Local Leaders Share Resolutions for 2003

Multnomah County Commissioner Lisa Naito

"Keep up with my health. Focus on improving conditions for people with mental illness, to make sure they have housing when they are released and that they aren't released in the middle of the night when the mental health clinics are not open. Last year we saw a lot of progress even with the budget cuts. We have to keep moving ahead."



Portland School Board Chair Karla Wenzel

"Take stock of my life and be grateful for everything. To me this also means focusing more on my family. Professionally, I want to work harder for more adequate and stable school funding. For me this process is two fold – it means getting people involved. It also means going directly to the State Legislature to be a part of a regional solution for funding problems."

Multnomah County Chair Dianne Linn

"My resolution is both personal and professional. I resolve to take good care of the people I'm responsible to and responsible for."



Portland Parks and Recreation Director Charles Jordan

"Become a respected elder of the community. Professionally, I would like to leave (retire) quieter than I came. When I came there was a real political uproar. It was quite a scene for about a month. When I leave April 1st it's going to be a lot quieter."



Multnomah County Commissioner Maria Rojo de Steffey

"There is no question the obstacles facing us – the economy, unemployment and threat of war. However, we still have much to appreciate and cherish each and every day. I resolve to continue to fight the good fight every day to assist those who are in need."

Police Chief Mark Kroeker

"Move the community policing agenda forward by getting a senior neighborhood officer to represent each neighborhood in the city. I'd like to establish solid, respectful relations in every community – especially the Hispanic community where there has been a little riff recently. My biggest priority is to make a National Center for Disaster Decisions happen in Portland. That will be like bringing a major employer to town. Personally, I'll just try to maintain a good level of personal, emotional and spiritual fitness."



Multnomah County Commissioner Lonnie Roberts

"Loose about 30 pounds! I'm a chocoholic. Politically, I want to see a change in the business tax. The present tax system is cumbersome – it's not working. I want to see the city bring in new business to broaden the base so we can restore county services."

Oregon Liquor Control Commission Director Pam Erickson

"Encourage Oregonians to continue to practice alcohol moderation – for women that means no more than one drink each day and for men two drinks. So far I think we're all doing a good job at that. Also I want to encourage people to continue practicing good parenting skills because that is the single most important factor in reducing under-aged drinking."



City Councilman Jim Francesconi

"Help save our schools by focusing on academic excellence and stable funding and to get more in touch with my spiritual life."



Portland School Board Member Derry Jackson

"Pay attention to my young sons who are in college and my daughter who is about to go to college. Professionally, in light of our recent financial and managerial crisis, I think, we as leaders, have to maintain our composure. As for consistency, I want to focus on challenging the district to work harder for children in their last four years of K-12. I think it is the most critical and vulnerable time in their education."

City Commissioner Dan Saltzman

"Use all of my passion to make sure no family, child or adult gets left behind. Personally, I want to do my best to be a good father for my teenage daughter. I will try to continue to get her to like me and want to hang out with me."



Multnomah County Commissioner Serena Cruz

"Spend more time with family and friends. Professionally I plan to find more sources of revenue to fund services for families like healthcare, education, aging and disability – basically everything we are losing."



State Rep. Jackle Dingfelder

"I hope every legislator has made the same goal to work towards solving the budget crisis. That's a big problem our state is facing. I would like to revitalize the economy and create more living wage jobs. My personal resolutions aren't so lofty. I'm a yoga freak. So I want to keep up with my yoga because when the Legislature gets heated up, I can forget to take care of myself. Yoga keeps me balanced."



Metro President David Bragdon

"I want to make the new Metro (government) a more accountable and efficient organization."



Fire Chief Ed Wilson

"I want to maintain Portland's top quality level of protection from fire and to encourage the wise use of resources during these tough financial times. I always have to effectively balance my work and family life, making sure I take time to enjoy my beautiful grandchildren - including one on the way."

Leaders Eye Resolutions for 2003

continued A from Front

Saltzman wants to use all of his passion to make sure no family, child or adult gets left behind. Kroeker wants to make sure each neighborhood in Portland has a senior neighborhood officer. Portland Public School Board member Derry Jackson wants to get the district to work harder for high school students. Fire Chief Ed Wilson wants to keep Portland safe from fires.

Multnomah County District 3 Commissioner Lisa Natio has devoted herself to the mental health crisis. Commissioners Roberts and Serena Cruz will both try to find revenue to reestablish services lost in budget cuts.

On the more simple side of the fence, Portland *

Public School Board chairperson Karla Wenzel would just like to take stock of her life and be grateful for everything and Multnomah County District 1 Commissioner Maria Rojo de Steffey would like to appreciate beauty and everyday miracles in the world.

Dianne Linn, Multnomah County Chair and the mother of two teenagers said her resolution was both personal and professional.

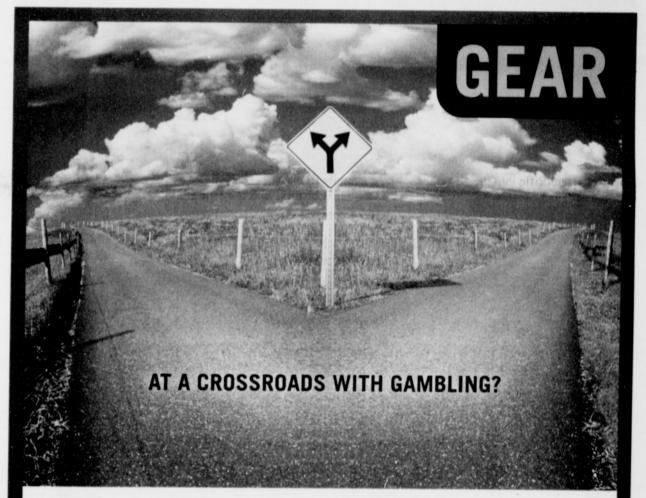
"I resolve to take good care of the people I'm responsible to and responsible for," she said."

Charles Jordan, the director of Portland Parks and Recreation who will retire in April, has other things in mind

"I would like to leave quieter than I came," he said.

If it's news or informative
You probably saw it in...
The Hartland Phserner

or email:
ads@portlandobserver.com



If your gambling is getting out of hand, there is a new program that can help you take it in a different direction.

The Gambling Evaluation And Reduction program (GEAR) is an educational, phone-based counseling program designed for people who want to steer away from potentially dangerous gambling patterns – without traveling to a treatment center.

GEAR is free, confidential and it's easy to enroll. Call the toll free problem gambling help line at 877-278-6766 today and an advisor will help determine if GEAR is right for you.

Choose the road to a brighter future.

PROBLEM GAMBLING HELP LINE (877) 278-6766

Sponsored by the Oregon Lottery in conjunction with the Department of Human Services.