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PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Andrew Colas of Colas Construction outside the Oregon Convention Center on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard where his Portland-based firm won a \$27 million contract to make renovations to the 30-year-old facility, the largest contract ever awarded to a minority-owned business by Metro regional government.

Minority firm
wins biggest
ever Metro job

BY DANNY PETERSON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A \$27 million construction project, the largest ever doled out to a minority-owned business from the regional government Metro has been awarded to Colas Construction, a black-owned and longtime Portland company.

The successful bid means Colas will be responsible for the work to revamp the Oregon Convention Center with a brand new plaza, entries and interiors. The construction will be done in conjunction with the building of Portland's first convention hotel, a \$244 million Hyatt Regency Portland, slated to open across the street from the convention center in 2019. (See related story, page 3)

Pay Dirt for Colas

Raimore Construction, another black-owned construction firm from northeast Portland, will partner with Colas on the convention center remodel. Colas will serve as the project's construction manager.

"It was definitely one of the most exciting days of my construction career," said company executive and spokesman

Andrew Colas, about winning the Metro contract last Aug. 31.

Colas grew up learning the business from his father, Herman Colas, originally from Haiti, who started the company in 1997.

"To just see, you know, that culmination of being a little kid walking around the city with my father, looking at all the Hoff-

man tower cranes, my dad always telling me that they were our competition. I'm just really proud to have been given the opportunity to work on such an iconic building," Colas told the Portland Observer.

"My dad's the hardest working person I've ever met. And just seeing that work ethic that he practiced, but then instilled in me, it's just so critical to being able to be successful as a business person," Colas added.

He recalled his own interest in construction began at an early age.

"Any project I went by I wanted to look at it, I wanted to study it, I wanted to understand how it worked," he said. "I always followed the plans, but I always felt like I could build, you know, something even better."

The Oregon Convention Center's original construction was wrought with razing housing in a historic black neighborhood and garnered criticism from activist groups like the Coalition of Black Men for not

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Chief Outlaw Takes the Oath

Danielle Outlaw of Oakland, Calif., was sworn in Monday as the new Chief of Police for the Portland Police Bureau. She is the third woman to be police chief in Portland history and the first African-American woman to hold the position. Outlaw was hired in August by Mayor Ted Wheeler following a national search.

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The Week in Review

Simpson Free after 9 Years

After serving nine years for a fumbled hotel room heist in Las Vegas trying to obtain his own memorabilia, former football star and acquitted murder suspect OJ Simpson was released from prison on parole in the dead of night Sunday. He plans on staying in Vegas for a while then moving to Florida where some of his family are, a prospect that has generated opposition by Florida officials.



Richardson calls Gay Immoral

Oregon Secretary of State Dennis Richardson has come under fire for answering "yes" to the question of whether or not it is "immoral" to be gay. Democratic Party of Oregon Chair Jeanne Atkins said Richardson's comment, made during an OPB interview, "flies in the face of Oregon's values" and called for prominent Oregon Republicans Greg Walden and Knute Buehler to condemn the statement.

Driving Ban for all Hand Devices

A new law went into effect Sunday that bans all cellphone and electronic use for drivers, not just talking or texting but anything "hands on," with repeat offenders facing steeper fines and up to a year in



jail. Distracted driving leading to a crash approximately every three hours on Oregon roads, the Oregon Department of Transportation said.

Smith Points to 'Entrenched Bias'

In press conference last week, Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith called for an independent investigation into Multnomah County's "entrenched bias." The comments come on the heels of the firing of former public health director Tricia Tillman, who said she was let go unfairly and pointed to systemic racism as the culprit.



Russians Targeted Election Ads

The Russian government used a so-called troll farm to distribute Facebook ads during the 2016 presidential campaign to target audiences in Ferguson, Mo., and Baltimore with references to Black Lives Matter, two locations where black men were killed in police shootings, Facebook revealed last week.

Schools Hit with Racist Graffiti

Two men are suspected of scrawling racist graffiti and vandalism across multiple elementary schools in the David Douglas School District according to police and multiple reports. Last week Menlo Park Elementary School was marked with racial slurs and similar graffiti was found Monday morning by administrators at Mill Park, Ventura Park and Lincoln Park elementary schools.

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What's on your list today?

Equity and Inclusion

Convention hotel committed to diverse workforce

BY DANA LYNN BARBAR
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

An agreement between public and private parties to create jobs and employment opportunities for diverse populations during and after the construction of Portland's first major convention hotel is a leading example of workforce equity and inclusion in practice.

Slated to open in late 2019, the new Hyatt Regency Portland at the Oregon Convention Center will establish the city of Portland as a destination for larger conventions and events, bringing in more visitors and strengthening the regional economy by an estimated 30 percent, according to Metro, the regional government agency sponsoring the project.

Ground-breaking for the hotel took place Aug. 4 and construction on the 600-room, LEED certified hotel is now underway. The project is overseen by Hyatt, Mortenson Construction, and Metro, which owns the Oregon Convention Center located directly across the street from where the new hotel will be located.

The construction will bring in an estimated 2,000 jobs, while the opening and staffing of the hotel will require an estimated 950 hospitality and tourism jobs.

Metro and Mortenson Construction are leading the effort to ensure job creation and employment opportunities for diverse populations during the project. Together, they implemented a workforce development plan to improve access to trade careers for minorities.

The workforce equity goals are to employ 30 percent people of color, 15 percent women, and 20 percent from apprentices in the trades, according to Karol Collymore, communications and policy development program manager at Metro.

Officials are optimistic they will achieve the hiring goals. Hyatt and Metro representatives are committed to meet monthly and get monthly reports to track progress. They have made generous



PHOTO COURTESY MORTENSON CONSTRUCTION

A diverse workforce is on the job as footings to start construction of a convention hotel are put in place at the site of the future Hyatt Regency Portland at the Oregon Convention Center. An agreement between public and private parties ensures the hotel is a leading example of workforce equity and inclusion in practice.



An artist's rendering shows the future Hyatt Regency Portland at the Oregon Convention Center, a 600-room hotel that will bring in an estimated 2,000 jobs. When opened in 2019, staffing of the hotel will require another 950 hospitality and tourism jobs.

contributions totaling \$450,000 to increase the number of women and people of color in the trades, developing the Construction Apprenticeship Workforce Solutions program. And in late August, the

companies held a Contractor's Open House for women and people of color for the upcoming wave of work expected.

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Deadliest Shooting in Modern US History

Motive still
a mystery as
authorities look
for clues

(AP) -- Investigators trying to figure out why Stephen Paddock gunned down 59 people from his high-rise hotel suite are analyzing his computer and cellphone, looking at casino surveillance footage and seeking to interview his girlfriend.

Nearly two days after the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, what set off the 64-year-old high-rolling gambler and retired accountant remained a big question mark Tuesday, though the Las Vegas sheriff said he is confident investigators will find a motive.

Paddock's girlfriend, Marilou Danley, is considered a "person of interest" and has been speaking with police from the Philippines, where she is traveling, Sheriff Joseph Lombardo said.

"We anticipate some information from her shortly," he said.

While the probe into Paddock's background included searches of two houses he owned in Nevada, some investiga-



Concertgoers run over barriers and duck for cover when gunfire from a sniper perched in a nearby hotel aims his firepower at a concert venue along the Las Vegas strip on Sunday, killing 59 people and injuring more than 500. (Getty Images)

tors turned their focus from the shooter's perch to the festival grounds outside the Mandalay

Bay hotel casino where his victims fell.

A dozen investigators docu-

mented evidence at the site where gunfire rained down Sunday night and country music gave way to screams of pain and terror.

"Shoes, baby strollers, chairs, sunglasses, purses. The whole field was just littered with things," said Nevada Attorney General Adam Laxalt, who told The Associated Press it was like a "war zone." "There were bloodstains everywhere."

Paddock killed himself before a SWAT team blew off the door of his room on the 32nd floor.

Investigators found video cameras set up inside his room and on a service cart outside it to spy anyone coming his way, Lombardo said.

A hotel security guard who approached the room during the rampage was shot through the door and wounded in the leg.

Paddock had 23 guns with him at the hotel, along with devices that can enable a rifle to fire continuously, like an automatic weapon, authorities said. Nineteen more guns were found at his Mesquite home and seven at his Reno house.

