



**Christmas at
the Grotto**
*Enjoying the
sights and sounds
of the season*
See Metro, page 9



Portland Observer

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On its first ever run along a faster new route, an Amtrak Cascades train bound for Portland derailed on a curve and plunged off an overpass onto I-5 south of Seattle Monday, killing three people and injuring more than 70 others. (AP photo)

Going Too Fast

Amtrak Cascades crashes on inaugural run

The Amtrak train bound for Portland and Seattle making its first ever run along a faster new route was hurtling 50 mph over the speed limit when it jumped the track and plunged off an overpass south of Seattle Monday, killing at least three people, injuring dozens more and crushing two vehicles.

Bella Dinh-Zarr, a National Transportation Safety Board member, reported sever-

al hours after the crash that the data recorder in the rear locomotive showed the train was going 80 mph in a 30 mph zone when it derailed along a curve, spilling some of its cars onto I-5 below.

Dinh-Zarr said it is not yet known what caused the train to run off the rails and too early to say why it was going so fast. Investigators were looking into whether the engineer was distracted by the presence of

an employee-in-training in the locomotive, a federal official said Tuesday. In previous wrecks, investigators looked at whether the engineer was distracted or disabled.

The train, with 85 passengers and crew members, was making the inaugural run along a fast new bypass route that was created by refurbishing freight tracks alongside I-5. The 15-mile, \$180.7 million project was aimed at speeding up service by

bypassing a route with a number of curves, single-track tunnels and freight traffic.

Positive train control - technology that can automatically slow or stop a speeding train - wasn't in use on this stretch of track, according to Amtrak President Richard Anderson.

Regulators have pressing railroads for

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Zimmerman Threatens Jay-Z

Sparks feud on social media

A feud on social media between rapper Snoop Dogg and George Zimmerman, the man acquitted of Trayvon Martin's murder, was sparked in response to an upcoming documentary series that rapper Jay-Z is producing about Martin.

Zimmerman said a film crew recently went to the homes of his parents and uncle for interviews and he later threatened Jay-Z, telling media outlets that he would "beat him" and "he would find himself coming out of the south side of a gator if he comes to Flor-



George Zimmerman (left), the man acquitted of Trayvon Martin's murder and rapper Jay-Z.

ida and bothers my family."

Rapper Snoop Dogg seemingly jumped into the argument when he

took to Instagram:

"If one hair on Jay's hair is touched that's when the revolution

will be televised. ... Trayvon Martin Gone but not forgotten."

Jay-Z and the Weinstein Company are producing a documentary about the 2012 shooting death of the 17-year old Martin by Zimmerman in Sanford, Florida. The film will be based on two books, one of which, "Rest in Power: The Enduring Life of Trayvon Martin," was written by Martin's parents.

Zimmerman reportedly turned down an interview for the documentary in exchange for \$100,000.

Martin's death sparked national protests and helped launch the Black Lives Matter movement. Zimmerman was acquitted of criminal charges in 2013.

Charlottesville Driver Charged



The driver who plowed his car into a crowd protesting a white nationalist rally in Charlottesville, Va. is now charged with first-degree murder, after prosecutors last week showed a judge surveillance video of the deadly assault. James Alex Fields had faced second-degree murder after the Aug. 12 collision that left 32-year-old Heather Heyer dead and dozens injured.

Neo-Nazi Flyers Distributed near Portland State University

A handful of neo-Nazi recruit flyers were found littering the neighborhood around Portland State University over the weekend. The PSU Vanguard reported that the flyers apparently were intended to recruit college students.

Portland Officer Guilty

A Portland police officer pleaded guilty to first-degree official misconduct and was sentenced Thursday to a year and a half of probation with required community service for having sex on duty with a woman he met responding to a neighborhood noise disturbance call. Robert Berge agreed to resign from the Portland Police Bureau where he worked patrol for 10 years and to surrender his police certification.

The Week in Review

of their effort, attempting to sell the plan to a public that polling suggests is deeply skeptical. GOP leaders argued that the tax bill is aimed primarily at helping the middle class, brushing aside nonpartisan analyses that show the bulk of the legislation's benefits would go to the wealthy and to corporations.

Tax Bill Targets Affordable Health Care Law

Republicans didn't get their wish to repeal former President Barack Obama's health care law, but the tax bill barreling toward President Trump's signature guts its most unpopular provision, the requirement that virtually all Americans carry health insurance. If estimates by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office are right, it will lead to more people being uninsured and higher premiums for those buying individual health insurance policies.

Atlanta Blackout Cancels 1,500 Flights

The nation's air-travel system struggled to get back on schedule Monday after a weekend fire and blackout at Atlanta International Airport, the world's busiest forced the cancellation of over 1,500 flights. The underground blaze knocked out electricity and crippled the airport for about 11 hours.

Salvation Army Kettles get Gold Bricks

One week after a \$10,000 cash donation to the Salvation Army at the Hollywood Fred Meyer, the charity has received three one-ounce gold bricks, worth about \$1,250 each from donations into kettles at the Hawthorne and 82nd and Foster Fred Meyer stores. As before, the Salvation Army will use the gifts to provide the most help to the community.



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What's on your list today?



A preliminary drawing shows the proposed affordable housing condominium project planned for North Interstate Avenue by the nonprofit Proud Ground.

Permanently Affordable

Non profit plans
condos to create
equity, stability

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON
PORTLAND OBSERVER EDITOR

A Portland community land trust created to help residents share in the equity from owning a home has plans to develop a major affordable condominium project giving priority to displaced residents.

Proud Ground indicated last

week that it wants to develop a permanently affordable, mixed-use housing condominium at 5020 N. Interstate Ave., located in the heart of the city's Interstate Urban Renewal and North/Northeast Housing Strategy Plan area.

The backers say they are confident they will soon win approval for the project, but final negotiations are still be worked out with city officials and the Portland Housing Bureau, including funding support, according to Proud Ground Executive Director Diane

Linn.

