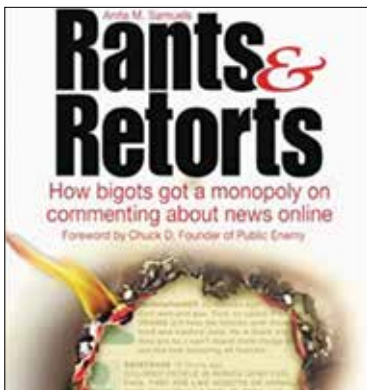


47
years of
community service

‘City
of
Roses’



**Author Exposes
Hate Online**
*Delves into
anonymous,
bigoted speech*
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**Legendary
Funk and Soul**
*An upcoming
date with the
Ohio Players*
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The Portland Observer

Volume XLVI • Number 14



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Wednesday • April 5, 2017



Established in 1970
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The Plaza Park Boys' basketball team, comprised of youth from the Plaza Townhomes apartment community in north Portland, was funded entirely by scholarships from the non-profit group "Off the Sideline." Their Plaza Townhomes apartments community has rallied behind them, and the team lost just one game this season.

Off the Sideline

One year of
getting kids
into the game

The rising costs of participating in school-based sports and after-school activities is causing more families to opt out, but a Portland non-profit has found a way to get more kids into the game.

"Off the Sideline" issued its first sports scholarship one year ago. Today, with the help of organizations like the Volunteers of America, Hacienda, Home Forward and the Boys and Girls Club, more than 80 scholarships to low-income families have

been awarded for kids in grades 5 through 9.

The result is that more at-risk youth in Portland can take part in team sports and have access to sports programs to help them become healthy, happy and successful in life, activities that can improve their health and fitness levels, help them develop positive role models, hone social skills and broaden their community network.

The scholarships allow children to par-

ticipate in a variety of sports ranging from golf to volleyball.

The organization helped Rosa Parks Elementary in north Portland put together two basketball teams. Across town, the Plaza Park Boy's basketball team was funded entirely by the scholarships. Their Plaza Townhomes apartment community has rallied behind them, and the team lost just one game this season.

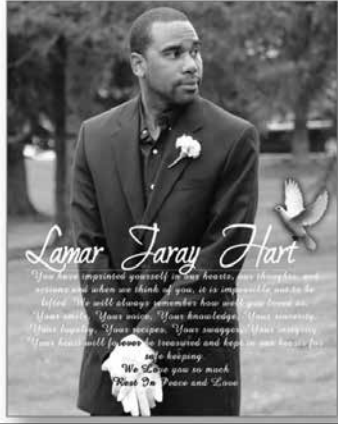
Another example comes from Stanley,

a young boy who struggled academically over the past few years, but started to improve on his failing grades when he jumped at the chance to finally play football. He was required he maintain a C average while on the team and he is now receiving As and Bs, group leaders said.

"While other programs support individuals or teams with the most athletic prom-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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The Week in Review

Tenant Protections Advance

A proposal to ban most no-cause evictions passed the Oregon House Tuesday. Approved by a 31-27 vote, the bill now heads to the Senate after weeks of contentious debate. It attempts to address Oregon's housing crisis by creating protections for tenants living month-to-month, who are often most vulnerable to sudden rent hikes and abrupt lease terminations.

Homeless Man Found Dead

A homeless man was found dead near Troutdale Tuesday. Deputies were called to the Lewis and Clark Recreation area where they found the body. He was reported to have been living in a tent near several other campers. There were no signs of foul play.

Biketown Rentals Vandalized

The city of Portland is asking for the public's help to find the people responsible for vandalism to the city's bike sharing system. Tuesday morning, more than 200 Biketown bicycles were found with tires and seats slashed, and spokes cut. Graffiti obscured control screens on the bikes, as well as the informational panels and electronic kiosks used to check out the bikes. "All Portlanders should be saddened and outraged by this senseless act of vandalism," said city Commissioner Dan Saltzman.

Shift in Police Oversight

Attorney General Jeff Sessions is signaling a major

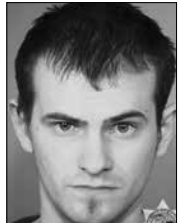
shift in the Justice Department's efforts to reform police departments. In a memo dated Friday, Sessions told U.S. attorneys that it is not the job of the federal government to police state and local law enforcement agencies. In Baltimore, the Justice Department is asking to delay a hearing on the consent decree between DOJ and the Baltimore Police Department

Trump Job Approval Even Lower

Americans' attitudes towards President Trump and Republicans are at a new low, according to a new poll from Quinnipiac University. Overall, voters give Trump a 35 percent job approval rating, with 57 percent disapproving. That's down from the 37 percent Quinnipiac reported just two weeks ago. Fifty-two percent of voters feel embarrassed that Trump is their president. Only 27 percent say they are proud.