More than 500 people were injured in the rampage, some by gunfire, some during the chaotic escape. At least 45 patients at two hospitals remained in critical condition.

All but three of the dead had been identified by Tuesday afternoon, Lombardo said.

Retired FBI profiler Jim Clemente speculated that there was "some sort of major trigger in his

life — a great loss, a breakup, or maybe he just found out he has a terminal disease."

Clemente said a "psychological autopsy" may be necessary to try to establish the motive for the attack. If the suicide didn't destroy Paddock's brain, experts may even find a neurological disorder or malformation, he said.

He said there could even be a genetic component to the slaughter: Paddock's father was a bank robber who was on the FBI's most-wanted list in the 1960s and was diagnosed a psychopath.

"The genetics load the gun, personality and psychology aim it, and experiences pull the trigger, typically," Clemente said.

Paddock had a business degree from Cal State Northridge. In the 1970s and '80s, he worked as a mail carrier and an IRS agent and held down an auditing job in the Defense Department, according to the government. He later worked for a defense contractor.

He had no known criminal record, and public records showed no signs of financial troubles, though he was said to be a big gambler.

"No affiliation, no religion, no politics. He never cared about any of that stuff," his brother, Eric Paddock, said outside his Florida home. He said he was at a loss.

The FBI discounted the possibility of international terrorism early on, even after the Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attack.

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A world champion in the ring, Portland boxer Steve '2 Pounds' Forbes (left), is taking his expertise from the gym to a new level by starting his own personalized boxing training business.

Turning His Sport into a Business

World champion launches boxing studio

BY ZACHARY SENN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

One of Portland's most accomplished athletes is opening a specialized training studio in his beloved Rose City. Steve "2 Pounds" Forbes, a professional boxer who was born in Portland in 1977, is opening 2 Pounds Sports to share his knowledge and talent with a new generation of athletes.

"I was born here, weighing just two pounds," Forbes told the Portland Observer, explaining his iconic boxing nickname.

The hometown hero was raised by his grandmother and began training at north Portland's Matt Dishman Community Center at the age of 10. By 1996, he landed

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Diversity Matters at Portland Community College

Recruiter hired to advance equity in hiring

Gregory Dockery was hired as its first diversity recruiter at Portland Community College last December, a position in the college's human resources department for increasing the number of qualified diverse professionals for appropriate staff, management and faculty

positions at PCC.

"I see my efforts directly related to PCC's mission," Dockery said.

PCC President Mark Mitsui's work plan for the next two years is centered on equitable student success. It is supported by the tenet that a more diverse workforce will add value to the students' educational and personal experience while reflecting the diversity of PCC's student body.

"I enjoy interacting with diverse professionals regarding detailed



Gregory Dockery recruits qualified diverse professionals for staff, management and faculty positions at Portland Community College.

training designed to value diversity, recognize unconscious biases, and emphasize the significance of inclusion in the hiring process.

The second program stems from a partnership between PCC's Human Resources Employment Services team and the college's Office of Equity & Inclusion. Called the Inclusion Advocates Program, PCC employees are encouraged to sign up for a full day's training to become inclusion advocates. In this role, they become integral to the college's screening committee process and help to ensure an equitable and inclusive hiring process for all candidates.

"Collectively, these are several positive steps the college has taken to prioritize equity and diversity at PCC," said Dockery. "Together, they are helping to put equitable student success at the center of everything we do at PCC."

To connect with Dockery or for more information about diversity recruitment, contact him at gregory.dockery@pcc.edu or at 971-722-5866. All interested potential job applicants can view PCC's current employment opportunities at pcc.edu/jobs.

employment information, assisting them and answering their questions throughout PCC's application process," said Dockery. "And in my recruiting practice, I emphasize the tremendous contribution and impact that diverse employees make to support students so that they reach their educational goals. This is a contribu-

tion that is both crucial and highly respected throughout the college."

PCC has initiated two programs to recognize and underscore the importance of a more diverse workforce. The first program is led by the college's Human Resources Recruitment team, which provides search committees with

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PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Thomas Martin, owner and operator of 'Martin Cleaning Service – Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning;' since 1999.

When Thomas Martin retired from the federal government he found a way to start his own business. Today, the owner and operator of "Martin Cleaning Service – Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning" can look back at the benefits of being his own boss and the success he had in developing a business without a lot of competition and

start up costs.

He said he was surprised that there were not many brothers in carpet cleaning at the time.

Martin is now on a path to retire again after 19 years in the business, serving the Portland and Vancouver areas. He has been an advertiser with the Portland Observer for years.

On retiring and putting away the trusty carpet cleaning tools and equipment for good, he said, "The time has finally come."

His advice for those who want to grow a business is to work hard and apply yourself.

Martin thanks all of his customers past and present. For more information, call 503-281-3949.

Pay Dirt for Colas

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

providing jobs for those who were displaced.

Now 30 years later, Colas Construction will not only serve as the chief contractor for the project but has pledged to subcontract from a cross-section of other businesses that are from communities of color to work on the project.

Hoffman Construction and Walsh Community Builders were runner-ups for the contracting

work from Metro, companies Colas says he's "looked to and respected" his whole life. The procurement process added weight to firms like his that partnered with woman-owned or minority-owned businesses, a move that Andrew Colas praised.

"Metro created one of the most fair procurement processes for a public agency that I've ever been a part of. And in that process, the best company won. And we were just proud to be selected as that company," he said.

The Oregon Convention Center remodel will begin next summer and is scheduled to be complete by May 2019. Plans call for renovating the interior and exterior facade of the building.

"It's going to be a complete refresher," Colas said. "There'll be work on the exterior, landscaping, hardscape, and then interior, upgrading finishes, upgrading features. It's going to look brand new," Colas said.

Colas added that some of the iconic visual mainstays of the facility, like "those two beautiful glass towers," would remain unaltered.



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Business Starts with Soul Food

Young entrepreneur follows his dreams

Famous Rob's Soul Food, located next door to the black Masonic Lodge at North Mississippi and Fremont is excited about bringing soul food back to its roots.

Young entrepreneur and chef Robert McDonald Jr. opened the food cart in April, specializing in

making soul food favorites using top ingredients, fresh produce and farm raised meats.

"Our southern cuisine consists of special home-made recipes that will have you feeling like every meal is Sunday dinner," he said.

A former American Ninja Warrior 2017 competitor, McDonald strives to inspire the youth in the community to strive for greatness. His vision is to be a role model to the youth and show them that no matter your circumstances you can overcome and do great things.

"My ultimate goal is to open a



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON JR./THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Robert McDonald Jr. is a young entrepreneur who utilizes the freshest, top quality ingredients to make delicious southern cuisine from his Famous Rob's Soul Food cart at 3503 N. Mississippi Ave. His ultimate goal is to open a Soul Food lounge.

Soul Food lounge," he said.

All dishes are made to order.

"We provide a friendly atmosphere where our customers are our top priority," McDonald said. "We aim to satisfy and have you coming back for more."

Famous Rob's Soul Food also does special catering events for birthdays, weddings, holiday parties, and any other event needing food services. Located at 3503 N. Mississippi Ave., Famous Rob's Soul food is open Tuesdays

through Fridays, from noon to 8p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Crews build Alberta Commons on the corner of Northeast Martin Luther King Boulevard and Alberta Street. About 20,000 square feet of the new retail space will be reserved to support minority and women entrepreneurs.

Affordable Leasing at Alberta Commons

Minority and women-owned businesses get priority

BY DANNY PETERSON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Prosper Portland, the city of Portland's newly named economic and urban development agency, has developed an Affordable Commercial Tenancing Program to support minority and women entrepreneurs at the site of the new grocery store and re-

tail complex coming to the center of Portland's historic black community.

Approximately 20,000 square feet of leasable space at Alberta Commons at Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Alberta Street will be available at a discounted lease rate. The Affordable Commercial Tenancing Program is also available at two Prosper Portland sites at Lents Town Center in southeast Portland.

Project coordinator Alison Wicks told the Portland Observer that the program is aimed at assisting underserved businesses—owned by people of color

or women—to stay afloat in the face of recent increases in retail rents and a shortage of commercial leasing opportunities is across the city. Tenants will also benefit from the program by receiving a year of technical assistance for their business from Prosper Portland.

