



ELIOT NEWS

A Publication of the Eliot Neighborhood Association
Volume 31 · Number 1
Winter 2022

2022 Oregon Elections

By Thursday Bram

The 2022 election season is in full swing. Candidates are gearing up for the primary in May. Many are running on issues that affect the Eliot neighborhood, so make time to attend campaign events and learn about your options. You may also want to check that you're registered to vote on the Oregon Secretary of State's website, and that your address is listed correctly. The deadline for updating your voter registration or changing your party is April 26. Ballots will be mailed out on April 27 and must be returned by May 17. In the meanwhile, here's a brief overview of what will likely be on the May ballot.

Due to changes in Oregon's population as recorded in the 2020 census, the Oregon legislature has developed new maps for our congressional, state house, and state senate districts. While the borders of the districts that include Eliot shifted, we're still in the same districts. The state of Oregon as a whole, however, has an entirely new congressional district: the 6th District includes Polk and Yamhill Counties, as well as chunks of Marion, Washington, and Clackamas Counties.

State-Level Elections

Governor Kate Brown is term-limited and several candidates have already declared their interest in the job. Candidates affiliated with the Democratic and Republican parties will participate in the May primary to determine who will be on the November ballot. Independent candidates must gather around 23,750 signatures to be on the November ballot, but get to skip the primary pro-

cess. The state of Oregon hasn't elected an independent governor since 1931, but with party politics becoming ever more virulent, independent candidates may have an unusual edge during this election cycle.

The gubernatorial race is already shaping up to break new financial records. During the 2018 race between Kate Brown and Knute Buehler, spending hit an all-time high of more than \$37 million. But by mid-December 2021, candidates for this year's race already reported over \$5 million in donations. At that time, the top fundraisers were:

- 1 Betsy Johnson (Independent)
- 2 Nicholas Kristof (Democrat)
- 3 Bud Pierce (Republican)
- 4 Tina Kotek (Democrat)

Another state office up for grabs this year is that of the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industry (BOLI). The non partisan office is responsible for enforcing state laws related to employment and housing, as well as administering licensing required by professional services. The current commissioner, Val Hoyle, is running for the state legislature.

U.S. Senator Ron Wyden is up for reelection. We send senators to Washington, D.C. for terms lasting six years, off-setting these races slightly from the more typical two and four-year terms of most Oregon elected offices. Similarly to the governorship, Democrats and Republicans will narrow down the field to

(See **ELECTIONS**, page 3)

Boise Eliot Native Grove Update

By Andrine de la Roche and Howard Patterson

Boise Eliot Native Grove is excited to announce that we have received a small grant from the Portland Parks Foundation!

Here's what they said to us in the announcement letter: "It's been incredible to learn how you're connecting with the surrounding community, engaging them in your design process, and thinking outside

the box at all times. You are a wonderful model of how to bring nature to urban spaces."

We have plans to use the grant funding to bring a special event to the Grove in April 2022. We're partnering with Prismagic to bring you Earth Day Circus in the Grove! The event will feature aerial arts, magic,

(See **NATIVE GROVE**, page 7)

The Debate Over Critical Race Theory

By Elliott Armstrong

At the start of the Civil War, 4.5 million Black slaves were among a total of 31 million immigrants, their descendants, and Native Americans. Ultimately, at the end of the war, Abraham Lincoln declared victory. The Emancipation Proclamation granted freedom to most of whose backs had been building this country for over two hundred years. But how does that apply to Oregon and our own Eliot neighborhood?

From its very beginning, Oregon was an inhospitable place for Black people. In 1844, Oregon passed a law banning slavery, but required Black people in Oregon to leave. Any Black person remaining would be flogged publicly every six months until they left. Five years later, another law was passed that forbade free Black Americans from entering Oregon.

In 1857, Oregon adopted a state constitution law that banned Black people from coming to the state, residing in the state, or holding property in the state. During this time, any white male settler could receive 650 acres of land and another 650 if he was married. This was land taken from Indigenous people who had been living here for centuries.

Bernice King, daughter of Martin Luther King Jr. holds America accountable for freeing Black slaves in 1863, then giving them no land or resources to get started on, all while giving land to white settlers. "When white Americans tell the Negro to lift himself by his own bootstraps, they don't look over the legacy of slavery and segregation," she says.

When the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth amendments passed, Oregon's laws prevented Black people from living in the state or owning property. Oregon itself didn't ratify the Fourteenth Amendment, the Equal Protection Clause, until 1973. It didn't ratify the Fifteenth Amendment, which gave Black people the right to vote, until 1959, making it one of only six states that refused to ratify that amendment.

The rise of the Ku Klux Klan made Oregon an unsafe space for Black people. The state had the highest per-capita Klan membership in the country in the early 1920's. Democrat Walter M. Pierce was elected Governor in 1922 with the vocal support of the Klan. Photos in the local paper show the Portland chief of police, sheriff, district attorney, U.S. attorney, and mayor posing with Klansmen. Some of the laws passed during that time included literacy tests for anyone who wanted to vote yet Black Americans had been prevented from learning to read and write for hundreds of years.

Karen Gibson's *Bleeding Albina: A History of Community Disinvestment, 1940-2000* is a detailed study on Portland and the changes in its Black community, first during World War II, then with construction of projects, including Memorial Coliseum as well as I-5 and its destruction of predominantly Black owned homes, businesses, and communities. The study analyzed segregation and neighborhood disinvestment over a 60-year period.

