

EQ The Elizabeth Lofts

Quarterly Newsletter

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

THE ADDICTION TO EXERCISING

New exercising “normal” for Chris & Bob with a personal trainer has kept physical conditioning going through the pandemic and beyond.

MICHAEL SCHILL

Steve Rose takes the opportunity to interview Michael Schill, University of Oregon President and Elizabeth resident.

THE NEW NORMAL

Larry compiles resident responses to the EQ questions: “What are your dreams for a new normal? What are your “hope to do” items?”

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR: Urban Creperie

Ilya Asanassiev brings traditional crepes with a new spin in his casual new restaurant. Looks like a great spot for a little brunch!

MY BRIEF LIFE ON PLANET WARHOL

Sheldon shares memories of life changing times shared with Andy Warhol and his “circus.”

EXERCISES FOR THE BRAIN

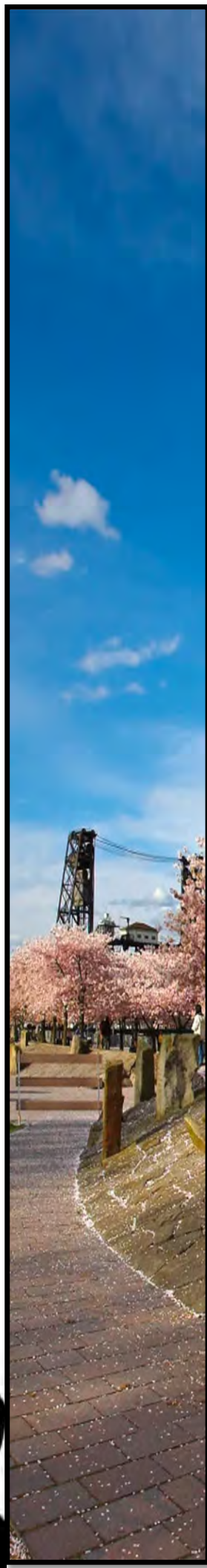
Chris introduces us to a daily word exercise to keep your brain “tuned up.”
Warning: we hear it’s addictive!

HAPPENING IN and AROUND THE ELIZABETH

Updated options for entertainment, education, and observation, locally accessible.

April 2022

Editing by Paula McGee, Design & Layout by Michelle Heckman





NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to EQ's 11th edition. We cannot publish this issue without mentioning Ukraine and the cries of the people. We are a quarterly condo community newsletter, but aren't we so much more? And that so much more is each of you, our fellow residents and friends. Many times, it is hard to square hopes and dreams with reality. We know each of you, in your own way, cry out for peace and reconciliation. May we have that sooner than later.

We learn a little about a personal trainer who not only keeps Chris fit, but all importantly enables dreams to come within reach.

Did you know the University of Oregon President is an Elizabeth resident? Michael Schill gives a discourse on growing up bent for academia to our own Steve Rose.

Is there a New Normal? Many friends share their thoughts.

In this issue you will meet our new friend Ilya Asanassiev, owner of the Urban Creperie and, as a youth, raised in Russia.

Such an astounding perspective provided to us by Sheldon Renan on his time with Andy Warhol. I came away thinking both are larger than life.

Wordle - seriously. How it has captured the imagination and gaming community, or should I say, brain exercising community.

Around Town. We will see you there as the town tries to dust itself off for the Spring Season.

Next issue we turn three years old. Rather humbling.

Enjoy this issue

Bob Garsha

for the **EQ** Staff

April 2022

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THE ADDICTION TO EXERCISING

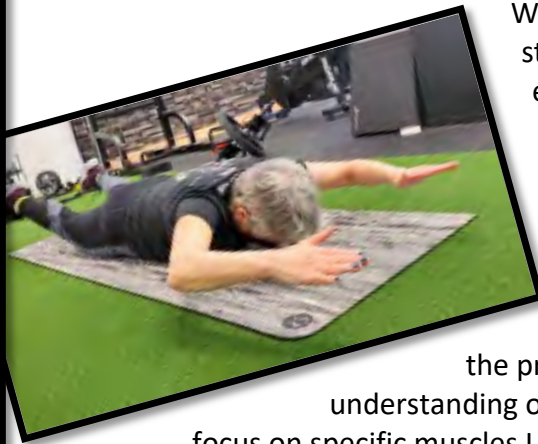
By Chris Steele

When the pandemic began, like many of you, I was no longer able to enjoy daily trips to the gym to work out. My retirement goal was to stay physically fit, but also to avoid COVID. I now enjoy exercising outside, although snow is a deterrent. Still, I was missing Josh, my last trainer at 24 Hour Fitness. I thought I would share with you my solution to this fitness challenge.

When Josh moved to Portland from Eugene with his dog Tyson, he lived in the Elizabeth for a short time so possibly some Elizabeth residents may already know him. He has now started his own business, called THE ADDICTED, and has a studio space on NW 14th Avenue across from Safeway.



The fitness concept behind THE ADDICTED is Ambition, Dedication, and Discipline. Josh's goal for his clients is to ADD to their new change. He has done that for my husband, Bob, and me. We have not experienced any injury or back pain, although there can occasionally be sore muscles – a good thing. I know I am addicted when I own three pairs of athletic shoes (each with a different purpose).



When I first began working with Josh again, I had no strength and could only attempt some of the exercises he had me do. Now, the “supermans” (see photo) I used to hate are much easier, and I love the feeling of using my new abdominal muscles.

While I now have a large repertoire of exercises, I enjoy having Josh run my workouts: he varies the program each time so it is always new; he has a good understanding of human anatomy and tweaks the workouts to focus on specific muscles I didn't know I had; and finally, when I try to work out by myself, I give up after about 10 minutes – Josh keeps me dedicated. We work on my balance as well. I didn't realize how important core strength can be to prevent falling – I no longer crash to the ground when I trip. And those boxes on the top shelf don't fall on my head when they are heavier than anticipated.

Another of Josh's clients who followed him from 24 Hour is Michael, who is blind. Josh and Michael meet at a local field where Michael runs football plays with Josh clapping for location as well as what play they are running. I am working on balance and strength and overall physical fitness, while Michael's goal is to play football. Bob works on strength to improve his bone density which has suffered after years of bike riding.



Although some clients are now opting to no longer wear a mask, Bob and I choose to work with Josh while wearing a mask, and Josh always wears one. He cleans the equipment between customers and has an air filtration system. Other safety measures are a temperature and blood oxygen check. He has masks and COVID tests available.

I look forward to my workouts with Josh. Bob and I used to do partner training at 24 Hour, but I really appreciate having my own personal workout with dedicated instruction and correction from Josh. I am amazed at what I can do, and enjoy the feeling of using my strength to do things I never would have imagined I would be capable of doing. Not bad for an old lady.



If you have found a new exercising normal during the pandemic, please share your experience with EQ!

Have you tried **Orangetheory Fitness**, a nearby alternative for Elizabeth residents, and if so, what did you think? Are you “*addicted*”?



EQ welcomes your comments on this article or the Issue: EQ@ElizabethLofts.org

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MICHAEL SCHILL

By STEVE ROSE

On March 30th, our own Steve Rose sat down with our fellow resident, Michael Schill, the President of the University of Oregon. Here is a synopsis of that interview:



S.R. I was thrilled when I moved into the Elizabeth, being a Duck alum, to learn that Michael Schill, a fellow Duck, was a part-time resident here. Also being a lawyer, I know of Michael, who I can say has a very luminescent background. Michael, first things first. How often do you come up to the Elizabeth?