Driver Hits Three People

Three people were stuck Sunday afternoon by a car police believe was intentionally used to run into them on Southeast 97th Avenue near East Burnside. A 22-year-old driver was arrested and charged with assault, driving under the influence of intoxicants and other charges



Marijuana Enforcement Plea

The governors of the first four states to legalize recreational marijuana, including Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, sent an open letter Monday urging the Trump administration to work with them before making any changes to the enforcement of federal drug laws in their states.

Gas Explosion Cause Found

A national gas explosion that decimated a building on Northwest 23rd last October was caused by an excavator who dug on the wrong side of the street, according to a report released Friday by the Oregon Public Utility Commission. Miraculously no one was killed in the explosion.



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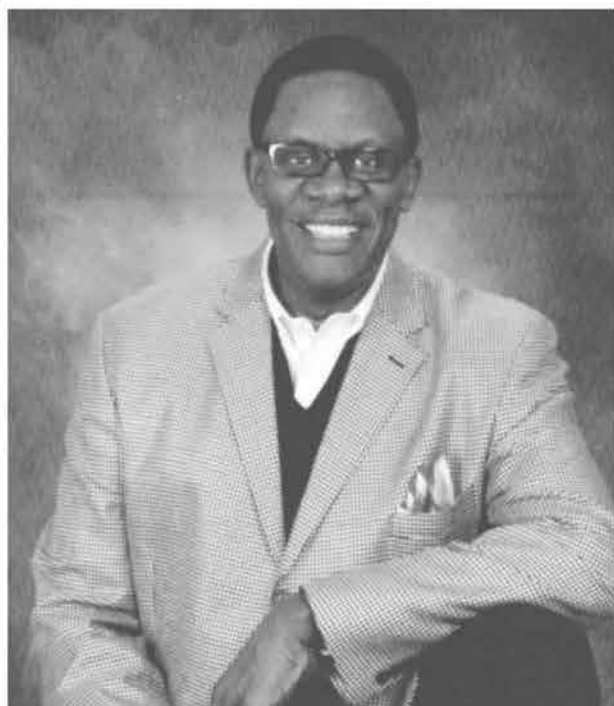
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 - Eat a diet rich in calcium and vitamin D. Your doctor might prescribe a medication to help prevent further bone loss.

- Exercise regularly to help strengthen bones. Talk with a doctor to learn exercises you can safely perform.
- Consult a chiropractor if the curvature of your upper back causes pain or discomfort.

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Portland Development Commission Project Manager Kim Moreland and Alex Colas of Colas Construction oversee the construction of Alberta Commons, the future site for a Natural Grocers store and a strip of small, minority-owned businesses at Northeast Alberta and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

Lease Alberta Commons

Small, minority-owned businesses still have the opportunity to participate in the retail mix at Alberta Commons, now under construction at the corner of Northeast Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Alberta Street.

The Portland Development Commission PDC sent out word Friday that it still has leasing opportunities for commercial retail space at Alberta Commons and

priority will be given to existing local businesses, particularly those owned by people of color.

Alberta Commons is the second half of a long term plan for retail development geared toward the heart of Portland's historic black community. It follows the construction of Vanport Square more than a decade ago, the retail complex immediately to the north.

PDC officials say they are com-

mitted to the success of Alberta Commons to provide needed goods and services to the neighborhood and create lasting, beneficial relationships with the community. The project will contain a Natural Grocers as the anchor tenant.

For more information about the lease opportunities for Alberta Commons, contact Tory Campbell at the PDC.

Assembly for Black Affairs Turns 40

The official state advocacy group for Oregon's black population turns 40 years old this week. The Oregon Assembly for Black Affairs will celebrate with a ceremony in the Legislative Chambers at the State Capitol in Salem on Friday, April 7 at 10 a.m.

Calvin O.L. Henry, the OABA president, invites friends and supporters of the organization to join them.

The Oregon Assembly for Black Affairs was established by the Oregon Legislature in 1977 to improve conditions for blacks in Oregon. At the time, the political and economical voices for people of color were nearly non-existent in Salem.

"In many ways, we were afraid to speak up for each other or do



Calvin O. L. Henry

business with each other," Henry said. "Our community often left young black children to fend for themselves in school settings. The percentage of blacks in the

Oregon prison population was and still is greater than the percentage of blacks in the Oregon population, and businesses in Oregon's black community had decreased."

Since its establishment, the OABA has been working to lessen these strong disconnects while encouraging more people of color to run for partisan and nonpartisan offices and to get involved with Oregon political parties.

"The OABA knows that black Oregonians must become informed and committed voters who will use their citizenship power to improve conditions in Oregon, Henry said. "Thus, the mission of the Oregon Assembly for Black Affairs is to improve the political, educational, social, legal, and economic status of blacks in Oregon."