Linn said Proud Ground is working with community leaders in the African American community on the construction and is committed to a preference policy giving priority to families who would like to return to their historic neighborhoods.

The Portland Housing Bureau recently approved a return policy for Portland Community Development Initiatives, Inc., (PCRI) another affordable housing pro-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Jury Rules Shooting Justified

Burglary suspect was shot during police chase

A Multnomah County Grand Jury has determined that a Portland Police Bureau officer was justified when he shot and wounded an unarmed black bank robbery suspect last October.

The grand jury ruled last week that the use of deadly force by Officer Ryan Reagan against Chase Arnae Peeples, 25, was a lawful exercise of self-defense under Oregon law. The shooting happened during a chase after officers responded to a bank robbery at the U.S. Bank located at 32133 N. Lombard St.

Employees provided emergency dispatchers a description of the suspect, a black male in his 20s, wearing a dark baseball hat and dark clothing. The description was



Chase Arnae Peeples

broadcast to responding officers.

Reagan, a 19-year-veteran, and his partner officer encountered Peeples, later identified as a resident of Tacoma, a few blocks

away. He was shot six times from Reagan's handgun when he did not follow commands to put his hands in the air and instead advanced towards the officers while reaching into his pocket, police testified.

Peeples was transported to a hospital with non-life threatening injuries. No weapons were recovered at the scene.

As part of the internal use of force review process, the Police Bureau will conduct an internal review of the entire incident and the case will go before the Police Review Board, which is comprised of community members, Bureau members and representatives from the Independent Police Review Division.

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Going Too Fast

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

years to install such technology, but the deadline has been extended repeatedly at the industry's request and is now the end of 2018.

The 7:34 a.m. accident left mangled train cars up on top of each other, with one hanging precariously over the freeway. The screech and clang of metal were followed by silence, then screams, as the injured cried out to rescuers and motorists pulled over and rushed to help.

More than 70 people were injured, 10 of them seriously. A Portland surgeon on his way to a shopping trip in Seattle stopped to aid victims at the scene of the derailment. Dr. Nate Selden, chair of neurological surgery at Oregon Health and Sciences University, said he and his son were two of hundreds trying to help survivors.

He assisted emergency medical professionals to apply first aid and assess the status of each victim.

Train passenger Emma Shafer found herself at a 45-degree angle, staring at the seats in front of her that had come loose and swung around.

"It felt oddly silent after the actual crashing," she said. "Then there was people screaming because their leg was messed up. ... I don't know if I actually heard the sirens, but they were there. A guy was like, 'Hey, I'm Robert. We'll get you out of here.'"

One of the dead was identified as Zack Willhoite, a customer service employee at a local transit agency and a railroad buff excited to be on the first passenger run of the new route.

He was a member of All Aboard Washington, an organization of rail advocates.

In 2015, an Amtrak train traveling at twice the 50 mph speed limit ran off the rails along a sharp curve in Philadelphia, killing eight people. Investigators concluded the engineer was distracted by reports over the radio of another

train getting hit by a rock.

In the Washington state crash, speed signs were posted two miles before the speed zone changed, according to Kimberly Reason of Sound Transit, the Seattle-area transit agency that owns the tracks.

Eric Corp, a councilman for the small town of DuPont near the derailment site, said he rode the train with about 30 or so dignitaries and others on a special trip Friday before the service opened to the public Monday.

"Once we were coming up on that curve, the train slowed down considerably," he said.

The Amtrak Cascades service that runs from Vancouver, B.C. to Eugene is jointly owned by the Washington and Oregon transportation departments. Amtrak operates the service for the two states as a contractor and is responsible for day-to-day operations.

The Amtrak schedule called for the train to leave Seattle around 6 a.m. and arrive in Portland about 3 1/2 hours later.

--Associated Press contributed to this article.

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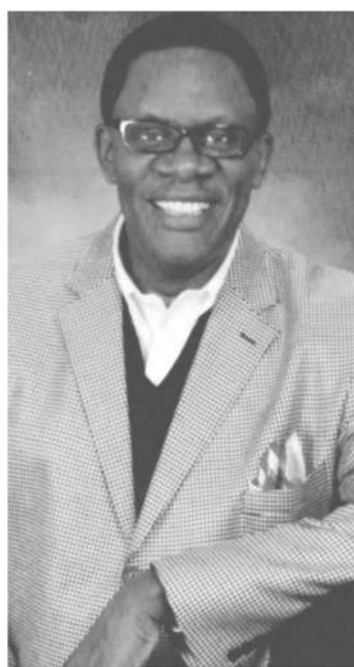


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Dr. Billy R. Flowers

Q: What age groups can a chiropractor help most?

A: This is like asking which age groups benefit most from good health. And yet, each age group has specific problems for which your chiropractor has specific answers.

Infant and Young Children

Other mothers are often amazed to see a mother carrying her infant out of the adjusting room. And yet,

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Part 35. Different Benefits by Age Group

since the delivery process itself causes a high percentage of subluxations, infants to need chiropractic care.

Obviously, children and infants are treated differently than adults. There are new, highly sophisticated methods of adjusting children and infants to insure the best possible results with the least possible discomfort. Though young children can't tell you they're in pain, their irritability is often a sign of the need to be checked.

Young Adults and Teenagers

More and more young adults and teenagers are getting involved in active sports. As a result, more and more of them are getting injured, requiring prompt chiropractic care.

Obviously half of the girls in our society develop scoliosis (curva-

ture of the spine) during puberty. Left untreated, scoliosis keeps getting worse over time. However, it can almost always be corrected when chiropractic care is initiated in time.

Needless to say, every teenage girl should be checked regularly for scoliosis and all teenagers and young adults should see their chiropractor regularly to make sure their newly active sports lives aren't creating spinal problems they'll have to live with the rest of their lives.

