

Volume XLVII • Number 6

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Special Agent Pete Collier outside the Portland FBI Field Office where is retiring after an illustrious 27 year career as an FBI agent.

The Greatest Honor FBI agent looks back on exciting career

by Danny Peterson The Portland Observer

Stand offs with ant-government militias, tracking down domestic terrorists, and thwarting bank robberies might sound like the perfect recipe for a popcorn thriller, but for retired FBI special agent Pete Collier, it was just another day at the office.

"It's been the greatest honor of my life to work within these walls and to work on this mission," Collier, told the Portland Observer.

February marks Collier's first month of retirement from the bureau after 27 years with them. In that time, spent in San Francisco then later Portland, he's worked on a number of high profile cases that have captured the nation's attention as much as it has federal law enforcement's.

Now, at 55, just two years before the bu-

reau's mandatory retirement age kicks in, Collier is trading in his badge and gun for a hunting rifle and fishing rod.

Collier was born in Massachusettes, but grew up all over the world, bouncing from place to place as a U.S. Air Force brat. Germany, Florida, and Guam were just some of places he spent time in. It was hard for



Dynamic Pastor Dies Rev. W. G. Hardy Jr. was humble and inspiring

BY DANNY PETERSON THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Rev. W. G. Hardy Jr., a humble spiritual leader from Portland's African American community who inspired so many others with his dynamic sermons and lifelong service to his church and community, succumbed to a three year battle with kidney cancer on Friday.

Hardy, 60, was the senior pastor of the Highland Christian Center in northeast Portland for the past 22 years, a third generation preacher from a family of church pastors that included his late father and grandfather.

A thoughtful teacher and a spiritual advisor to countless members of the community, he helped grow a small Highland United Church of Christ congregation on Northeast Ninth and Going Street into one of the city's largest

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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Students from Lake Oswego Junior High School walked out of classes Monday morning in an organized protest against racism. The response followed an incident in which three white students at the school were accused of using the N-word in a post-it note directed against an African American student.

Police Sweep 'Village of Hope'

A self-managed homeless camp called "Village of Hope" with platforms, latrines and a kitchen on public park land near the Columbia River Slough in northeast



Portland was swept clean by park rangers and police Friday without arrests. Mayor Ted Wheeler, citing environmental degradation concerns, ordered the evacuation and then thanked campers for leaving without incident.

Brown Promotes Job Training

Gov. Kate Brown laid out her plan to improve technical education and vocational training programs Monday during her state of the state speech at the start of a 35day session of the Oregon Legislature. She advocated for closing a disparity between Oregonians' job skills and businesses' needs.

Miles Davisto Preside at Linfield

Linfield College last week named Miles Davis as their next president, the first African American to lead the McMinnville

school in its 160 year history, Davis, 58, the dean of the Shenandoah University Business School in Winchester, Va., said he's excited

in response to an uptick in gun-re-

lated homicides and suspected

gang activity this winter, has en-

acted Operation Safe Winter, en-

listing the help of multiple law

enforcement partners, community

groups and the Mayor's Office of

five gun-related deaths in Janu-

ary. So far, police working on the

mission have made 18 arrests and

seized 17 firearms. Police said

they also found 36 people with

Antoinette Edwards of the

Mayor's violence prevention of-

fice said the effort to tackle the

issue includes an outreach to com-

munity members, Portland Pub-

lic Schools, government leaders,

faith-based organizations, and

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Oldest Multicultural Publication -- is a member of the National Newspaper Association -- Founded in 1885, and The National

outstanding warrants.

The initiative was sparked by

Youth Violence Prevention.

to take on the new challenge. Born in Philadelphia, Davis was named after the famed jazz trumpeter.

Mysterious Crow Deaths

The Audobon Society has launched an investigation after witnesses saw a flock of crows "falling from the sky" and dying Thursday in a neighborhood around Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Jessup Street. Other dead crows were found near Portland State University, downtown. Tests will be conducted to determine if the birds were poisoned.



Colts Linebacker Killed

Indianapolis Colts linebacker Edwin Jackson and another man were struck and killed by a suspected drunk driver while stopped on the side of the rode and standing outside their vehicle early Sunday morning. Authorities said they believe the man who hit them, Manuel Orrego-Savala, is an undocumented immigrant from Guatemala.



Healthy Birth Initiatives

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Police Chief Danielle Outlaw, non-profit organizations.