\$35 Arts Tax Due April 18

The city of Portland is reminding residents that the \$35 Arts Tax approved by Portland voters in 2012, is due on April 18.

This annual tax, which helps pay for 91 kindergarten through fifth grade art and music teachers in Portland area schools and other arts programs sponsored by local arts organizations, is due from all adult Portlanders with taxable income of \$1,000 or more. This in-

cludes anyone who moved into or out of Portland during 2016. Adults who earn less than \$1,000 or are below the poverty line must still file a return to claim an exemption.

Portlanders can file and pay the \$35 Arts Tax online at portlandoregon.gov/artstax. It takes most people three to four minutes to complete the filing process and receive an e-mail receipt.

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The grand opening of Isabella Court in Vancouver brings 49 affordable homes to the community. The housing at 3112 N.E.62nd Ave. was a project of REACH Community Development.

Housing for Seniors

Nonprofit opens first project in Vancouver

REACH Community Development has just opened its first Vancouver senior housing project, Isabella Court, bringing much needed affordable, sustainable

housing to Clark County.

The rapid rise in rents has hit Vancouver's seniors living on a fixed Social Security income particularly hard. As the local population outpaces the housing supply, there is a growing shortage of rental housing that is both affordable to seniors and provides the functionality to help seniors age in place.

Isabella Court is strategically located on the Fourth Plain Corridor and aligns with city of Vancouver and Clark County's efforts to address an area that is underserved for low-income seniors.

Isabella Court offers rents affordable to people 62 years and older who earn 60 percent or less of area median income (\$30,840 for single person household). Rents at the 49-unit building range from \$627 a month to \$914 a month. The Vancouver Housing Authority also has provided funding for 10 apartments to include a rental subsidy making them affordable to households earning 30 percent or less of median income.



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Stanley struggled academically as a member of the Volunteers of America Oregon community over the past few years, but turned his grades around to As and Bs since jumping at the chance to play football. The non-profit group "Off the Sideline" is helping at-risk youth like Stanley participate in school-based sports and after school activities.

Off the Sideline

CONTINUED FROM FRONT
 ise, our mission is to build healthy communities and reach youth who are most at risk," says Leslie Mestman, Off the Sideline executive director. "Our communities are stronger when kids have safe, supportive activities that build self-esteem and encourage them to make healthy choices."
 The scholarships also enable youth to participate in the sport or program that works best for them, rather than relying on what is free.

"Hacienda CDC is thrilled to partner with Off the Sideline," says Jaclyn Sarna, Expresiones program manager. "Youth in our community have a deep connection to sports, but their families often experience barriers to participation. Off the Sideline eases the cost burden on our families, which levels the playing field and helps our youth live healthy, active lives."
 For more information about Off the Sideline, visit offthesideline.org

Join us in celebrating 25 years of "Keeping Unity Community". The Good in the Hood Music and Food Festival June 23th, 24th, 25th Lillis Albina Park North Flint Street and Russell Street, Portland, OR 97227.

If you're interested in becoming a Food Vendor, a merchandise at the Market Place, have an information booth in our Information Village, participate in the Parade, interested in becoming a Kids Space sponsor or volunteering at this year's festival. Contact GITH Hotline at 971-302-6380, office 503-388-9030, or visit website at www.goodnthehood.org