During World War II, port cities including Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Portland saw tremendous growth in Black American migration in the shipyards. Vanport, a racially segregated wartime housing development in between Portland and Vancouver, was once Oregon's second largest city. After the war, Vanport saw white residents filter out of it, and its concentrations of Black Americans stay who were unable to purchase homes or rent in most parts of Portland. Thousands were forced to rebuild when a dike holding back water from the Columbia river broke causing a catastrophic flood in 1948. Vanport was built in 110 days on a flood plain, and not intended as a permanent city.

Said Home Forward's Michael Buonocore on the disinvestment of Vanport before the flood, "By 1948 we had allowed Vanport to fall into disrepair. It was considered an eyesore and a slum. Black people weren't the only

(See **Debate**, page 4)

Eliot Neighborhood Association

The Eliot Neighborhood Association represents a geographic area of the city. We want everyone to feel welcome on the streets, parks, schools, homes and businesses in Eliot. That includes those that live in the area now, those that have been displaced from the area and those that are merely visiting.

The Eliot Neighborhood Association is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization whose members are the residents and business owners of the Eliot Neighborhood. Its purpose is to inform Eliot residents about issues affecting the neighborhood through meetings, newsletters and other activities. Members of the neighborhood association must be over 14 years old and live, own property, have a business, or represent a nonprofit within the neighborhood. The Eliot Neighborhood Association was founded in 1969. It is recognized by the City of Portland, is a member of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods, Inc., and its members represent Eliot on other committees.

Eliot Board

- Co-Chair - Allan Rudwick - arudwick@gmail.com 503-703-3910
- Co-Chair - Jimmy Wilson - jwilsonassoc@yahoo.com 503-740-5923
- Recorder - Laura Schuchardt - laura.schuchardt@gmail.com
- Treasurer - Jennifer Wilcox - Jennifer.wilcox@cascadiabhc.com
- Lead Community Outreach - Shireen Hasan McFarlane - shihas_2005@yahoo.com
- Vice Community Outreach - Eric McFarlane - outreach@eliotneighborhood.org
- Editor - Elliott Armstrong elliotarmstrong@gmail.com 503-890-8931

Land Use and Transportation Committee

- LUTC Chair - Brad Baker - bradmbak@gmail.com 415-385-0875
- LUTC Vice Chair - Allan Rudwick - arudwick@gmail.com 503-703-3910
- Recorder - Jason Cohen
- Mike Warwick - mike@b-prop.com 503-329-5414
- At Large Members -Andrew Champion, James Casey McGuirk, Will Svindland

Committees:

- NECN Rep - Jimmy Wilson - jwilsonassoc@yahoo.com 503-740-5923
- Livability Team Chair - Jody Guth - jodyguth@gmail.com 971-320-8594

Eliot Monthly Meetings

Meetings of the Eliot Neighborhood Association are held on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm St. Philip the Deacon Church, 120 NE Knott Street (due to COVID-19 mandatory guidelines, check agenda online for Virtual Meeting information at https://eliotneighborhood.org/category/meeting-agenda/). It’s a great opportunity to meet your neighbors, stay informed, help build a stronger community, and have input into city decisions that may effect you.

All meetings are open to the public. All meetings are currently held via ZOOM. Zoom meeting link can be found at EliotNeighborhood.org/category/agenda

- Land Use Meeting -February 14th, 7:00-8:30pm
- Neighborhood Meeting - February 21st, 7:00-8:30pm
- Land Use Meeting - March 14th, 7:00-8:30pm
- Neighborhood Meeting - March 21st, 7:00-8:30pm
- Land Use Meeting - April 11th, 7:00-8:30pm
- Neighborhood Meeting - April 18th, 7:00-8:30pm

For agendas and more information, see www.eliotneighborhood.org

Eliot News

Eliot News is published four times a year by the Eliot Neighborhood Association. It is mailed free of charge to every address in the neighborhood. It does not have an ISBN or ISSN.

- Editor and Layout - Elliott Armstrong - elliotarmstrong@gmail 503-890-8931
- Business Bulk Delivery - Susan Bailey baileywick97212@msn.com 503-284-7010




Rights to articles are retained by the author. Opinions of the authors do not necessarily reflect the official positions of the Eliot Neighborhood Association. Letters to the editor, suggestions or comments: news@eliotneighborhood.org

ELIOT NEWS AD RATES

The Eliot News has a circulation of about 3,700 and is mailed quarterly to all of the homes and businesses in the Eliot neighborhood. Ad deadlines are 3/8, 6/8, 9/8, and 12/8.

Category	Size	1x	2x	3x	4x
1/16 Page	4.9” W x 1.8” H	\$42	\$76	\$104	\$126
1/8 Page	4.9” W x 3.8” H	\$84	\$152	\$208	\$252
1/4 Page	4.9” W x 7.8” H	\$168	\$305	\$416	\$504
1/2 Page	10” W x 7.8” H	\$355	\$645	\$880	\$1,067
Full Page	10” W x 15.8” H	\$710	\$1,291	\$1,760	\$2,134

Printed on recycled paper

Website: eliotneighborhoood.org ♦  :@EliotNeighborhd
 : Eliot Neighborhood ♦  : eliotneighborhood

Letter from the Editor

By Elliott Armstrong

My name is Elliott, and I am the new editor of the Eliot News. I am not related to the Oregon pioneer Rev. Thomas L. Eliot, for whom this neighborhood was named. However, I am a native of Oregon and I’ve been a resident of Eliot for some 15 years. My background is in small business and mental health, both as a consumer and professional. I’m fairly convinced that this country is mired within a mental health crisis so I’d like to present stories in future issues of the newsletter about the journeys, hopes, challenges, and things happening within the Eliot community and beyond that are improving people’s lives from a mental health standpoint. And of course we’re all interested in reading about ideas, events, and activities that affect our community in other ways as well, so I’m reaching out to our readers for any and all news and updates about our neighborhood.