Construction of Alberta Commons is set to be completed this November by Colas construc-

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Sport into a Business

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

in Las Vegas to pursue a career in professional boxing.

Forbes earned his professional boxing credentials by training with the likes of boxing icon Floyd Mayweather Sr., and sparring against other great featherweight fighters such as Carlos Hernandez.

In 2000, Forbes won the OBF Super Featherweight World Championship. Six years later, he fought on ESPN's reality boxing show, "The Contender."

Forbes says that it was his grandmother who inspired him to return to Oregon to open up a boxing training studio after he achieved professional success.

"My grandma, before she passed, always wanted me to come here and have a boxing program," Forbes said. "It was destiny for me to come back here and open up a program."

He is currently in the process of procuring a studio space for 2

Pounds Sports, which will offer training sessions and sports promotion for prospective boxers in the Portland area.

"It brings people together, and it's a fun workout," said Forbes. "Some people want to do it for self defense; some may want to do it just for fitness."

Forbes is also getting involved with the city's mixed martial arts (MMA) community, which he says is more established than its boxing scene. He is offering specialized training sessions for prospective MMA fighters through 2 Pounds Sports.

2 Pounds Sports will also offer Forbes' unique professional perspective to groups who are interested in receiving collective education.

"Group training gets people together so they can work together and learn together," Forbes said.

To learn more or contact Forbes, visit 2poundsports.com or call 702-776-9614.

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OPINION

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Inequality is Hollowing Out the Middle Class

**Wealth gap a
threat to racial
progress**



BY **DEDRICK ASANTE-MUHAMMAD** AND **CHUCK COLLINS**

America's middle class is under assault.

Since 1983, national median wealth has declined by 20 percent, falling from \$73,000 to \$64,000 in 2013. And U.S. homeownership has been in a steady decline since 2005.

While we often hear about the struggles of the white working class, a driving force behind this trend is an accelerating decline in black and Latino household wealth.

Over those three decades, the wealth of median black and Latino households decreased by 75 percent and 50 percent, respec-

tively, while median white household wealth actually rose a little. As of 2013, median whites had \$116,800 in wealth — compared to just \$2,000 for Latinos and \$1,700 for blacks.

This wealth decline is a threat to the viability of the American middle class and the nation's overall economic health. Families with more wealth can cover emergencies without going into debt and take advantage of economic opportunity, such as buying a home, saving for college, or starting a business.

We looked at the growing racial wealth gap in a new report for the Institute for Policy Studies and Prosperity Now.

We found that if these appalling trends continue, median black household wealth will hit zero by 2053, even while median white wealth continues to climb. Latino net worth will hit zero two decades later, according to our projections.

It's in everyone's interest to reverse these trends. Growing racial wealth inequality is bringing down median American middle class wealth, and with it shrinking the middle class — especially as Americans of color make up an increasing share of the U.S. population.

The causes of this racial wealth divide have little to do with individual behavior. Instead, they're the result of a range of systemic factors and policies.

These include past discriminatory housing policies that continue to fuel an enormous racial divide in homeownership rates, as well as an "upside down" tax system that helps the wealthiest households get wealthier while providing the lowest income families with almost nothing.

The American middle class was created by government policy, investment, and the hard work of its citizenry. Today Americans are working as hard as ever, but government policy is failing to invest in a sustainable and growing middle class.

To do better, Congress must redirect subsidies to the already wealthy and invest in opportunities for poorer families to save and build wealth.

For example, people can currently write off part of their mortgage interest payments on their taxes. But this only benefits you if you already own a home — an opportunity long denied to millions of black and Latino families — and benefits you even more if you

own an expensive home. It helps the already rich, at the expense of the poor.

Congress should reform that deduction and other tax expenditures to focus on those excluded from opportunity, not the already have-a-lots.

Other actions include protecting families from the wealth stripping practices common in many low-income communities, like "contract for deed" scams that can leave renters homeless even after they've fronted money for expensive repairs to their homes. That means strengthening institutions like the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

The nation has experienced 30 years of middle class decline. If we don't want this to be a permanent trend, then government must respond with the boldness and ingenuity that expanded the middle class after World War Two — but this time with a racially inclusive frame to reflect our 21st century population.

Dedrick Asante-Muhammad directs the Racial Wealth Divide Project at Prosperity Now and Chuck Collins directs the Program on Inequality at the Institute for Policy Studies.

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

People Who Start Out Poor Often Stay Poor

A rigged system takes its toll

BY JILL RICHARDSON

We all want to live in a country where all it takes is hard work and some talent for anyone to succeed. We tell ourselves that we do. We even see examples of people who “came from nothing” and ended up rich and famous.

And it's true that it sometimes happens. Sometimes a child born into poverty grows up to become the president of the United States, a multi-billionaire, or an Olympic gold medalist.

Most of the time, however, they don't. And it's not because they're bad, lazy, stupid, or immoral. Often it's because of our system itself.

Take our school system for a start. By funding schools with property taxes, we guarantee that the children from the richest neighborhoods go to the wealthiest



schools.

If we lived in neighborhoods that were economically mixed with families of all incomes, this wouldn't be a big deal. But we don't. Instead we have areas of very wealthy people whose children attend wonderful schools, and areas of concentrated poverty where children attend failing schools.

And the kids in the good schools? Their parents can afford tutoring, extra-curricular activities, summer camp, and SAT prep classes. It's the kids whose parents can't provide those extra learning opportunities who go to the worst schools.

Meanwhile, careers are sorted into those that require a college degree and those that don't. Once upon a time, one could support a family on the wage of a manufacturing job. But America lost those jobs, and replaced them with poorly paid service jobs that often have no benefits.

For those without college degrees, getting ahead is difficult. But college is expensive. Even without the tuition costs, one has to keep a roof over their head and

eat while attending school. Community colleges and online programs add flexibility for students who work full time while attending school, but it can still be difficult.

I don't advocate a return to the days when men worked and women stayed home. But at least back then, families had an adult whose full time duties were to take care of the home and the children.

When women went to work, the expectations of the workplace didn't change. Men with stay-at-home wives never needed maternity leave or flex time or places to pump breastmilk or time off to pick up a sick kid from day care.

But in families where both partners work, or in single parent families, how on earth are parents supposed to hold down a full time job and simultaneously be full-time homemakers?

Sociologist Arlie Hochschild examined this in her classic book *The Second Shift*, finding that the housework often still falls disproportionately to working women, often leaving them frazzled and exhausted. Sometimes the kids lose out, when neither

parent has time to spend with them.

Wealthier families now pay for the work that women used to do for free: childcare, laundry, cooking, cleaning, and so on.

But whom do they pay? Less wealthy women, usually. And those women, after spending a day caring for someone else's kids or doing someone else's laundry, still have to figure out how to get their own housework done once they go home.

The end result is that most people who start out poor stay poor. And those who start out rich usually stay rich. (Recent studies show that Canada now has three times better social mobility than the U.S., suggesting the American Dream moved north.)

Ours is a great system, if you're rich. But we'd be a better country if we didn't rig the game against those whose only mistake was to be born to poor parents.

OtherWords columnist Jill Richardson is the author of Recipe for America: Why Our Food System Is Broken and What We Can Do to Fix It. Distributed by OtherWords.org.

A Low Bar for Corporations Rejecting Racism

White supremacy can wear a business suit

BY EMILY NORTON

Donald Trump's failure to condemn white supremacists after the violent neo-Nazi rally in Charlottesville several weeks back had an unexpected casualty: the president's business advisory councils.

My partner works for a Fortune 500 company whose CEO sat on one of those councils. Along with many other employees, my partner had been pressuring the CEO through an internal petition for some time.

Eventually, the dam broke: CEO after CEO decided they could no longer associate themselves with the White House after the incident, forcing Trump to dissolve two high-level panels.

I'm glad my partner's efforts, along with bigger ones like a campaign to target “Corporate Backers of Hate,” rattled these major corporations' top decision makers.

Corporate execs know that it's bad for business to be affiliated with racists — and good for business to look like heroes. But while rejecting racism is good, it's a low bar — especially when many still profit off it.