M.S. Before Covid, I was coming up quite often - once a month. During Covid, the types of in-person events and meetings that we did pre-Covid came to a screeching halt, so I reduced my time here. Now, as of this date, we are getting back in the swing of things. I am teaching this quarter and we had our first class without masks. What a wonderful opportunity to do in person teaching again! I am now anticipating coming up to Portland quite a bit. Plus, as you may have read, we just bought the Concordia Campus.

S.R. I have read about that and I think it is exciting. What are you teaching?

M.S. I teach a seminar on higher education on our Eugene campus.

S.R. Have you met many Elizabeth residents on your stays?

M.S. Well, of course, in a residence this size I meet a lot of people through the elevator rides and in the lobby. I very much like the building. I chose the Elizabeth for a few reasons. I particularly like the concierge staff. They have been extremely helpful. I did tell the broker that one mandate was I needed to be within three blocks of Powell's Bookstore. Well now I am dead center. I looked at the apartment, saw Mount Hood, Mount St. Helens, and it was just amazing.

S.R. I think that is wonderful. Have you had many chances to experience the Pearl District?



M.S. Yes, I generally go out to eat with an alumnus or alumni. I'd say my current favorite restaurant is Andina. I just love the food there and I am never disappointed. Never having had much Peruvian food, I am now a big fan. Every time I am here, I go to Powell's. I am a huge book fan. I can spend hours there. I like reading hard copy books. I don't know if you had a chance to read Educated by Tara Westover. It's a fantastic book. I mostly read nonfiction.

S.R. Well, I should invite you to our book club. The Elizabeth has a fantastic club.

M.S. I should. When I lived in NYC, I was president of my co-op and I learned one thing. I don't want to be involved in the governance of a building. [Chuckles] Nonetheless, I am grateful for all the people who do step up and help this community be one that thrives.

S.R. I am on the Board and I should have taken your advice about governing. [Laughs]

M.S. My building in NY was in Greenwich Village and some of its former residents were folks like Bella Abzug and Ed Koch, a very politically active building. I remember on my elevator rides residents would tell me about the leaks in their apartments and ask me to come in and take a look. One time Larry Kramer, the playwright, asked me to come in and fix his toilet. I had no idea what to do, but I did go up to his apartment.

S.R. What years were you in the Greenwich Village co-op?

M.S. I practiced law at a Wall Street firm from 1985-87. Then after getting tenure at the University of Pennsylvania, I was recruited to NYU. It was during my NYU period, that lasted 10 years, that I lived there. 2 Fifth Avenue. It was a great building. It was an exciting time. I had lunch with Ed Koch and he would always pick a table where he could be seen. He enjoyed meeting folks even though he was no longer mayor. His tagline was 'how am I doing?' Quite a character. Teaching in Pennsylvania was my first teaching job. I lived close enough to walk to the university and I loved it. I was also much younger then. Penn has gotten increasingly better over the years, but it was a great law school then.

S.R. I know the school well. I have relatives who were on the faculty there. Let's go back to your youth. Let's go back to Schenectady. What was it like growing up there?

M.S. Schenectady was a city that was in the midst of deindustrialization. It's well known as the city where the General Electric Company was founded, its chief claim to fame. Most of my friends' parents worked for G.E. I was the oddball kid. My father worked in a factory and my mother was a nurse. It was my mother's parents who got us all to Schenectady. That is where they went when they got off the boat at Ellis Island. It was a good place for a kid to grow up. It was safe and the people were very nice.

**“... when I first moved to Eugene, it was like
a green Schenectady...”**

S.R. How is it your mom's parents chose Schenectady?

M.S. It was like many chain migrations. My great-uncle went there, and when my grandparents came over from Russia, they went there. I don't think there are many relatives still there but, interestingly, when I first moved to Eugene, it was like a green Schenectady, with no fancy clothing stores but many of my favorite small businesses and restaurant chains.

S.R. What factory did your dad work for?

M.S. He worked for Mohawk Sportswear. A lot of manufacturing was done in the Mohawk Valley. A lot of those clothing jobs were exported to Asia including ultimately my dad's. My mother was a registered nurse who worked in a hospital. I have one sister, also a lawyer. She is older, but I don't think she technically admits to it.

S.R. Describe your childhood.

M.S. I was pretty nerdy as a kid. I am also a pretty nerdy adult! I really focused on schoolwork and reading. As far as extracurricular activities, I was not into the athletics which is a great irony as I am now president of one of the great and formidable athletic schools. The only sport I was ever really aware of was baseball. I grew up in my grandfather's house and he was a real committed Yankees fan. That meant I had to be a Mets fan. [Laughs] I was a fan of the Miracle Mets in 1969 and I watched baseball all the way up to free agency. I like to root for a team and a team is continuous. You root for them, you know who they are, and you build a relationship to that team. Intercollegiate sports, I worry, in say basketball with the transfer portal. It's become a high velocity of change.

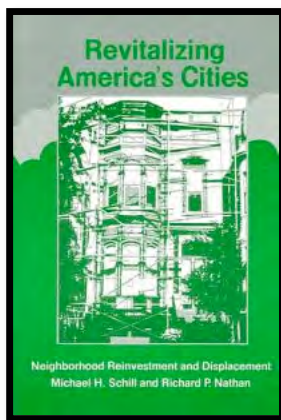
S.R. Before we leave this subject, who was your favorite player on the 69 Mets? Were you a Tom Seaver fan?

M.S. I was a Jerry Koosman fan. It was rumored he was Jewish and for me it was something to be proud of.

S.R. I know you have always done well in school, and I see by your biography you attended Princeton. Why Princeton?

M.S. My parents did not go to college and from the time I was a little kid, I remember sitting on my dad's knee and him telling me, "You are going to go to Harvard. You are going to go to Harvard!" I got wait-listed at Harvard and Princeton not only accepted me but provided me with an enormous amount of financial assistance and scholarships. My parents would not have been able to afford to send me to college.

Princeton was actually less expensive than state universities, so I chose to go there and it was a life changing experience.



S.R. Why was it life changing?

M.S. Well, in two ways. 50% of the students were from prep schools and 50% who had attended public schools acted like they went to prep schools. I didn't even know what a prep school was when I got there. It was just a completely different world. So, apart from the experience, what I loved was the education. I got an unbelievable liberal arts education. I majored in public policy. I had an amazing relationship with my thesis advisor, Dick Nathan, from the Brookings Institute. He came to Princeton my senior year; I was his first student. And we were able to write a book together. He passed away last year. That book helped me not only get into Yale Law School but also helped me get my first teaching job. The book was entitled Revitalizing America's Cities: Neighborhood Reinvestment and Displacement.

[Revitalizing America's Cities: Neighborhood Reinvestment and Displacement by Michael H. Schill, Richard P. Nathan - Books on Google Play](#)

It was published in 1983, Housing Policy is my area of academic specialty. Cities and neighborhoods come and go in cycles. As we all know, gentrification is a current issue. You are either experiencing investment or disinvestment. Disinvestment at that time, the 1980's, you don't, let's say, want to be the South Bronx. When investment comes in and people and businesses get pushed out, what happens to them? So, we looked at ten neighborhoods in five cities that were experiencing gentrification to see how the people fared.

“... develop a close relationship with professors. . .

S.R. And your findings were?

