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# Community Report

A NEWS UPDATE FROM THE



Port of Vancouver USA

SPRING 2024



In 2023, more than 98,000 Subaru vehicles cruised through the Port of Vancouver USA, marking a record year in our three-decade relationship with Subaru of America, Inc.

For vehicles ranging from the sporty BRZ to the rugged Crosstrek, the port is the largest gateway for importing Subaru vehicles into the U.S. The relationship began in 1993, and Subaru now leases 40 acres from the port for importing and processing vehicles.

"It makes us smile when passing a Subaru on the road because we know it likely came through the Port of Vancouver USA," said port

CEO Julianna Marler. "We're thrilled to have set a record year with Subaru because of all the benefits this relationship brings to the Vancouver community and beyond."

Every vehicle that comes through the port plays a role in supporting the local economy. Subaru's investments to prepare vehicles for retail delivery support wages paid to local workers, which are subsequently reinvested in the Washington and Oregon region through those workers' spending.

"Subaru is appreciative of our longstanding collaboration and the support that the port

*Main: Subarus are unloaded at the port where they await transport to dealerships around the country. Inset: A new Subaru rolls onto the dock.*

has offered in order to continue working toward future success," said Lisa Kline, Vice President, Vehicle Planning and Logistics at Subaru of America, Inc. "Knowing we can rely on such a dedicated business partner who also understands and shares in our community commitment is an important value."

## Port Report Video Packs a Year of Highlights

Julianna Marler, CEO

What was your port up to in 2023? Quite a bit!

- Just shy of 100,000 Subaru vehicles came through our terminals – a 30-year record.
- We announced plans to become the nation's second largest gateway for a key commodity in the sustainable energy economy.



Watch the  
Port Report video

- We remained the U.S. west coast's leading port for wind energy, handling blades the size of the Statue of Liberty.
  - While the Panama Canal and other waterways around the world experienced severe navigation restrictions, the Columbia River remained open for business. That allowed 13% of the nation's wheat harvest to move through this port.
  - We experienced the best-ever year for our purple martin bird habitat program.
- These are just a few highlights. Find out more about what your port accomplished

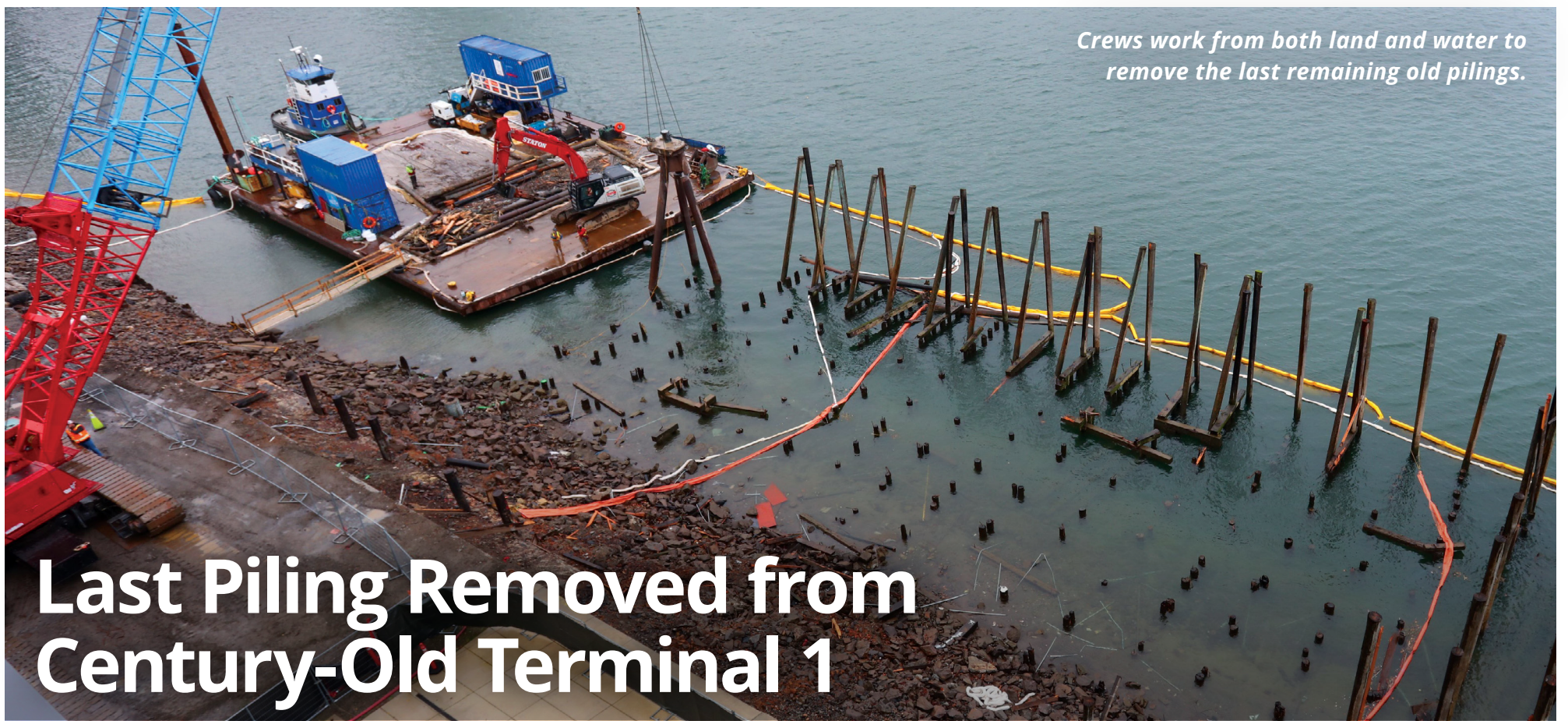
by watching our just-released Port Report video. Use the QR code on the left to watch the video, or visit [portvanusa.com](http://portvanusa.com).

