

Occasional Vaux Stories

KYN presents OCCASIONAL VAUX STORIES so residents can gather and learn about our neighbors' interesting lives and careers

Report from the April 13, 2025 Gathering

We thank Cynthia Fellows for generously hosting

First Storyteller: **Ed Long**'s career path has wound from law school to Wall Street finance to elder law to nonprofit management to philanthropy coaching. Along the way he's learned a lot about evaluating nonprofits. Ed wants each of us to be able to find and support strong charities doing the work we care about. Ed recently authored [*The Best Charities for You*](#).

A few highlights from Ed's presentation:

- Charity tax returns (aka Form 990s) are public information.
- You can find a charity's Form 990 in 3 minutes or less – [LINK](#)
- Most people (85%+) do not itemize deductions.
- If you are age 70.5 or older, you can make a **tax-free** donation from your IRA directly to a charity and it counts against your RMD – [LINK](#)
- When you give to a donor-advised fund you get a charitable deduction in the year of your gift (if you itemize) and you get to spread your giving into future years – [LINK](#)

Second Storyteller: **Bob Weinstein**'s career spans education, local government, and public service. A former special education teacher and school superintendent, he served 18 years on city council and as mayor of Ketchikan, Alaska, followed by six years as a U.S. Senate aide. He ran for Portland City Council last November. Bob brings deep insights into

responsive local governance and is eager to share his experiences, and answer any questions and his outlook on the outcome of the election.

A few highlights from Bob's presentation:

- Bob very much enjoyed his experience running for City Council.
- He met a lot of great people and learned a lot about Portland issues, including homelessness and affordable housing, public safety, and the CEI Hub (the 6 mile stretch of tanks along the river in NW).
- Bob continues his work in the public interest
 - See partner4progress.org for example
 - He also helped shed light on the \$485 million fund balance in Multnomah County's Preschool for All Program – [Willamette Week LINK](#)

Have an interesting background or experience to share with your neighbors at The Vaux? Use the "Make Contact" section at kynvaux.org or the QR code at right to tell us more.



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