

Oregon Democrats prepare for the state convention

Sanders makes push for party rules changes

By **PARIS ACHEN**
Capital Bureau

SALEM — As U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders called for reforms to the Democratic Party, Oregon was poised to select the last of its delegates Saturday to cast votes at the national convention in Philadelphia in July.

In a speech streamed live, the Vermont senator called on Democrats to recruit new leadership for the party, eliminate superdelegates and open up primaries to independents.

“We need an electoral process that is worthy of the Democratic Party,” Sanders said.

Sanders made the comments before he was scheduled to meet with former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton Tuesday night to discuss his plans for his waning campaign. Clinton has captured the needed

delegates to become the party’s presumptive nominee for president, and some members of the party have called on Sanders to concede and endorse his opponent, according to multiple media reports.

Clinton won a majority of pledged delegates awarded through primaries and caucuses, took the majority of states, and claimed the popular vote. Superdelegates are party leaders and elected officials who participate in the Democratic National Convention largely by virtue of their position. Their choices don’t have to reflect the popular vote in their states.

Nationwide, superdelegates overwhelmingly pledged their support to Clinton, and closed primaries in Oregon and other states edged out independents from helping to choose both the Democratic and Republican nominees.

“The idea that we had, in this case, 400 superdelegates pledged to a candidate some eight months or more before the first ballot was cast is to my mind absurd, and we need

to also make sure that superdelegates do not live in a world of their own but reflect the views of the people in their own state,” Sanders said in his speech Tuesday.

Despite those perceived obstacles, Sanders won the Oregon primary in May with 54 percent of the vote. Sixty-one of the state’s delegates are pledged to candidates according to the popular vote, but the state’s 13 superdelegates may select whichever candidate they want.

Seven out of the 13 have pledged their support to Clinton, three have pledged to Sanders, and three have not revealed their choice.

Superdelegates backing Clinton include Gov. Kate Brown, U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, U.S. Rep. Kurt Schrader, U.S. Rep. Earl Blumenauer, U.S. Rep. Suzanne Bonamici, Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum and party first vice-chairwoman Karen Packer.

“I understand that aspects of the superdelegate system have become controversial,”

Gov. Brown said in a statement Tuesday. “As long as it is the system that we have in place, I think the most important thing a superdelegate can do within this system is be completely transparent about who they are supporting and why. I chose to make my endorsement public back in March for that reason.”

U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio, party chairman Frank Dixon and national committeewoman Laura Calvo have yet to pledge their support, said Brad Martin, executive director of the Democratic Party of Oregon. The three did not immediately return messages from the Pamplin Media/EO Media Capital Bureau seeking comment.

The state’s five congressional districts chose 41 of the state’s delegates June 4. The party will select its 20 at-large delegates at 1 p.m. Saturday at the statewide convention at the Pacific Northwest Carpenters Institute in Portland.

The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.

Oregon jobless rate unchanged at 4.5 percent in May

Associated Press

PORTLAND — Oregon’s unemployment rate has stayed the same for three consecutive months.

The state Employment Department said Tuesday the rate for May remained at 4.5 percent, slightly lower than the U.S. jobless rate of 4.7 percent. At this time last year, Oregon’s

unemployment rate was nearly 6 percent.

Oregon’s payroll report increased by 1,200 jobs in May, a modest gain compared with the average monthly increase of more than 5,000 jobs during the past year.

Retail trade was a strong performer in May while the manufacturing sector cut 400

Another unemployment measure, known as U-6, rose to 10.3 percent after it was below 10 percent in April. The figure includes

discouraged workers who stopped looking as well as part-time workers who want but can’t get full-time jobs.

Portland mulls foreclosures for first time in 50 years

By **GILLIAN FLACCUS**
Associated Press

PORTLAND — City officials in booming Portland have developed a plan to foreclose on so-called “zombie homes” for the first time in 50 years as the city grapples with a swelling population and skyrocketing home costs that threaten to lock new homeowners out of the market.

The City Council is scheduled to vote Wednesday on whether to foreclose on five of the city’s worst abandoned properties, the first part of a long-term plan to free up housing in an overheated market while clearing out squatters who have plagued developing neighborhoods outside the city’s hip core for years.

Council members will also vote on whether to alter city code so Portland can sell a foreclosed property for its market value and not just for what’s owed in liens.

The idea of cities buying up blighted properties isn’t new, and Portland looked to metropolises like Baltimore or Detroit while devising its plan. But unlike those cities, which were hit hard by the recession, Portland is bursting with newcomers and housing demand has far outstripped supply. Portland home prices are going up 11 percent year over year and 1,000 new people move to the city every month, Mayor Charlie Hales said.

“It’s fundamentally crazy that we have houses sitting empty in a market where a ‘For Sale’ or a ‘For Rent’ sign would cure that by tomorrow morning,” Hales said. “We’ve got to light up every single one of these homes with people living in them.”

