

The Northwest Connection

the Northwest Connection

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Our mission at The Northwest Connection is to provide an educational, well-balanced informative community newspaper. Our goal is to stimulate the local economy by promoting area businesses and to encourage citizen involvement, which, in turn, will build stronger communities.

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from the Publisher
JoLinn Kampstra

The Northwest Connection and Staff would like to thank all of our readers, columnists, and advertisers for their continued support.

We Wish Everyone a Pleasant Spring Season!

“No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible hand which conducts the affairs of men more than the people of the United States. Every step by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation seems to have been distinguished by some token of Providential agency...We ought to be no less persuaded that the propitious smiles of heaven cannot be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right, which heaven itself has ordained.”

—George Washington

“The God who gave us life gave us liberty at the same time...” “The last hope of human liberty in this world rest on us.”

—Thomas Jefferson

PUBLIC FORUM

Kitchen for Clackamas County Commissioner #2

Hello, I’m Warren Kitchen and I am running against the status quo, Bob Austin. Since Bob was appointed on Jan 8, 2009, Mr. Austin has not only kept the status quo, but has made it possible for the future bankrupting expansion of the same. The county’s liability for PERS grows worse day-by-day. Businesses still struggle and the rest of us have little confidence in our county



government or economy. Bob supports a pending county tree ordinance, more taxes and fees. All of this with a temporary federal stimulus payment as the crown jewel that will keep county government bloated and off any cost containment for another day. At a recent Chamber of Commerce event, Bob along with the other incumbents sounded neutral or a little “moderate.” All the sound

of being moderate but without the substance. The important issues facing our county: Reform the wage and insurance benefits for county employees—they need to be equivalent to the private sector. An immediate 10% cut in Commissioners pay. Property rights need to be protected and not eroded through Metro, and Metro Reserves that tie up private land and it’s worth for years. The proposed

county tree ordinance is a perfect example of county government over-reaching. Overall, taxes and regulations on business costs jobs. Permanent jobs can only come from private enterprise, not the transfer of wealth from the government to illusionary temporary jobs, tax payer paid. Governments zeal to regulate eliminates people from starting small business. Federal funds usually require matching funds. Accepting

continued on pg. 10

Jim Needham—Candidate for Clackamas Commissioner

My name is Jim Needham. I am a candidate for Clackamas County Board of Commissioners, Position 3. I am a candidate because I am for good government. I’ve experienced a lack of concern by many elected leaders for the people who elect them—except at election time. This is characterized by more concern and loyalty to



staff and contributors than voters. I’ve been elected to two School Boards and now City Council. I’ve served with good leaders and with bad leaders, and I’ve learned to discern the difference. I’ve always

considered it a sacred trust to represent the voters in every position I’ve occupied. I’ve established a record of doing everything in my power to keep the public informed in an open transparent fashion—even at considerable personal and political cost. I believe my colleagues, with whom I have served, share my desire to represent the public—initially. In a perfect world there is

a symbiotic relationship of mutual trust and support between elected leaders and staff. Elected leaders rely upon staff to provide objective and accurate information so they can make this information available to the public and ensure informed decisions in the best interest of the public. At the same time staff relies upon elected leaders to provide

continued on pg. 15

Patrick Sheehan—Candidate with the Common Sense Approach

As I’ve been campaigning for State Representative, I hear the same question over and over: “What can we do about measures 66 & 67?” As they await a response, the pain in their faces paints a vivid picture. Every one of them has been affected. I spoke with a woman whose

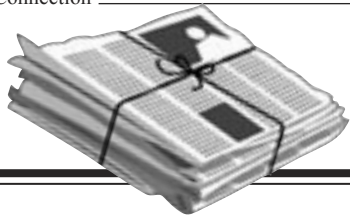
family-owned apartment complex was forced to raise everyone’s rent by \$25 to pay the retroactive tax. The people renting those one-and-two bedroom apartments next to the freeway probably aren’t corporate fat-cats or CEO’s of big business, but starting this month—they’re paying a

corporate tax on gross income. Make no mistake, Oregon voted for a huge, invisible tax on the poor. Maybe this wasn’t communicated in the television



ads, but it should have been. As someone who has owned and operated an advertising agency for almost 13 years, I wish I were involved in the ad campaign. If I were asked to direct one of those commercials, I would have followed a gallon of milk backwards in time from the store. I would have demonstrated that the grocer, freight companies,

continued on pg. 10



Local News

Phonics Phactory's Let's Get'er Done Auction and Dinner

Planning Team Is Rounding Up Donations and Past Alumni for A Kicking Evening of Fun In the Gym

The "Let's Get 'Er Done" Theme is based on the auction goal to Benefit the General Fund to Complete present and future projects. It will be a fun-filled night of country bar-b-cue, silent and live auctions, current student performances, alumni speakers—who just may roast co-founder Mr. Mayer! Don't miss this! There will be lots of Nashville glitz, tunes from Buck, Dwight, Reba and Phonics Phactory's own Taylor Swift. Another bright star of the evening will be famed professional auctioneer

Brad Caldwell who will help the school reach the auction goals to finish several projects, including the gym floor. The donation list is starting to grow already! You will find vacation homes, golf outings, restaurant gift cards, professional services, sport packages and many more surprises you won't want to miss. This auction is also a great way to help one of the best Christian educational options in the Gresham/Portland area. Phonics Phactory is a non-profit educational institution

and is not affiliated with any church. The school is designed to offer the highest academic/life skills driven education while providing the lowest tuition possible to keep a quality education within reach for many families.