For example, Jamie Dimon, CEO of

JP Morgan Chase, jumped into action after Charlottesville. He not only issued a statement, but also announced that JP Morgan Chase would donate \$500,000 to the Southern Poverty Law Center, an organization that's fought racism since the 1970s.

It was a smart business move. The last time JP Morgan was on the wrong side of racism, it cost them \$55 million in settlements for charging black and brown people higher rates for their mortgages. Looking at that number, a \$500,000 donation is a drop in the bucket.

The company can't take back the discrimination lawsuits or its part in the housing crisis, which slashed black wealth in this country in half. That's a huge percentage. Black families had already been denied centuries of wealth accumulation due to slavery and racist policies like redlining, and this crisis was a double whammy.

\$500,000 also isn't enough to make up for the bank's financing of mass incarceration.

JP Morgan Chase lent hundreds of millions of dollars to Geo Group and CoreCivic, two major operators of private prisons and immigrant detention centers, despite investor concerns.

All that dirty money makes Dimon's comments in support of DACA after Trump's decision to repeal it also ring a little hollow.

DACA, or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, is a program created by the Obama administration that protects some

young undocumented immigrants from deportation.

It's hard to believe that Dimon truly thinks that “when people come here to learn, work hard, and give back to their communities, we should allow them to stay in the United States” when his company supports corporations that profit from warehousing immigrants in detention.

White supremacy doesn't just look like KKK hoods and swastikas — it can also wear a business suit on Wall Street. Of the top five Wall Street firms, the highest level decision makers are 86 percent white. That's no coincidence.

Corporations ha. But it's got to be more than just words.

JP Morgan and Goldman Sachs could

publicly commit to pull contracts that contribute to mass incarceration. IBM could refuse contracts that contribute to violent immigration enforcement activities. Wells Fargo could halt its financing of the Dakota Access Pipeline on Native lands. At a minimum, that's what the Corporate Backers of Hate campaign recommends.

And, by looking inward at their hiring policies, promotion policies, and pay scales, these businesses can begin building towards long term equality.

Don't get me wrong, it is a good thing that they denounced hatred. I just hope they'll put their money with their mouth is.

Emily Norton is the leadership development manager at the Institute for Policy Studies. Distributed by OtherWords.org.



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Job Training to Break Cycle of Low Employment

Non profit helps young adults reach full potential

BY DANNY PETERSON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

David Greenidge is working to break a cycle of low employment and housing that keeps too many young men and women from our community from reaching their full potential.

Several years ago, he and other concerned residents got together to survey why people couldn't find jobs in the King neighborhood of northeast Portland. They found many members of the black community were out of work due to a prior criminal history.

Greenidge then went to work to break the criminal justice bonds. As a resident of Portland, he founded the National Urban Housing & Economic Community Development Corporation to help former offenders turn their lives around with job training and housing assistance.

According to a Racial and Ethnic Disparities Report from 2016, African-Americans are over represented in the Multnomah County jail system—they represent 5 percent of the overall population, but they represent 27 percent of its jail population. That disparity is impacting many people of color economically.



David Greenidge

A Poverty in Multnomah County report from 2014 showed black residents are over-represented in the county's impoverished population—36 percent of the black population are in poverty, while only 14 percent of whites are in poverty. Furthermore, a study from 2001 to 2006 examining three states found that less than half of people returning to their community from prison had secured a job.

"I saw people needing help and I thought we could put together a nonprofit that could help them," Greenidge said, describing the start to his specialized program about two years ago.

Greenidge said he discovered that one

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25



A non-profit rooted in Portland's African American community provides training in construction as a way to break a cycle of low employment impacting young men and women from our community.

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Mission-Aligned Banks Merge

Albina turns to Beneficial with combined resources

Albina Community Bank, a financial institution in Portland created to help finance economic development projects from disadvantaged and ethnically diverse individuals and communities, will merge with another mission-aligned bank, Beneficial State Bank.

Representatives for the financial institutions announced Monday that mission-driven banking in Portland will pick up steam with a signed agreement to merge Albina Community Bank into Beneficial State Bank.

Beneficial State Bancorp, Inc. (Bancorp), the holding company of Beneficial State and Albina, reached an agreement to purchase the remaining 9.9 percent of the stock of Albina not owned by Bancorp.

The merger, currently targeted for the first quarter of 2018, will create a powerful organization that combines and amplifies



Albina Community Bank branches in Portland will become Beneficial State Bank in a merger of two banks with a mission to create economic development to serve disadvantaged and ethnically diverse communities.

the impact of Albina's proven community banking model with Beneficial State's mission to transform the banking industry for good by creating equitable access to financial services, officials said.

Bancorp acquired a 90.1 percent share of Albina in 2013, helping to recapitalize and stabilize the respected and fellow community development financial institution following a period of industry turbulence.

"We recognized and wanted very much to help preserve the positive impact and legacy of Albina's longstanding community banking model, knowing it plays a critical role providing capital to underserved Portland entrepre-

neurs and individuals," said Randall Leach, chief credit officer of Albina and president of commercial banking at both Albina and Beneficial State.

The resulting unified bank will retain all Albina's staff and five branches and ensure continuing excellent mission-driven customer services and community support. United in their mission to serve market segments which are unique, often-neglected and sometimes exploited, the combined banks will expand services. Albina's Sue Campo will remain in her role as president of Albina as the two banks prepare to unify and carry on in a leadership role thereafter.

"As a person who was raised in the Albina neighborhood and one who has served on the Albina Community Bank board, I am pleased that this merger will bring a mission and the resources to serve individuals, families and businesses that have not always found open doors in banking communities," said Kay Toran, a longstanding member of the Albina Community Bank board. "A united Beneficial State and Albina will keep this population as a top priority."



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Our banquet will be on Saturday, October 7th at 2:00 pm at our church. The donation is \$22.00 and Evangelist LaDeana Yarborough of Trinity Full Gospel Pentecostal Church will be our speaker.

Our service will climax on Sunday, October 8, 2017 at 3:30 pm. St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church will be our guest and Pastor Craig L. Brown will be our speaker.

Our theme is "Our Church: Founded upon a Solid Rock" taken from Luke 6:48. Our colors are maroon/burgundy, gray and pink.

If you would like tickets for the banquet you can contact Sister Vickie Marshall at 503-281-4465.

We look forward to seeing you at this spirit filled celebration.

Sister Vickie Marshall, Chairperson

Rev. Dr. Johnny Pack IV, Pastor



Mayor Ted Wheeler with the EQC Home Care Agency team

Prosper Portland and its partners manage programs and services designed to support entrepreneurs from traditionally underrepresented communities. From tech startups to neighborhood businesses like EQC Home Care Agency, small businesses started by women and entrepreneurs of color are vital to a globally competitive, equitable and healthy city.

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prosperportland.us/inclusive



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PHOTO BY ZACHARY SENN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Kay Newell, owner of Sunlan Lighting at 3901 N. Mississippi Ave., has been a mainstay of the neighborhood since she first opened her iconic light bulb shop in 1989.

Light Bulb Lady Builds a Community

Kay Newell says ‘knowledge and service’ has no glass ceiling

BY ZACHARY SENN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Kay Newell has been making North Mississippi Avenue a brighter place for people and business for the better part of three decades. The owner of Sunlan Lighting, Inc. has been a mainstay of the neighborhood since she first opened her iconic light bulb shop in 1989. She has been using her passions for puns and light bulbs ever since to make the neighborhood a safer and more welcoming place.

Newell describes Mississippi Avenue of

the early 1990s, where she first established her shop, as the most dangerous place in Portland.

“You could buy every vice you wanted in this community,” she told the Portland Observer. The elevated levels of drug trafficking and violence at the time made it impossible for her to uncover the windows of her shop. This led her to paint the avenue’s first murals.

Two of her original murals are still visible on the Sunlan building today. After it became safe enough to do so, Newell began decorating the insides of other windows with her now-infamous displays of toys and quirky light bulbs.

“We opened up this window and created another display I filled the windows with toys that I changed out every month to give the little kids something to look at,” she said.

Recently, community members who grew up in the neighborhood during the height of its disrepair have begun thanking Newell for providing the community with a bright spot amidst all the blight.

“I did it because it made me feel good, to see the kid’s happy little faces,” said Newell. “But it made an impact. It made me realize that we do things without realizing how the ripples are going to affect our entire society.”