Crack Down^{on}Gun Violence

"We are collectively moving forward to resolve the negative impacts associated to these criminal acts, asking for continuing community dialogue and support," Edwards said.

Gresham Police Department, FBI, Multnomah County Parole and Probation officers, non-profit Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center, Oregon Youth Authority, and Immigrant and Refugee Community Organizations are just some of the organizations collaborating with the effort.

Authorities remind citizens that anyone who sees a crime in progress can call 9-1-1. You can also take a stand against gun violence by getting involved with the community-led campaign Enough Is Enough PDX via Facebook.

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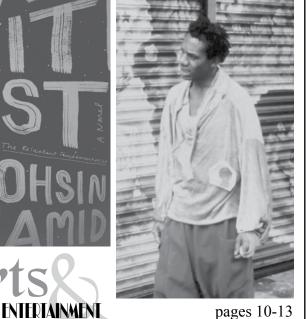
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A ribbon cutting ceremony marks the merger of two community-driven banks as the former Albina Community Bank becomes the newly named Beneficial State Bank branch on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Pictured are Randell Leach, president and chief operating officer of Beneficial State Bank, and Kat Taylor, the bank's co-founder and chief executive officer.

Community-Driven Banks Merge

Combining the financial strength and clout of two financial marked the merger of Albina institutions is intended to boost banking services to low and moderate-income communities, and provide financing for renewable energy, affordable housing, and women and minority-owned businesses.

A ribbon cutting ceremony vard. Community Bank with Beneficial Sate Bank on Thursday. Leaders for the combined financial institution gathered to celebrate at the newly renamed Beneficial State Bank branch office on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boule- tivities.

Attending the ceremony were Randell Leach, president and chief operating officer of Beneficial State Bank, and Kat Taylor, the bank's co-founder and chief executive officer. Customers and local residents also joined the fes-

Metro

LALENDAR

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ASSIFIEDS

Running for Public Office

Maxwell enters county commission race

Sharon Maxwell, a successful business owner and recognized community leader from Portland's African American community has announced plans to run for Multnomah County Commissioner in the upcoming May Primary.

Her campaign will kickoff Sharon Maxwell Wednesday with a scheduled 11 her own company, Bratton Cona.m. rally in the lobby of the Mar- struction, and was named as one garet Carter Technical Education of PCC's 'diamond' graduates in Building on the Cascade Campus of Portland Community College in north Portland.

Maxwell has been a trailblazer for breaking social barriers. She entered Portland's male- and white-dominated construction field after graduating from PCC's Skill Center construction program 25 years ago. She later formed



2012 for her success as a business owner and civic leader.

In her new campaign announcement, Maxwell said she is running for office on a platform to strengthen families and push for polices that support families. She also pledged to promote transparency and accountability in how the county spends public tax dollars,

promising to tackle discrimination complaints in county workplaces.

Maxwell said employees should never be disparaged in the work environment or feel threatened to speak up for themselves in fear of retaliation, humiliation or loss of livelihood.

Maxwell grew up in north and northeast Portland and continues to reside here. She attended Portland Public Schools in her early years and became a journey-level carpenter and sprinkler fitter after receiving her PCC construction skills training. She went on to graduate with a bachelor's degree from Warner Pacific College in 2015 and said she completed an accounting degree this year.

She is the mother of four adult children and the grandmother of her four loving grandchildren.

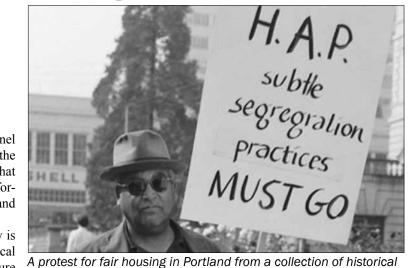
This will be Maxwell's second attempt at public office after running for the Portland City Council in 2014.

Civil Rights: Then and Now

Social justice activists will lead the discussion

A free open-to-the-public panel discussion about the history of the Civil Rights Movement and what can be accomplished going forward will draw several Portland activists, past and present

Civil Rights: Then and Now is the topic for the Oregon Historical Society's Second Sunday Lecture Series, this Sunday, Feb. 11 at 2 p.m. Presented by Rev. Dr. Le-Roy Haynes, Eric Richardson, Intisar Abioto, Percy Hampton, and



prints from the Oregon Historical Society.