Help Advertise Your Business and Help A Great School

We will be providing additional exposure to all businesses who support/donate with goods or services. Advertisements will be on the auction website and promoted in the listing book. If you would like to donate, click on the auction link at the

phonics phactory.com site or by contacting Kris Cochran at 503-260-2180 or emailing info@phonicsphactory.com attention Kris

Phonics Phactory Alumni Round Up!

Please email Mr. Mayer if you would like to be a part of this first annual event at bmayer@phonicsphactory.com or call him at 503-661-5632. Current High school Alumni come back and help out at the auction we need your help. Alumni from all seventeen years of success at Phonics Phactory join us for the

evening! We would love to see you all back.

Mark Your Calendar For Saturday May 22nd

Doors Open at 5:30, Tickets \$25.00 Advanced Sales Only. Plate ticket price includes salad, dinner and dessert – Reserve a full table of 8 for a small fee. Purchase tickets at the Phonics Phactory Christian school Tuesday through Thursday from 8 am–2:30pm and at the Open House on April 22nd at 6 pm. So round up your herd for a great night out! ■

Kitchen for Clackamas... continued from pg. 3

this money usually comes with strings. These strings restrict the will of the average county citizen and government from being fiscally prudent. Budgets get larger and taxes go up. In the case of federal funds, there is a diminishing return. Disregarding the will of the people shows no respect, contempt and leads to using tax dollars to push their own agenda. This has never been more apparent than when the

county supported measures 66 and 67 recently. Though technically legal, it is a clear conflict of interest. The 7.1 mile Light rail from Portland to Milwaukie will cost \$1.417 billion. Figuring fares at \$1.50 each and one thousand riders a day, after twenty years, the average daily cost per ride is \$129! Is this a wise use of tax dollars? The present Commissioner thinks so.

As your Commissioner, I pledge that ordinances will meet stringent standards that

do not restrict your land rights and liberties. PERS and other budget time-bombs will be dealt with. Regulations, taxes and business licensing will be reformed. A suspension of the "Systems Development Charges" will help business and jobs. Federal funds are approximately 7% of the entire county budget. These funds can become "golden chains" on us. An honest discussion about federal funds can save us not just the 7% we get, but more liberty.

The budget can be cut and money returned to business and taxpayers. Basic services must come first and discretionary spending last.

I have worked as a site superintendent on multi-million-dollar subdivisions, driven trucks, and had many other jobs involving management and labor. I am married with three children, and believe fervently in the "Republic" form of representative government. One man, one vote, where citizens serve, bringing

issues of importance to light and not seeking to immortalize themselves with bridges and buildings.

We have all gone through tough times and tougher times are ahead. The county must plan accordingly. If you believe in the people being in charge of government, please go to my web site, www.WarrenforCommissioner.com. I respectfully ask for your support and vote May 18th. God Bless and take care of yourself. ■

Patrick Sheehan... continued from pg. 3

warehouse and dairy farmer each add the additional tax to the price every time the milk changes hands. I would have shown an Oregonian standing in the dairy aisle with a puzzled look at the price. I would have gone in tight on a child's sad face like the ads for the "yes"

campaign did so illustratively. Oregon holds some lofty rankings in the nation: We hold top rankings for homelessness, hunger and unemployment. BusinessWeek even ranked Portland the most unhappy city in the country. The well-intentioned Oregonians who voted to protect the interests of the poor owe it to their neighbors to look objectively at what

massive increases in state spending have earned us; Soaring unemployment, grumbling stomachs and sleeping bags on the pavement. Not long after the vote, pink slips starting raining down on the privately-employed citizens of Oregon. A gallon of milk rose in cost for every family—regardless of income. And those protected by public employee unions

high-fived each other as the goose that lays golden eggs sat down in the stew pot. For the Clackamas County voters that got it right and defeated 66 and 67, there is still hope. If we can focus the energy spent fighting these tax measures on getting common sense candidates in the legislature, we can balance the power and stop these misguided

policies in their tracks. I'm thrilled to be one of those candidates. I'm joined by some of the most unique and exciting people the Republican Party has put forward in recent memory. The citizen legislature will again be filled with business owners with the capacity to understand how their decisions affect working

continued on pg. 23

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dreamdinners.com

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Patrick Sheehan... continued from pg. 10

families. Career politicians will soon be in the minority. We're coming to restore your confidence in government.

Oregon's pioneer spirit perseveres. When we focus again on natural resources, agriculture, and innovation in proven industries, Oregon will be open for business again. Once we've renewed your confidence and earned your trust, an improved Oregon will quickly follow. With your support—we can make that happen.

Patrick Sheehan is a candidate for State Representative in House District 51. Visit PatrickSheehan.org to learn more about Patrick's issues and volunteer for his campaign. ■



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