ticket is required per student. You'll choose the date and time of your visit. Additionally, students are allowed to bring one guest. Learn more about requirements at abbyscloset.org. ♦

Posted by victoria on Living on the Cheap

Riders edge Jefferson *continued from page 1*

Rider standout Terrence Hill faces Jefferson defender Charles Manigo

The Rider boys edged the Demos, the No. 9-ranked team in the state, despite RHS guard Owen Nathan being hobbled with an ankle injury.

"The battle of the North (Portland) was intense," RHS coach Jamarr Lawson stated after the Jan. 22 game. He cited stellar play by John Fernandis and Demir Johnson coming off the bench. Fernadis shot six for seven and the burly Johnson, also a standout RHS football player, had ten rebounds and five blocks.

Lawson said that Nathan will lace-up for coming games including the next home contest against Ida B. Wells at 7 pm, Feb. 2.

This year's Riders are making history as the school's highest-ranking team since the legendary RHS state championship-winning team of 1949. Coach Lawson's team could also eclipse the 2022 RHS team that finished 6th in state and the 2007 squad that placed second in the smaller-enrollment 5A level.

If Roosevelt wins its remaining Portland Interscholastic League (PIL) games including a Feb. 10 rematch at Jefferson, the Riders will get a top seed in the Feb. 27-March 1 playoffs and clear a path to the 6A state championship tournament March 6-9 at the Chiles Center on the University of Portland campus.

The Jefferson boys, coached by former Oregon State star Pat Strickland, are also prime contenders to make the state tournament at the Chiles Center.

The No. 2- state-ranked Demo girls are an even better bet. They have a 11-1 record including a 74-12 victory over Roosevelt on Jan. 22. Sh-Niya Denson led the Riders that game with six points.

The Lady Riders are one of the youngest teams in the PIL with nine underclass women on the roster. One of the sophomores is point guard Nevaeh Landrum whom coach Nike Greene says, "is taking leadership and directing her team on the court." Greene also praised post players Denson, Josie Doughty and Alana Munoz for increasing their offense and rebounds. ♦

RHS wrestlers aim for state meet

Wrestling coach Justin Hollingshead is thrilled at what he sees. His Roosevelt boys' team lost six state-tournament caliber athletes to graduation, but his newcomers this season "just work like dogs" and it's paying off.

Owen Darfler, a 165-pound-level junior, finished 4th in state last year and Hollingshead predicts will make it to the state championship finals Feb. 22-24 at Memorial Coliseum in Portland. Fellow junior Tau Takau, a stout 215-pounder, is similarly on track to score at the PIL district meet and advance to state.

He praised 175-pound-level sophomore Geovoney Burks as "a take-down and pinning machine" this season and with fellow sophomore Conner Hutchinson at 150 pounds should qualify for state.

The Roosevelt girls team features senior Mina Casarez, 130 pounds, who earned a state trip last year and is even better this year. Freshman Johawna Bass, 100 pounds, and Emony Greeley, heavyweight-level, were middle school superstars whom "we couldn't wait until they got to high school," Hollingshead said. Both girls have already earned top-ten state rankings. ♦

"The Addams Family" to haunt Roosevelt stage

Classic characters Morticia, Gomez, Wednesday, Cousin It, Pugsley, Thing and more will appear in the "The Addams Family" at 7pm, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 23-24; 7pm, Thursday and Friday, Feb. 29-March 1, and a 2pm matinee, Saturday, March 2, at the RHS Lana Miles Performing Arts Center.

Tickets for the school's Opening Act Theater Company are available through www.rooseveltheatre.org or through the theater director Jo Lane, 503-916-5260, ext 82424.