M.S. Well, for the most part people landed on their feet, so to speak. Remember, if people experienced homelessness, we probably did not find them, so there is some bias. But for a long time I played detective, locating as many as I could find. This book would not have happened without a close relationship with a faculty member. When I meet with students today, what I tell them is develop a close relationship with professors. You never know how it will affect you, you will never know how it will help you later in your life. I want to add that the person that the hiring committee at the University of Pennsylvania called was Dick Nathan. One of the hiring committee members told me Dick said, “I hope he marries my daughter,” which I took as a pretty good recommendation. [Laughs] Finally, the book was based on my thesis. We took it to the Ford Foundation and they ended up funding it.

“... the greatest benefit of a residential university is that you get to meet so many people from diverse backgrounds. . . .

S.R. What was Princeton like?

M.S. The social scene was unusual in those days-- you had eating clubs divided into jocks, southern good old boys, northern aristocrats, blonde blue-eyed woman, and Scarsdale Jews. Today, it is much better because all students there are in residential colleges, where students are assigned randomly, as opposed to eating clubs where they are selected. I told my class just yesterday that the greatest benefit of a residential university is that you get to meet so many people from diverse backgrounds. Be it race or political viewpoints, what a university does, it throws you all together. The future of this country will be based on how we are able to understand and relate to each other.

S.R. After Princeton, you took a year off to work on the book and lived in Brooklyn. Then you decided to go to Yale Law School. What was behind that decision?

M.S. My mother gave me three choices: be a doctor, a dentist, or a lawyer. Which are typical choices Jewish mothers give to their sons and daughters. I wasn't great in math or science and verbal activities came very easily to me. During my time off, I was also accepted to Harvard Law School, but not being a fan of The Paper Chase, I chose Yale. It brought together, I think, a more diverse group of people. It's a small school. It's the #1 law school again. It made the learning experience fun with all the diverse people. One bonus was New Haven. I liked it a lot. I am a theater fan and New Haven is like catnip for a theater fan. It's got the Yale Repertory Theatre and the Long Wharf Theatre, and we were seeing plays before they moved to Broadway. I very much enjoyed my time there.

S.R. Was there a specific focus in law school? Was there one area that you felt most interested in?

M.S. Real estate law. I became a real estate lawyer, coming out of college, with my focus on housing. The closest you got to housing was real estate property law. After that, I clerked for a judge in Philadelphia, worked at a Wall Street law firm, and then taught at the University of Pennsylvania in real estate law and urban planning. I worked at the firm for about a year and one-half, but knew, long term, being a teacher and professor was what I wanted to do for my career. In the field of law, teaching and research are about as close as one can get to being self-employed. There's no client paying for your time, wanting quick



solutions. In academia, when you write on your passion, you not only get published but you get prestige. I moved to NYU to start a real estate center and loved living in Greenwich Village for 10 magical years. The center I started was the Furman Center for Real Estate & Urban Policy. It

has since become the leading academic research center in the nation devoted to public policy aspects of land use, real estate development, and housing. Our mission was to be an honest broker between the real estate industry, tenants, and housing groups in the city of New York. In Los Angeles, people ask you what you drive. In New York, they ask how did you get your apartment. Housing is the most important thing, and we became a center where we could have honest conversations about housing, gentrification, rent control, and reducing exclusionary zoning. A lot of topics that are still on today's table.

S.R. Tell us about your development into administration and fundraising?

M.S. At the Furman Center, we fundraised several million dollars. Not nearly as much as I do now as the president of a university obviously. I learned early on that I wanted to have a say in what I did and where I worked. I chaired the search committee for a new dean of the NYU Law School and, during that time, I thought, this is kind of a cool job. Then later on, I got a call for the dean opening at the UCLA Law School. I got there in 2004 and I left in 2009. I ended up loving the city, the climate, and today some of my best friends are living in Los Angeles and I get to go back and visit. UCLA is one of the most diverse institutions imaginable.

“I work with great teams who create great cultures.”

S.R. Let's talk about your transition to administration and fundraising.

M.S. I very much enjoy administration. I work with great teams who create great cultures. For five years we did great things at UCLA, at least people said they were great. When you are doing it, you don't notice. Other people said it was successful - I am not objective.

S.R. Then after five years you go to the University of Chicago. So, Westwood to Hyde Park. What was that like?

M.S. Well, cold! The school was night and day different from UCLA, but I loved it. I am a very adaptable person. UCLA was leaning left and Chicago was leaning right. Chicago had a pretty austere culture but what I am most proud of during my time there - I would say we warmed it up. I care about people. I want to know them, I want to engage alongside them. I think Chicago is a great city, it has great culture, it has wonderful restaurants. It was a lot of fun to live there.

S.R. I am going to segue over to the University of Oregon. Here you were in the major cities of the US, the biggest urban centers, and you apply to run a university in Eugene, Oregon. How did that come about?

M.S. A headhunter called me when I was dean in Chicago. I was thinking about becoming a president of a university during that period. I knew a little about the University of Oregon but what I knew wasn't that positive. It had a period of, I think, five presidents in six years, two of whom left under not great situations. There was a basketball controversy with regards to sexual violence. The school had just unionized. You could have looked at the situation and said it was a bit of a



hot mess. I said no. Then friends of mine started telling me what a great school it was. Their kids were looking to go to Oregon and I started thinking about it again. The headhunter called again to say are you still not interested? I said maybe I am interested and I interviewed for the position. I had been to Portland but I had never set foot in Eugene. Since the airport is outside the city and close to a timber plant, industry, and open land, I sort of wondered if I would feel at home. But then, when I set foot in Eugene, I saw it truly is a lovely place. One of the great things about Eugene is it is a very livable city. Here is a good example: in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, or Philadelphia, if you ran an errand, let's say to a bank, it would take an hour. In Eugene, I told my assistant I would be back in an hour. I was going to the bank and I was back in 10 minutes. Everything is 10 minutes away.

S.R. It's been now seven years as the head of the University of Oregon. Has it been a good experience?

M.S. It's been a great experience. It hasn't been easy, as I mentioned. The school had gone through a lot right before I got here.

Our budget was a mess when I got here. As you may know, the state of Oregon severely underfunds higher education. If we compare all of our peers in the Association of American Universities, which is our group of the top 60-70 research universities in the nation, we are next to last in terms of state funding. In the State of Oregon, we get less per student than any of the other state public universities which is a bit ridiculous. Our budget is difficult. We were unionized – it's very rare that a faculty is unionized. I decided we needed to invest in research excellence. We have done that with the help of great alumni. The University of Oregon has raised, in our last campaign, \$3.2 billion and that doesn't include a recent gift from the Ballmer's of \$425 million. I am delighted. It allows us to build excellence at the University of Oregon and serve the state. The Knight Campus, which is funded by Phil and Penny, has gotten well over \$1 billion dollars to create a new bio engineering engine for the state. It's going to be wonderful. We have one more building to build and then hire new faculty. The Ballmer Institute gift allowed us to buy Concordia. We hope one day the people of Oregon can appreciate what a great honor and value it is to have a world-class research university.

“ . . . I love fundraising. It's matchmaking. . . . ”

S.R. I am glad you went through all those accomplishments. As an alum, I am very aware of the Knight Campus, and I am aware of the Concordia purchase. It's been great to see the growth in the diversity of the University. How excited are you about these funds being not only raised, but being continually raised?

M.S. I love fundraising. It's matchmaking. It's someone who has funds they don't need for themselves and they can invest them to achieve communal objectives. Matching that with the needs of an institution like the University of Oregon, which is starved for revenue and tries to keep tuition at a reasonable rate. Going to alumni and talking about what we are doing and matching their interests with things that are going to be important to the University. It's an intellectual activity, it's an emotional activity. When it works, it's like cherries across a slot machine!