JoAnn Hardesty, the event will be cilitate the discussion held at the society's downtown museum. Stephen Green will fa- to learn about the connections

between the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s and 1970s and the social justice movements that are currently occurring. The panelists will discuss how things have changed, how they have stayed the same, and what audience er, photographer, and writer. She members can do to get involved.

Havnes serves as the senior pastor of Allen Temple CME Church in northeast Portland. He was a vouth organizer for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Southeast Texas, a field organizer for the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee, and a co-organizer of the Black Panther Party.

Richardson is president of the Event attendees will be able Eugene and Springfield NAACP. His family lived by and practiced

tural with value and dignity, and currently works to facilitate conversations on identity and cultural inclusion

the idea of holding African cul-

Abioto is an adventurer, danccreated The Black Portlanders series, an ongoing photo essay and exploratory blog imaging people of African descent in the city.

Hampton was preparing to begin studies at Portland State University when a confrontation with police brought him to the attention of Kent Ford and the city's new Black Panther Party chapter. He worked with the Panthers to establish the Fred Hampton Memorial People's Free Clinic and free breakfasts for children.

fore making a get-away.

"That was the first and easiest case I ever worked," Collier said.

Collier went on to work more challenging cases, working with

A domestic terrorist, Kaczynski made hand crafted wooden pipe bomb explosives sent through the post office that killed 3 people between 1978 and 1995. He sent bombs to universities, airliners.

and private homes. After being on the FBI's watch list since the 70s, Kaczynski was still at large in the 90s when Collier was assigned his case.

"He blew up somebody in Sacramento. And he placed a bomb in a post office in San Francisco, another one had exploded," Collier said. "We got court order surveillance on a lot of the post offices in San Francisco, just trying to catch this guy. We never got him as a result of that."

The Greatest Honor

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Collier to make lasting friendships moving around so much, but before long he finally settled down at 14 in Las Vegas, Nev., where his dad retired. He paid his way through school by working at a dairy farm by day and attending classes, part time, at night at Uni-

versity of Nevada Las Vegas. He soon began the first part of his law accounting degree.

the savings and loan crisis erupted, primarily in Texas. And the bureau was hungry for accountants. And basically, the recruiter tackled me when he saw me," Collier said.

Collier enlisted at age 27 and

graduated in the late 80s with an enforcement career in San Francisco. Collier's first criminal case

"[It was] right at the time that was on the bank robbery squad. The robber was so nervous, Collier explained between laughs, that he had left his wallet, from which he pulled out the written note that instructed the teller it was a robbery, on the counter be-

SWAT and chasing fugitives, including Ted Kacynski, the Unabomber.



Portland Black Panthers: Pioneering health care for all

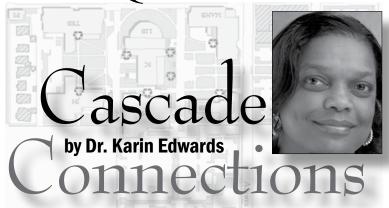
In fall 1969, the Portland Black Panthers dished up a free daily hot breakfast for children. In January 1970, they opened a free medical clinic for all comers, then a dental clinic, in solidarity with many white groups. With each full tummy, vaccine and fixed tooth, the Portland Black Panthers fought for education, health and social justice.

This Black History Month, CareOregon recognizes the Portland Black Panthers' historic contribution to health equity.



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Our Quest for Social Justice Will not Wane



cade Campus of Portland Com- hind us. Nonetheless, our quest for munity College, a group of people saw fit over the winter holiday to come onto our campus and leave behind an assortment of anti-Securrent political climate, it seems, has emboldened some racists and bigots to come out of the shadows and impose their views on others.

It is safe to say, I think, that we are experiencing a period of profound transition in American life. At no time since the Civil Rights Era have we witnessed such a sustained and insistent questioning of the existing power structure in our nation. Movements like Black Lives Matter have repeatedly shown – sometimes in excruciating detail – the yawning gulf between how communities of color and the white community experience the criminal justice system. The Occupy Wall Street movement laid bare the corrosive effect that extreme concentration of wealth has on our social fabric. And more recently, forward to declare "Time's up!", and hold powerful men accountable for their misdeeds.

Yet even as all these movements have unfolded, we are see-

Just recently, here at the Cas- we have worked so long to put besocial justice will not wane.