The theater entrance is on the Ida Street side of the school. Tickets are $15 for General Admission, $12 for seniors and veterans, $10 for students and $8 for children under age 6. ♦

Jazz competition open to music fans

The defending state champion Roosevelt Jazz Team will host an all-PIL competition Tuesday, Feb. 6, at the RHS auditorium. The event is all day and the RHS Jazz Band will play at 11:45am. Admission is free. Roosevelt will next perform at the West Salem Jazz Festival on February 10. ♦

Jefferson Dancers to perform near the French Riviera

Jefferson High School's nationally recognized Jefferson Dancers are tentatively slated to travel March 16-25 for a series of performances in Aix-en-Provence, a city near the French Riviera. The dance company in previous years has performed in England, France, Germany, Italy, and China. ♦

Roosevelt High Honor Roll

481 Roosevelt High School students made the recently released fall quarter Honor Roll earning a 3.5 or higher Grade Point Average. Congratulations to you all!

Alliyah Aasen
Olivia Abel
Caitlin Ackley
Morgan Ackley
Hayyu Adam
Nevan Addy
Avery Alexander
Juan Alfaro Perez
Lochlan Allen
Carolina Alonso
Havana Alonso
Misael Alquijay Morales
Hikma Amme
Matias Andres Sebastian
Owen Andrews
Lucius Andrews-Thornton
Jaime Antonio Felipe
Lesder Antonio Pablo
Stella Arp
Tanya Avila Guzman
Ashley Avila-Avila
America Avila-Jimenez
Hannah Ayuyu
Rudy Bailey
Casey Baker
Nathan Baker
Amos Barbery
Harriet Bartell
Jojo Bass
Kaiya Batson
Eder Bautista Aguilar
Ciaran Bawden
Finn Bawden
Matthew Beatty
Adrian Becerril
Andres Becerril
Audrey Beck
Martine Belizaire
Destany Bella-Martinez
Luke Belt
Eleanor Black
Victoria Boateng
Signe Bobbitt
Devin Bostick
Peter Bradbury
Makaylee Brandt
Daniel Brant
Charlie Bredesen
Andy Brefeld
Sam Bricker
Jesse Brucato
Mila Brucato
Kali Bruce
Sonora Buchholtz
Jay Jay Buell
Emilia Bumpurs
Bryant Burks
Geovoney Burks
Finn Burney
Ben Butzien-Pape
Mariana Caicedo
Kamryn Caliman
Daphne Calvert
Lilly Campbell
Atticus Cardi
Ethan Carlsen
Jesus Carmona-Juan
Clark Carpenter
Ezra Caspary
Hazel Castagna
Luisa Cedeno Aragon
Aaron Cha
Cierra Cha
Eli Chamberlain
Laurel Chandler
Kennedy Chauncey
Natalia Chavarria-Gonzalez
Khade Chilson
Ona Clarke-Sprague
Rachel Clay
Ella Cleek
Launa Cleek
Alex Clinton
Gage Cook
Janeth Coronado-Palafox
Martin Costello
Antonia Cotoc Cacatzun
Ellen Cowan
Francis Craig
Meredith Crider
Willa Crockett
Fiorella Cruz Sandoval
Owen Cudworth
TJ Culligan
Lou Custer
Jill Damian
Joshua Dave
Cody De Veux
Evie Deeter
Aili Deibert
Carter DeMotte
Lexi Diaz-Arbor
Brandon Diego-Domingo
Lola Dimoff
Ari Ditto
Lucas Dobson
Cadence Donnell
Penelope Dorneman
Josie Doughty
Moses Doughty
Macy Drexler
Wagner Duarte-Turcios
Kaylee Dubrawsky
Rohnan Eberly
Esmé Edenlord
Samantha Edens
Natalie Eisenman
Vivian Ellis
Jane Engler
Malachi Enyinwa
Judah Erenyi-Campbell