Adults

The world today is experiencing a terrible level of stress. Long work weeks, seemingly impossible deadlines and economic woes create incredible pressures. In addition, most adults breathe in polluted air,

drink chemically treated water and consume an average of nine pounds of food additives and chemical preservatives in a year, putting even more stress on their bodies. One sure way to keep the stress level from causing potentially dangerous subluxations is with regular chiropractic checkups.

Senior Citizens

Retirement age for many people has become just plain tiresome. Aches and pins, often the result of untreated subluxations, abound. Yet it hardly seems fair that having to suffer with pain or being drugged into numbness are fair rewards for all the years of hard work.

Depending on the degree of subluxations degeneration, your chiropractor can often provide help.

For senior citizens who've been fortunate enough to suffer minimal trauma in their lives, virtually complete spinal recovery should be almost as easy as it would be for younger people.

For those who have suffered needlessly for years, your chiropractor can often slow or stop the degeneration, making life more comfortable. It is certainly worth the effort so that our senior citizens get the dignity of health care they deserve.

Something for Everyone

As you can see, there are practically as many reasons to have regular chiropractic checkups as there are people. Make an appointment for yourself and your loved ones soon.

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PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Holiday Meals for Veterans

Members of the Active and Reserve National Guard and American Military Encouragement Network volunteer to distribute holiday food donations from the Sunshine Division warehouse in north Portland Tuesday. Thanks to Safeway and other contributors, 500 military and veteran families and 1,200 additional families in Portland and throughout Oregon are benefitting from holiday meal packages from the Sunshine Division, the Police Bureau's nonprofit charity.

Permanently Affordable

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

vider, which is building housing units and gearing eligibility to help former households with generational ties to north and northeast Portland who were displaced or at-risk of displacement due to past city actions related to urban renewal areas.

Forty-one of the 50 units proposed for the Proud Ground condos project would be permanently affordable, family-sized units serving a range of 35 percent to 100 percent of area median income or between \$26,245 and \$74,700 annual household income for a family of four.

Plans call for the project to be developed in partnership with Habitat for Humanity Portland/Metro East, and a community based development team: Carleton Hart Architecture, as architect; LMC Construction, as the general contractor; Housing Development Center as development consultant; and Jeana Woolley of JM Woolley & Associates as owner's representative.

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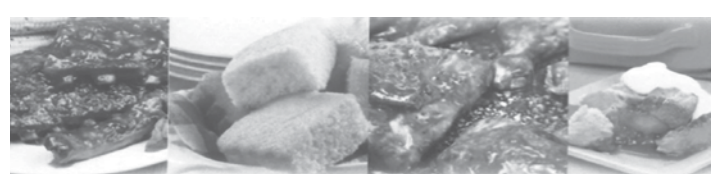
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Lead auto mechanic J.R. Watkins of Elite OnSite and the car he fixed up for a donation to a local family in need.

Giving Back for the Holidays

Fixed and donated car helps family

BY ELEANOR FULTON

J.R. Watkins is the lead mechanic for Elite OnSite, a new player in the Portland and Vancouver fleet services industry. This past November, he saw the opportunity to combine his professional skills and industry contacts to give back to a family in need.

"We could give away money, we could give away food, but transportation for a family that doesn't have transportation, that's

gold."

Julia and Alan Webb, the owners of Elite OnSite, were thrilled at the proposition. They immediately gave Watkins free reign to implement his plan. The goal was to refurbish a used car to mint condition before the holidays, so that a Christmas giveaway could be coordinated.

His plan sprung into action when American Plumbing donated a 2009 Chevy Aveo with a broken head gasket.

The greatest concern was finishing repairs to the car in time.

This project couldn't have been completed without the added donations from Napa Auto Parts and

Machine Shop on Southeast Ninth Avenue, and Epic Auto Detailing for fully detailing the car. Dynamic Drywall of Oregon, Squires Electric, 3 Mountains Plumbing, Pinmarx, and All City Printing also contributed.

"I've never had the means to give back to somebody, or the client base, so it was awesome to do that," says Watkins.

Elite OnSite partnered with Union Gospel Mission to find a family that had great need for a vehicle, and that could afford car insurance. Taking these criteria into account, the local charity was able to identify a deserving family.