Newell’s clients include some of Portland’s most iconic firms, including the Portland Spirit. She first sold specialty light bulbs strictly to other businesses, until she decided to open her shop up the public.

As a woman in the world of business, Newell says that she continues to hone in on her knowledge of her products and has an innate ability to provide customers

with a high-quality customer service experience.

“There’s one area where there is no glass ceiling – knowledge and service,” Newell explained. “When I started my business, I didn’t know a whole lot,” Newell said. “But I studied until I did.”

Newell adds that the success of her business is rooted in her ability to treat her customers with respect, and offer them competitive rates.

“People want good service and knowledge, and they want to be treated fairly,” Newell said. “That means good prices for good service. That’s all it is.”

Today, Sunlan Lighting, Inc. continues to delight Portland’s business community, residential customers and tourists alike. Newell greets every customer who walks through her doors with a simple question:

“How I can I light up your life?”

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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Chalk Draws and Art Show

A one-of-a-kind art show with its wide-array of artistic media, chalk draws where you can witness and experience art in the making, and recycled art crafts and more, are some of the attractions of the Beaverton Arts Mix, scheduled daily from Thursday, Oct. 5 through Sunday, Oct. 8 at the Beaverton City Library Main at 12375 S.W. Fifth St.



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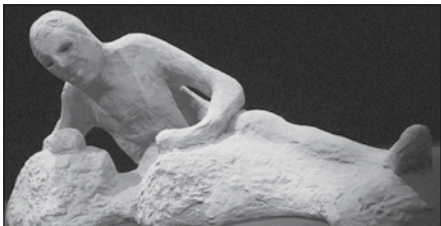
Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE



Worship in Pink Health Fair -- A free health fair with onsite mammograms to help with breast cancer awareness and prevention will be held Saturday, Oct. 7 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Maranatha Church, 4222 N.E. 12th Ave. Sponsored by Komen and the volunteer ambassadors of Worship in Pink, the event will also include live music, a childrens' play area, free lunch and information from local health organizations. For screening reservations, call 503-552-9160.

Pompeii Exhibit at OMSI -- Preserved bodies cast by volcanic debris in the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius and nearly 200 other artifacts on loan from the unparalleled collection of the Naples National Archaeological Museum in Italy are part of the new OMSI exhibit, Pompeii:



The Exhibition. Now showing through Oct. 22.

Norman Sylvester -- 'Boogie Cat' Norman Sylvester plays Friday, Oct. 6 at the Vinyl Tap; Saturday, Oct. 7 at 4 p.m. for the Silverton Sidewalk Shindig at the Red Bench Antique Store; Friday, Oct. 13 at Catfish Lou's; Saturday, Oct. 14 at the Spare Room; and Tuesday, Oct. 17 at Artist's Repertory Theater.

Life of an Iconic President -- One hundred years after his birth, John Fitzgerald Kennedy remains a subject of endless fascination for millions of Americans. The Oregon Historical Society's current exhibition "High Hopes: The Journey of John F. Kennedy" explores Kennedy's early life, his road to the presidency, and the changes he effected during his time in office. Runs through Nov. 12.



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?"



Discount Tickets -- Low income families and individuals can purchase \$5 tickets to classical musical performances in Portland as part of a unique program called Music for All. Participating organizations include the Oregon Symphony, Portland Opera, Oregon Ballet Theater, Chamber Music Northwest, Portland Youth Philharmonic, Portland Baroque Orchestra, Friends of Chamber Music, Portland Chamber Orchestra, Portland Piano International, Portland Symphonic Choir, Capella Romana and Portland Vocal Consort.

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7 A.M. - 10 A.M.
TONI TERRELL

10 A.M. - 1 P.M.
REV. AL SHARPTON
(KEEPING IT REAL)

1 P.M. - 3 P.M.
KENNY SMOOV

3 P.M. - 7 P.M.
D.L. HUGHLEY

7 P.M. - 9 P.M.
PAPA SMURF

9 P.M. - 12 Midnight
MIKE SHANNON

SUNDAY

12 Midnight - 3 A.M.
MIKE SHANNON

3 A.M. - 6 A.M.
TOYA BEASLEY

6 A.M. - 12 NOON
SUNDAY MORNING GOSPEL
WANGELA

12 NOON - 1 P.M.
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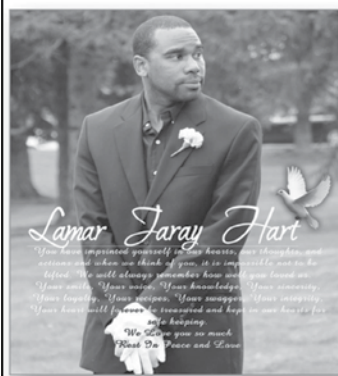
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Groovin' High Steppers take dancing to the next level. The African American swing dance group is ready to host its fifth annual soiree weekend, Oct. 13-15.

Groovin High Steppers Soiree

Portland's Groovin High Steppers, an African American swing dance group, will be hosting their 5th annual soiree, bringing guests from across the country for a weekend of Chicago-style steppin' and line dancing.

Events will take place Oct. 13-15 at the Shilo Inn & Suites

Portland Airport with a lineup that includes a workshop with Master instructors and Groovin' High Steppers' mentors Angie Faine and Keith Hubbard and a special men's steppin' class. Saturday evening, you're invited to come dressed to impress for the main "Swagger & Grace"

soiree.

For tickets and more information, visit groovinhighsteppers.com and select the events tab. Tickets will also be available at the door on Friday or Saturday only, or contact Denise at 503-819-4576 or Hernandez at 206-683-4101.

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Rev. Billy and Stop Shopping

Portland's Boom Arts presents Reverend Billy and his 11-member Stop Shopping Choir as they bring a timely theater and concert performance to Portland with a rallying cry for the earth and social justice. Two concerts at the Old Church, downtown, on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 6-7 at 7:30 p.m. For tickets and more information, visit boomarts.org.

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Haunted Walking Tours Back

Spend an evening with the strange and peculiar

The Clark County Historical Museum's sixth annual Haunted Walking Tours are reanimating Fridays and Saturdays this October. The spooktacular trips are at 8 p.m. each tour day and will start at museum in Vancouver at 1511 Main St. Tickets are \$12 per person for the public and \$10 for museum members.

Centering on the strange and



Haunted excursions blending local myths, oral histories and research on Vancouver's sometimes sordid past are the backdrop for the Clark County Historical Museum's Haunted Walking Tours each Friday and Saturday night during the month of October.

peculiar, the haunted excursions blend local myths, oral histories, and research on Vancouver's sometimes sordid past. Buildings contain secrets, and we shine the light into their darkness. The museum itself plays a role in several accounts of mysterious activities occurring in the research library.

Individuals 13 years of age and older are encouraged to bring their curiosity and a flashlight for some of the most authentic thrills around.

Organizers said reservations are limited, go quickly and pre-payment is required. Call 360-993-5679 or visit cchmuseum.org to hold your spot.

Author Picked for Everybody Reads



Hoshin Hamid a Pakistani writer who explores conditions of human displacement and migration in his 2017 novel 'Exit West,' is this year's featured book and author for Multnomah County Library's 'Everybody Reads' program.

Hoshin Hamid writes on displacement and migration

Multnomah County Library's annual community reading project will feature the novel "Exit West," from acclaimed writer Hoshin Hamid, this year's featured book and author for "Everybody Reads 2018."

"Exit West" tells the story of Nadia and Saeed, who begin their love affair against an increasingly unsettling backdrop of unrest and violence. As conditions worsen, the scope of human displacement

and migration begins to envelop them as they seek ways out.

"Exit West examines many of the questions – of safety, fate, belonging, otherness – that surround us today," said Vailey Oehike, Multnomah County Library director. "Moshin Hamid takes concepts that we sometimes treat in abstract or clinical terms and washes them in humanity to help us think and feel differently. Exit West is an incredible work."

Hamid is a Pakistani writer and author of four novels, Moth Smoke (2000), The Reluctant Fundamentalist (2007), How to Get Filthy Rich in Rising Asia (2013), and Exit West (2017), and a book of essays, Discontent and Its Civilizations (2014). His writing has

been featured on bestseller lists, adapted for the cinema, shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the PEN/Hemingway Award, selected as winner or finalist of 20 awards, and translated into 35 languages.