S.R. Well I hope you keep doing this for a very long time. You have brought great benefits to the University of Oregon. Before we leave each other, I want to move the conversation to a lighter area. I understand that you weren't a sports fan, but now you are the #1 sports fan at the University of Oregon. Is that true?



M.S. Well, there may be one other person who is the #1 sports fan, but I have become a huge fan. Pre COVID, I was going to all the home and away games of football. I go to lots of both women and men's basketball. And I really try to go, at least a few times, to all the other sports. Athletics is important to a school like ours. We are not in the mainstream of the East Coast where people are talking about different universities. So how students first hear about us, outside of California and Oregon, is through our sports teams. The Ducks - they watch them, they root for them, cool uniforms, great team, and then I really hope that gets them to ask the next question:

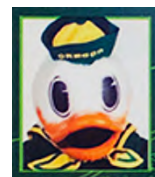
what are the academic programs like? One thing I hope I achieve by the time I leave is to blend the athletic and the academic together. They can be mutually reinforcing. One, the athletics is a recruitment tool as we are totally tuition dependent and secondly, we are thinking of academic programs that will focus on sport and wellness. I want the University of Oregon to be the place every boy and girl who thinks in terms of the blend of athletics and academics thinks about. Academic programs that focus on fitness, wellness, high performance, and the business of marketing of sports.

S.R. I do want to ask one more question. You are the chair of the Pac-12 Conference Executive Committee, correct?

M.S. Not only am I the Chair of the Pac-12, I am also on the Board of Governors of the NCAA and Division 1. Believe me, it's not based on knowledge, it's based on seniority. I've just been around long enough. [Laughs] All of my friends laugh that I find myself in the middle of this. As you know, in the Pac-12 we recently had a leadership change and I was the chair of the search committee. Now we are facing just unbelievable issues in intercollegiate activities that could be the end of the model of the amateur athlete. It's under tremendous pressure right now because of name, image and likeness, anti-trust law and labor organizing. We are at a very pivotal moment. I love sports. I love the mix of the athlete, the alumni, the students, the faculty, the community. It is such a communal experience. At games, I am so busy talking to people, visiting suites, going down to the locker room, I hardly watch them.

S.R. Mike, I cannot tell you how much I have enjoyed this conversation. I could ask you many more questions. On behalf of the Elizabeth Lofts residents, thank you for speaking to me this afternoon and I hope to see you in the building and see you embrace the community we have here.

Go Ducks!



EQ welcomes your comments on this article or the Issue: EQ@ElizabethLofts.org

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THE NEW NORMAL

By Larry Rosenblum

Covid cases have fallen so rapidly that we are finally able to get out from under the restrictions we have lived with for the past two years. Entertainment venues are re-opening or scrambling to fill their calendars. Restaurants are starting to fill back up and everyone seems to be planning their next vacation.

As Mark Twain wrote, "History doesn't repeat itself, but it sometimes rhymes." Not everything is going back to the way it was. We'll continue to carry masks with us even if we don't have to use them. We are learning how to take home Covid tests. The new etiquette about shaking hands and getting on elevators will remain.

So what will the new normal look like? What would you like to see kept from the last two years? Below are some thoughts from our residents.

*"FaceTime has been wonderful
but no replacement for
face to face time!"*

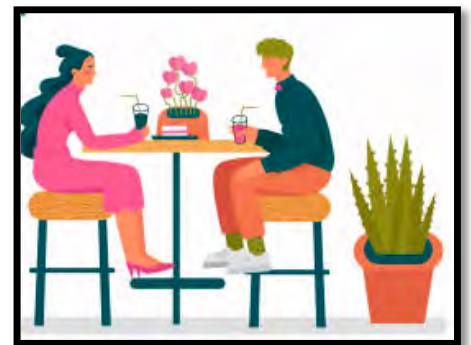
P.G. is looking forward to travel, but thinks masks may be a new permanent feature.

"I am really looking forward to traveling abroad to see our granddaughter and family in England. FaceTime has been wonderful but no replacement for face to face time! I am so grateful for vaccines and testing - we've come so far. And we still have so much to learn.

Mask wearing is a new habit I hope to retain outside of Covid protection - when I have a cold, when I fly, and when I want to look better without makeup ;)"

V.R. looked on the bright side of Covid. She liked sharing more time with her husband.

"One of the unexpected changes I experienced from the pandemic is that many of our spouses worked remotely from home, instead of commuting into an office each day. In our case, it allowed me to see my husband more frequently during the daytime work hours, and experience and know more about his work, and share meals together. The pandemic also limited his frequent business travel, which allowed us to see more of each other. I really have enjoyed this unexpected benefit. In our case, we are learning that we can work from anywhere on the planet, provided there is a quiet space and adequate internet bandwidth."





L.R. realized that masks always had a good use and now he realizes there will be times they come in handy.

"I recently caught a cold. My covid test was negative. Even though I only had a cold, I wore a mask when I went out because nobody wants my cold. That's something I wouldn't have even thought of before I owned 14 masks."

L.F. quotes Faulkner to express how Covid has changed our faith in others.

"The past is never dead. It's not even past."

"This pandemic will have no end in the minds of those cruelly affected by it, just as the Great Depression had no end for an earlier generation.

But this pandemic has torn our society asunder in a special way, requiring a stance on objectivity, scientific inquiry and trust. I anticipate a range of responses to Covid protocols, responses that mirror not only our country/the world at large, but that mirror sometimes strong differences even within otherwise tight-knit families.

My own immediate family has so far been spared such troubling differences, but our individual behaviors vary a lot: e.g. those with children have already had to tolerate more ambiguity & risk than we grandparents. For me personally, it all comes down to trust: who can I trust to 'do the right thing,' to use good judgment when making social choices? That criterion makes for a very constricted world. Husband Ted articulates the very realistic dilemma: how to act in everyday settings— e.g. streetcar, theater, restaurant— where we cannot know the Other."

D.W. hopes that the Elizabeth doesn't go beyond state guidelines.



"I would like to see the Elizabeth Lofts follow whatever the state recommended protocol is. I am sure that a few vocal people would suggest that we be stricter than state guidelines. That, by definition, is not necessary as our facility is very common type in Portland."

"..doing ... without planning or concern"

M.H. writes: "After reading EQ's questions on 'coming out of COVID' (we say hopefully!), I realized that it really DID require a bit of thought. And perhaps some conversation with friends and family. In my family, most of that conversation remains on-line in threaded conversations or Zoom get-togethers, because of distance or health concerns.

One family response struck a chord: "I'm looking forward to giving and receiving unreserved hugs. Also looking forward to simply being... In doing ... without planning or concern." I read an acknowledgement of the loss-need-return of personal contacts and activities, and also a reflection on doing those things without much care or thought. The need to evaluate the risk in every activity, is an exhausting task – hopefully all that extra brain activity will help keep us young.

I have been very grateful for the availability of technology, as a "crutch." And look forward to keeping the appropriate use of those tools. I get to watch and listen to a live-stream of a grandson in a college concert in Texas! (Not to mention the convenience of Zoom Board meetings!)

Perhaps we have accepted that we are a communal species (even those of us who are considered introverts) and we need healthy working relationships to cope. We need to welcome and use all our resources to make that happen.”



Anonymous feels odd without a mask and sometimes likes wearing one for no reason. Perhaps this superhero wants to keep his identity secret.

“I walk the streets mask-less. It feels odd and will take some time getting used to. I liked my masked state. It had anonymity and mystery.”

F.G. sees the pandemic bringing out new better ways of doing things for both individuals and for Portland.