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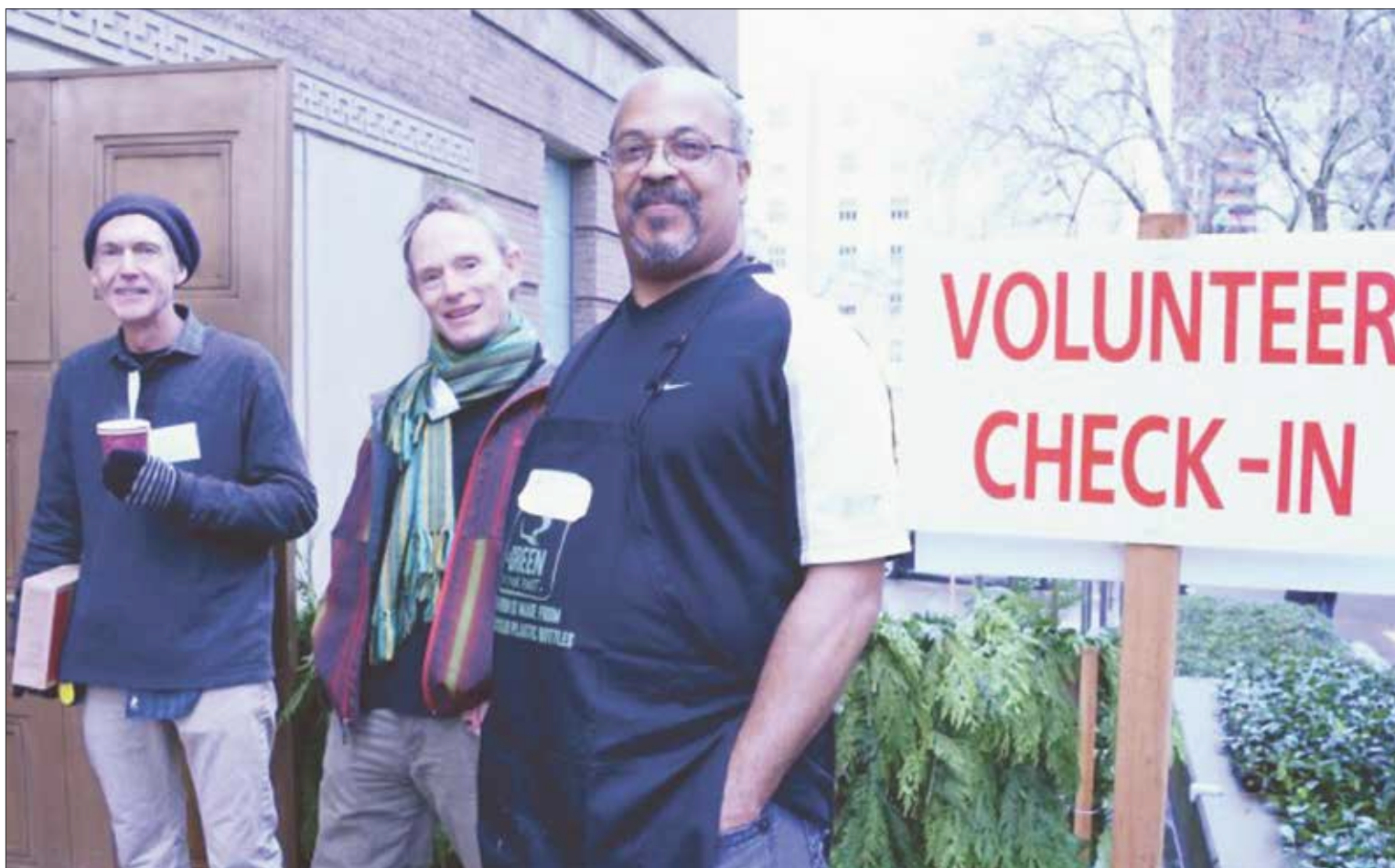
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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Volunteers for Potluck in the Park's Christmas Dinner at the Portland Art Museum. The free annual event for anyone in need or anyone without family or friends to share the holidays, returns on Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the museum's Mark Building at 1119 S.W. Park Ave.

Christmas Diner and More

The plans are set for Portland's largest Christmas dinner, free to anyone in need and anyone without family or friends to share the holidays.

Potluck in the Park, in partnership with the Portland Art Museum, will be serving its annual Christmas Dinner at the museum, located at 1119 S.W. Park Ave. But this year they will be serving on Christmas Eve, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., on Sunday, Dec. 24 instead of Christmas Day. The meal includes a turkey dinner with all the trimmings, gifts, photos with San-

ta and live entertainment by some of Portland's best jazz artists. Pet food and kennels are available during the meal. Guests can also make free phone calls to loved ones. Guest Transportation is available for the mobility impaired by calling 503-255-7611.

Potluck in the Park serves free meals to anyone in need each Sunday of the year, rain or shine in downtown Portland. For more information or to make a donation, visit potluckinthepark.org or call 503-255-7611

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Chantal DeGroat stars as a nun in the hilarious holiday hit "Twist Your Dickens," with shows now showing through Sunday, Dec. 31 on the Main Stage at The Armory, downtown.

Second City Hit Comedy

'Twist Your Dickens' at Armory's Main Stage

The hilarious hit from comedy giant The Second City has returned to The Armory for another year of holiday jeer. A Christmas Carol: Twist Your Dickens, written by Emmy Award-winners Peter Gwinn and Bobby Mort, is now showing through Sunday, Dec. 31 on the U.S. Bank Main Stage at The Armory, downtown.

Ron West has returned to direct the sidesplitting take on Charles Dickens' Christmas novella.

Darius Pierce also joins the cast. Pierce has had audiences in stitches as Crumpet in The Santa-land Diaries at The Armory for the past five seasons.

Recommended for ages 14+; contains mature content, explicit language, theatrical haze and strobe lighting. Tickets may be purchased at pcs.org, by calling 503-445-3700 or in-person from the box office, 128 N.W. 11th Ave.

TV Host Defends Reputation

(AP) — Tavis Smiley says PBS made a big mistake by suspending him from his talk show.

Smiley said Monday on ABC's Good Morning America that he's never coerced anyone into a relationship but has had consensual relationships in the workplace. He says that wasn't against his company's policies.

He says he's human and has made mistakes but they don't merit suspension.

He says he applauds women coming forward to share their sexual assault and harassment



Tavis Smiley

experiences "to lead us in a conversation about how to create healthy workspaces."

However he says it's important not lose a sense of "proportionality" in the conversation, "because if we do people end up being guilty simply by accusation."

PBS suspended Smiley last week after an investigation uncovered "multiple, credible allegations of conduct" inconsistent with PBS standards.

Smiley says he'll fight to protect his reputation.



Mississippi
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The Grotto's Christmas Festival of Lights has been an ever-growing community tradition that celebrates the true spirit of Christmas.

Christmas at the Grotto

Operating nightly with sights and sounds of the season

Since 1988, the Grotto's Christmas Festival of Lights has been an ever-growing community tradition that celebrates the true spirit of Christmas.

Operating nightly from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., except on Christmas Day, you will find beautiful lighting displays, heart-warming family entertainment, and magnificent indoor concerts at the base of Rocky Butte

just off Northeast Sandy Boulevard and 82nd Avenue, highlighting the sights and sounds of the season.

With over 175 choirs and ensembles from around the region performing in the Chapel of Mary with its cathedral-like acoustics over the course of the event, it is the world's largest Christmas choral festival.

Other family entertainment includes

nightly puppet shows, outdoor caroling and a live petting zoo, this year featuring "B.C.," the baby camel. Holiday foods and beverages are also available as is seasonal shopping in the Grotto Gift Shop.