This brief video takes you behind the scenes where you'll see mountains of golden grain, a sea of Subarus being prepared for transport, a century-old dock being removed to make way for a future public market, and the faces of those who drive our success.

Economic benefit is our mission. I invite you to take a few minutes and watch how our activities employ nearly 20,000 people in our region.



Crews work from both land and water to remove the last remaining old pilings.



# Last Piling Removed from Century-Old Terminal 1

In early 2024, the port hit a major milestone in replacing the 100-year-old dock at its Terminal 1 birthplace. Sunlight broke through the clouds on January 24 as crews pulled the final piling from the Columbia River.

Over a four-month span, the port removed nearly 1,000 old wooden piles – many dating back to the 1920's. Careful study revealed the century-old dock simply couldn't support the future public market the port plans to construct at Terminal 1.

Federal and state agencies mandate that in-water work can only happen during specific

time window to minimize impact on fish. This window starts in October and ends in January each year.

For the next window beginning October 2024, crews will make upland ground improvements, rebuild the bulkhead wall where the dock meets the shoreline and regrade the slope. This work will help stabilize the new dock during a potential seismic event.

Other benefits will result from the new structure. Supported by approximately 200 steel piles, the design will allow more light penetration than the 1,000-plus old wooden

Click or scan here to watch a 44 second timelapse of the dock's removal

pilings, creating a safer environment for salmon and other aquatic life.

The final phase of building the new dock will begin in October 2025, when steel piles are installed for the new structure. Once complete, the port will be ready to begin constructing the public market.

Port of Vancouver USA

## 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

Proficiency in handling bulk and break-bulk cargoes continues to position the port to utilize its best assets, including the ability to handle large-sized shipments such as wind energy components.

**98,000** AUTOS IMPORTED

**419,412** HOURS WORKED BY ILWU LONGSHORE  
Generates millions of dollars in local wages and spending in our community



**4,300,000** metric tons of GRAIN EXPORTED

**100% OFFSET OF ELECTRICAL USAGE** in port utility-controlled buildings

**109,000** HOMES POWERED by wind turbines crossing port docks

**6.1M** METRIC TONS OF CARGO

**369,000** metric tons of SCRAP METAL EXPORTED

**58,700** RAIL CARS

**94%** INDUSTRIAL OCCUPANCY

**205,300** metric tons of COPPER CONCENTRATE EXPORTED

**339** VESSEL CALLS

**39,600** metric tons of ALUMINUM IMPORTED

Top trading partners: SOUTH KOREA, JAPAN, CHINA, TAIWAN, PHILIPPINES, THAILAND

**89%** EXPORTS  
**11%** IMPORTS



# SupPORTing our Community

The port has announced four recipients of its 2024 Community Fund. Each local organization shares the port's mission of economic development, workforce training or tourism. The fund's \$10,000 will be disbursed among the following projects and programs in 2024:

## VANCOUVER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (VSO)

The VSO will receive \$3,000 to support its participation in the second annual Vancouver Arts and Music Festival. The three-day festival will feature free performances by the symphony in Esther Short Park. The festival and performances are a regional tourism draw and will help support hotels, restaurants and businesses throughout downtown Vancouver.