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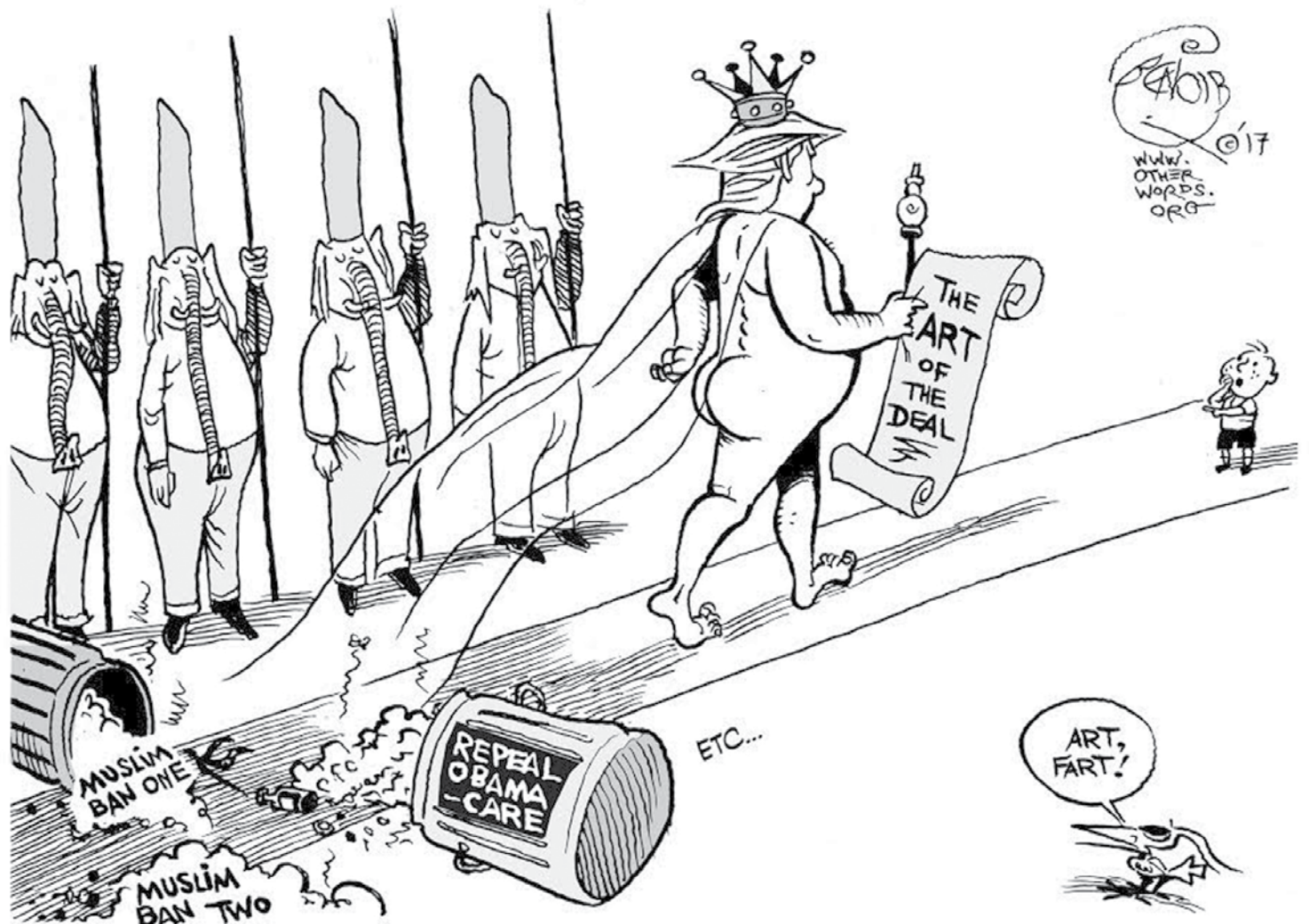
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OPINION



Are You Watching Iraq? You Should Be

U.S. may be killing more civilians than the Russians

BY PETER CERTO

In a desolated patch of Mosul, Iraq, people are still digging through the rubble. Rescuers wear masks to cover the stench, while anxious family members grow desperate about missing loved ones.

The full story of what happened in the al-Jidideh neighborhood isn't yet clear, but the toll is unmistakable. A New York Times journalist reported stumbling across charred human limbs, still covered in clothing, while a man stood nearby holding a sign with 27 names — extended family members either missing or dead.

All told, 200 or more civilians may be dead there following a U.S. airstrike on the densely populated neighborhood. The military has acknowledged the strike, but says it's still investigating the deaths. If the allegations are true, this was by far our deadliest attack on innocents in decades.

The carnage comes amid a push by the U.S. and its Iraqi allies to reclaim Mosul, Iraq's second most populous city, from the Islamic State (or ISIS).

That's making life terrifying for the city's residents, who've endured years of

depredations from ISIS only to fall under U.S. bombs — and to face possible human rights abuses from Iraqi soldiers they don't trust. "Now it feels like the coalition is killing more people than ISIS," one resident told the UK's Telegraph newspaper.

Unfortunately, that may not be so far from the truth. AirWars, which tracks civilian casualties in Iraq and Syria, counted over 1,300 reports of civilian deaths from coalition airstrikes in March alone. That's about triple the count from February.

In fact, AirWars estimates, more U.S. coalition strikes are now causing civilian casualties than strikes by Russia, which was loudly (and appropriately) accused of war crimes for its bombing of Aleppo, Syria last year.

Is this the simple result of the fight heating up in Mosul? Not quite.

In the same month, at least 30 civilians were reported killed by a U.S. airstrike outside Raqqa, Syria — where the real battle with ISIS hasn't even begun yet — and up to 50 more may have died when the U.S. bombed a mosque in Aleppo.

Instead, some observers suspect the Trump administration is relaxing Obama-era rules designed to limit civilian casualties in war zones. They deny this, but the Times reports that field commanders appear to be exercising more latitude to launch strikes in civilian-heavy areas than before.