Tickets are \$11 general, \$10 for seniors and \$6 for children 3 to 12 and free for kids 2 and younger. Visitors are encouraged to bring a donation of canned or dry food

benefiting Snow-Cap, an East-county food bank.

Parking is free and volunteer parking attendants are present to direct visitors to the most convenient parking. There will be an overflow lot with a free shuttle at St. Rita's Catholic Church at 102nd and Prescott.

For a complete schedule and more information, visit thegrotto.org.



Showdogs is a full service salon. We do baths, all over hair cuts, tooth brushing, nail trims, soft claws, flea treatments, mud baths, and ear cleaning. We also have health care and grooming products to keep your pet clean in between visits.

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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Get inspired with amazing gingerbread houses and get the scoop on building them yourself at Gingerbread Adventures at OMSI.

Gingerbread Adventures

You're invited to get into the holiday spirit by viewing some amazing gingerbread houses during Gingerbread Adventures at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry.

Five local architecture firms and bakeries have teamed up to design and build gingerbread sculptures focused on the theme "Illusions."

Gingerbread Adventures, sponsored

by New Seasons, highlights the innovation and food science that goes into assembling elaborate gingerbread sculptures. The creations showcase Portland's diverse cultural experience, innovative food scene, and architectural expertise.

"Last year was so much fun and everyone really enjoyed it – the bakers, the architects, our guests and even our staff! Gingerbread Adventures is a great way to blend

food science with a beloved holiday tradition," said Andrea Edgecombe, OMSI events director. "We are excited for this to become an event families look forward to year after year."

Gingerbread Adventures is included with general admission to the museum and will be on view in the OMSI Auditorium through Jan. 1. For more information, visit omsi.edu.



Oregon Parks and Recreation volunteers assist visitors on the Oregon Coast get a glimpse of migrating gray whales.

Gray Whales on the Move

Watching week
activities begin
Dec. 27

Gray whales are on the move south again this winter, and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department is celebrating the annual event with Whale Watching Week, Dec. 27-31. Visitors to the Oregon coast will have the opportunity

to glimpse some of the estimated 20,000 gray whales traveling south from Alaska to their final destination off the coast of Baja, Mexico.

Volunteers from the Whale Watching Spoken Here program will be stationed at 24 sites along the Oregon coast during the event. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day, they'll offer whale watching tips and facts about the animals. Each year from December to mid-Janu-

ary, gray whales swim 6,000 miles down the Pacific coast to reach calving lagoons near the Baja peninsula.

Luke Parsons, an OPRD ranger with the Whale Watching Center in Depoe Bay, says one of the goals of the event is to create awareness and compassion for whales and other marine life.

A map of the 24 volunteer whale watch sites can be found on whalespoken.wordpress.com.

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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Zoo Lights for the Holidays --



Amazement from more than 1.6 million brightly colored lights is an experience you don't want to miss as ZooLights, the Oregon Zoo popular walk-through winter wonderland, is now showing through the holidays. To purchase online tickets, go to oregonzoo.org/zoolights.

Norman Sylvester -- 'Boogie Cat' Norman Sylvester plays Friday, Dec. 22 at the Rogue Pub in North Plains; Saturday, Dec. 23 at Clyde's and Sunday, Dec. 31 at CatFish Lou's.

Raceway Holiday Light Show -- The Winter Wonderland holiday light show at Portland International Raceway is a fundraiser for the food and clothing assistance programs. Enjoy viewing over 250 colorful light set pieces and many fully animated scenes from the comfort of your own vehicle from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays; and 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; throughout the holidays. For more info, visit winterwonderlandportland.com.



Holiday Breakfast Theater -- The Peppermint Bear and the Giant Elf star in an all-new version of Lakewood Theater's Holiday Magic Breakfast theatre program. Performances at 9:39 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. in the Lakewood Center for the Arts in Lake Oswego on Friday, Dec. 22 and Saturday, Dec. 23. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$12 for students. Advance reservations are required by calling the box office at 503 635-3901 or order online at lakewood-center.org.



Christmas Tree Permits -- You can skip the lot and explore the forest while finding this year's holiday tree. The Gifford Pinchot National Forest east of Vancouver is selling \$5 personal-use Christmas tree cutting permits, which include a map of cutting areas and instructions for cutting trees. For more information, call 360-891-5001.

Christmas Ships Parade -- View the annual parades of Christmas Ships by visiting the M. James Gleason Memorial Boat Ramp on the Columbia River across from the Portland Airport. Parking is \$5. The holiday tradition featuring boats decorated with festive lights, parades will be visible from the boat ramp from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m., weather permitting, on Wednesday, Dec. 20 and Thursday, Dec. 21.



the holiday tradition featuring boats decorated with festive lights, parades will be visible from the boat ramp from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m., weather permitting, on Wednesday, Dec. 20 and Thursday, Dec. 21.

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?"

Zoo for All -- The Oregon Zoo has launched "Zoo for All," a new discount program that provides \$5 admission for low income individuals and families. Visitors may purchase up to six of the \$5 tickets by bringing a photo ID and documentation showing they participate in low income service, like the Oregon Trial Card, Medicaid, Section 8, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and Head Start.

Discount Tickets -- Low income families and individuals can purchase

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

\$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, Cappella Romana and Portland Vocal Consort.

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3 A.M. - 7 A.M.
TOM JOYNER

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

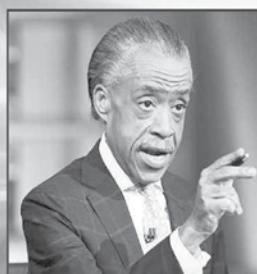
3 A.M. - 6 A.M.
TOYA BEASLEY

6 A.M. - 12 NOON
SUNDAY MORNING GOSPEL
W/ANGELA

12 NOON - 1 P.M.
HIGHLAND C.C. LIVE
BROADCAST

1 P.M. - 4 P.M.
PAPA SMURF

4 P.M. - 12 Midnight
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OPINION



Advancing the Conversation on Sexual Assault

Let's agree on
how to punish it

BY JILL RICHARDSON

Our national debate about sexual harassment and assault seems to be missing a bit of nuance. As a woman who's been sexually harassed and assaulted many times, here's how I see it.