This is why I am proud to say that at the Cascade Campus, we take this responsibility very semitic and white-supremacist riously. We are consciously, deposters, fliers, and stickers. The liberately, and unapologetically committed to making our campus a warm and welcoming place for everyone who chooses to study or work here, and to make ourselves a beacon of free thought and discourse for our community. And this is why there is no room at our campus, or in our community, for the kind of racist and bigoted propaganda that was distributed here over the holidays.

Over the past couple of years, we have endeavored to develop a road map - the Cascade Inclusion Plan - to take our campus to where we want it to be. Using critical race theory as our guidepost, we are intentionally working to reshape our campus culture into something better, more enlightened, and more compassionate. A key component of this effort lies a procession of women has come in examining, challenging, and deconstructing privilege.

I'll be the first to tell you this effort has made some people pretty uncomfortable. When your life has been shaped by the priving a pushback, an uptick in the ilege you enjoy, even an attempt sort of public racism and sexism to simply question that privilege

other side is worth it.

like a personal attack. But to this I promise you this: if you choose say – you've got to lean into that to enroll here and begin shaping discomfort, because what's on the your future, you will find a place that welcomes you no matter your We're not perfect at the Cas- background; that affirms your cade Campus. We haven't found worth as a human being; that is the silver bullet that will trans- actively working to remove the form us into a model of enlight- barriers that divide us; that is part Cascade Campus.

- let alone dismantle it - can feel enment for the world. But I can of the greater effort to move humanity forward.

> And if all the haters have to push back with is some tired old posters and stickers - I'd say we're already winning.

> Dr. Karin Edwards is president of Portland Community College's

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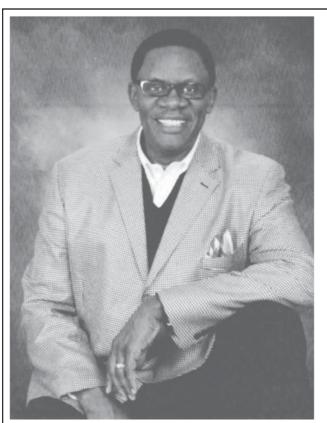
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take to actually cause whiplash? While most people think of Awhiplash only as the result of a rear end collision, it can occur as a result of a fall or other sudden jolt. In car collisions, speeds as low as 5 MPH (a brisk walk) have caused whiplash. What's more, major studies show there is virtually no correlation between damage to the car and its occupants. How can I tell if whiplash has happened to me?

: Whiplash often exhibits symptoms such as a sore neck,

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Dynamic Pastor Dies

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

churches serving a diverse population at 7600 N.E. Glisan St.

Family and church members remember him as community advocate with a whip-crack wit who challenged and inspired church goers with fiery, athletic sermons—sometimes doing splits and diving off the stage.

In February 2015, Hardy announced to his congregation that, despite having a kidney removed, the aggressive cancer had spread throughout his body giving him limited time left and in continual pain. The announcement sent shockwaves throughout the community.

The Portland City Council shortly later declared a Day of Recognition in honor of Hardy and his community service, recognizing his efforts to keep young men out of gangs, feed and support those who are homeless and engage with people who are mentally ill, encouraging conversations in the faith community about mental illness.

"I'd rather live out Christianity than preach Christianity," Hardy said at the time.

Former Sen. Avel Gordly described him as "a master teacher, teaching us how to live and how to die."

Hardy was also a friend and the Wilbert G. Hardy Jr. Youth community partner of Concordia University in northeast Port-Glisan St., Portland OR 97213.

land for the past dozen years as well as an annual speaker at the school's Johnson Family Memorial Scholarship Banquet each fall.

"Pastor Hardy touched so many lives, including the lives of students, faculty, and staff at Concordia University," President Charles Schlimpert wrote in a statement Friday.

The post-secondary institution honored Hardy with its 2015 Christi Cruz Award for having made significant contributions to the church and community.

Hardy transformed Highland into a \$6 million campus with a loyal following. The church initiated programs to feed and shelter the homeless, transition former prisoners into a normal life within the community, and partnered with organizations like Albina Head Start, Multnomah County, the state of Oregon's REACH program, and the Highland African American Youth Coalition to fulfill the church's mission of servicing the community

A home-going service to honor Hardy will be held Friday, Feb. 9 at 11 a.m. at the Highland Christian Center, 7600 N.E. Glisan St. The service also will be live-streamed on the Internet at hcclive.com. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Wilbert G. Hardy Jr. Youth Leadership Academy, 7600 N.E. Glisan St., Portland OR 97213.



