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Sponsored by:

# Fred Meyer

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# LOCAL NEWS



A landmark bar and restaurant for the African-American community is closing its doors on Oct. 31. The decision by LaVon Van, owner of LV's Twelve 22 on North Vancouver Avenue, came this week after he withdrew his appeal for the termination of his business permit to sell alcohol.

## Landmark Bar to Close

### Violations doom LV's Twelve 22

One of Portland's last remaining black bars is closing. LV's Twelve 22 owner LaVon Van has announced the closing of his landmark North Vancouver Avenue establishment after withdrawing an appeal to a number of drug-related violations the nightclub faced during an ongoing police investigation this past year.

In late September, the Oregon Liquor Control Commission served Van a notice to rescind LV's Twelve 22's liquor license for violations that included one club employee's unlawful attempt to deliver crack cocaine on the bar's premises.

Van told the Portland Observer Tuesday that the historical black

neighborhood restaurant and lounge will close its doors for the last time on Oct. 31, but not without a celebration looking back on the club's community history from past to present.

Norman Sylvester Band hosts a "Back Then and Now Celebration" on Friday, Oct. 19 at LV's Twelve 22 at 9 to 11 p.m.

When Van bought the nightclub, formerly the Royal Esquire, he implemented several changes in attempts to make the bar an inclusive neighborhood business and barbeque restaurant.

But changing the music, lifting the age of patrons, enforcing non gang clothing attire, and adding a fence around the parking lot did not seem to keep out the notorious stream of drug activity adjacent the

restaurant and near the intersection of Northeast Fremont Street.

Van refuted OLCC charges that he was aware his employee, a part-time groundskeeper at the nightclub, was attempting to sell drugs outside his restaurant and said when he finally got wind of his activities in late July, he fired him.

"I am always willing to press charges against anyone doing illegal activities in my club," he told a reporter for Oregon Music News in a related article on Oct. 5.

Van signed a trespass agreement with the Portland Police a few years ago. Apparently, ongoing police investigations lead the OLCC to present the nightclub owner with a list of six drug-related offenses committed on or near LV's Twelve 22's premises.

## Dialogue on Justice Issues

### Community to tackle oppressive patterns

BY FASHUN N. STYLES  
THE PORTLANDER OBSERVER

A community dialogue to promote social justice and open up possibilities for community solutions will take place Friday and Saturday, Oct. 19-20 at the Friends of the Children, 65 N.E. Stanton St.

The Liberation-Based Healing Conference is being organized by the Center for Community Engagement at the Lewis & Clark Graduate School of Educa-

tion and Counseling. Co-sponsors include Friends of the Children; Affinity Counseling Group; The Institute for Family Services; Oregon Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence; Portland State University and Concordia University.

On Friday, therapists, educators, spiritual leaders and community activists will describe programs that have been created in their own communities to promote equity and access for all.

On Saturday, there will be a community dialogue, free and open to the public, to explore opportunities to form

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