Please forward all submissions to: elliotarmstrong@gmail.com

Previous issues of the Eliot News are available online at: https://eliotneighborhood.org/association/eliot-news-newsletter/eliot-news-2010-present/ In particular, the issues of the newsletter published during the pandemic give us a certain perspective on the reality of living during these extraordinary times.

Historians note the role of our neighborhood’s namesake, Rev. Thomas L. Eliot, in creating and shaping the educational, cultural, and civic landscape



of Portland. In 1867, he became minister of Portland’s first Unitarian church. He’s best known for founding Reed College. His work included ministry to orphans, the poor, and the mentally ill. He championed public schools, the public library, and women’s right to vote as well as founding the Oregon Humane Society and the Boys and Girls Aid Society. Rev. Eliot helped develop a socially healthy community in Portland that we can continue to expand in the present day.

Table of Contents

2022 Oregon Elections	Page 1
Native Grove Update	Page 1
Critical Race Theory	Page 1
Letter From the Editor	Page 2
Letter From The Co-Chairs	Page 3
Underutilized Land	Page 5
Prism Moves in Eliot	Page 7
Measure 50 Limits	Page 7

Your Eliot Real state Report from...

KIRSTEN SESSIONS & DANA AUSTIN
ELIOT NEIGHBORHOOD REAL ESTATE SPECIALISTS

Serving the Eliot neighborhood since 1997
“Call us today for a free market evaluation of your property”

Active Listings	Bed	Bath	Sq Ft	Price
325 NE Graham St, #10	3	2	1769	\$465,000
207 NE Monroe St	4	2.1	2548	\$869,900

Pending Listings				
6 NE Monroe St	3	1.1	1364	\$459,900
3115 NE 7th Ave	2	2.1	1616	\$540,000
616 NE Morris St	4	3.1	3497	\$645,000
506 NE Sacramento St	3	3.1	1853	\$685,000
3385 NE 7th Ave	4	3.1	2787	\$800,000

Sold Listings				
630 NE Monroe St	1	1	508	\$270,000
75 NE Graham St	4	4.1	2643	\$670,000
121 NE Hancock St	4	3	3020	\$725,000
431 NE Cook St	3	2.1	1518	\$502,000

DANA AUSTIN

503-793-0782

Dana.austin@cascadesir.com
www.danaaustinhomes.com

KIRSTEN SESSIONS

503-515-6633

kirsten@homesinpdx.com
www.HomesInPDX.com



Cascade Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

By Allan Rudwick and Jimmy Wilson

(ELECTIONS, from page 1)

Metro Elections

Multnomah County Elections



FRED SHEARER & SONS
PLASTERING CONTRACTORS

ESTABLISHED 1916 CCB# 357

- Traditional Interior Plaster
- Venetian Plaster
- Ornamental Plaster
- Lathing
- Stucco
- EIFS

8015 SW Hunziker St.
Tigard, OR 97223
(503) 520-9991 ext.7618
plastering@fredshearer.com

(DEBATE, from page 1)

people there, but they were a high percentage of the population because there was really nowhere else for them to go.” He was referring to the fact that Black people in Portland had already been segregated in the redlined area of Albina even before Vanport was built.

The flood displaced 18,500 people, including 6,300 Black residents. After the disaster, thousands of residents lived in temporary trailers on industrial land on Swan Island. The formation of the Black community in the Albina district was formed by segregation policy, migration labor needed for World War II, and finally, the flood of Vanport.

As the Eliot neighborhood within the Albina district continued to grow, it saw a new trend in its growth. Black Americans would move in as white Americans moved to the suburbs. Neighborhoods within its Black community saw a new round of community disinvestment including a neglect of public services and funding for things like schools, buildings, streets, garbage collection, transportation, and park maintenance. Parts of North Portland had become a largely segregated collection of neighborhoods for many Black Portlanders. A 1967 documentary by local KGW, Albina: *Ghetto of the Mind*, details the cycles of disinvestment.

Redlining, the process of denying loans to people who lived in certain areas, like it had before, continued to flourish in Portland in the 1970s and 80s. Discriminatory structural and predatory lending policies made opportunities of home ownership and

continuing that challenging for Black Americans. Loans to fix up or maintain properties weren’t available to some people. In 1990, The Oregonian published a series called *Blueprint for a Slum* that detailed the lack of mortgage lending in North and inner-Northeast Portland. The series revealed that banks set minimum mortgage amounts that effectively redlined huge portions of the city.