Gaspar Esteban Cristobal
Ripley Fabik
Roland Fabik
Willa Farwell
Vandon Fenner
Jasmine Ferrusca Navarrete
Adan Filip
Henry Fitzpatrick
Trystyn Flora
Taylor Floyd
Jack Foss
Salix Foster
Francisco Obed Francisco
Micaela Francisco
Adilia Francisco Francisco
Mercedes Francisco Francisco
Olivia Francisco Francisco
Juana Lucrecia Francisco Martin
Maria Francisco Sebastian
Zeke Francois
La'Neia Franklin
Fiona Franz
Mateo Fredrickson
Corey Freed
Mad French
Ruby Frish
Atti Froemke
Atticus Frost
Fiona Garrett
Melissa Gasca Cortez
Anabelle Gavilanes
Mitch Geiger
Alex Gendreau
Asher Gibson
Javed Gibson
Jack Gilbert
Isaak Ginsberg
Oskarbf Goebel
Luke Gong
Maggie Gonzales
Danna Gonzalez-Rivera
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Maryan Jama
Shukri Jama
Kelly Jean
Noah Jimenez Pedro
Xxavior Jimenez Pedro
Greta Jobs
May Johnson
Larry Johnson Jay
Dametreon Johnson-Streeter
Sierra Jones
Sylvie Jones
Jhoni Juan Baltazar
Soren Juntunen
Garrett Kaiser
Baxter Kapsch
Nareen Kareem
Sanarya Kareem
Sydney Karp
Henry Kay
Max Keippela
Blake Kelley
Dylan Kerrigan
Silas Kettlewell
Isaac Key-DeLyria
Maddie Kim
Adahlia King
Townes King
Cash Kirby
Milo Knoke
Tristan Kriz
Klaus Kruse
Dayanna Ku-Avila
Yuvraj Kumar
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Lynn Ledgerwood
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Hazel Levin
Sania LeViner
Linden Lewis
Hazel Liebrecht
Margot Liebrecht
Violet Lieu
Aurelius Lillie
Maite Limon-Guzman
Xochitl Lino Aiello
Christian Listro
Eddie Long
Vanessa Lopez
Viry Lopez De La Torre
Moises Lopez Saquic
Debora Lopez-Salvador
Ollie Love
Tyden Lubrin
Rory Lynsky
Sophia Madison
Chloe Mahoney
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Molly May
Lennon McAdams
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Kyhali McCallister
Marlan McCowan
Freya McCoy
Anastasia McGuire Barber
Henry McIntosh
Hadley McPhee
Zach Melaku
Nate Menashe
Jonathan Menchu Cacatzum
Ariceo Mendez Andres
Samantha Mendez Zuniga
Olive Meyers
Finley Mickle
Christine Migani
Alex Miguel
Maria Isabel Miguel Pascual
Anais Mikaela-Ayres
Sophia Minko
Josue Mires Arrese
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Haley Powers
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Maria Quim Sop
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Hector Ramirez Moreno
Fharrell Ramirez-Reyes
Amy Ramirez-Zacarias
Alejandro Rangel
Reaman Reavis
Heleen Red Bird
SaNiyah Redeau
Orianna Reid
Miguel Reyes Rodriguez
Jasmin Reyes-Contreras
Fiona Reynolds
Madden Richards
Ariana Ridgway
Adelaide Riley
Mariano Riscajche Quim
Johnny Riscajche Zacarias
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Abi Robertson
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Roma Smith
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Joseluis Soc-Siquina
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Letters to the Editors