“One thing that I have enjoyed is seeing the development of new technologies helping to create touchless experiences. This includes QR code menus, for example, which has streamlined ordering in restaurants. I find that it is much more efficient. Another example is touchless payment systems, which don't always work, but help speed up the payment process.



I think this trend to a touchless experience will also lead to new technology like digital identification cards, so that you carry your ID such as a driver's license with you in your phone, enabled by 2-factor authentication. It's much easier and fewer items to carry and keep track of. Some states are already exploring this scheme. I look forward to this. I'm tired of carrying around multiple important pieces of plastic with me and worrying about losing them.

My dream is that Portland overall, and the Pearl District specifically, regains its luster as one of the best places to live. Recent years have seen a lot of troubling events occur which have tarnished Portland's reputation across the US. Hopefully, the future brings positive energy and momentum for everyone to clean up and begin to restore Portland's livability.”

“... life more abundantly in the days ahead.”

JM is focused on gratitude for what we have learned and what we have survived.

“It feels great to be moving beyond. We've all learned a lot and we've survived and thrived. The past two years have been yet another huge reminder about all we take for granted. Appreciation and gratitude are the answer. May we all have life and life more abundantly in the days ahead.”

So it looks like our residents are looking forward to the future with hope. Hope is not a plan, but it's definitely a path. And together we will make our way to something better.



EQ welcomes your comments on this article or the Issue: EQ@ElizabethLofts.org

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KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR: URBAN CREPERIE

By Bob Garsha

We sat down with Ilya Asanassiev, the owner of the Urban Creperie located at 1216 SW Morrison. We hope you enjoy this interview as much as we enjoyed getting to know Ilya.

EQ: Ilya, tell us a little about the Urban Creperie.

Ilya: This is a project I started at the end of October of 2019. We were ready and able to open the restaurant in March, but because of Covid we were unable to open. We pushed it back to May 5th, 2020, for just takeout due to Covid restrictions. We operated till June, then had to close again, so it was not a very fun year. Right now, everything is good. Very good feedback, regular customers, new faces, old faces, so I have no complaints so far.



EQ: I understand it was hard, no doubt. So why crepes?

Ilya: It's something I know as a child. It's a traditional food in Russia. I did not want to have a formal restaurant. I wanted to provide a place where my customers could come in, any time of the day, and enjoy inexpensive comfort food. Sandwiches are everywhere. I wanted to bring something new to the customer. And I think I have been successful at that.

EQ: Do you yourself enjoy cooking?

Ilya: Yes, I am in the kitchen every week. At the beginning, I was in the kitchen seven days a week. Now I am in the kitchen one or two days a week. And yes, I do love cooking. I hate to cook for myself, but I love to cook for somebody else.

EQ: Did you learn from your parents or grandparents?

Ilya: I started to cook as a kid with my mom. I remember she told me "You know you love to eat good food but there is no guarantee that your wife will be a good cook, so you better learn." So I did!

EQ: Are you using any old family recipes in the Urban Creperie?

Ilya: The crepe batter is from my family's recipe and we use that at the restaurant. The crepe batter is how my mom would make crepes. Everything else I have created.

EQ: What is your background in business? Have you started any other businesses?

Ilya: Well, yes. I had a chance to open a bar in San Francisco, back in 2015. The Creperie is my second opening from scratch project.



EQ: Do you miss San Francisco? What was your life like there?

Ilya: I do miss it. I met my wife there, and both my kids were born there. Even though it is a great city, my life is here now. We came for a purpose, a better life for the kids. San Francisco is San Francisco. It's fun when you are young and single, but as a parent it is much more difficult. We enjoy being here. My daughter will be going to school in September. She's very excited about that. March 3, 2019, we moved here.



EQ: What are you most proud of in both the restaurant and your team?

Ilya: In San Francisco, when I was running teams of say 30 people, I was very proud of having a low turnover. But here, I cannot call myself a completely new business even though we had to deal with Covid related closures, the turnover is pretty big. Right now, I have one employee who just completed a year with me, a second employee who is going over six months and another going over one year. When I have more employees who celebrate six months or a year with me, I will be the happiest person in the world. I really believe I am offering a great work environment, so sooner or later I am going to have a team who will look like and feel like family.

EQ: I want to mention that you are open seven days a week, Monday to Friday 10-4 and Saturday and Sunday brunch 9-3. How is brunch going?

Ilya: Brunch is my most consistent busy day and yes, you are right, weekdays 10-4. But I am hoping in the next two weeks to add dinner, so we will be open 10-9PM.

EQ: That will be great. Your restaurant is so comfortable. I sat by the Urban Creperie (UC) logo. It is a very nice room.



Take us back to your younger days. I know you are from Saint Petersburg, Russia. What was it like growing up there?

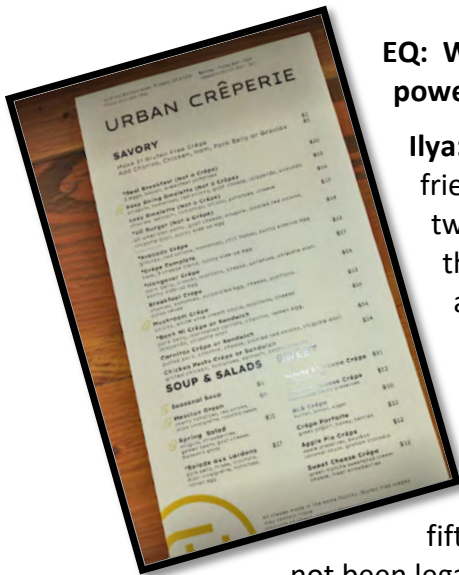
Ilya: It was different times. I was born in 1983, the end of the Soviet Union era. It was crazy times in Russia. There were shortages of everything. Food, supplies, clothing, anything – you name it – we didn't have it. Then a democratic Russia started to build up, but I moved here in 2003.

EQ: Saint Petersburg looks beautiful. I believe the Neva River runs through it?

Ilya: Yes, it runs right through the city. It runs all the way to the Baltic Sea. Saint Petersburg is the birthplace of the Russian Empire.

EQ: Ilya, how hard is it for you to view the current state of war with Ukraine?

Ilya: Hard doesn't say enough. Ukraine is an independent country, but through the centuries we had so much in common. My grandfather relocated from Ukraine after World War II, so my mom is half Ukrainian. My cousins live in Ukraine and I would visit them when I was growing up. There are millions of people in Ukraine with the same heritage as me. It is very sad to see a war right now without any reason. The people of Ukraine will hate Russians for a long period of time. With the crimes the Russians are committing, I don't have words for it. I have never been a fan of Putin, especially for the last ten years. I do understand the propaganda wars very well in Russia. There are so many intelligent people, I don't know why he has so much support. It's a mystery to me!



EQ: What are the political demonstrations like that oppose Putin and his power?

Ilya: That is another subject that drives me crazy. I have been talking to a friend of mine for a long time. We were classmates back in school. A week or two after the war started, she said, “Oh my God, can you help me get out of the country, anywhere?” I told her some of the ways she could emigrate, and we started to talk about these subjects, like Putin changing the constitution so he could stay President for as long as he can. In the last two months, there is a law restricting the use of social media. They have banned Meta, the parent company of Facebook and Instagram. If you don’t support the military or you mention something negative in public about not supporting the war in Ukraine, you can go to jail for up to fifteen years. You originally asked me about the right to demonstrate? It has not been legal in the last two years to stage a protest without government permission.