A 2017 film, *Priced Out*, by Portland filmmaker Cornelius Swart, depicts the drastic change Portland has seen in the last two decades. It describes gentrification and how it’s driven a once largely Black community out into the outskirts of Portland and beyond because of the increase in rent and property values. It distinguishes gentrification, revitalization, and a housing crisis while giving a deeper context to the history of the neighborhood. The film is a sequel to the 2002 documentary *NorthEast Passage: The Inner City and the American Dream*.

On Martin Luther King Day Jr. Day, 2021, two days before President Donald Trump left office, the Trump administration released the *1776 Report*. Like arguments for preserving monuments of war figures in the South, it contended that slavery was not a uniquely American evil and that the institution be seen in a much broader perspective; that it had been more the rule than the exception throughout human history. The report was in part a response to the *New York Times* *1619 Project* released two years earlier on America’s deep roots in slavery, racial injustice, and systematic racism.

The *1776 Report* reads that “despite the virtues and accomplishments of

this nation, many students are now taught in school to hate their own country, and to believe that the men and women who built it were not heroes, but rather villains. This radicalized view of American history lacks perspective, obscures virtues, twists motives, ignores or distorts facts, and magnifies flaws, resulting in the truth being concealed and history disfigured. Failing to identify, challenge, and correct this distorted perspective could fray and ultimately erase the bonds that knit our country and culture together.”

The *1776 Report* was retired after the Biden Administration took office and was a response to the *1619 Project* and the nationwide protests to the George Floyd killing. *The 1619 Project*, by Nikole Hannah-Jones, contends that America’s beginnings started not with the Declaration of Independence in 1776, but with the original arrival of African slaves in 1619. The essay criticizes the way American history is taught in schools by asserting that the country talked about liberty and equality at a time when hundreds of thousands of African slaves were not free or equal when the original 13 states declared independence from the British.

Members of the present-day Project 1619, who have been educating people on the history on the arrival of America’s first Africans said this: “It was in August of 1619 that a ship landed in Virginia. It would be the gateway to 246 years of bondage, 100 years of Jim Crow, segregation, denial of Civil Rights, unfair housing, redlining, lack of equal education, unfair employment practices, police profiling and unfair incarceration policies. From 1619, our

ancestors, and for the past 401 years, black and brown people, have suffered the indignity of racial injustice because of the color of their skin. We have gone from whippings, torture, mutilations, hangings, beatings, water hosed and bitten by dogs– ALL LEGAL. Silence is complicity. We encourage you to step up, speak up, stand up, and kneel for social and racial justice in America.”

What is clear in the opposing reports is what has become a debate over critical race theory. Those opposed to it say that America is not a racist country and teaching that in schools is wrong. Governor Ron DeSantis of Florida contends that the theory teaches kids to hate our country and to hate each other. “It is state-sanctioned racism and has no place in Florida schools,” he said. Eleven states have banned critical race theory from being taught in their schools.

Speaking at a conference held by the Faith and Freedom Coalition, former Vice President Mike Pence said that “critical race theory is racism.” Senator Ted Cruz, at the same gathering, compared the theory to the Ku Klux Klan saying the curriculum is “every bit as racist” as the white supremacist hate group. “Critical race theory says every white person is a racist,” he said.

From 2012 to 2019, critical race theory was mentioned on Fox News four times. From June 2020 to May 2021, it was mentioned in 150 broadcasts. By July this last year, it was in 250 shows largely as part of the coverage of the murder of George Floyd and the protests that followed. So, what exactly is

(See DEBATE page 5)

Learn more at opensignalpdx.org/rentals

**RENT
OPEN SIGNAL'S
STUDIOS FOR
YOUR NEXT MEDIA
PRODUCTION!**

Renting our facility
supports our grassroots
education and public
access cable broadcast.



Open Signal

OnPoint
COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

**Helping Our
Community Shine.**

OnPoint has proudly served our community for over 88 years. As our region grows, we grow with it. Along with more branches and services, we have also increased our commitment to supporting diverse causes and organizations that allow each of us to flourish.

BANKING | LENDING | COMMUNITY

Learn more at onpointcu.com/community



503.228.7077 | 800.527.3932 Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Opportunity.

(DEBATE, from page 4)

critical race theory? The theory argues that racism is systemic and embedded in the country’s institutions and more than just individual prejudices and discrimination. The debate about whether to teach it or not has appeared from almost nowhere in statehouses, school boards, and political gatherings.

Oddly enough, critical race theory hasn’t ever been taught in K-12 public schools. It’s typically only taught in law schools, in studies of how race impacts laws, public policy, and civil rights. But what seems to have happened is that some people think “critical race theory” is just a secret phrase for how we teach our history with race and whether systematic racism exists within the foundations of America. I for one must ask why politicians and parents are so afraid of teaching America’s history.

Artist Jonathan Harris struck a nerve with his painting “Critical Race Theory” which depicts a white male rolling white paint over images of Martin Luther King, Harriet Tubman, and Malcolm X. This depiction is one of removing history from the classroom. Describing his painting, Harris said, “the road in the background represents the road that African Americans have had to travel just to get this far, only to have our histories – our stories – potentially erased.” “There have already been schools removing race teachings, even as the debate goes on,” he said. “I believe that removing teaching about this country’s history is a beast that will never be full.”

Here are a few films for context. *13th* by filmmaker Ava DuVernay explores the history of racial inequality in the United States, focusing on the fact that the nation’s prisons are disproportionately filled with Black Americans. The film approaches issues of convict leasing, disenfranchisement, lynchings, Jim Crow, the war on drugs, and the prison-industrial complex. During the George Floyd protests, it saw a surge in viewership of 4,665 percent.