No New Officers for NoPo Despite Heinous Murders

Dear editors,

In the January edition of the North Peninsula Review it was reported that North Portland will receive no new officers before 2026 and will continue with too few officers to cover the area.

This after:

• December 29, 2023, a drive-by shooting after a Roosevelt High basketball game in New Columbia.

• November 16, 2023, FBI offers $25,000 for a yet unsolved triple homicide near Charles Jordan Community Center in broad daylight in a residential neighborhood near many families and children. Among the victims were two youths from local high schools.

• November 14 2023, Portland Police arrest 11 individuals in a theft ring in North Portland.

• November 7, 2023, a homicide in the St. Johns neighborhood.

• November 5, 2023, a homicide of a female near Cathedral Park and more...

Drive-bys and shootings highlight the presence of gangs, guns and drugs in North Portland. Historically, North Portland had been affected by gang activity, but that had all been turned around over the last 15 years, until recently.

East Portland has two programs for prevention of youth involved in gangs and drugs, yet North Portland has only been promised new officer(s) maybe by 2026?

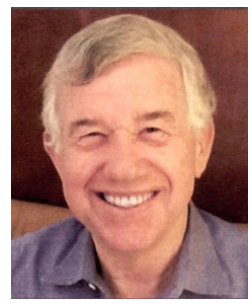
The infestation of gangs, guns and drugs in North Portland deserves the same appropriation of officers and youth programs as the rest of the city. Municipalities can petition for reconsideration of this decision and request one or two more officers assigned to North Portland for gang prevention.

There are numerous candidates vying for the District 2 City Council position which includes North Portland. I challenge one of these individuals to come forward and spearhead such a citizen-driven initiative.

Respectfully written,
Sandra Grass

Ask Dr. Neil

Send your anonymous questions to North Portland-based AskDrNeil@yahoo.com


Dr. Neil Weiner

Shunned due to sexual abuse

Dear Dr. Neil,

I am 38-year-old woman who is shunned by her parents and sister. My journey started eight years ago. I dreamed I was with a man, and I was incredibly happy with him. Then my uncle said, "OK, let's go to bed." And it seemed perfectly natural. I realized that I was dreaming of my uncle, and I was a little girl.

I had a memory of being molested by a babysitter, but this dream started a couple of years of severe depression, anxiety, and feeling numb. My marriage suffered as well as my relationships with friends and my two children.

I started counseling with a supportive therapist. During the next year, the sexual abuse with my uncle from four to six years old poured out in lurid details. The crazy thing is that he was my favorite uncle, always bringing me gifts and playing with me.

When I told my parents and sister, they said the abuse was a false memory. My sister said it was impossible since she shared a bedroom with me. My uncle denies it and blames the therapist. I'm no longer invited to family holidays, and they have all cut off communication with me.

My question is why do I still feel guilty about destroying my family connection? Is it possible that my uncle could have done this in my bedroom without my sister waking up? Is there anything I can do to repair my relationship with my family?

~ Family Black Sheep

Dear F.B.S.,

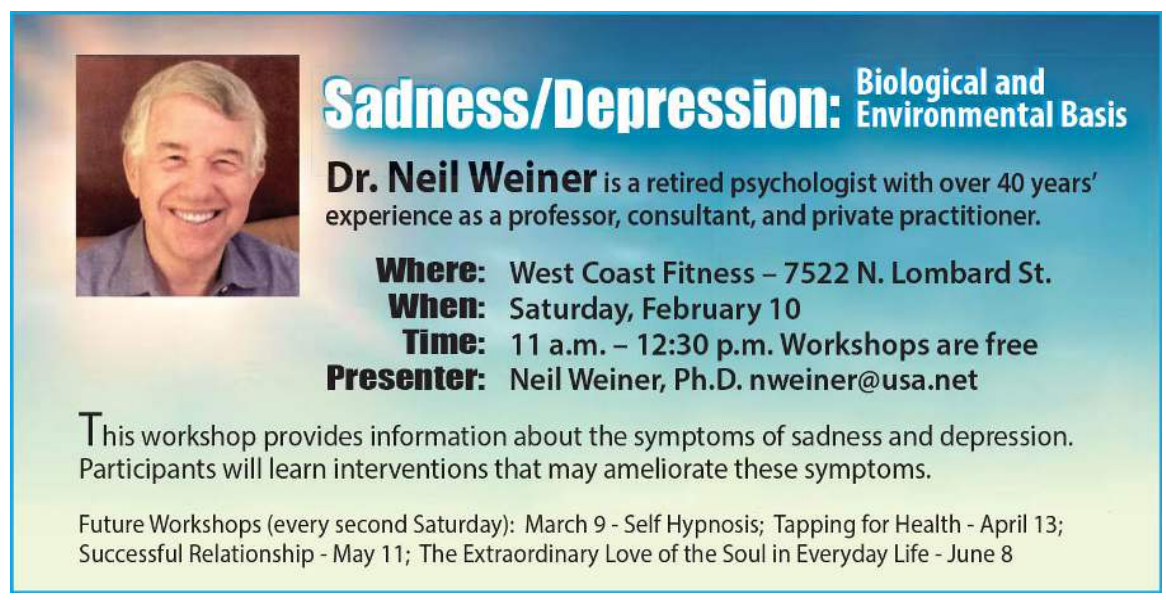
Please know you are not alone. The CDC estimates 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 13 boys have been sexually abused and even so, sexual abuse may be underreported. In some cases, like yours, sexual abuse has been repressed or too scary to confront. Of those abused, the perpetrator in 25% of cases is a family member and in 60% by a known member of a child's social network. Although "stranger danger" is taught in many schools, strangers account for the smallest number of molestations, though such cases are prominently covered in the media.