Extra copies of the books will be available in February at all neighborhood libraries, and e-books will be downloadable from the library catalog. Beginning in February, readers will be encouraged to share your thoughts at a book discussion at your neighborhood library or bookstore with dates to be announced soon.

Hamid will be in Portland to speak on April 5 at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Tickets available from Literary Arts at literary-arts.org.

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14th- November 18th at Mt. Tabor Middle School;

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[portlandoregon.gov/parks/48527](https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/48527)



Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



A dynamic program from Complexions Contemporary Ballet, a New York based company founded by former Alvin Ailey stars Dwight Rhoden and Desmond Richardson, kicks off the 20th season of Portland's White Bird dance series.

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Almost Superhuman Dancers

Portland's White Bird kicks off its 20th anniversary season of contemporary dance from around the world with Complexions Contemporary Ballet, based in New York City and founded by former Alvin Ailey stars Dwight Rhoden & Desmond Richardson.

The company has received worldwide acclaim for its

fiercely kinetic movement and impassioned, almost superhuman dancers and has been featured on the TV show "So You Think You Can Dance."

Complexions returns to White Bird at the Newmark Theatre with a powerful program set to music from J.S. Bach to David Bowie for three shows, Thursday through Sat-

urday, Oct. 5-7.

A special treat will be a solo by world-acclaimed dancer and Complexions co-founder Desmond Richardson, the first black American principal dancer of American Ballet Theatre and a principal member and invited guest with some of the most prestigious companies around the world.

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Work with Minority Firms a Model

TriMet spreads economic stimulus

TriMet's long standing commitment of encouraging and supporting businesses owned by people of color and women when competing for TriMet contracts on transit construction projects has become a national model.

Construction of the newest MAX light rail route, the Orange Line, was a boon for employment, creating more than 7,000 direct and 7,300 in-direct jobs, according to TriMet officials. Figures show nearly 600 private sector firms performed work on the project, including 134 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firms. Of those companies, 32 were

owned by women.

Raimore Construction, a black-owned business from northeast Portland and a member of the DBE program, recently completed a shelter expansion on the Orange line which carries commuters between downtown Portland and Milwaukie.

Company president, Jeff Moreland called it "one of the most critical projects" in company history.

"At least 80 percent of the work performed on this was completed by DBE firms," he said, "creating many new jobs for women and people of color."

TriMet's Blue Line station rehabilitation project this summer to rejuvenate the Gresham City Hall MAX station employed eight DBEs, officials said, with additional work moving to the 122nd Avenue MAX station later this fall.



The installation of additional shelters over the past year on the new TriMet MAX light rail Orange Line between downtown Portland and Milwaukie is handled by crews from Raimore Construction, a black-owned business from northeast Portland and a firm enrolled in the transit agency's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program.



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REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF QUALIFICATION

#2017-30 MILL PLAIN BUS RAPID TRANSIT DESIGN

The Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Area (dba C-TRAN) is requesting statements of qualifications from firms interested in providing Design Services for the Mill Plain Bus Rapid Transit Project.

Request for Statements of Qualification documents may be obtained from C-TRAN at 2425 NE 65th Avenue, Vancouver, WA 98661, by calling (360) 696-4494; via e-mail to procurement@c-tran.org or accessing our Web page at www.c-tran.com and click on Bid on Projects.

Statements of Qualification will be accepted until 11:00 a.m., local time, Thursday, November 6, 2017.

INVITATION TO BID NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

CITY OF OAKRIDGE

2017 WATER SOURCE

TRANSMISSION, STORAGE & DISTRIBUTION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Bids due 2:00 pm, October 12, 2017

Sealed bids for the 2017 Water Source, Transmission, Storage & Distribution Improvements project in the City of Oakridge will be received by the City until **2:00 PM on Thursday, October 12th, 2017**, at which time bidding will be closed.

Pursuant to ORS 279C.370(2), within two (2) working hours following the submittal deadline, all Bidders shall submit a disclosure form as furnished with these bid documents identifying any first-tier subcontractors (those entities that would be contracting directly with the prime contractor) that would be furnishing labor or materials on the Contract, if awarded, whose subcontract value would be equal to, or greater than: Five percent of the total Contract Price, but at least \$15,000, or \$350,000 regardless of the percentage of the total Contract Price. No bids shall be accepted for Bidders who do not submit the Subcontractor Disclosure Form within the above specified timeline.

Bids over \$2,000 will require Federal Davis Bacon Wage Rates in the bid price. Bids over \$50,000 will require the higher of either Davis-Bacon and Oregon Prevailing Wage Rates in the bid price.

Bidders on this contract will be subject to all requirements of the American Iron Steel Act. Bids and disclosure forms shall be addressed to Mr. Louis Gomez, City Administrator, City of Oakridge, 48318 East First Street, Oakridge, OR 97463. At 2:00 PM., bids will be opened and read aloud at the stated physical address. Only bids for which a disclosure form has been submitted within two (2) working hours of the Bid opening date and time will be considered responsive.

The project consists of construction of a new well house and accessory piping, a new 10" diameter 400-foot-long HDPE bored transmission main under Salmon Creek, a new 700 GPM pump station, a new 1.0 MG bolted steel epoxy coated reservoir and access road, a new 10-inch diameter 1,100 foot long C900 PVC transmission main. The reservoir transmission main includes a 180 foot long cased bore under an existing railroad alignment. The project also includes two pressure reducing valve stations. The estimated project cost for the Basic Bid is \$2,200,000. The City reserves the right to remove any of the above work, or some portion thereof, if deemed necessary to reduce overall cost of the project.

Plans and specifications will be available on Wednesday, September 13th through the offices of CURRAN-McLEOD, INC., Consulting Engineers, 6655 S.W. Hampton Street, Suite 210, Portland, OR, 97223, telephone: (503) 684-3478, fax: (503) 624-8247. PDF copies of the plans and specifications can be obtained

at no charge by registering with the Engineer (Please register via email to cmi@curran-mcleod.com). Non-refundable hard copies of the book with half-size plan sets may be purchased for \$50.00. Full-size plan sets may be purchased for the cost of reproduction and shipping. Plans and specifications will also be on file at: • City of Oakridge Office Oakridge, OR Daily Journal of Commerce, Portland, OR; Seattle, WA • McGraw-Hill Construction Dodge, Portland, OR; Seattle, WA • Oregon Contractor Plan Center, Clackamas, OR • Salem Contractors Exchange Salem, OR • Eugene Builders Exchange, Eugene, OR • Premier Builders Exchange, Bend, OR • Willamette Valley Bid Center, Tangent, OR • SW Washington Contractors Assoc., Vancouver, WA • Valley Plan Center, Kent, WA • Spokane Regional Plan Center, Spokane, WA • Builders Exchange of Washington, Everett, WA • Tri-Cities Construction Council, Kennewick, WA • Impact Minority Plan Center, Portland, OR

Bidders must be pre-qualified for the specific class of work to bid on this project. Bidders not currently pre-qualified by the Owner or the Oregon Department of Transportation may apply for pre-qualification with the Engineer prior to the bid opening. No bid shall be received or considered unless the Bidder is registered with the Construction Contractors Board as required by ORS 701.021.

A NON-MANDATORY PRE-BID meeting will be held at the City Hall on Tuesday, September 26, at 10:00 AM, to discuss the scope of work and view select areas of the project. To be considered, bids must be completed on the bidding forms provided, in the manner prescribed in the bidding documents, submitted intact, and accompanied by a 5% bid security in favor of the Owner. Each bidder must indicate in the space provided on the Bid Form, whether they are a Resident or Non-Resident Bidder pursuant to ORS 279A.120. By submission of a bid, each bidder certifies that the provisions of ORS 279C.800 to 279C.870 and the higher of either Federal Davis Bacon or Oregon Prevailing Wage Rates are included in the bid prices. No bid will be received or considered unless the bid contains a statement by the bidder as part of its bid that the provisions of ORS 279C.800 through 870 are to be complied with. Contractors need not be licensed for asbestos handling per ORD 468A.720 to complete this project.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids not in compliance with all prescribed public bidding procedures and requirements, may reject for good cause any and all bids upon a finding of the City it is in the public interest to do so, and may waive all informalities.