Sexual predators aren't the same as pigs. Roy Moore is a predator. His systematic, frequent pursuing of teenage girls at a shopping mall when he was in his 30s shows a pattern of intentional behavior. He was after children too young to consent to sex.

Film producer Harvey Weinstein, who systematically entrapped women trying to make it in the film industry, is a predator. A monstrous one.

Al Franken sounds like a pig. A pig is the man who stares at your chest instead of your face when talking to you. A pig might try to touch you under the pretense of being friendly, or joking, or "accidentally" brushing up on you.

The pig might think he's being hilarious or just having good fun. He may even think he's flattering you. You should feel grateful he

chose you as a woman worthy of his sexual attention.

The last pig I encountered smacked my behind. Twice. The first time it happened, I didn't know what to say. It wasn't OK, but what do you say?

As a woman I'm socialized to always remain polite. Since I couldn't think of an ap-

"And?" he said. He held up one finger, as if he were making a list and I'd just given him one item — but there had to be more.

What? No.

"I didn't give you permission" is the only reason I need. But I added, "And were aren't dating." He nodded, accepting my reasons. I was enraged. "Don't touch my butt" shouldn't require explanation or justification.

Donald Trump bragged about assaulting women, and many women have come forward to allege he's assaulted them, yet he's in the White House.

propriate, non-confrontational polite response, I said nothing.

The second time, I was ready. This wasn't OK, and I was willing to risk an unpleasant confrontation.

"Don't do that," I said.

"Why not?" the man asked.

"Because I didn't give you permission," I snapped back.

There seems to be a spectrum, from the small-time pig to the most heinous sexual predator. And different punishments fit different crimes. It also matters if the perpetrator apologizes, and if he stops the problematic behavior.

Yet the way we're haphazardly applying consequences doesn't reflect the severity of the crime, the

trustworthiness of the evidence, or the sincerity of the apology.

Donald Trump bragged about assaulting women, and many women have come forward to allege he's assaulted them, yet he's in the White House. Roy Moore pursued teenage girls when he was an adult, yet he still retained the support of most Republicans.

Sen. Al Franken, a mere pig by comparison, resigned his seat after realizing he was wrong for groping and kissing women without their consent.

Actor Kevin Spacey, who played the president on the TV show House of Cards, lost his job after a wave of assault allegations surfaced against him. But while Spacey can't play a president on TV anymore, a man who openly bragged about committing assault still sits in the real Oval Office.

And Clarence Thomas, a man once accused of serial sexual harassment, is still on the Supreme Court.

Our conversation must advance from simply agreeing to take sexual harassment and assault seriously to agreeing upon a fair and consistent way to punish it.

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*.

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

Corporate Interests Are Warping the Internet

Why should they hold even more power?

BY MARK LUSKUS

My identity was stolen this year. The perpetrator didn't open credit cards in my name or gain access to my finances. Instead, they used my name to submit a comment to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in support of repealing net neutrality rules.

Those rules, enacted in 2015, declared the internet to be a free and open place. They prevent internet service providers, or ISPs, like Comcast and AT&T from restricting access to any websites — either permanently or to charge



you more money to access them. Imagine your water company charging you more for the water that comes out of your shower than the water that comes out of your sink. Or imagine not being allowed to use your shower at all, even though you pay a water bill.

That's what net neutrality rules protect consumers from when it comes to the internet. But Ajit Pai, the current FCC chairman and a former lawyer for Verizon, scheduled a vote to repeal net neutrality. To do this, he had to solicit public comment on the matter.

In the past, this has resulted in millions of pro-net neutrality comments — which makes sense, because most Americans support it. But this time, an unusual number of anti-net neutrality comments showed up.

Why? Because of the 22 mil-

lion comments received, half or more of them appear to be fake, likely posted by bots or special interest organizations attempting to sway the FCC's opinion. When I checked the FCC's website, I learned that one of those fake comments used my own name and address.

Someone had stolen my identity to advocate for a position that I didn't agree with.

Several people and organizations, including the New York attorney general, have petitioned the FCC for information on the scale and origin of fake comments. However, the FCC has rejected these petitions.

As a federal agency, the FCC should be far more concerned about the identity theft of the citizens they're tasked to represent.

Internet providers like Verizon, the former employer of the FCC chairman, complain that net neu-

trality rules slow their investments in internet technology. However, ISPs exist in a shockingly non-competitive market.

More than 50 million households in the United States have only one choice of provider, and those providers score the lowest customer satisfaction rates of all 43 industries tracked by the American Consumer Satisfaction Index. Personally, I've never had an ISP that offers reasonable customer service or internet speeds and reliability at the levels I pay for.

This isn't an industry that consumers are satisfied with, so why should they hold even more power than they already do? No wonder they have to rely on sleazy tactics like stealing identities and posting fake comments.

The internet has become an essential tool in the 21st century. A small handful of companies

shouldn't have the power to decide which parts of it people can access.

Corporate-funded lies and identity theft highlight a major threat to the benefits of increased communication. How can we prevent special interest groups from warping the internet to spread misinformation and further their political goals?

That's a question we must answer, because misinformation campaigns are rampant, and they're being used to restrict your rights and freedoms. But at the very least, a former Verizon employee shouldn't hold the power to give ISPs a major win at the expense of consumers — and a free and open internet.

Mark Luskus is a med student at Emory University. He's interested in infectious diseases and public policy. Distributed by OtherWords.org.

