



PHOTO BY MARTY DAVIS

Tom Soppe leads the Burnside Triangle Advisory Group public history tour Sept. 28

ments Sept. 18, including the creation of a domestic partnership registry and equal-access guarantees for trans people, the *Register-Guard* reported.

Even conservative member Gary Pape strongly endorsed the measures. "This is not providing rights—it's providing protections, as has been so well stated."

Gay Councilor Scott Meisner said he thought Eugene was a pretty enlightened place—until he started hearing from opponents, including some who are afraid that sexual predators will gain access to women's restrooms by cross-dressing. "As I read some of the public comments or the e-mails we receive, I realize I'm somewhat naive."

Next up is a public hearing scheduled for Oct. 14. The City Council then will vote on whether to adopt or amend the revisions Oct. 28.

DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT HISTORY?

The Burnside Triangle Advisory Group held two public tours Sept. 28 and 29 highlighting more than 100 years of gay and lesbian history in the neighborhood.

What is now the Washington Hotel at Southwest Washington Street and 11th Avenue was built by architect Lionel Deane, who was arrested in the sensational same-sex vice scandal of 1912. The crackdown, propelled by an intense reform crusade to "root out the homosexual perversion," ruined the political and professional careers of several prominent Portlanders. The hotel tavern was a gay watering hole during the '70s with such manly names as the Axe Handle and the Timber Topper.

Also on Washington, at 12th, was the Buick Cafe, a lesbian meeting place as far back as the 1940s. The place was hopping during the queer watershed period of World War II. A city police report noted that the Buick was the last-chance stop for women who were unsuccessful acquiring a partner early in the evening at the Music Hall.

The Music Hall showcased original vaudeville acts that featured both male and female impersonators who sang their own songs. Police reports talked about going to the shows over and over again so they "would be accosted."

Rich's Cigar Store at 724 S.W. Alder St. was one of only two stores in town that carried *The Mattachine Review*, the newsletter of the nation's first major gay rights organiza-

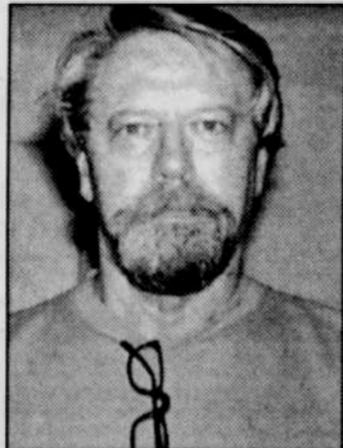
tion, despite pressure from the sheriff not to carry "indecent material."

The Silverado, 1217 S.W. Stark St., is Portland's oldest surviving queer bar. During the '50s, police made a little extra cash by entrapping and arresting men for public sex offenses. Officers then would blackmail the patrons and receive money in exchange for dropping the charges.

DOG-MAULING CONVICT HEADS TO WILSONVILLE

Robert Noel, the lawyer convicted in connection with the fatal dog mauling of San Francisco lesbian Diane Whipple, has been transferred to the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility in Wilsonville.

In an interview from Deuel Vocational Institution in Tracy, about 90 minutes from San Francisco, he said he signed a release to be moved to one of six Western states, including Oregon. He will be held in medium security at his



Robert Noel

new prison, according to California Department of Corrections spokeswoman Margot Bach.

Coffee Creek is primarily a women's facility but has a reception center for male inmates. Noel will stay there as long as it takes to go through processing before being sent to his "mainline" prison.

Noel and his wife, Marjorie Knoller, are expected to be released on parole in about a year. She is serving time at a women's prison in Chowchilla, Calif.

Noel said the couple likely will live in South Lake Tahoe when they are released. He said he does not want to return to San Francisco.

Even if Noel did return to the Bay Area, few people would recognize him now. He shaved off all his hair and looks markedly different from his mug shot. He explained that inmates normally cut each other's hair, but because he's in protective custody he decided it would make the most sense to cut it all off.

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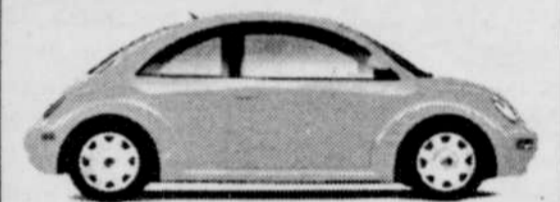
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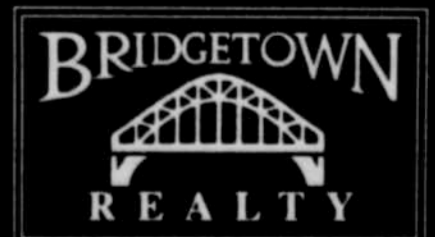
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