In Loving Memory

Randy D. Barfield

Randy D. Barfield passed away peacefully at his home in Portland on Jan. 24, 2018. He was born July 14, 1965.

A homegoing service will be held Thursday, Feb. 8 at 11 a.m. at Walker Temple GOGIC, 5023 N. Michigan Ave. A public viewing will take place Wednesday, Feb. 7 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Terry Family Funeral Home, 2337 N. Williams Ave.



He was a great father to his daughter Myra Barfield and a great husband to the love of his life Cristie Barfield. He faced a difficult challenge in 2015, but you would never know it because he went through it with a smile on his face and trusting God the entire time. He would often say, "God bless and keep God first."

In Loving Memory

Mildred Carr

Mildred Carr was born Nov. 28, 1923 and died Feb. 3, 2018.

Services will be held Monday, Feb. 12 at 11 a.m. at the Rose City Cemetery and Funeral Home, 5625 N.E. Fremont St. Viewing will be held on Sunday, Feb. 11 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.



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Philadelphia Eagles' Corey Clement celebrates his touchdown catch during the second half of the Super Bowl against the New England Patriots Sunday in Minneapolis. (AP photo)

Eagles Win Epic Super Bowl

Backup quarterback leads team to title

(AP) — The Philadelphia Eagles won an epic shootout over the Patriots Sunday in Minneapolis, Minn. to win the franchise's first Super Bowl.

Nick Foles was able to outscore Tom Brady, and the backup quarterback led a pressure-packed 75yard drive to the winning touchdown to Zach Ertz with just over two minutes left.

Then a defense that had been shredded throughout the second 41-33.

It was the first Super Bowl title for Philadelphia (16-3), which went from 7-9 last season to the franchise's first NFL title since 1960.

The underdog Eagles, even injured starting quarterback Carson Wentz, came bolting off the sideline in ecstasy while Brady sat on the ground, disconsolate.

"If there's a word (it's) called everything," Eagles owner Jeffrey

Lurie said. "That's what it means to Eagles fans everywhere. And for Eagles fans everywhere, this is for them."

Super Bowl MVP Foles orchestrated the victory with the kind of drive NFL MVP Brady, a fivetime champion, is known for. The drive covered 14 plays, including a fourth-down conversion.

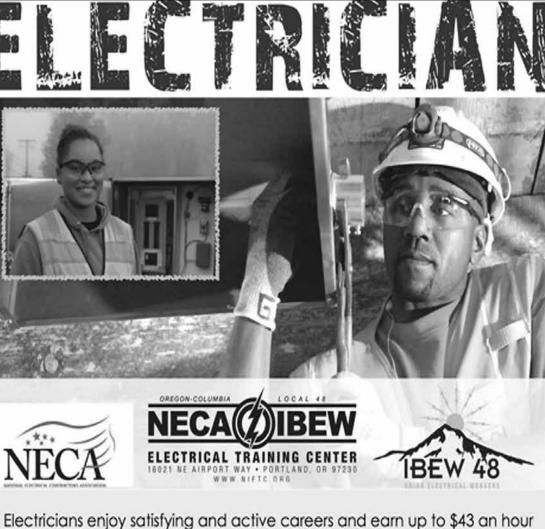
"I felt calm. I mean, we have such a great group of guys, such a great coaching staff," Foles said. "We felt confident coming in, and we just went out there and played football."

The Eagles had to survive a video replay because Ertz had the ball pop into the air as he crossed the goal line.

"If they would have overturned half made two final stands to win that, I don't know what would have happened to the city of Philadelphia," Ertz said. "But I'm so glad they didn't overturn it."

The touchdown stood — and so did thousands of green-clad Eagles fans who weren't going to mind the frigid conditions outside US Bank Stadium once they headed out to celebrate. But not before a rousing rendition of "Fly Eagles Fly" reverberated throughout the stands once

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



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The famed Motown group The Temptations in a historical photos shows (front, from left) Otis Williams, Melvin Franklin and Glenn Beonard and (back, from left) Richard Street and Dennis Edwards. Edwards died Thursday. He was 74.