Slavery by Another Name details a chapter in American history when tens of thousands of Black Americans were arrested after the Civil War and into the dawn of World War II. They were hit with lucrative fines and charged with the costs of their own arrests for frivolous crimes like loitering. With no means to pay these debts, prisoners were sold as forced laborers to coal

mines, lumber camps, brickyards, railroads, quarries, and farm plantations.

It’s well worth noting what was in Oregon before Christopher Columbus set foot in the Americas. OPB produced a film, *Broken Treaties*, that documented the history and conveyed the future of Native tribes in Oregon. It details the Indigenous history of the area, notably of the Cowlitz and Clackamas tribes in what is now the Eliot neighborhood including the broken treaties and massacres. Oregon is now one of the first states to recognize Indigenous People’s Day instead of Columbus Day, the latter being offensive to many Native Americans.

I watched Alex Haley’s *Roots* in fourth grade. In eighth grade, as editor of my school newspaper in a highly white community, led an effort to declare our school a Racism Free Zone. I don’t think there is anything wrong with being aware of the truth, including that 49 of the 64 founding fathers were slave owners. Denying the consequences of racism is compli-

ance with its history. The United States has a race issue and in Oregon and in our small community of Eliot, we have our own history. Is acknowledging the history of oppression and its social, economic, political, and cultural consequences a statement of hating our country? At what point should children be exposed to the reality of racism’s history and effect on our country? Should they be oblivious or ignorant? Maybe through honesty, knowledge, and unity, more opportunity is on the horizon.

I’m not sure excluding the history of racism is healthy for another generation let alone for the generations who have lived it or the ones who will continue to be affected by its consequences. Isn’t denial the crux of our political divide already? Is our history so shameful that we want to ban people from learning it?



Large Parcels of Underutilized Land

By Brad Baker

In Eliot, there are many large entities that are holding underdeveloped land that is preventing the neighborhood from thriving. Think of the barely used parking lots along Broadway, Legacy’s grassy fields, or the empty lots along MLK. This land is not contributing to housing, commercial or retail space, or parks, the lifeblood of the neighborhood.

Our property tax system levies taxes based on the assessed value of a property. This means taxes are levied based on the value of the land AND the value of whatever has been built on that land. So if you have an undeveloped or underdeveloped piece of land, it is relatively inexpensive to hold on to it and wait until it goes up in value to sell or develop it, which is

also known as speculation.

On top of that, Measures 50 and 5 benchmarked property taxes in our area to approximately 1990s prices, when the property values were much lower here relative to the rest of the city. As demand for our neighborhood has dramatically increased, property taxes have not increased nearly as quickly. Again, this means it is cheap to hold land here compared to other places in the city.

So who are some of the worst offenders of holding on to underutilized land like parking lots and vacant land?

From my view, one of the worst offenders is OB Portland Properties II LLC, the owner of Toyota of Portland. They own several blocks of

Dining and Drinking in Eliot		
<u>Breakfast/Coffee/Cafés</u>		
Compass Coffee Roasting	3290 N Vancouver	(888) 723-2007
Dawn Patrol Coffee	670 N Russell	(971) 271-8151
Le Bontemps Café and Catering	2716 NE MLK Jr.	(503) 327-8162
Little Gotham Coffee	722 N Page St	
Pine State Biscuits	125 NE Schuyler	(503) 719-5357
Soul Lift Cacao	2601 NE MLK Jr.	(503)719-7519
Tiny’s Café	2031 NE MLK Jr.	(503) 467-4199
TwentySix Café	2723 NE 7th	(503) 284-6033
<u>Bars/Taverns</u>		
Bill Ray’s Dive	2210 NE MLK Jr.	(503) 287-7254
Cartside Tap House	1825 N Williams	(503) 327-8234
Cliff’s PDX	128 NE Russell	(503) 327-8234
Ex Novo	2326 N Flint	(503) 894-8251
Labrewatory	670 N Russell	(971) 271-8151
Sloan’s Tavern	36 N Russell	(503) 287-2262
Waypost	3120 N Williams	(503) 367-3182
Whey Bar	2225 NE MLK Jr.	(503) 284-3366
White Eagle Saloon	836 N Russell	(503) 282-6810
<u>Groceries and Markets</u>		
Chuck’s Market, J&S Grocery	2415 N Williams	(503) 281-6269
Jerusalem Rose Market	2948 NE MLK Jr.	
Knott St Grocery	2709 N 7th	(503) 284-7490
Merkato Ethiopian Food Store	2605 NE MLK Jr.	(503) 331-9283
New Seasons Market	3445 N Williams	(503) 528-2888
Shop N Go Mini Mart	2858 N Williams	(971) 506-5875
<u>Lunch/Dinner/Food Carts</u>		
Back Porch Provisions	1825 N Williams	(503) 523-9212
Better Half PDX	25 NE Fremont	(971) 347-3152
Izakaya Kichinto	102 NE Russell	(971) 255-0169
Jerusalem Rose Market	2948 NE MLK Jr.	(503) 805-2963
Killer Burger	325 NE Russell	(503) 477-6881
Ko Sisters Seoul Food	1825 N Williams	(503) 267-3918
Let’s Roll Sushi PDX	1825 N Williams	(503) 716-0126
Lottie and Zula’s	120 NE Russell	(503) 333-6923
Monkey Thai	3441 N Vancouver	(469) 922-9751
Mumbo Gumbo PDX	1825 N Williams	(503) 999-0819
OX	2225 NE MLK Jr.	(503) 284-3366
Pastas	3441 N Vancouver	(503) 832-8197
The People’s Pig	3217 N Williams	(503) 282-2800
Pepe Chile Taqueria & Catering	3441 N Vancouver	(503) 281-3340
Pocket Pub	2719 NE 7th Ave	(503) 287-3645
Popeye’s	3120 NE MLK Jr.	(503) 281-8455
PP Thai Food Cart	1825 N Williams	(503) 896-8855
Queen of Sheba	2413 NE MLK Jr.	(503) 287-6302
Shwarma Express	1825 N Williams	(971) 312-9702
Sizzle Pie	125 NE Schuyler	(503) 234-7437
Smokin Fire Fish	668 N Russell	(503) 432-8661
Sparky’s Pizza	2434 NE MLK Jr.	(503) 282-3000
Tamale Boy	668 N Russell	(503) 477-6706
Thai MLK	2222 OR 99E (MLK)	(971) 915-9246
Yaba Yabaa Mediterranean	1825 N Williams	(503) 754-8667