Journalist was a Fearless Civil Rights Legend

Honoring a legacy and press freedom

BY MARC H. MORIAL

"Glaring down at us from the truck were five white men, armed to the teeth with shotguns. All five sprang from the truck and surrounded the car. 'Get out,' the huskiest one snapped. 'Who are you n*****s and where are you going?' I couldn't think of anything but the truth so I told them, 'We're reporters down here to cover the [Emmett Till] murder trial. We took the wrong road and got lost.' 'You n*****s have no business around here,' he sneered. 'You're just stirring up trouble.' Directing us to keep our hands above our heads, they frisked both of us then searched the car. After what seemed like a lifetime, the 'hunters' were satisfied with having scared the hell out of us and having ended their search ordered us to 'get the hell out' of there." — **Simeon Booker, Shocking the Conscience, A Reporter's Account of the Civil Rights Movement.**

For many decades, including during my years as mayor of New Orleans, Jet magazine ran a column of happenings from around



the country, called Ticker Tape. I was honored that my work often attracted the notice of the columnist, Washington Bureau Chief Simeon Booker. Memorably, it was through Booker's column that my engagement to my wife, Michelle Miller, was announced to the nation. By then, he was a civil rights legend, having chronicled far more momentous events.

We join the nation in mourning his passing last

wet with tears, she leaned over the body, just removed from a rubber bag in a Chicago funeral home, and cried out, 'Darling, you have not died in vain. Your life has been sacrificed for something.'"

Perhaps more than any other journalist of his time, Booker most comprehensively chronicled the impact of the Urban League Movement on civil rights and racial equality in the nation. He covered President Dwight D. Eisenhower's historic 1958 meeting

and the National Council of Negro Women — but also the frustration that followed and led to the 1963 March on Washington.

To create a realistic picture of the economic status of blacks in 1960 for the 5th anniversary edition of Jet's sister publication, Ebony, Booker relied on the National Urban League's research "to tell black audiences what they already suspected: that the masses of Negro citizens were actually farther removed, relatively speaking,

the tragic death of National Urban League Executive Director Whitney M. Young, who drowned in Nigeria in 1971. A friend, Brigadier General Daniel "Chappie" James, then the highest ranking black officer in the Air Force, tearfully confirmed the news.

"He's my hero," he choked. "He's my kind of guy because he gets in there and proves what a black cat can do — with his head instead of a brick." Chappie could probably write a list as long as both of his massive arms of the people who might not be where they were in their careers if it weren't for the work of the Urban League, whose focus was jobs, jobs, jobs. While other civil rights organizations hammered away at school desegregation, voting rights and public accommodations — all of which were important — the Urban League had its own niche — and it was economics — the economics of having a job, and after that a better job, until a black man or woman reached his or her fullest potential.

We are grateful now, as then, for Booker's clear-eyed and fearless reporting. At a time when reckless accusations of "fake news" threaten to undermine the vital role of the Fourth Estate, we should honor his legacy by defending freedom of the press.

Marc H. Morial is president and chief executive officer of the National Urban League.

He rode a bus with the Freedom Riders in 1961. He covered not only President John F. Kennedy's 1962 summit with the "Big Six" — having expanded to include the leaders of the Congress of Racial Equality and the National Council of Negro Women — but also the frustration that followed and led to the 1963 March on Washington.

week at the age of 99. In person, Simeon Booker appeared the epitome of a bookish wordsmith, with his heavy eyeglass frames and natty bowtie. But his mild-mannered looks belied his ferocity as a journalist and a civil rights warrior.

He gained fame as "the man from Jet" during his coverage of Emmett Till's murder, funeral and his murderers' trial. His description of Emmett's mother, Mamie Till-Mobley, at the funeral became instantly iconic: "Her face

with the "Big Four" civil rights leaders, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, A. Phillip Randolph of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Roy Wilkins of the NAACP, and my predecessor as head of the National Urban League, Lester Granger. He rode a bus with the Freedom Riders in 1961. He covered not only President John F. Kennedy's 1962 summit with the "Big Six" — having expanded to include the leaders of the Congress of Racial Equality

from the mainstream of American life than they were 20 years earlier."

Before he found his own office space in Washington, Booker often worked out of the Greater Washington Urban League — and even hired away a staffer, E. Fannie Grant, as his first employee when he opened Jet's Washington Bureau.

In his autobiography, Shocking the Conscience, A Reporter's Account of the Civil Rights Movement, Booker wrote about

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A pre-proposal meeting will be held at the Port of Portland HQ, Anchor Conference Room, 7200, NE Airport Way, Portland, OR 97218 on December 13, 2017 at 10:30am PST. Any Proposal received after the specified date and time will not be considered.

A complete copy of the RFP can be obtained by emailing Robert Means at Robert.Means@jedunn.com.

Proposals must be delivered to JE Dunn Construction, Attn: Robert Means, 424 NW 14th Ave, Portland, OR 97209.



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REQUEST FOR BIDS

METRO Park Welcome Center ITB 3437

Bids Due 2:00 p.m., January 16, 2018

Metro, a metropolitan service district organized under the laws of the State of Oregon and the Metro Charter, located at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-2736, is hereby inviting sealed bids to construct a new Welcome Center at Oxbow Regional Park

Sealed bids are due no later than **2:00 p.m., January 16, 2018** in Metro's business offices at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-2736, Attention: Julie Hoffman, Procurement Analyst, ITB 3437. Bids will be opened publicly at that time.

The project includes, but is not limited to, all labor, materials, tools, services and equipment needed for demolition of the existing approx. 500 sq ft ranger station building and parking areas, grading, site preparation, decommissioning, reconstruction and improvements to existing utilities, installation of new asphalt lots and vehicle access ways, and the construction of a new approx. 2,600 sq ft building.

A voluntary Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for all potential prime and sub-contractors on January 2, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. at Oxbow Park, 3010 SE Oxbow Pkwy, Gresham, OR 97080. Parking is available in front of the existing Ranger Station. Interested sub-contractors are also invited.