Remembering a

Motown legend

(AP) — Dennis Edwards, a

Grammy-winning former member

of the famed Motown group The

Temptations, is being remembered

after his death on Thursday after a

Edwards replaced founding

member David Ruffin in 1968,

and his soulful, passionate voice

defined the group for years. A

member on and off for about two

decades, he was part of the lineup

that released hits "Ball of Con-

fusion (That's What the World Is

Today)," "Cloud Nine" and the

chart-topping "Papa Was A Rollin'

ages," with great range, energy

and artistry, Paul Riser, a Mo-

town arranger and musician who

worked with Edwards during the

label's Detroit heyday and on

subsequent projects, told The As-

sociated Press. "That voice was

just flat-out outstanding - very

Edwards was inducted into the

He possessed a "voice for the

Stone."

well-defined."

long illness. He was 74.

Dennis Edwards was

'Voice for the Ages'



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3A.M. - 7A.M.

TOM JOYNER

A.M. - 10 A.M.

TONI TERRELL

0 A.M. - 1 P.M.

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

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Rev. Al Sharpton 10am - 1pm



3pm - 7pm

MONDAY - FRIDAY 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 BROADCAST 1 P.M. – 4 P.M. PAPA SMURF



SUNDAY

C.C.

4 P.M. - 12 Midnight DOUGLAS WILLIAMS

LIVE

3am - 7am

K.a.d.1.0

the rest of The Temptations in 1989

In the 1990s, a federal judge barred him from performing under his former band's name. Otis Williams, the band's lone original member, sued Edwards for trademark infringement after he had used variations that included "The New Temptations." He was allowed to use "The Temptations Review featuring Dennis Edwards," and performed under that name for nearly two decades, according to Roberts.

"He is now at peace, and our love and prayers go out to his family," Williams said in a statement Friday. "At this moment and always, we acknowledge his extraordinary contribution to The Temptations legacy, which lives on in the music."

Motown star Smokey Robinson said in a statement that he was saddened "that another Motown soldier is gone."

"Rest in Peace my brother," he said. "You were a great talent."

Born in Birmingham, Alabama, Edwards lived near St. Louis with his wife, Brenda. He would have Rock & Roll Hall of Fame with turned 75 on Saturday.



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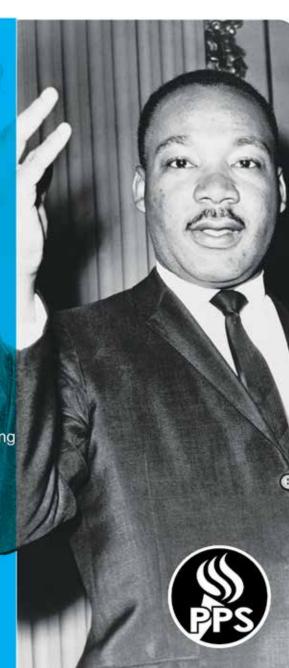
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Community Reading Project Begins

'Exit West' to spark conversations on humanity

Multnomah County Library's Everybody Reads 2018, the library's 16th annual community reading project, kicked off this month with the distribution of thousands of copies of Moshin Hamid's Exit West.

Readers and students from across the county will engage with the ideas and themes – safety, migration, displacement, conflict – presented in the book. Nearly 50 Everybody Reads discussions and related programs will take place at libraries and elsewhere in the community.

Thanks to The Library Foundation, 5,750 copies of Exit West are **CONTINUED ON PAGE 15**



Hohsin 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.

"I have a life of experience around diversity, equity and inclusion, and I bring the perspective of an African-American female growing up here in Portland. I also have two daughters – one went to school in a different state to be with people more like her. For this reason, I'd like people to be able to experience more diversity, both in Portland and at the Port."

> At the Port of Portland, we are working together to create a more equitable and inclusive Port, one that's representative of the city we live in and love. Whether you're seeking employment or contracting opportunities, join us in creating a future with fair treatment and access to opportunity for all.

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Donna Eaves Director, HR Business Partner

PORT OF PORTLAND





Black History Month comes alive with 'Who I Am Celebrating Me," a stage performance centered on identity, culture and the lived experiences of African Americans from Portland's World Stage Theater. This is the first year the play is part of an expanded Black History Festival NW, with performances Feb. 11-12 at the World Trade Center, downtown, at area schools and other locations, along with other Black History events all month long.

BY DANA LYNN BARBAR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

World Stage Theatre, multi-cultural local organization committed to performances that inspire social reflection, hosts its first annual Black History Festival NW this month.