property along the Broadway corridor that are being used for inventory storage at best. Several of their properties are unused parking lots. An update to our tax system could encourage them to sell or develop this land which could make the Broadway corridor in our neighborhood more vibrant.

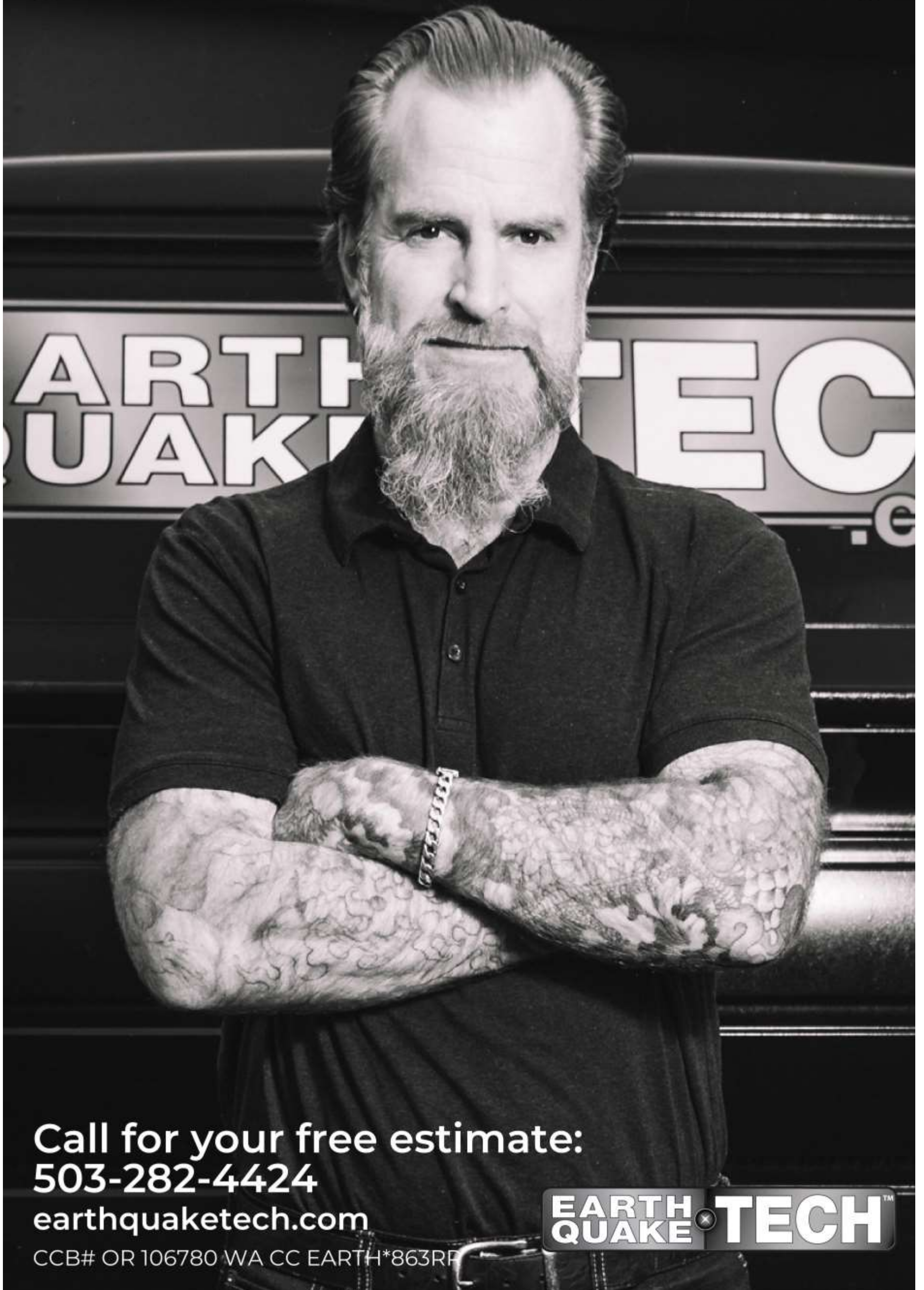
Legacy Emanuel also holds lots of underutilized land. The empty lots and surface parking add little to the neighborhood compared to if it were housing or an active retail corridor like N Williams just past Fremont. Note: Legacy also receives special tax treatment, so it is actually all of us who are helping subsidize these empty lots.