Some of the many symptoms of sexual abuse include deep feelings of guilt and shame, memory loss, vigilance, stressful relationships, anorexia, immune system disorders, depression, anxiety, obesity, inability to trust, and sleep disturbance. Unfortunately, many physicians and mental health workers are apt to misdiagnose sexual abuse or be hesitant to confront it.

You did not cause your family's disharmony. Their lack of trust in your experience and condemnation split the family apart. Parents have a solemn duty to protect their children and you were not protected. Regarding your sister's feedback, children may be molested at night while siblings are sleeping in the same room. Some siblings sleep through it, and those who do wake up may dissociate it in the hopes that they will not be next.

Your uncle tried to create a bond of fear with you so you would not reveal his behavior. The gifts were bribes to buy your silence. Most children feel shame or guilt later for having accepted the gifts, having relished the attention, and having enjoyed the physical sensations of sex. This process is called grooming. It is a powerful deterrent for children to deny sexual abuse.

Remember love is about truth and support. In your family's case, support and truth have been waylaid by denial. Unfortunately, there is nothing else you can do to promote healing with your family of origin. Instead, try to create a supportive environment with your friends and partner. Please consider joining a group for survivors of sexual abuse for further support.



Editorial

Protect North Portland small business from financial storm

Ask most North Portlanders what they like about our community, and most will warmly describe the pleasure of biking, walking or driving to an array of cafes, coffee shops, bookstores, food carts, restaurants, second-hand stores, taprooms, and convenient services such as barber shops, hair salons, auto mechanics and bicycle technicians.

The icy streets and sidewalks of January have left many businesses with staggering revenue losses that could jeopardize their survival. According to the Oregon Independent Restaurant Alliance (OIRA) losses average $23,000 per location. The long winter storm was also a blow to employees who face an average wage loss of approximately $1800.

Some downtown St. Johns, Kenton, mid-Lombard, Interstate and Killingsworth businesses have yet to even recover from the epidemic of vandalism likely driven by the exponential growth of drug addiction and related crimes. Many feel its cause can be laid at the feet of the unintended consequences of state Ballot Measure 110 legalizing hard drugs.

North Portlanders cannot take for granted that their favorite small businesses will always be there. Nor should the Portland City Council or state legislators meeting Feb. 5 for the Legislative Session.

The OIRA has proposed immediate actions that must be a priority for our City Council and North Portland legislators, Sen. Lew Frederick, Sen. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Rep. Travis Nelson and Rep. Maxine Dexter. Those priorities include:

- Place a moratorium on commercial evictions after January 18, 2024, for 90 days. Stopping evictions of small businesses will prevent a drain of city property taxes and state business tax revenues. That's a very good trade-off for elected officials. Losing quality business tenants does landlords no good either.
- Create a relief fund of low-interest loans and other financial assistance specifically designed to assist independent restaurants, food carts, and bars with fewer than 100 employees whom the winter storm forced to close for extended periods
- Start debate of the merits of a 90-day suspension of select city and state business taxes and licensing fees for restaurants, bars, and food carts with fewer than 100 employees.

The Portland City Council already has purview to act on several of these issues. So does the State Legislature. Small businesses are part of the pulse of North Portland neighborhoods. They need your help now.

Mark Kirchmeier is co-editor of the North Peninsula Review, and owned and managed the former Krakow Cafe on N. Interstate Avenue in the Overlook Neighborhood.