The main event is a stage performance centered on identity, culture, and the lived experiences of African Americans, entitled, "Who I Am Celebrating Me." The play is written by Shalanda Sims of Portland, the festival's founder and artistic director.

Who I Am is now in its 12 said. season, and the festival is an expansion of World Stage Theater's however, from Metro was awarded



Black History Festival puts focus on culture, identity

work in engaging the community to the group recently allowing it to with black history.

"We've always known we wanted to do something bigger than the play to engage the broader community, but we didn't have the funds in the beginning," Sims

A \$25,000 place making grant,

expand their mission of reaching a larger audience, and thus creating Black History Festival NW.

Sims wanted to take advantage of the entire month to focus on black history. In addition to the play, scheduled Feb. 11-12 at the World Trade Center, downtown, and at local schools, the festival

features various events centered on African American history and culture throughout the month in different areas of Portland.

The events include a scavenger hunt for the entire month, a book fair with the Black Parent Initiative on Saturday, Feb. 10 at Barnes and Noble in Clackamas, a game night at Jefferson High School on

Feb 17, and a Black History Unity Gala at Self Enhancement, Inc., featuring ESPN correspondent Jemele Hill as the keynote speaker, on Feb. 24.

Recognizing black history and culture in Oregon is important to Sims for many reasons, a main one being a response to the state's own history of excluding African Americans.

Laws that explicitly forbade the black population from residing in Oregon since its founding in 1859 were not repealed until the mid 1920's. During the World War II era, a large number of African

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14





A 35mm screening of the 1984 film 'The Brother from Another Planet,' staring Joe Morton and with Morton in attendance for a question and answer session following the Saturday, Feb. 24 showing will highlight the month long Portland Black Film Festival, now underway at the Hollywood Theater in northeast Portland.

Actor Joe Morton to attend special screening

black experience in America and or will be actor Joe Morton, who showcase the cinematic achieve- will join the festival for a special ments of African African-Amer- screening of his 1984 film "The ican stars and filmmakers fills Brother from Another Planet," on the calendar this month at the Saturday, Feb. 24 at 7 p.m., with nonprofit Hollywood Theatre in a question and answer session to northeast Portland.

The 2018 Portland Black Film

A film festival to examine the Walker. This year's guest of honfollow.

Morton is an Emmy and Festival is curated by Portland NAACP Image Award winning writer and filmmaker David F. film, television, and stage veter-



Joe Morton

an and best known for his role as "Rowan Pope" on the ABC series Scandal.

Additional festival highlights include a spotlight on local instructor, artist and filmmaker Elijah Hasan on Wednesday, Feb. 21; an extremely rare 35mm print of "The Spook Who Sat by the Door" showing Saturday, Feb. 17.

A complete festival lineup is available athollywoodtheater.org. Tickets for the Joe Morton special event are \$20. Tickets for the rest of the festival screenings are \$9 (\$7 for students and seniors).

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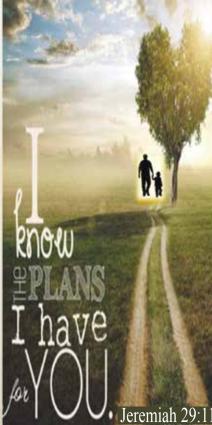
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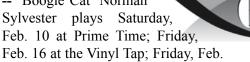
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ERTAINMENT

Sylvester Norman -- 'Boogie Cat' Norman Sylvester plays Saturday, Feb. 10 at Prime Time; Friday,



23 at Clyde's; Saturday, Feb. 24 as a guest of Ants in the Kitchen at Al's Den; and Saturday, Feb. 28 at the Half Penny in Salem.

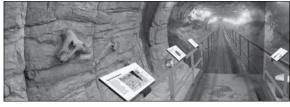
Every Twist and Turn -An untimely death on her wedding day sends young Eurydice plummeting to the underworld. Oregon Children Theatre's Young Professionals Company



ENTERTAINMENT

presents 'Eurydice,' now playing through Feb. 11 at the group's performance venue, located at 1939 N.E. Sandy Blvd. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Recommended for ages 12 and up. For more information, visit octc.org.

Brothers Sing On! -- Come join the men of the University of Portland Singers for a festival of choral music to include five high school and community choirs, and singers ranging in age from 15 to more than 80 years old. The free and open to the public concert takes place Sunday, Feb. 11 at 3 p.m. at the UP Buckley Center Auditorium, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd. The women of the University Singers will have their own performance this April.