## WHY COMMUNITY

The WHY Community will receive \$1,500 to support free registrations for a variety of community runs and fitness events held during the year. These events bring 15,000 people to the Vancouver community and have generated over \$5 million in local economic activity. The port's Community Fund will be used to provide free registrations for children, veterans, cancer survivors and other at-risk groups.



## KE KUKUI FOUNDATION

The Ke Kukui Foundation will receive \$2,500 in support of the 4 Days of Aloha festival. The port's Community Fund will support cultural workshops featuring master practitioners from Hawaii who share music and traditional artistic practices with attendees. The festival is a regional tourism draw supporting hotels, restaurants and business throughout downtown Vancouver.



## PARTNERS IN CAREERS

Partners in Careers will receive \$3,000 in support of its efforts to establish an Entrepreneurs Academy to nurture youth as next generation business leaders. Youth in the program will learn problem solving, communication and other skills that will better equip them for starting businesses and careers. The project meets port goals of supporting workforce training and development.



## Popular Lectures Feature Ports and Popcorn

Nearly 600 people attended the 2024 port lecture series held at the historic Kiggins Theater this spring. The lecture series allows a deeper dive into topics involving the maritime industry and ports in general.

Things "took off" at the first lecture which offered a behind-the-scenes look at PDX Next—a \$2 billion investment in improvements at Portland International Airport. Next up was a presentation by United Grain Corporation and their operation at the port—the largest grain export facility on the West Coast.

The lecture season concluded with a talk by Captain Jeremy Nielsen of the Columbia River Pilots. He described the incredible work of these dedicated professionals who bring ships safely over 100 nautical miles from Astoria to all ports on the lower Columbia and Willamette Rivers.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the lectures this year and we look forward to next year's lineup. If you'd like to be added to the notification list for port lectures and tours, send an email to [RSVP@portvanusa.com](mailto:RSVP@portvanusa.com).



## Out and About This Summer

Summertime means outdoor community events and we hope you'll stop by the port's tent at these events:

### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, August 6 with the Fircrest Neighborhood at LeRoy Haagen Memorial Park, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Come enjoy many community booths, refreshments, kids' activities, live music, food truck and more. The port will be there with fun for kids provided by Columbia Play Project.

### FRUIT VALLEY MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, August 9, 7:00 p.m. at Fruit Valley Park

Free movie at dusk. Bring a blanket, picnic or snacks and enjoy the movie *Wish* (with Spanish subtitles). Event includes food trucks, free frozen treats from the port, games and fun for the whole family.





## Port Buzzing Along with Creation of New Bee-friendly Habitat

What's so important about bees?

Maybe more than you realize. Roughly three fourths of world's flower-producing plants rely on animal pollinators to survive. A large percentage of those plants are food crops.

In other words, three out of every four fruit and vegetable bites we eat depends on bees and other pollinators.

The port is working to boost local bee and other pollinator insect populations.

In late 2023 it began preparing a site at one of its natural areas to increase pollinator habitat in partnership with the Vancouver Bee Project, a local

non-profit committed to improving pollinator habitat in our community.

While it may be a giant black rectangle now, the site is being developed to eventually provide enhanced habitat for bees and other pollinator species to thrive.

Quality native habitat is essential for pollinator survival. Native plants co-evolved with native pollinators and are therefore best suited to provide food, shelter, and other resources that they need to succeed.

The port is excited to move forward with this project and create improved habitat for our pollinating friends.

## CONTACT THE COMMISSIONERS

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**DON ORANGE:**  
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To speak to the commissioners by telephone, please call the port office at 360-693-3611 for contact information.

Written comments can be addressed to:

Port of Vancouver  
Board of Commissioners  
3103 NW Lower River Road  
Vancouver, WA 98660

*Bring Your Child To Work Day is a port favorite each year. Pictured right are kids raising nesting gourds for our purple martin bird conservation program. Between trucks, tours of an ocean-going vessel and tampers, kids got a lesson in "big" at the Port of Vancouver USA!*



## Follow Us on Instagram!

Follow @portvanusa for stunning photos and fun facts about trains, grains, cranes and all the great work we do here at the Port of Vancouver USA.

BE SURE TO FOLLOW US ON ALL OUR SOCIAL CHANNELS:



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