No bidder may withdraw or modify his bid prior to the lapse of (30) days after bid opening.

Work under this contract is funded through a partnership of Local and Private Funds in Partnership with the Oregon Business Development Department and the Federal Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund Program.

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By Order of the City of Oakridge.

SUB-BIDS REQUESTED FOR

EAST LINK EXTENSION - LINK CONTRACT E335

DOWNTOWN BELLEVUE TO SPRING DISTRICT

Bid Package No. 01D - Wilburton (Hospital) Station

REVISED BID DATE

BID DATE: NOVEMBER 1, 2017 @ 1:00 PM

Sub Bids Due: October 31, 2017 @ 1:00 PM

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SBE/DBE Goals = 14%/7%

The Stacy and Witbeck / Atkinson Joint Venture intends to negotiate in good faith with all certified SBE/DBE firms to encourage participation, including tailoring packages to better fit these firms' capabilities. Please contact us regarding assistance with obtaining bonding, insurance requirements, and other needs.

Documents available at: ebidexchange.com
CN 0045-14C BP-01D, or contact us

Questions? Contact Mark Bodyfelt or Deane Allin at 503-231-5300

We are an equal opportunity employer and request sub-bids from all interested firms including disadvantaged, minority, women, and emerging small business enterprises.

SUB-BIDS REQUESTED FOR

EAST LINK EXTENSION-LINK CONTRACT E335

DOWNTOWN BELLEVUE TO SPRING DISTRICT

Bid Package No. 01E-East Main Station

Bid Date: November 2, 2017 at 1 pm

Bids Due: November 1, 2017 at 1 pm

Stacy and Witbeck/Atkinson Construction logo see below

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THIS PROJECT HAS A 15.1 % SLBE-ELBE GOAL

BID DATE: OCTOBER 19, 2017

BID TIME: 2:00 P.M.

Please respond by 5:00 P.M., OCTOBER 18, 2017

We are seeking quotes from all small business concerns - CERTIFIED SLBE-ELBE including, but not limited to, the following work items: AC PAVING, AGGREGATES, COLD PLANE, EXCAVATION, CLASS 2 AGGREGATE BASE, SPEED HUMP REMOVE & REPLACE, MINOR CONCRETE, CONCRETE, TREE PLANTING, TREE REMOVAL & DISPOSAL, TREE ROOT PRUNING, PNEUMATIC SOIL EXCAVATION & TREE ROOT RELOCATION, SWPPP, TRAFFIC CONTROL, MOBILIZATION, TRUCKING / HAULING, WATER POLLUTION CONTROL, QC, WASTE DISPOSAL, STRIPING & PAVEMENT MARKERS, TRAFFIC LOOP REPLACEMENT, PEDESTRIAN PUSH BUTTONS

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If you have any questions, Please contact Joe Eckardt: Phone 858-536-3100, Fax 858-586-0164 or email estimating@coffmanspecialties.com.

Non-ELBE/SLBE Subs/Suppliers: Indicate 2nd tier participation offered on your quotation as it will be evaluated with your price. For any bid proposal submitted on or after March 1, 2015 and any contract for public work entered into on or after April 1, 2015, the following registration requirements apply: Every Subcontractor is required to be registered to perform public work pursuant to Section 1725.5 of the Public Contract Code. No Contractor or Subcontractor shall be qualified to bid on, be listed in a bid proposal pursuant to Section 4104 of the Public Contract Code, or engage in the performance of any contract for public work, unless currently registered to perform public work pursuant to Section 1725.5. No bid shall be accepted nor any subcontract entered into without proof of the Subcontractor's current registration to perform public work pursuant to Section 1725.5. If used in our Bid, Coffman Specialties requires this proof be submitted w/in 24 hours of Bid Date.

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Ethnic Roots Flavor Craft Brewing Scene

Family-owned Vinn Distillery makes popular Chinese spirit

BY ZACHARY SENN

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Vinn Distillery is bringing a unique and delicious product line to Portland's vibrant craft distilling scene. The family-owned business is the only U.S.-based distiller of baijiu, a popular Chinese grain spirit. The Ly family has been making the liquor for more than seven generations.

Vinn Distillery serves up tasting flights and Asian-inspired cocktails at their tasting room in the Central Eastside, and at several area restaurants. Their flagship baijiu product is sold at liquor stores throughout Oregon, as well as in select parts of Washington and California.

The Ly family, who formerly owned the Wok Inn Restaurant in Wilsonville, first became in-

terested in bringing their distilling traditions to the U.S. when Michelle Ly's father couldn't find baijiu to use for cocktails in their restaurant.

Many years later, the family sold the restaurant and began the process of establishing their Portland distillery.

Michelle Ly says that they set up manufacturing in the back of her mother's house after four years of preparation and filing paperwork through state and federal liquor control commissions.

"It's rent-free, which is fantastic," Ly told the Portland Observer.

Michelle, four of her siblings and her mother are all actively involved in the business' daily operations.

Baijiu also played a role in the family coming to the United States 37 years ago. Ly says that she and her siblings were born in a village in North Vietnam, where they were forcibly relocated by that country's communist regime.

"Because of our Chinese heritage, we were kicked out



PHOTO BY ZACHARY SENN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Michelle Ly and her family-owned Vinn Distillery bring a unique and delicious product line to Portland's vibrant craft distilling scene. The Vinn Distillery Tasting Room is operated on weekends, located in the central industrial eastside at 222 S.E. Eighth Ave.

of the country. They put us in a village in southern China," Ly said.

Her father's sun-darkened skin attracted attention in the village, however, where the locals learned that he had previously worked as a fisherman off Vietnam's coast.

"It's very rare to find somebody who knows how to navigate the seas," said Ly. "They invited him over to dinner, got him drunk on baijiu, and talked him into escaping."

The family fled China by boat with the rest of the village's escaping residents, Ly says.

"We escaped, 70 people piled into this fishing boat that the whole village bought," she said. "Our ticket on the boat was our dad's ability to sail the ship."

The family eventually landed in Wilsonville, where they were sponsored by a local church. Ly says that they have felt incredibly welcome in Oregon, and have spent the past three and a half decades establishing their family in the state.

Since selling their first bottle seven years ago, the family has been working hard to increase

the liquor's name recognition. Despite its lack of rapport in the United States, baijiu is actually the most widely consumed spirit in the world, with more than 5 billion liters sold worldwide in 2016.

"When we first started back in 2010, if you said the word baijiu, 98 percent of people were unfamiliar with it," Ly said. "It was really challenging."

She says that the alcohol, which is traditionally consumed at room temperature with food, makes for great cocktails and possesses a flavor that blends with the more common consumed liquors.

"The flavor profile is really different," said Ly. "It's a marriage between sake, tequila, white whiskey, a little bit of vodka, a little bit of gin and a little bit of rum."

Vinn Distillery operates a tasting room at 222 S.E. Eighth Ave. Hours are Fridays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturdays, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Private group tastings are available with advance notice.

For more information, you can call the business at 503-807-3826.

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Boys and Girls Club members open the newest Rockwood Boys and Girls Club in Gresham Monday.

Youth Center Opens in Rockwood

Rockwood Boys and Girls Club celebrates

Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland Metro hosted the grand opening of its newest facility in the Rockwood community of Gresham Monday.

Answering the community's call for safe places offering structured enrichment programs for youth, the new center is positioned to provide safe, facility-based services for young people when school is not in session. The club is located at the corner of Southeast 165th Avenue and Stark Street.

"I am incredibly proud to welcome Boys & Girls Clubs to Gresham," said Mayor Shane Bemis, City of Gresham. "Their organization is renowned for providing fun and inclusive programming to every child that walks through their doors, and I know they will have an immediate positive impact in our community."

The vision for the new club

was inspired after the unexpected closure in 2013 of the Police Activities League Center in Rockwood, the only facility of its kind in the neighborhood offering after school and summer programming for youth.

"Boys & Girls Clubs are located in communities with high need and few facility-based services to youth," said Erin Hubert. "We are incredibly honored to partner with the City of Gresham to respond to the needs of the children and families in Rockwood. This building, with the support of so many that have stepped up to invest in this Club, will open up a whole new world of opportunity for youth in Rockwood."