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FEBRUARY EVENTS

Register online or in-store for all classes

2/1 & 2/8, 6-8PM Sky's the Limit Dog Sweater Class
2/7, 6-8PM Sip + Stitch at Wonderwood Springs Cafe - All craft levels
2/11, 11AM - 2PM DeStash Party w/ Disco Fibers Donate your unneeded yarns
2/13, 6-8PM Stitch + Bitch with knit designer Makenzie Alvarez Get drop-in RCYC Mystery Along help!
2/15, 6-8PM Granny Square Crochet Class

New March/April Beginning Crochet Sessions Added! 3/14, 3/28, 4/11 or 4/25

UPCOMING
2/11, 4PM Cookbook Club: Mardi Gras Potluck Email christine@tworiversbooks.com
2/14, 6-8PM Queer Book Club Email neil@tworiversweirdsisters.com

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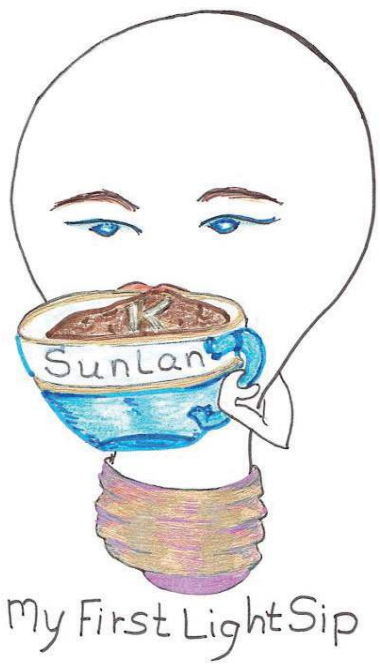

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Holy Cross Catholic Church
5227 N. Bowdoin
503-289-2834

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9am Sunday Mass
12pm Spanish Mass
8:30am T - F Mass

Red Sea Church
7535 N Chicago Ave
503-451-5546

Gathering: 10am
info@redseachurch.org

Abundant Life Church
3935 N. Lombard
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February Events

Cascade Festival of African Films, Feb. 2 - Mar. 2, at Portland Community College's Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth Street. For the schedule see https://www.africanfilmfestival.org/2024/.

Portland Winter Light Festival, Feb. 2 - 10, at anchor sites as well as pop-up sites including North Portland. Check the festival art map on pdxwlf.com for info on individual art displays.

Black History Month Bird & History Walk (for Womin, Trans, & Non-Binary Participants), Feb. 3, Saturday, 11am-1pm and **(for BIPOC Participants), Feb. 4,** Sunday, 11am-1pm, more information at columbiaslough.org.

Sauvie Island Middle School Information Night, Feb. 8, Thursday, 6pm-7:15pm. Open to **all** interested; not limited to Sauvie Island residents, 14445 NW Charlton Rd. RSVP online sauvieislandschool.org.

Slough Science: Mason Bees, Feb. 8, 5:30pm-7:30pm at Level Beer. Register at columbiaslough.org.

To Kenton with Love Wine Walk, Feb. 9, Friday, 5pm-9pm, tickets $30, VIP $50. Kenton Business Association event, www.tickettomato.com.

St. Johns Community Center Winter Family Fun Night - Family Dance, Feb. 9, Friday, 6pm-7:30pm, $1 per person. Children must be accompanied by an adult. 8427 N. Central St.

UP Jazz Ensemble & Jazz Combo Concert, Feb. 9, 6pm, Free, Mago Hunt Recital Hall, UofP

Lovett & Friends Pop-Up Event, Feb. 10, Sat., 10am – 2pm. Lovett Deconstruction, 4315 NW St. Helens Rd., Portland 97210.

University Singers & Bel Canto Concert, Feb. 11, 1:30pm, Free, Buckley Center Auditorium, University of Portland. Choral music from the finest historical and contemporary composers.

UP Orchestra Concert The Four Seasons of Vivaldi and Piazzolla, Feb 11, 4pm, Free, Chapel of Christ the Teacher, University of Portland. Featuring student soloists: Yoshimi Lin, Amber Shen, and Marshall Zhang.