What might a solution look like?

There are a couple potential ones. Getting rid of Measures 50 and 5 would allow property to be taxed closer to what it is actually worth. There is also a strong case to be made for taxing based only on the value of the land rather than the land and development on that land. Another change could be a climate tax that is levied on parking lots.


Any change is going to be hard to enact and the beneficiaries of the current system will surely push back, but it seems to me that our current tax system is not leading to outcomes that are in line with our neighborhood’s values.

THE FACE OF SEISMIC RETROFITTING



Call for your free estimate:
503-282-4424
earthquaketechnology.com

CCB# OR 106780 WA CC EARTH*863RF

**EARTH
QUAKE**  **TECH**™

(NATIVE GROVE, from page 1)

juggling, and ambient performance throughout the space, educating visitors about the natural wonders available right here in our community. Stay tuned for the details coming soon!

This Fall we received a new Garry Oak tree from Friends of Trees which was planted by Frank Brislawn (of Prismagic!) and Howard Patterson, our Environmental Manager. We gathered some oak leaf litter with mycelium from a Friend of Backyard Habitats to help the new tree feel at home. Everyone send good growth energy to the little tree and trust that it will thrive in its new role as the sovereign of the Oak Woodland!



Tree planting and nature collage. Photos courtesy of Andrine de la Rocha

We will likely host a late winter work party to refresh the paths, reweave the willow dome, plant some plants, replenish the bee straws and release the mason bees!

As we head into our fourth year, it's amazing to look back and see the growth. Thank you to all our donors, community partners, and patrons who support us on Patreon. We couldn't do this without you.

If you'd like to donate or adopt a plant, visit our website for details: nativegrovepdx.org Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to keep up with all the upcoming events. Join our mailing list by emailing us at nativegrovepdx@gmail.com



Prism Moves in Eliot Neighborhood

By Ash Kondziela

Prism Moves began in 2019 as an LLC called Prism Fit. The business was created to fill service gaps in the fitness industry. The fitness industry centers on white, thin, cis, heteronormative individuals and rarely makes room for those who do not fit this description. Women, BI-POC individuals, LGBTQ+ individuals, larger-bodied humans and those who want to move their bodies for joy instead of weight loss rarely have access to fitness spaces that accommodate them and make them feel welcome. Prism Fit was created to become such a fitness space.

As membership at Prism Fit grew, it became apparent that not only was this fitness space vital, it would not be able to operate as a typical boutique fitness gym. The communities that Prism Fit attracted were the same communities that experienced wage gaps, meaning that the generally accepted gym fees of \$165 a month and up were not accessible. Prism Fit began offering sliding scale memberships and a once-a-week free BIPOC class, but the need for these memberships started to exceed the operational capacity of the business.

Dissolving the Prism Fit LLC and creating the nonprofit Prism Moves allows for the organization to expand its free and sliding scale memberships, as well as to create additional programs such as free youth and family classes and continuing education for Prism Moves coaches and individuals interested in becoming fitness instructors. Prism Moves believes that fitness is for everyone and fosters inclusivity by constantly educating and committing to reducing racism, sexism, body shaming, and toxic fitness industry norms. Prism Moves plans to reach out to nonprofits that serve the same communities and extend the invitation for their employees and clients to join Prism Moves for the physical and mental health and wellness

benefits achieved through exercise and community.

Our Lift and Move classes combine cardiovascular exercise and weightlifting, similar to HIIT or Bootcamp classes, and our Powerlifting and Olympic Weightlifting classes focus on strength and weightlifting. Our classes are appropriate for all levels, as we can adjust each workout to meet you where you are comfortable. We also offer Open Gym times, where you can come into the gym on your own and make up a class or do your own workout.

We offer a Free Week Trial to anyone that wants to try us out before committing to our gym, accessible on our website prismfitpdx.com. Masks and proof of vaccination are required. Prism Fit is a 501(c)(3) pending organization.



Prism Fit - 18 N Shaver St 503-298-5636



Photos courtesy of Ash Kondziela

Measure 50 limits and development fees discourage housing in Eliot and Portland

By Allan Rudwick

My house value jumped an estimated \$79,000 in the past year, but the assessed value of the property only went up \$4000. Measure 50 is to blame, keeping my property taxes assessment at about 1/5 of its real market value.

Property taxes in Oregon are governed by two measures that were passed in the 1990s with Measure 5 capping property tax rates and at the time lowering tax rates by an average of 51 percent. Measure 50 cut tax rates another 11 percent and introduced “assessed value growth limits” which limit the percentage increase in assessed values to 3% unless improvements are made to a property. Due to these limits, assessed values on similar properties in Eliot and across Portland vary widely. Some similar properties are paying over \$8000 and others paying under \$2000. These differences can have drastic effects on how land is utilized and even discourage improving property for tax purposes.

New construction is only taxed at the average rate of taxation for the area for that type of structure. For single houses that is 54% of real market value. Large apartment buildings are assessed at 35% of their real market value. In Eliot, there are many properties taxed at about 10% of their values so these new construction buildings are paying quite a bit more in taxes than existing buildings pay.