Portland hasn’t foreclosed on anyone since 1965, when a single mother sued after officials took her home over a \$28 sidewalk nuisance fee. That episode chastened the city, which reversed course so dramatically that Hales wasn’t even aware it had a foreclosure manager on its staff.

In the five decades since, Portland has essentially operated as a collections agency, putting delinquent owners on payment plans for unpaid liens and boarding up vacant homes.

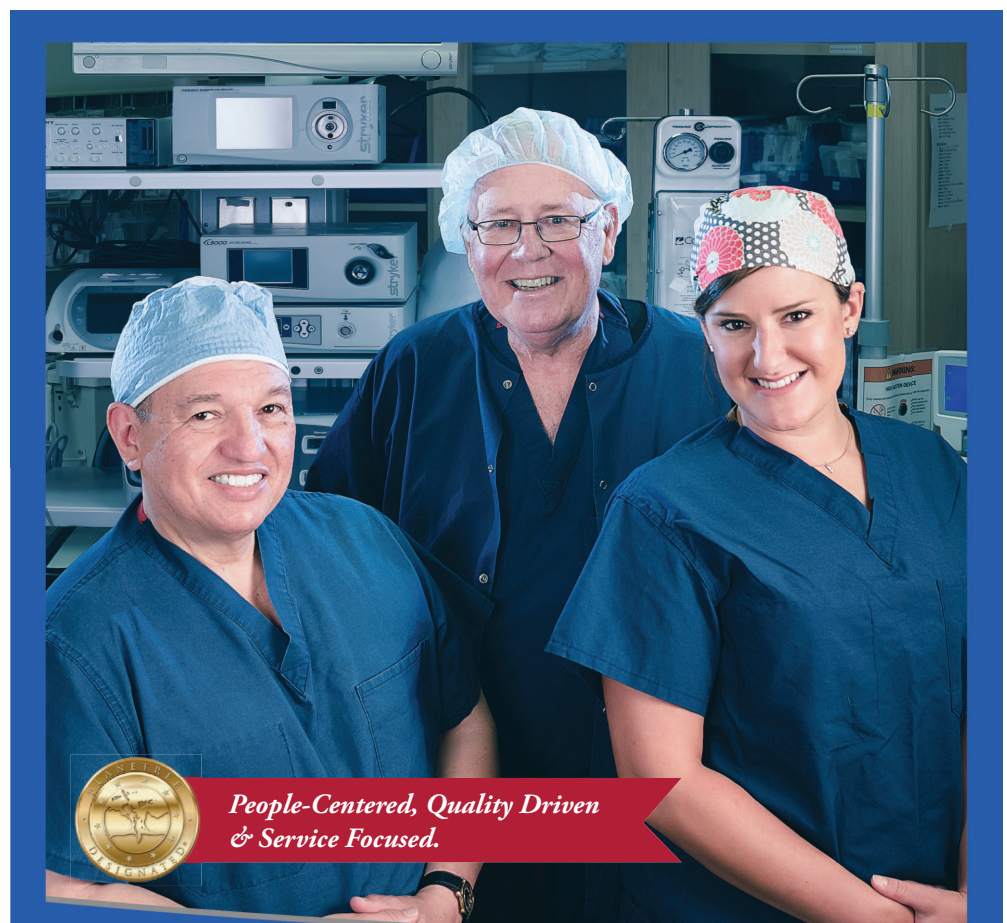
The sharp policy shift, while a boon for frustrated neighbors, has some residents nervous about potential abuses of power. The city will only

take on documented vacant and abandoned homes, but some wonder what would prevent the city from foreclosing on any property that generates too many complaints.

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Q: Why should I have my teeth cleaned twice a year?

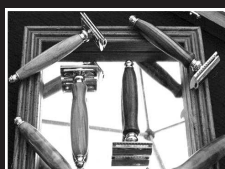
A: For the majority of patients concerned about their dental health this is a reasonable interval. However, for many patients who struggle with plaque control, have poor brushing habits, inadequate diets, smokers, and patients with medical conditions such as diabetes a more frequent cleaning interval is recommended and appropriate. And yes, there are the few patients out there who do an amazing job of home care and can remain healthy on just an annual cleaning visit and checkup. Remember “you only have to brush and floss the teeth you want to keep”!



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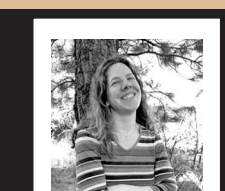
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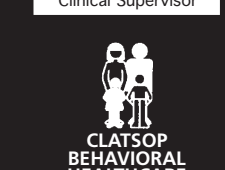
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Clinical Supervisor

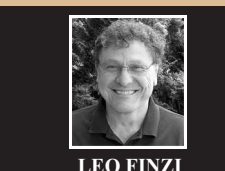


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A: Click the WINDOWS icon in the bottom left corner of your screen, then click ALL APPS, scroll down to and click on GET STARTED. GET STARTED is Microsoft’s built-in guide to Windows 10. You will be pleasantly surprised at how many new and useful features are included in Windows 10, AND how easy it is to learn about those.



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