Solicitation documents can be viewed and downloaded from the Oregon Procurement Information Network (ORPIN) at <http://orpin.oregon.gov/open.dll/>

Metro may accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, or waive irregularities not affecting substantial rights if such action is deemed in the public interest.

Metro extends equal opportunity to all persons and specifically encourages minority, women-owned and emerging small businesses to access and participate in this and all Metro projects, programs and services.

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Federal Marijuana Ban Targeted Wyden first to join new legalization effort

Oregon's Ron Wyden has become the first U.S. senator to cosponsor Sen. Cory Booker's landmark bill to end the federal prohibition on marijuana.

Booker, a black Democrat from New Jersey,

has proposed the Marijuana Justice Act to reverse decades of failed drug policy that has disproportionately impacted



Ron Wyden

low-income individuals and people of color. It would remove marijuana from the list of controlled substances, making it legal at the federal level.

"Jeff Sessions and the Trump administration are still trying to fight a 1980s drug war that is socially unjust, economically backward and against the will of the American people," Wyden said. "I'm proud to join forces with Senator Booker to fight this administration's attempts to shift our country into reverse when it comes to federal marijuana policy. It's more important now than ever to update outdated policies, right the wrongs against communities of color, and continue our work to lift up the voices of the many Americans who are speaking out in favor of legalization."

Booker said he was thrilled Wyden has joined him on this groundbreaking bill.

"It's long past due that we reform our nation's deeply broken drug laws, which disproportionately harm low-income communities and communities of color. This is more than a marijuana reform bill – it's about ensuring equal justice for all, and we won't stop fighting until we fix our broken criminal justice system."

In addition to making marijuana legal at the federal level, the legislation would also incentivize states through federal funds to change their marijuana laws if those laws are shown to have a disproportionate effect on low-income individuals and/or people of color.

The bill is retroactive and would apply to those already serving time behind bars for marijuana-related offenses, providing for a judge's review of marijuana sentences.

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MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

CALENDAR

				<div>1</div> <div>Eat a Red Apple Day Rosa Parks Day World AIDS Day</div>	<div>2</div> <div><i>David Macaulay</i> <i>born, 1946</i> National Fritters Day <i>Artist Georges Seurat</i> <i>born, 1859</i></div>	<div>3</div> <div>○ International Day of Persons with Disabilities National Roof-Over- Your-Head Day</div>
<div>4</div> <div>National Cookie Day Wear Brown Shoes Day <i>Phonograph Invented</i> <i>(1877)</i></div>	<div>5</div> <div><i>Walter Elias (Walt)</i> <i>Disney's Birthday</i> <i>born, 1901</i> <i>Montgomery Bus</i> <i>Boycott (1955)</i></div>	<div>6</div> <div>Mitten Tree Day St. Nicholas Day <i>13th Amendment</i> <i>abolishing slavery,</i> <i>ratified (1865)</i></div>	<div>7</div> <div>Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (1941)</div>	<div>8</div> <div>National Brownie Day <i>Inventor Eli Whitney</i> <i>born, 1765</i></div>	<div>9</div> <div><i>Ball-Bearing Roller</i> <i>Skates Patented in</i> <i>1884</i> First Christmas Seals Issued in 1907</div>	<div>10</div> <div>◐ Human Rights Day <i>Emily Dickinson</i> <i>born, 1830</i></div>
<div>11</div> <div>National Noodle Ring Day <i>UNICEF Anniversary</i> <i>Pilgrims landed on</i> <i>Plymouth Rock</i> <i>(1620)</i></div>	<div>12</div> <div>Hanukkah Begins at Sundown Poinsettia Day</div>	<div>13</div> <div>National Cocoa Day <i>Susan B. Anthony</i> <i>dollar coined in</i> <i>1970</i></div>	<div>14</div> <div><i>First Miniature Golf</i> <i>Course Opened, 1929</i> <i>South Pole</i> <i>Discovered in 1911</i></div>	<div>15</div> <div>Bill of Rights Day Underdog Day <i>David McCord born,</i> <i>1897</i></div>	<div>16</div> <div><i>Beethoven's Birthday</i> <i>(1770)</i> Boston Tea Party Anniversary (1773) Las Posadas</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Ludwig van Beetho- ven baptised (1770) Wright Brother's First Flight (1903)</div>
<div>18</div> <div>● Wear a Plunger On Your Head Day <i>Baseball great Ty</i> <i>Cobb born, 1886</i></div>	<div>19</div> <div><i>Eve Bunting born,</i> <i>1928</i> Oatmeal Muffin Day <i>Dickens' A Christmas</i> <i>Carol published, 1843</i></div>	<div>20</div> <div>Games Day <i>Electric Light demon-</i> <i>strated in 1879</i></div>	<div>21</div> <div>First Day of Winter Humbug Day Look at the Bright Side Day National Flashlight Day</div>	<div>22</div> <div>First Christmas Lights sold in 1882 <i>Mercury Thermome-</i> <i>ter Invented in 1714</i></div>	<div>23</div> <div>Roots Day <i>Federal Reserve</i> <i>System established</i> <i>(1913)</i></div>	<div>24</div> <div>Christmas Eve National Egg Nog Day <i>Apollo 8 reached the</i> <i>moon (1968)</i></div>
<div>25</div> <div>Christmas National Pumpkin Pie Day</div>	<div>26</div> <div>◑ Boxing Day Kwanzaa Begins National Whiners Day</div>	<div>27</div> <div>Visit the Zoo Day <i>World Bank created</i> <i>(1945)</i></div>	<div>28</div> <div>Card Playing Day National Chocolate Day</div>	<div>29</div> <div><i>Texas became the</i> <i>28th state (1845)</i></div>	<div>30</div> <div><i>Tiger Woods born,</i> <i>1975</i> <i>Author Rudyard</i> <i>Kipling born, 1865</i></div>	<div>31</div> <div>New Year's Eve <i>Artist Henri Matisse</i> <i>born, 1869</i></div>

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