The Measure 5 maximum tax rates are .5% of real property value for schools and 1% for all other government levies. In Eliot, the assessed rate caps from Measure 50 are the limiting factor because assessed values are way out of step with real market values. The total tax burden that is levied is on the order of 2.6-2.7%, which is compressed down to 1.5% if the assessed values matched the real market values. One thing to think about is that if all properties were assessed at real market value,

the rate of taxation would go down because the total assessed value of the tax base (all properties total assessed value) would go up tremendously.

With the current rules and policies in place, individual Eliot property owners with particularly low tax assessments know to avoid the county assessor's attention completely. Pulling building permits, subdividing property, and especially redevelopment can reset property assessments to a much higher level than they are presently taxed at.

In addition to the discouraging impact of low assessments keeping tax bills low, construction costs and permit costs are high. One reason is that the city charges large fees (well over \$10,000 in some cases) on land division, plan review, permits and other services. Simplifying the review processes and lowering the fees accordingly would encourage more projects to move ahead. My guess is that seasoned staff know a significant majority of the outcomes for these applications when they are submitted. I would hope that City Staff could find ways to greatly speed up the amount of time they spend reviewing individual permits. Permitting processes also takes time to process. Processing time is costing the landowner through mortgage payments and taxes on property that is not generating revenue. This can greatly increase the cost of a project and speeding it up would be a great service to all parties involved.

If we want to resolve the housing emergency (which the city declared in 2015), we need to take many steps to encourage construction. Portland should rethink its way of raising revenue so that more housing is encouraged. We should also make it faster and cheaper to approve permits so that more empty spaces in our neighborhood will get filled in. We can't solve a housing crisis without construction.

	House A	House B	Multi-unit C	215 New Apartments
Market Value	631,110	513,520	1,026,500	74,602,420
Assessed Value	133,490	72,460	442,780	25,306,290
Taxes	3,410	1,851	11,312	646,502



*Your Eliot Neighborhood
Bike Shop*

2249 N Williams Avenue
503-287-7116
metropoliscycles.com

Cut out this ad for \$20 off a tune-up

Meyer Memorial Trust Headquarters

U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) Leed Platinum v4 Designation
Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) 2020 Leadership Award
Daily Journal of Commerce Building Diversity Honoree 2021



Learn more at mmt.org/meyerhq

Photo Credit: Jeremy Bittermann

Event information may be out of date due to COVID-19 restrictions. Confirm details with event organizers.

Community Events

Land Use and Transportation Committee (LUTC) Meeting

St Philip the Deacon 120 NE Knott St
(for virtual meeting info see agenda at <https://eliotneighborhood.org/category/meeting-agenda/>)
7:00pm 2nd Monday of each month

Eliot Neighborhood Association Meeting

St Philip the Deacon 120 NE Knott St
(for virtual meeting info see agenda at <https://eliotneighborhood.org/category/meeting-agenda/>)
7:00pm 3rd Monday of each month

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods

4815 NE 7th Ave
www.necoalition.org, 503.388.5004

Meetings:

- ♦ *Safety and Livability Meeting*—6:30pm, 3rd Monday of month
- ♦ *NECN Board Meetings*—6:30pm, 3rd Tuesday of month
- ♦ *Community Police Relations Committee*—5:30pm, 3rd Wednesday of month
- ♦ *NECN Land Use Transportation Committee*—7:00pm, 4th Wednesday of month

Entertainment

Civilian Studios

2210 N Lewis Ave
503-476-2716

Fisk Gallery

3613 NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
Wednesday-Friday 12-6
Saturday and Sunday 12-4
fiskgallery.com 661-733-3521

Open Signal

2766 NE MLK Jr Blvd
opensignalpdx.org 503-288-1515

PICA

15 NE Hancock St
Pica.org 503-242-1419
TBA Festival: Sept, 16 - Oct. 3rd see website for details about specific shows/exhibits

Union Knott Gallery

2808 NE MLK Jr Blvd, #2
971-207-1231 By Appointment

The Waypost

3120 N Williams Ave
thewaypost.com 503-367-3182

White Eagle

836 N Russell St
mcmenamins.com/WhiteEagle
503-282-6810

Wonder Ballroom

128 NE Russell St
wonderballroom.com 503-284-8686

Recurring Events

Mondays

- 11:00 am-12:30 pm Healthy Eating Class at Garlington Health Center
- 7-9 pm reading group at Black Hat Books

Tuesdays

- 4-5 pm Book Club Garlington Health Center
- 5pm Labrewatory brewery tour,
- 5:30 pm new beer release
- 6-8 pm live music at Labrewatory
- 7 pm Trivia at The Waypost

Wednesdays

- Karaoke at The Waypost

Thursdays-

- 11:30 am-12:30 pm Walking group at Garlington Health Center
- 1:30-2:30 pm Music Meet Up at Garlington Health Center
- 6-8pm FIRST THURSDAYS Game night at Garlington Health Center

Saturdays -

- 2 pm Public Speaking class at Black Hat Books

Sundays -

- 12:00-1:30 pm Refuge in the Park at Dawson Park 2926 N Williams @refugeportland on Facebook
- 5-8 pm Free jazz music at Billy Webb Elk's Lodge

Did we miss something?

Email news@EliotNeighborhood.org to submit something for the next edition