Update meeting on St. Andrew's Tiny Village, Feb. 13, Tues., 6pm, for neighbors. St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 7600 N. Hereford, Portland, OR 97203.

Friends of Baltimore Woods/SOLVE work party, Feb. 17, Sat. 9am – 12pm. Meet at N. Decatur & N. Baltimore. We will free native shrubs from invasive vines. Sign up on the link in the calendar on FriendsofBaltimoreWoods.org. Gloves, tools, snacks and drinks provided.

Faith Labor Breakfast 2024, Feb. 20, Tues., 7:30 – 9am. St. Andrews Catholic Church, 806 NE Alberta St. $25. Masks required. Tickets: at door & online. See Jobs with Justice, jwj.org.

The Addams Family, Roosevelt High Drama Dept., Feb. 23-Mar. 2, 7pm, Roosevelt High School Lana Miles Performing Arts Center's Main Stage Theatre at 6941 N. Central St. Lobby doors are off of Ida St. Ticket inquiries please contact RHS box office at (503) 916-5260 x 82424.

Sparrowhawk Native Plant Pop-Up Sale, Feb. 25, Sunday, 12am, online ordering goes live. A percentage of sales benefits Friends of Baltimore Woods. Pick up plants in St. Johns April 26-27. See SparrowhawkNativePlants.com for more.

Roosevelt Supporter Club "Trivia Night", Feb. 26, Sunday, 6-9pm. Benefits seniors. Meet at ChillNFill, 5215 N. Lombard St. $10 per person. Ticket details @RooseveltSupporterClub.

Mayfly's Get Trashy Kenton Cleanup, Feb. 28, Sunday, 11am-noon. Meet outside Mayfly Tap Room, 8350 N. Fenwick Ave.

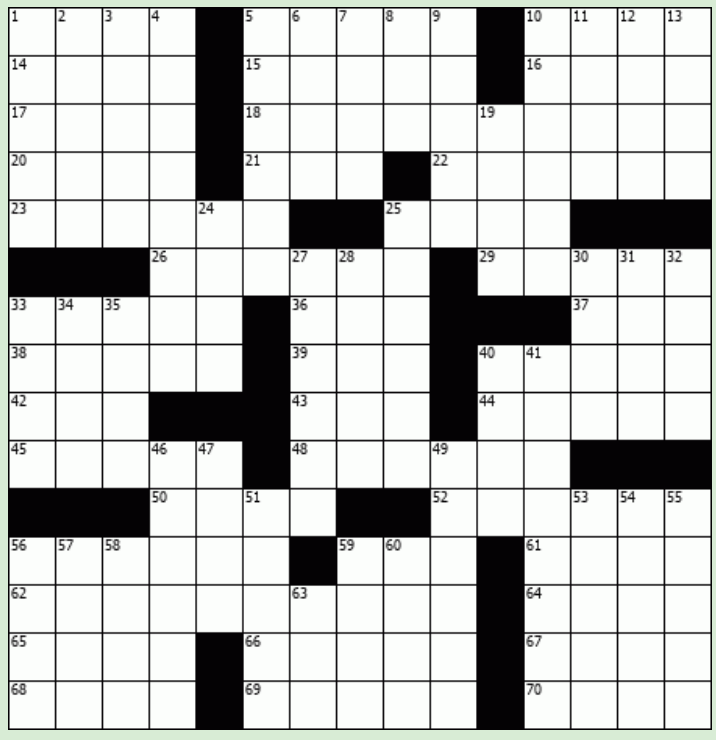
Home Buying Strategies workshop, Feb. 28, Wednesday, 6pm-7:15pm. Free. Lombard branch of Umpqua Bank, 3333 N. Lombard St.

New Business

Wonderwood Mini Golf, Opens Feb. 3, 12 noon, Mike Bennett's latest interactive creation is underway, a 9-hole indoor Mini Golf course at 7410 N. Chicago Ave.