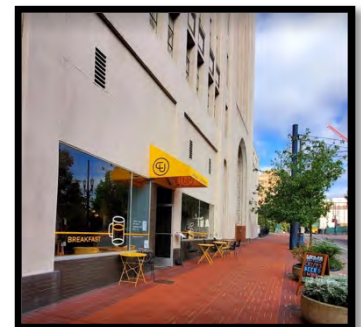
But interestingly, you can do a single protest, say stand outside by yourself with a poster, that would be legal. But what the police do is one undercover policeperson would come to you and ask you a question. Then this is no longer a one-person protest, there are now two of you, and the original person would be arrested. There has been a massive exodus from Russia in the last two months. A lot of people are leaving. One more example I’d like to share, a girl who used to work with me in San Francisco, her sister, for the last thirteen or fifteen years, was living in Saint Petersburg and she ran away to Tijuana. If you are familiar, there is that pedestrian bridge at the border. She told her sister there are lines of Ukrainians, Armenians, Russians, Belarusians, just standing in line trying to get refugee status and enter the United States.

EQ: How do you see the healing happen in Eastern Europe?

Ilya: Well, I don’t see anything positive. Ukraine is destroyed, completely wiped out. Russia, as the aggressor, will need to pay a lot to restore Ukraine. Financially, emotionally, physically, this has to happen. If we look at it historically, Germany, after World War II, had to pay at great costs first to the Soviet Union, then to individuals. An example, my grandmother was taken to Germany to a labor camp when she was thirteen years old. In the 1990s, she received one or two big payments from Germany. Russia will have to do something like that. There are so many destroyed lives and families and businesses and cities. But the thing is, before instituting something like that, Russia has to realize what they have done. That’s the first step for Russian politicians, Russian society. Get out of the bubble they have there and realize what they have done. Then maybe the right track will take shape of normal civil and political life. Russia must change the Constitution to provide for a different President every four or eight years. Accepting different political parties’ opinions, not arresting you. Healing? There is a lot to be understood before that can take place.

EQ: Ilya, your time, your thoughts, your concerns, are what need to be heard. Thank you for taking this time.

Ilya: You are welcome.



1216 SW Morrison
www.urbancreperiepd.com/

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MY BRIEF LIFE ON PLANET WARHOL

by Sheldon Renan

57 years ago I met a man who would fundamentally alter the direction my life would take.

His name was Andy Warhol.

I was pointed in one direction when I landed on Planet Warhol — but by the time I exited Warhol's orbit eight months later, I found myself living in a new universe with many unexpected opportunities. Virtually everything I've done since then links back to those eight amazing months in 1965.

"Andy was himself becoming a living work of art."

Andy Warhol was himself in a state of change when I met him. He had come to New York direct from art school and became very successful in Manhattan's design community for his shoe illustrations and unusual design solutions. He struggled for years to move from commercial art to fine art. But he did it by transforming commercial art into fine art — doing paintings of Campbell Soup cans and sculptures that emulated boxes of Brillo. Eventually Warhol, along with other "pop artists" like Roy Lichtenstein, transformed how the world defined art. By 1964, however, he had become bored with painting and sculpture. He was looking for ways to rethink and redefine movies. And over time his art became performative. Andy — how he looked, how he behaved, what he said or didn't say — was himself becoming a living work of art.

In spring of 1964, I quit my job in the Art Room at the main branch of the Multnomah County Library in Portland. I took a Greyhound Bus across the U.S. to New York City where I managed to get hired as a "copy cub" writing for Ted Bates Advertising (the advertising agency that later inspired the TV series **Mad Men**). On the side, I started writing articles for **MONITOR**, a small magazine that literally nobody read. But it gave me an excuse to interview movie directors and writers who interested me.

I discovered a friend from college (Class Poet of Yale '63) was partying with Warhol and asked him to arrange an interview. On Tuesday, January 19, 1965 — less than a year after stepping off the Greyhound from Portland — I took the freight elevator at 231 East 47th Street to the fifth floor and stepped into The Factory, Warhol's industrial never-never land studio where everything from bathrooms to barbells had been sprayed with bright silver paint. Petula Clark's **DOWNTOWN** was blasting over loudspeakers, as Warhol's staff set up a movie shoot in the stairwell. In the article I wrote later, I described Andy wearing common work clothes, sunglasses and sneakers, with oat grey hair long in front and short in back, and "resembling a very intelligent albino bat."

Warhol told me he was just making the same movie over and over again, only with different people in front of the camera. In fact, for the past eight months he had been exploring what he could do with a camera — but without moving the camera or any editing whatsoever. These were the move-less movies that had already



begun to make him famous: **SLEEP** of a man sleeping, **KISS** of people kissing, **EMPIRE** with eight hours of the Empire State Building, and **BLOW JOB** of... a man's face while... well you can fill in the details. But now Warhol had purchased an Auricon sound-on-film news camera, and that afternoon I watched him shoot his third sound film — **DRUNK** — which showed his close friend Emile D'Antonio drinking a fifth of scotch and then passing out on the stairs. I described all this in detail, including D'Antonio trying to dance with me while they changed film magazines, in the one-page article I wrote for **MONITOR**. My editor titled it, "Movies, Kissies & Drunkies."

I sent Warhol a copy via my college poet friend. But I also showed it to Harold Steinberg, publisher of the Chelsea House Press (which he ran out of his apartment in the Chelsea Hotel). Steinberg asked me to find out if Andy was interested in being the subject of a book. Today there are literally hundreds of books about Warhol, but at that time, it was virgin territory. I asked my friend to pass along the interest and the contact information for Chelsea House.

A week later my world more or less exploded. My friend called, so excited he could barely tell me the news. He told me Andy thought my article was "the best thing ever written about him"! And that Andy had actually put my article in his new time capsule. That Andy wanted to do the book. And that Andy wondered if I would be interested in writing the text for the book.

"I became a frequent participant in Andy Warhol's world – not mornings, but often noon and night."

I quit my copywriting job at Ted Bates Advertising, and became a frequent participant in Andy Warhol's world — not mornings, but often noon and night. Andy more or less assigned me to learn as much as possible about him, talking to his friends, agents and gallery owners. I attended business meetings, gallery openings, dinners, parties and field trips. Walking to the Chelsea Hotel one day, Andy told me with great wonder that someday everybody in the world would be famous for 15 minutes. He told it as if he had just thought it up. And I was writing it all down.

Andy introduced me to David Dalton, who had worked as Andy's studio assistant when Dalton was in high school. Dalton would be doing the book design. He was a long time member of Andy's circus and knew Andy much better than I did. Meanwhile a smart young English fashion photographer named David McCabe was assigned to do the photographs. And he took a year's worth of photographs, many of which became famous. Eventually the book was given a working title of **WARHOL WARHOL**. Dalton did a concept rough, without words. The Chelsea House Press was not involved.

Over time, David Dalton explained that Andy was not comfortable with words. The previous week, he told me, Andy had worried what to put in the book shelf in his new townhouse. He didn't own books. He didn't read books. Finally, at Dalton's suggestion, they filled the shelves with Campbell Soup cans.

Andy invited me to attend the premiere of the James Coburn movie, **OUR MAN FLINT**, in a Manhattan theater. I sat next to Andy in the first row. Andy talked during the film, amazed at how beautiful the artificial fruit bowls looked in the movie.

All this time, however, there was never any mention of payment for my writing services. As far as I could tell, nobody who worked on Andy's projects got paid. The payment was being recognized as a member of this art community — which was often exciting all by itself — and I got to hang with a whole new group of remarkable people, like Henry Geldzahlor, curator of contemporary art at the Metropolitan Museum. Ray Johnson, an artist, began sending me little works, some reposted from other correspondents. (This was his style.)