During the campaign, Trump himself

famously promised to "bomb the s—" out of ISIS. That sounds extreme, and it is.

But it's only a few steps beyond the Obama administration's approach of gradually expanding our air wars outside the public eye. Trump's just taking it to another level by putting virtually all key foreign policy decisions in military hands, while gutting resources for diplomacy and humanitarian aid.

The human costs of this will be enormous. The political costs will be, too.

The U.S. has been "bombing the s—" out of Iraq for decades now, which has consistently created more terrorists than it's killed. Extremists are flourishing in Iraq. The same can't be said for the civilians now burying their dead in Mosul.

Of course, ISIS is guilty of its own innumerable atrocities. But the war-torn sectarian politics that gave rise to the group are a direct result of this military-first foreign policy. There's simply no reason to believe that reducing Iraq's cities to rubble will give way to less extremism in their ashes.

Iraqis will still have to wrest their country back from ISIS. But if it's ever going to get back on its feet, what the country truly needs is a political solution. That's going to require a surge of aid, diplomacy, and honest brokering — all of which are in short supply now.

Peter Certo is the editorial manager of the Institute for Policy Studies and the editor of OtherWords.org.

Opinion articles do not necessarily represent the views of the Portland Observer. We welcome reader essays, photos and story ideas. Submit to news@portlandobserver.com.

OPINION

A New Fix to Close the Gender Pay Gap

Don't peg new wages to old ones

BY MARTHA BURK

Tuesday, April 4 was Equal Pay Day. Never heard of it? If you're a working woman or someone who cares about the working women in your life, you need to study up.



Equal Pay Day is the day in any given year when women working full-time, year-round catch up to men's earnings from the previous year.

Let's say the average man made \$35,000 last year, from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. The average woman working the same amount of time made \$27,300. It will take her until April 4 of this year to amass the same earnings the guy made by the end of last year. So Equal Pay Day is April 4 this year.

But there's more.

Broken down by race, African-American women won't meet the benchmark

until August. Native American women must wait until September. And Latino women will lag even further — until November.

Pay discrimination based on sex has been illegal since the Equal Pay Act was passed way back in 1963. Still, the pay gap remains at 22 cents on the dollar for full-time, year-round work, and it hasn't moved in over a decade. At that pace the gap won't close until 2059, according to the Institute for Women's Policy Research.

Meanwhile, employers who discriminate against their women workers can just sit back and dare them to sue. Go ahead and hire a lawyer, the bullies seem to say. Drag us through the courts for a dozen years — if we don't fire you first. (Retaliation is illegal too, but who's watching?)

There are a number of reasons for the pay gap that don't have anything to do with qualifications or education. One is historical discrimination.

For most of our history, it was legal to pay women less for the same job — employers were even allowed

to advertise that fact. Another reason is that employers historically undervalue "women's jobs," like providing day care and nursing, as compared to "men's jobs," like dog pound attending and auto repair.

Another problem is lack of transparency. Employers aren't required to disclose their workers' pay, and in many workplaces it's against the rules to talk about it with co-workers. So women can't find out what they're making compared to men on the same job.

But in a bizarre twist on the "don't ask, don't tell" rules that shield employers, it's customary for companies to ask for salary history and use that information to set wages for new hires.

For job seekers who've been earning less than their counterparts and working below market rates — primarily women — pegging new wages to old ones maintains the discriminatory practice. Wage gaps that begin early can follow workers all their working lives.

There's a growing bipartisan consensus that a simple change in the hiring process — prohibiting employers

from asking job seekers how much they're currently paid — can make a real difference in closing the gender wage gap. Instead, salary offers should be based on the market value of the position and the candidate's credentials, not their current salary.

To date, two states (Massachusetts and New York) and four cities (New York, Philadelphia, New Orleans, and Pittsburgh) have passed legislation along these lines. The bills differ in that some apply only to public employers in the jurisdiction, while others apply to all employers, public and private.

With no prospects in sight for the federal government to do anything to close the gender pay gap, innovation by states and cities is welcome news. If more follow suit, maybe we won't have to wait until 2059 to finally stop marking (Un)Equal Pay Day.

Martha Burk is the director of the Corporate Accountability Project for the National Council of Women's Organizations and the author of the book *Your Voice, Your Vote*. Distributed by OtherWords.org.

Support for the Creation of a Public Bank

Embracing socially responsible values

BY JUSTIN A. ELARDO

Mayor Wheeler recently announced that the city of Portland, in protest of Wells Fargo's financial involvement with the Dakota Access Pipeline, will pursue other, more socially responsible, banking alternatives. While a number of local alternatives might fit the mayor's criteria for social responsibility, there is another solution that the city of Portland could pursue, the creation of its own Public Bank.