The new Rockwood Club features learning, innovation, and activity spaces for youth 6 to 12 years of age and is the first Club in the Metro Area to have a stand-alone center for teens ages 13 to 18. The Johnson Teen Center was made possible thanks to a generous donation from the Johnson Charitable Trust.

Nike, Inc. has supported the

new Club's gymnasium, providing the resources and inspiration to bring sports and fun into the lives of Club members and countless others -- a cumulative, financial and in-kind contribution of \$500,000. The Gym will be activated year-round with seasonal youth sports, fitness classes and community recreation events.

The club also features a commercial kitchen supported by the Windermere Foundation that will serve over 75,000 meals a year.

Job Training to Break Cycle of Low Employment

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

of the few employment opportunities for someone with a prior criminal record was in construction, as long as the prospective employee had been trained and screened beforehand. That's where his organization comes in. NUHECDC trains people to develop construction skills, with a special emphasis in carpentry, and then connects their successful graduates with jobs.

Since the nonprofit program's inception, job trainees have completed about 15-20 neighborhood construction projects like building fences, porches, and remodeling. Thirty-five graduates of the program have already been placed in permanent construction jobs.

The program also assists with interpersonal skills to make a job trainee's transition back to the workforce a smooth one.

"When they come to the pro-

gram we teach them life skills, soft skills that help them with issues of attitude, anger management, working as a team," Greenidge said.

Greenidge hopes to help the disadvantaged with housing by breaking ground on a condominium construction project at 109th and East Burnside in about a month.

"We hope to bring 20 new units to the market in June or July of 2018, and they will be targeting individuals that are 80 percent or lower than the median family income for them to buy these homes," Greenidge said.

He is also working on hiring a contractor who will be open to hiring program graduates.

For anyone interested in enrolling in the job training program or exploring its housing options, you can reach the organization by contacting Greenidge's assistant, Fa'Lisha Brown at 971-302-6615.

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Affordable Leasing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

tion, a black-owned contractor from northeast Portland.

Natural Grocers is the "anchor tenant," and they plan on having a grand opening around February.

Prosper Portland hopes to fill the remaining spaces in Alberta Commons by spring.

Wicks said tenant applications

are currently being screened based on four criteria: Business owners who are underrepresented in the business community, like women or people of color; businesses that will be "active destination uses" that bring a lot of foot traffic to the area; businesses that have a solid business plan; and business owners who have multiple years of experience in their field.

"Tenancing is more of an art than a science. So a lot of this [is] finding the tenants, finding the synergy, where it fits for them," Campbell said. "We really want to be conscientious of curating space that provides some unique amenities for the community or ones that have been sorely missing."

To learn more and fill out an application on the Alberta Commons Affordable Commercial Tenancing Program, visit prosperportland/us.

Equity and Inclusion

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Once the hotel is built, a First Opportunity Target Area program for residents in selected zip codes of north and northeast Portland will allow for economically disadvantaged people to apply first for eligible jobs at the Oregon

Convention Center and other public facilities Metro operates in the city. Hyatt has agreed to recruit from within the same target area.

The convention hotel project is almost 30 years in the making. Equity has become an important piece of the puzzle for both

Mortenson and Hyatt, especially as they build in a Rose Quarter and Lloyd District neighborhood that was gentrified.

"Homes were taken and that wealth does not get easily replaced, if replaced at all, so we have to be strong in our commitment to make sure that economically diverse communities get a chance to have a crack at work," Collymore said.

Mike Clifford, construction executive at Mortenson, echoed that sentiment. "We want this to be a project for the community, by the community," he said.

Because the hotel is both a public and private project, it makes for an opportunity to be beneficial for everyone involved, according to the supporters. On the private side, Hyatt has a chance to operate a successful hotel, and on the public side, the Convention Center has a chance to generate more business and thus enhance the local economy.

"This project should be the tide that raises all boats," Clifford said. "It's going to be a catalyst for the Lloyd District, and we look at this as being something that should be a big boon for just about everybody."

Added Collymore, "The economic success of people of color, or low-income folks, or women, is the economic success of the entire community."



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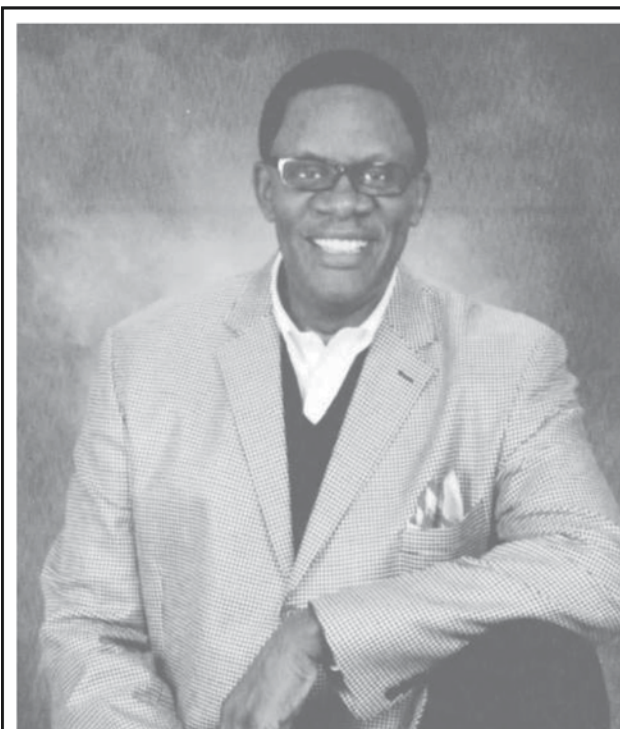
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October 2017 CALENDAR

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| 1 Homemade Cookies Day World Vegetarian Day Henry Ford Introduced the Model T (1908) | 2 World Habitat Day Child Health Day Name Your Car Day International Day of Non-Violence | 3 Captain Kangaroo Day (Show first aired on this day in 1955) SOS Established in 1906 | 4 Donald Sobol born, 1924 Sputnik I Launched in 1957 (first space vehicle) | 5 World Teacher Day Gene Zion born, 1913 | 6 National Denim Day Thomas Edison 1st Motion Picture, 1889 Am. Library Association Founded (1876) | 7 American Bandstand premiered in 1957 Rose designated U.S. National Flower, 1986 |
| 8 Edward Ormondroyd born, 1925 The Great Chicago Fire started (1871) | 9 Leif Ericson Day Columbus Day Thanksgiving Day in Canada Moldy Cheese Day | 10 James Marshall born, 1942 Henry Cavendish born in England in 1731 | 11 Eleanor Roosevelt born, 1884 First Steam-Powered Ferryboat 'Juliana' began operations in 1811 | 12 National Poetry Day (England) Farmer's Day Dia de la Raza (Mexico) | 13 Margaret Thatcher born in 1925. Molly Pitcher (Revolutionary War Heroine) born, 1754 | 14 Lois Lenski born, 1893 Dwight David Eisenhower (34th President) born, 1890 |
| 15 National Grouch Day | 16 Dictionary Day Noah Webster born, 1758 World Food Day | 17 Black Poetry Day San Francisco Earthquake (1989) | 18 Mason-Dixon Line Established (1767) Puerto Rico Became U.S. Colony In 1898 | 19 Thomas Edison Electric Light, 1879 Final battle of the Revolutionary War (1781) | 20 Sir James Chadwick (Discoverer of the Neutron) born, 1891 | 21 Sweetest Day Guggenheim Museum Opens (1959) |
| 22 Mother-in-Law's Day National Nut Day | 23 iPod First Revealed (2001) Red Ribbon Week (Oct 23-31) | 24 Bruno Munari born, 1907 National Bologna Day United Nations Day | 25 Pablo Picasso Born in Spain in 1881 | 26 Hillary Rodham Clinton born, 1947 International Red Cross Organized In Geneva, Switzerland in 1863 | 27 Theodore Roosevelt born in 1858 | 28 Bill Gates born, 1955 Plush Animal Lover's Day Statue of Liberty dedicated in 1886 |
| 29 Stock Market Crash - 1929 (1929) | 30 John Adams born in 1735. Emily Post (author) born, 1873 | 31 Halloween Juliette Gordon Low Born in 1860, she started United States Girl Scouting in 1912 |  | | | |

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