"Salvador Dali... Andy Warhol."

One of the photo shoots Andy set up for David McCabe was of Andy meeting, for the first time, with Salvador Dali. Unlike most of the book-related activities, this was a morning appointment. Dali was living in a hotel suite, whose walls the artist had covered with his drawings. I got there before anybody else, and so was making small talk with Dali until Andy arrived. One of the things I had done to make money when I was at Yale was to work as "social announcer" for Yale President Alfred Whitney Griswold. When there was a reception line, my job was to stand to the left of President Griswold, then bend over so the next person in line could whisper their name into my ear. Then I would straighten and say in a formal tone, "President Griswold, this is Mr. Soandso. Mr. Soandso, President Griswold." So that morning when Andy finally arrived, I automatically introduced him to Salvador Dali, "Salvador Dali... Andy Warhol." Sometimes it's hard to believe things like this really happened. But they did.

Andy was trying to understand how to make his movies more mainstream. And part of that was using a writer named Ronnie Tavel to write real scripts, but these were very loosely plotted. They were more like improvised Theater of the Ridiculous. Soon I was invited to come to the next filming: his most elaborate film so far, called **VINYL**. I didn't know it at the time, but Andy had paid to buy the rights to Anthony Burgess's book **A CLOCKWORK ORANGE**. It was in no way competitive with Stanley Kubrick's version. It did, however, include the first appearance of Edie Sedgwick, who was quickly becoming Andy's next "superstar." I was sitting next to the camera as the film went on, but I was unable to follow the story. Finally I stood up and said, "I have to go now." I believe you can still hear that on the film's soundtrack, followed by the door lightly slamming. I was *really* naive. But I think, in retrospect, that Andy would think of that as a sort of natural content. (Jean-Luc Godard has evolved to the same perspective in his later films, like **KING LEAR**.)



"The Circus"

After that I was told that Andy was going to shoot a remake of **WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF**. But his version would star the actual people who the characters, George and Martha, were based on. This couple were the film-makers Willard Maas and Marie Menken, who had been the mentors of playwright Edward Albee when he was in college. Willard and Marie were close to both Andy and to Warhol's chief assistant Gerard Malanga. It was Marie, in fact, who first encouraged Andy to make movies — and taught him how to use a movie camera, a 16mm Bolex. Willard and Marie were one of the great love stories of New York's avant-garde community. But they were also alcoholics who would fight when they drank. So Andy's

plan was to have them drink and fight on camera. The resulting film was titled **BITCH**. I believe it has never been released. But I enjoyed watching Andy film it.

One fact that was inescapable was the degree of Andy's social ambitiousness. He desperately wanted to be famous. And in that he succeeded. Certainly he may have become one of... if not the most... famous artists in the world. And he wanted The Factory to become famous, too. One of his methods of accomplishing this was staging events at The Factory. During my time on Planet Warhol, the best of these events was when Andy lent The Factory to Tennessee Williams to throw a party honoring the great ballet dancer Rudolf Nureyev. But first Andy threw a Sunday afternoon party to publicize the Nureyev party. Then the Nureyev party itself. Though it's been over 50 years ago, I still remember two scenes. The first was when the doors of the freight elevator opened to reveal Montgomery Cliff holding Judy Garland in his arms. (She was too drunk to stand.) The second was Rudolf Nureyev attempting to dance the Frug in a tightly tailored double-breasted suit. Believe it or not, Nureyev appeared too muscle-bound to move. But that party has gone down in history.

As summer of 1965 approached, I was asked to house-sit a 150 year-old four-story townhouse in Greenwich Village. I don't remember why, but I invited Andy Warhol to come for dinner. Andy loved old houses, and he loved this one. But I learned that when Andy comes to dinner, he does not come alone. He brought Edie Sedgwick, Gerard Malanga, two long-time women friends of Andy, a professor from Harvard and book designer David Dalton. He also invited a well-known photographer, Bob Adelman, who shot both the dinner party in the basement kitchen... and a kind of after-party when Andy, me, and his two women friends went up to my bedroom to lounge around on the bunk beds. Adelman focused the dinner party photos on Andy and Edie. But, as I recently discovered, the second set of photos in the bedroom are primarily focused on me, at age 24, looking pretty uncertain as to what I'm doing there.



(L to R) Sheldon, Warhol's friend Carol, and Andy hang out in Sheldon's bedroom after he hosted a dinner for Warhol and his entourage.
© Bob Adelman with permission from the Bob Adelman Estate.

At the end of the evening, I got into a friendly shoe kicking fight with Andy, who was wearing Spanish dancer boots with high heels. Andy really got into it, chanting "Oh, he likes it." I assumed Adelman shot this, but I never saw any of these photos surface... but warned my kids that somewhere there were photos of me on a bed with Andy Warhol. I remember my son giving me a long look and finally asking, "Dad, is there something you haven't told us?"



Andy, Edie Sedgwick, Gerard Malanga at a NYC party. 1965
© Bob Adelman

Two years ago I heard that Bob Adelman had died, leaving all his negatives to the Library of Congress. His estate kept the copyright, but posted the contact sheets on his web site. You can see them there at http://www.bobadelman.net/galleries/warhol/parties/index_5.html .

Andy liked the house on Grove Street so much that it he asked if he could use it in July of 1965 to host the New York Times interview of his newest superstar Edie Sedgwick. A week later an article appeared in the New York Times crowning her the next "Woman of the Year."

Early on I was having a difficult time navigating the sexual politics of The Factory. Warhol was gay. Virtually everybody around him was gay. But I was straight. Since then, many of my best creative partners have been gay. But back then I didn't know how to handle it. In the end, I decided to write another book instead. This was ***AN INTRODUCTION TO THE AMERICAN UNDERGROUND FILM***, the first history of experimental media — which included a section on Andy Warhol's film-making. I thought it would be of marginal interest, but it sold 100,000 copies in the U.S., and excerpt rights were sold in 21 languages. Just this year, a new translation in Portuguese was published in Brazil.



Writing that book led to my founding the Pacific Film Archive at the University of California in Berkeley. And to proposing a network of regional film centers, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, that helped start, among others, the Northwest Film Center in Portland. None of this would have happened without my experience of time spent with Andy Warhol.

WARHOL WARHOL was never published. But the photographs David McCabe shot for the project were later published in a 2003 book titled ***A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF ANDY WARHOL***. David Dalton did the text.

In 1969, Andy Warhol, in partnership with John Wilcock (who co-founded The Village Voice) started ***ANDY WARHOL'S INTERVIEW***. And I actually provided an article for the first Issue.



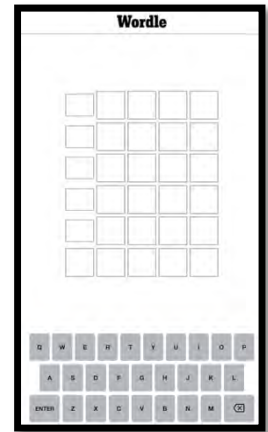
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EXERCISES FOR THE BRAIN

By Chris Steele

Have you become addicted to the new word craze – **Wordle**? You have six attempts to pick the correct five-letter word. For each word guess, color coded results are obtained with green being the correct letter in the correct space and yellow for the correct letter not in the correct place. Incorrect letters are then ruled out. There is only one game each day and it is the same for all players, allowing for some friendly competition.