To the uninitiated the concept of a public bank sometimes creates concerns that the government intends on getting into the business of banking. Those concerns are misplaced. The term public, in public banking, is a statement of whom the bank will be serving, not who will be responsible for operating the public bank.

Today, in the United States, the state of North Dakota has its own public bank. The Bank of North Dakota (BND) is a privately run, for profit, financial institution that has been in operation since 1919. The state utilizes the homegrown institution for its banking needs and, in turn, the public bank

engages in borrowing and lending practices designed to promote economic benefits within the state of North Dakota. The BND mission also explicitly prohibits the bank from being harmful to other financial institutions operating with the state.

One way in which the public bank fulfills its mission is by financing state infrastructure projects. Rather than utilizing a Wall Street bank to underwrite projects, North Dakota borrows directly from the Bank of North Dakota with the BND collecting interest on the loans. After deducting operating expenses and profit, the public bank then returns a portion of the interest income back to North Dakota State Treasury. In effect, the public bank allows the state to borrow at very low interest rates.

Imagine a banking structure in Portland that is similar to the Bank of North Dakota. The mission of a Portland Public Bank could be designed to encourage the socially responsible values that Portlanders hold so dear.

There are several areas in which a public bank in Portland could deploy financial capital. A Bank of Portland could provide the city with low cost/low interest loans for things such as local infrastructure (roads). Taken further, a Bank of Portland could also

encourage socially responsible lending within our community by lending for the construction of low-income housing and/or environmentally conscious construction projects, support for local community development banks, as well as bond financing for Portland Public Schools and so much more. The possibilities are abundant and real.

Thankfully the notion of Bank of Portland is not a pie-in-the-sky fairy tale. Right now there is an organization known as the Portland Public Banking

Alliance (PPBA) that is advocating for the city to join a growing nationwide movement and create its own public bank. Currently the group is trying to convince the city to finance a feasibility study. If interested please consider contacting the organization, Mayor Wheeler's office, Portland Treasurer Jennifer Cooperman, as well as the individual members of the Portland City Council.

Justin A. Elardo is an economics instructor at Portland Community College.

The Law Offices of Patrick John Sweeney, P.C.

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Attorney at Law

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SPORTS



Gonzaga's Nigel Williams-Goss drives against North Carolina's Joel Berry II in the finals of the Final Four NCAA college basketball tournament, Monday in Glendale, Ariz. (AP photo)

Tar Heels National Champs

(AP) — North Carolina has its sixth NCAA basketball championship.

The Tar Heels survived an ugly, foul-filled second half Monday night in Glendale, Ariz. to beat Gonzaga 71-65. They scored the final eight points of the game to pull out the victory. Justin Jackson

delivered the go-ahead 3-point play with 1:40 left.

Beating the Spokane-based Zags, which had made it to the Final Four and Championship game for the first time, washed away a year's worth of heartache for North Carolina, fueled by the team's devastating loss in last year's title

game on Kris Jenkins' 3-point dagger at the buzzer for Villanova.

"I wanted to see this confetti fall on us and we're the winners," said Carolina's Joel Berry II, who led the Heels with 22 points. "We came out here and we competed. It came down to the last second, but we're national champs now."

Ducks Just Shy in Final Four



North Carolina's Kennedy Meeks drives between Dylan Ennis (31) and Dillon Brooks of Oregon Saturday in route to a 77-76 victory against the Ducks in the Final Four of the NCAA tournament.

Oregon struggled shooting from the perimeter and gave up two offensive rebounds on missed free throws in the final 6 seconds, leading to a disheartening 77-76 loss to North Carolina in the Final Four Saturday in Glendale, Ariz. It was the first time Oregon had advanced this far in the NCAA basketball tournament since they won the national title in 1939.

"A close loss like this drives coaches crazy, drives players crazy because you think about every little thing," Oregon coach Dana Altman said.

Oregon (33-6) shot 38 percent, went 3 for 18 from 3-point range in the second half and had 16 turnovers, yet pulled within 77-74 on Tyler Dorsey's 3-pointer with 45 seconds left.

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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Spike Lee's Sentimental 'Crooklyn'

RuPaul in a brief, but memorable cameo dances seductively with a store customer in "Crooklyn," considered one of Spike Lee's best movies, a sentimental remembrance of growing up in 1970s Brooklyn. The NW Film Center at the Portland Art Museum will screen the 1994 classic on Sunday, April 9 at 7 p.m. as part of its Black Cinema series.

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ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Emotionally-Charged Drama -- 'Lydia,' an emotionally-charged drama about a young girl and her caretaker which explores family secrets and issues of immigration in a 1970s Texas border town is now playing through Saturday, April 8 at Milagro Theater, Portland's premier Latino arts and cultural center at 525 S.E. Stark St. Visit milagro.org or call 503-236-7253.