Crossword Puzzle

See answers on page 2



Across

1. Calendar number
5. ___ metal
10. Poetic lament
14. Lincoln and Vigoda
15. Brownish gray
16. Pilaf ingredient
17. Nays
18. Evaluation
20. Comely
21. Fish trap
22. Taunts
23. Cultural
25. Female student
26. Wrinkle
29. Spaghetti, e.g.
33. "M*A*S*H" locale
36. Exercise club
37. Jug handle
38. Off kilter
39. Family mem.
40. Home of the Dolphins
42. Hamilton bill
43. Before, to Shakespeare
44. Loafed
45. Brought to a close
48. Made over
50. "___ we forget"
52. George Harrison, e.g.
56. Flowering shrub
59. Braying beast
61. Maui garlands
62. Wall socket
64. Country lodgings
65. Make money
66. Thoughts
67. Soft drink
68. Pub beverages
69. Robins' homes
70. Serving aid

Down

1. Tango, e.g.
2. Regarding
3. Molars
4. Perfumes
5. Position
6. Instance
7. Corrosion
8. Large primate
9. Green sauce
10. Fleet of warships
11. Falsehoods
12. Teen skin problem
13. Becomes firm
19. Ooze
24. Retirees' accts.
25. Halted
27. Declare
28. Church steeple
30. Close tightly
31. Not wild
32. Like the Sahara
33. Model ___ Moss
34. Future sign
35. Fruit covering
40. Coal pit
41. High-minded one
46. Burstyn and DeGeneres
47. Not shallow
49. Preoccupy
51. Glossy fabric
53. Choir voice
54. Singer ___ Ronstadt
55. Student's assignment
56. Territory
57. Passion
58. Land parcel
59. Top cards
60. Narrow board
63. Summer drink

North Precinct Police Reports

Mother's murderer takes plea deal

Brogdon tries to flee the scene on a TriMet bus

Three years after a Cathedral Park mother of two, Breauna White, was gunned down by her boyfriend, he has taken a plea deal to avoid going to trial. Henry Brogdon pled guilty to the lesser charge of second-degree murder and will serve 25 years.

On May 5, 2021, Ms. White was shot four times outside her apartment while her baby daughter and school-age son were inside.

Several Cathedral Park neighbors heard the gunfire and called 911. Other neighbors reported on the shooter's escape route and saw him board a TriMet bus. They were set to testify at the trial before a plea deal was reached.

Thief steals vehicle with two kids inside

On January 22, North Precinct officers responded to the 6800 block of North Interstate Avenue after a report of a woman stealing a vehicle with two children inside. Officers determined the children's father left his vehicle running while he went into a business in the area. As the father was returning to the vehicle, he noticed a woman jumping into the driver's seat. The father attempted to stop the theft, but the woman accelerated away from the scene with the two children in the back of the vehicle. The father suffered minor injuries to his hand.

Stolen car blocked by police vehicles on I-5 photo courtesy of Portland Police

Ten minutes later, the children, ages 9 and 11, jumped out of the vehicle while it was stopped at a stoplight in the area of NW 15th Ave. and NW Glisan St. The children, uninjured, flagged down a passer-by who called 911.

A short time later, the stolen vehicle was spotted in North Portland and a pursuit was initiated which traveled northbound onto I-5. With the help of several partner agencies, the vehicle was stopped and the suspect, Iosha Dashae Millage, 33 was taken into custody.

Three fires in North Portland

Portland Fire & Rescue advises caution and emphasizes safety as residents seek ways to stay warm during the coldest time of year.

At exactly the same time on a January afternoon, Portland Fire & Rescue responded to two fires: a warehouse fire near N. Interstate Ave. and N. Tillamook St. and a duplex fire near N. Williams Ave. and N. Alberta St. both on Jan. 6.

On January 19, Portland Fire & Rescue responded to a residential fire at 12:30am in the east St. Johns neighborhood. The crews gained control of the fire in 20 minutes. The cause is under investigation.

House fire in east St. Johns. Photo courtesy of Portland Fire & Rescue.