I play daily and share my scores with two friends. My daughter-in-law plays with her family, and they agree on the same starting

word; her choice one day was “farts” (strategically not a good word in my book). Some people have a strategy to always start with the same word; I know someone who tries to identify as many vowels as possible on the first try using the word adieu. I can’t remember from day to day what word I used, so I vary it depending on my mood and possibly what letters were used in the winning word the day before. Of course, if you are lucky enough to guess the word in two guesses, it is worthy of a share on Facebook where other friends share similar successes.

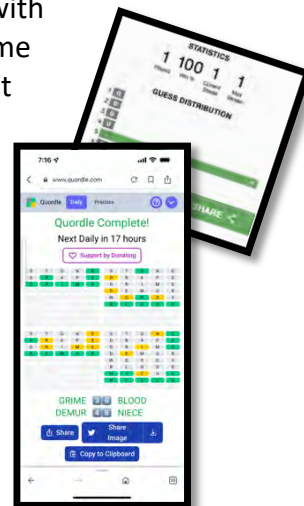


If one game per day is not enough, my friends and I have added Quordle, which is four words at once with nine guesses allowed. Again, there is one game

per day, but you can play in practice mode and attempt

other random games. It wasn’t long before a new game appeared; Octordle, which is eight words in the same game with 13 guesses.

My friends and I claim we are doing mental exercises when we play. With only one word per day not too much time is devoted to the game, although I attempt the four and eight word sets as well. I wake myself up every day with coffee and a word game. Then it is on to more physical exercise – a requirement for all the sourdough bread baking that happens after mental and physical exercise.



The website for Wordle: <https://www.nytimes.com/games/wordle/index.html>

Watch "The Devious Mind Behind Wordle" <https://youtu.be/f1BLsjjAlB4>

The website for Quordle: <https://www.quordle.com/#/>

The website for Octordle: <https://octordle.com/>

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HAPPENING IN and AROUND THE ELIZABETH

Compiled By Chris Steele

In the Elizabeth



Book Club – The Elizabeth Book Club continues meeting on the second Monday of each month at 4:30 via ZOOM, until such time as an in-person meeting is possible. The book for May will be The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson. Listings of past books, future reading plans and contact information can be found on the Elizabeth website.

<https://www.elizabethlofts.org/community/elizabeth-book-club/>

Welcome Committee – This recently formed group is still looking for volunteers to welcome new residents to the building and generally make the Elizabeth Lofts a more warm and friendly place. If this interests you, please contact Bob Garsha at welcome@elizabethlofts.org to offer your help.



EQ – the newsletter you are reading right now! We are not just a pretty face. We are also an opportunity to exercise your creative muscles. We need writers, photographers, editors and graphic designers and artists. Contact us at EQ@elizabethlofts.org to volunteer. We would love guest contributors as well, if you have something fun to share with neighbors.



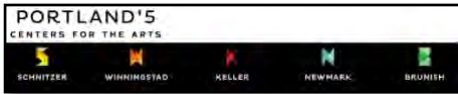
ELEC – the Elizabeth Lofts Emergency Committee is a group of residents who have come together to make people and the building safer, more secure, and more resilient in the event of an emergency. We need volunteers to help us plan for disasters either in an ongoing capacity or as special advisors on issues like medical care or construction. We also need people who we know in advance are ready to help when need strikes. If you can help, contact ELEC at elec.leads@elizabethlofts.org.

Community Room Bookshelves – We continue to collect a variety of reading options. If Covid and rain (or snow) are confining you indoors, check out what is available!



Live Events

Covid-19 attendance policies can vary and change at any time. It is advisable to check the venue instructions for the event of interest. Requirements can be determined by each performance.



[Portland's Centers for the Arts](#) has a large variety of scheduled live events.

[Portland Center Stage at the Armory](#) has a variety of events on their schedule including [improvisation classes](#) for beginners and [Urban Jazz Dance](#) classes. For those not yet ready for live performances, there are [recordings of virtual offerings](#) still available.

For various events check out [Portland Mercury](#) for all things happening around Portland.

[Oregon Festivals and Events](#) has a calendar of future events if you are looking for something new to do.



Check out some [live concerts](#) coming to Portland. Tickets are going fast for some shows.

[BODYVOX](#) has announced their new "Effervescent" 2021-22 season of dance.

[Chamber Music Northwest](#) is presenting their 2021-2022 season which they say is the most dynamic and diverse season ever. Shows are selling out.

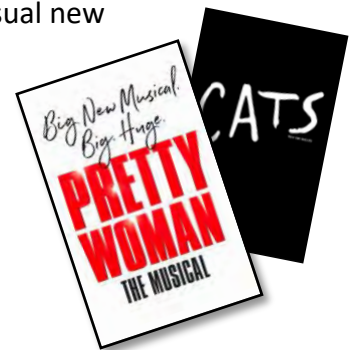


Tickets are on sale for the [Oregon Symphony](#), with some more unusual offerings. Additionally, [livestream concert](#) tickets are also on sale for those not yet ready to go to an in-person event.

Check out the [Oregon Ballet Theater](#) for some seasonal favorites and some unusual new offerings. Season subscription packages for the 2022-23 season are on sale.

[Broadway](#) comes to Portland again. Check out the musicals coming this season which include [Pretty Woman](#) and [Cats](#).

Enjoy a mysteriously delightful dinner at the [Dinner Detective](#) at the Embassy Suites downtown. It is America's largest interactive comedy murder mystery dinner show; the menu looks enticing, and the event sounds hilarious.



Jazz lovers should check out events coming to the [Jack London Revue](#) or enjoy dinner and music at [Wilfs](#).

[Rose Festival Events](#) start on May 26 with the Rose City Reunion Concert and continue through June 5, including City Fair, fireworks, treasure hunt, starlight fun run and parade, and of course the Rose Parade.



[Dragon Boat Races](#) are back at Tom McCall Park on June 11 and 12.
[Fleet Week](#) at Tom McCall Park from June 8 to 12.
[Waterfront Blues Festival](#) at Tom McCall Park July 1 to 4.



[Juneteenth Celebration](#) is June 18 and 19.

[First Thursday Street Gallery](#) – April through October, on 13th Ave. between Hoyt and Kearney.

Blue Sky Gallery – [Frederico Estol/Shine Heroes](#) through Wednesday – Sunday May 28 at 122 NW 8th Avenue.

Elizabeth Leach Gallery – [Barbara Sternberger and Amanda Wojick](#) through May 28 at 417 NW 9th Avenue.

Music on Main – They hope to be back this summer. [Look for updates.](#)

[PDX Live](#) at Pioneer Courthouse Square starting June 17. Live concerts on the bricks.

Check out [Willamette Week](#) for lots of great music and fun things to do.

As we enter our new normal, has anyone ever done a
dinner cruise?
EQ would love to hear about it.



Virtual Events

If you are still mostly staying socially distant, armchair opportunities are still available online.

[The Shows Must Go On](#) is a listing on YouTube of a variety of music from many of your possibly favorite shows.



Portland's Social Distance Ensemble has a different concert every Friday streamed live by the [45th Parallel Universe](#). This season is about creativity amidst calamity.

[British Museum](#), [National Gallery of Art](#), [The Met](#), [2500 more museums](#) – visit museums across the world without leaving home!

If you are ready to put your free time to good use, check out the various online classes at the [Dandelion Chandelier](#).

Ready for a Night at the Movies?

[Living Room Theater](#) (10th and Stark) and [Cinema 21](#) (616 NW 21st Ave.) offer more than the usual fare.



For a larger than life experience check out what there is to see on the IMAX screen at [OMSI](#).



EQ welcomes your comments on this article or the Issue: EQ@ElizabethLofts.org

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