Inner City Blues Festival -- "Healing the Healthcare Blues," a benefit for the sixth annual Inner City Blues Festival, a music and dance party for universal health care, takes place on Saturday, April 22 at the North Portland Eagle's Lodge, 7611 N. Exeter Ave, with musical performances on two stages from 5:30 p.m. to midnight. Admission is \$20 in advance and \$25 day of show. Visit tickettomato.com.

The Gospel of Lovingkindness -- Shelley B. Shelley and La' Tevin Alexander star in a poetic story about two black mothers and their sons whose lives are shattered by gun violence. The African-American theater producing PassinArt show plays each Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. through Sunday, April 9 at



the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave. For tickets and more information, visit passinart.net or call 503-235-8079.

Inspired by African and Cuban Dance -- Renowned choreographer Ronald K. Brown and his company 'Evidence' will take the stage for an uplifting and powerful program inspired by African and Cuban Dance set to music of Stevie Wonder and Zap Mama. Performances are Thursday through Saturday, April 6-8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Newmark Theater, downtown. Tickets are available at whitebird.org or calling 1-800-380-3516.



Breakout Tuesdays Hip Hop -- JAMN 107.5 and Cool Nutz from the Breakout Show present Breakout Tuesdays each third Tuesday of the month at the Ash Street, 225 S.W. Ash. The shows will feature performances from some of the top rappers from the Northwest. Hosted by Juma Blaq and DJ Fatboy.

Music Millennium Free Shows -- The Music Millennium, 3158 E. Burnside, regularly hosts a series of in-house live performances. Enjoy free music and the opportunity to meet artists. Call 503-231-8926 for a current schedule.

Norman Sylvester -- 'Boogie Cat' Norman Sylvester plays Saturday, April 8 at the Spare Room; Friday, April 14 at the Rogue Pub in North Plains; Saturday, April 15 at Catfish Lou's; Friday, April 21 at the Vinyl Tap; Saturday, April 22 for the Inner City Blues Festival at the North Portland Eagles Lodge; and Friday, April 28 at Clyde's.



Exploring Black Cinema -- Featuring films by visionaries, rebels and pioneers willing to tell it like it is, the NW Film Center at the Portland Art Museum hosts a black cinema series in conjunction with the museum's African American exhibit "Constructing Identity." For complete listings and advance tickets, visit nwfilm.org.

Auto Swap Meet -- The Portland International Raceway Auto Swap Meet will return to the north Portland racetrack for its 12th annual event, Thursday, April 6 to Saturday, April 8; hours are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. The event runs in conjunction with the annual Portland Swap Meet at the Expo Center.

History Hub -- Oregon Historical Society exhibit for young people explores the topic of diversity with interactive objects and pictures that tell the stories of the people of Oregon, past and present. With puzzles, touch screen activities and board games, History Hub asks students to consider questions like "Who is an Oregonian?," "How has discrimination and segregation affected people who live in Oregon?," and "How can you make Oregon a great place for everyone?"



Legendary Funk and Soul

Tickets have gone on sale for a Portland concert with the Ohio Players, the legendary 70s soul and funk powerhouse band which is scheduled to perform with Shock and Andy Stokes on Saturday, April 22 at the Roseland Theater. The band has 9 members, 4 of which are original Players. The 21 and over concert is presented by Portland's Soul'd Out Festival and Double Tee.

Obituary

In Loving Memory

Paul J. Buscovick

Paul J. Buscovick, 71, of Portland, passed away in Driggs, Idaho on March 16, 2017. Services will be at a later time. For a full obituary or to send condolences to the family visit valleymortuarydriggs.com.

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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



PHOTO BY KYOKO DONALDSON

Free Shuttle Back for Season

Washington Park's free shuttle is back linking all the park's attractions, from the Rose Garden to the Oregon Zoo, with buses that arrive every 15 minutes, between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Weekend service rides started back up on Saturday to coincide with the opening of the Portland Japanese Garden's new Cultural Crossing. Daily service will begin May 1 and run all spring and summer.

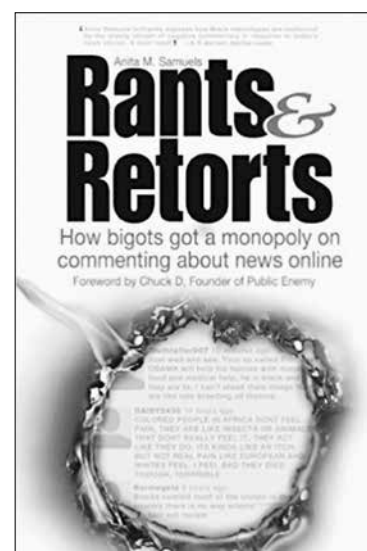
Author Exposes Online Hate

Delves into the anonymous, bigoted speech

An award-winning black journalist is taking on the trolls. Anita M. Samuels' new book, "Rants &



Anita M. Samuels



Retorts: How Bigots Got a Monopoly on Commenting about News Online," exposes the rise in online hate speech.

Since 2008, Samuels has delved into the rampant racism festering in comments sections on many news websites. The unfettered hate, often spewed under the cover of anonymity, is taking its toll on Americans everywhere.

Beginning in the early 1990s as a way to engage with readers, comments sections on mainline publications quickly devolved into a cesspool of negativity and naked racism from people who post messages behind "screen name" aliases.

These were not mere differences of opinion; when stories had to do with African Americans those writing often attacked the entire Black race.

Alarmed by the trend and encouraged by friends and colleagues to write a book, Samuels began to collect examples of these comments, to research the psycho-

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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Tickets for Summer Concerts

Tickets are now on sale for the first half-dozen shows coming to the Oregon Zoo's Summer Concerts. Singer and multi-instrumentalist Seu Jorge will kick off the series with a tribute to David Bowie on June 21 with the remaining summer concerts dates running through September. For tickets and more information, visit zooconcerts.com



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Hands On for Critter Count

Vancouver's Water Resources Education Center has a call out to slither, crawl or hop to the annual Critter Count, seeking and exploring a variety of critters to help evaluate water quality and changing environmental conditions.

It starts Saturday, April 8 at 9 a.m. Participants of all ages will

get a quick overview of the identification of local frogs, snakes, salamanders, lizards, and other amphibians and reptiles, then venture out to one of four sites to find and record critters in their natural habitat

A live show with snakes, lizards and other reptiles follows in

the afternoon at the Water Center, 4600 S.E. Columbia Way. You can join in one or both of these free events, but participants must provide their own transportation to the field sites.

For more information, call 360-487-7111 or visit cityofvancouver.us/watercenter.

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Author Exposes Online Hate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

social causes behind them and ask news corporations what they were

doing about them.

Samuels said immersing herself in the subject took a toll on her psyche and has taken a toll on the

American public at large.

With interviews with some 30 experts on media, culture, psychology, and technology, Rants & Retorts chronicles the ascendancy of hate speech in many on-

line news forums. It also presents dozens of anonymous comments by topic including on Barack Obama's presidency, crime, education and parenting, among others, and examines the harmful

stereotypes and divisive beliefs these Internet rants perpetuate in American society.

Rants & Retorts is available at Amazon.com and local bookstores.



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CALENDAR April 2017



MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

						1 April Fool's Day One Cent Day MP3 audio format first patented in Germany (1989)	2 <i>Author Hans Christian Andersen born, 1805</i> International Children's Book Day
3 ☾ Find-A-Rainbow Day Pony Express established (1860)	4 First U.S. flag approved (1818)	5 National Read a Road Map Day Booker T. Washington born, 1856	6 North Pole Discovered In 1898. U.S. entered World War I (1917)	7 No Housework Day World Health Day , established 1948	8 Trina Schart Hyman born, 1939	9 Palm Sunday Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant (1865)	
10 Passover Begins at Sundown Encourage a Young Writer Day National Sibling Day	11 ○ President Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act, 1964 (1964)	12 Space Shuttle Columbia First Launched Crewed by John Young and Robert Crippen - 1981	13 3rd President Thomas Jefferson born, 1743 Lee Bennett Hopkins born, 1938	14 Titanic Struck an iceberg shortly before midnight on April 14, then sinking.	15 Income Tax Day Artist/Inventor Leonardo Da Vinci born, 1452	16 Easter Garth Williams born, 1912 Aviator Wilbur Wright born, 1867	
17 Sherlock Hemlock's Birthday (Sesame Street character)	18 Paul Revere's Famous Ride (1775) Great San Francisco Earthquake In 1906. Pet Owner's Day	19 ☾ Humorous Day Revolutionary War began (1775)	20 Scientists Marie & Pierre Curie isolate radium (1902)	21 Kindergarten Day Barbara Park born, 1947	22 Earth Day established 1970 Girl Scout Leader Appreciation Day	23 Home Run Day, Hank Aaron hits his first home run in 1954. William Shakespeare born, 1564	
24 Library of Congress established (1800) Pigs-in-a-Blanket Day	25 Anzac Day (Australia, New Zealand) Hubble Telescope launched, 1990 World Penguin Day	26 ● Administrative Professionals/ Secretaries Day Hug a Friend Day National Pretzel Day	27 Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day Take Our Daughters to Work Day Tell a Story Day	28 Arbor Day James Monroe born, 1758 (5th President)	29 Zipper Day (patented by Gideon Sundback in 1913)	30 National Honesty Day Anniversary Louisiana Purchase completed (1803)	



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