OMSI Exhibit on Arctic Thaw -- "Digging into Permafrost" is a new exhibit at OMSI addressing the subject of climate change as viewed through the lens of a thawing Arctic using exciting interactive features such as an Alaskan permafrost tunnel replica, fossil research stations and interactive games.

Valentine Dinner and Show -- Portland entertainer Tony Starlight and the Tony Starlight Showroom, 1125 S.E. Madison, is celebrating Valentine's Day with two shows, one featuring

favorites for lovers and dancers in mind on Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 8 p.m., and the other playing

love songs by request on Saturday, Feb. 17 at 8 p.m. Tickets available at tonystarlight.com

Johnny Mathis Valentine -- Johnny Mathis will perform from his newest release "Voice of Romance" and several of his favorite songs when the legendary singer fronts "A Johnny Mathis Valentine," concert on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 7:30 p.m. with the Oregon Symphony at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Tickets begin at \$24. Visit orsymphony.org.

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 brining 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 \$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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World Stage Theater actors recreate the historic 'March on Washington' and Martin Luther King Jr.'s 'I Have a Dream' speech during a performance of 'Who I Am Celebrating Me.'

Nho We Are needing to find other options, and now African Americans are deeply spread out across the Portland metro area.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Americans lived in housing built for building war ships in Portland and Vancouver, including the city renewal projects, gentrification, of Vanport, the town on the banks and soaring housing costs con-

ed in 1948, displacing the community to mostly north and northeast Portland.

Later, a combination of urban of the Columbia Slough. It flood- tributed to the black community

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north Portland to Troutdale in 2002. In a predominately white neighborhood, she felt distanced

and isolated, and wanted her children to have a sense of kinship like she did growing up. Having studied and practiced theater throughout her education, she decided to create a production

Sims herself moved east from

of her own in the hopes of building community. That is how Who I Am was born. In addition to performing every February, the actors and crew

bring the play into Portland metro schools as a way to teach black history in an unbiased manner.

Sims herself is a professional artist, but she is proud of the fact that the majority of the cast are not professional. "They are community members who want to make art and perform, and we give them that opportunity," she added.

Sims' hope for the festival is that it brings people together, and that it makes more people aware of black history, including the African American community.

Sims said that she didn't start learning more about black history until she was an adult. "I'm black, I went to Jefferson High, I was aware of my culture, but not necessarily my history," she noted. She wants young black people to walk away from the festival inspired that they "can do something to change history for the better."

And her hope for non-black people who attend is that they learn more about black history in America so they are not "in denial," she said, noting that we cannot change the course of this country's future if we do not know about the past.

Sims takes pride in the fact that the festival is gaining a lot of buzz, and that many companies and local black-owned businesses are supporting it.

"I'm glad that the community is excited to have a space to celebrate our heritage, and I'm excited to welcome anyone who wants to learn," she said.

Tickets to Who I Am, and a schedule of all festival events, can be found at blackhistoryfestival.org.



Cori Stewart--

Owner, Operator

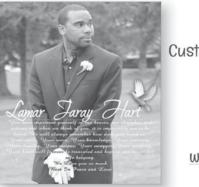
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Community Reading Project

Eagles Win Epic Super Bowl

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

the trophy was presented to owner Jeffrey Lurie. Later, fans danced along with the "Gonna Fly Now," the theme from "Rocky," the city's best-known fictional underdog.

The Patriots (15-4) seemed ready to take their sixth championship with Brady and coach Bill Belichick in eight Super Bowls. Brady threw for a game-record 505 yards and three TDs, hitting Rob Gronkowski for 4 yards be-

point gave New England its first any playoff contest. The 40-yearlead, 33-32.

Wentz — and least for now — with the gutsiest drive of his life, includ-Ertz at midfield.

journeyman in his six pro seasons, but has been spectacular in four caof 43 for 373 yards and three TDs.

The combined 1,151 yards were the most in any modern NFL game, teams have only a plus-4 overall fore Stephen Gostkowski's extra and Brady's 505 were the most in margin in those games.

old master finished 28 of 48 and Then Foles made them forget picked apart the Eagles until the final two series.

It was such a wild game that ing a fourth-down conversion to Foles caught a touchdown pass, and Brady was on the opposite end Foles has been something of a of a Danny Amendola throw that went off his fingertips.

2,000 of those copies.

Literary-Arts.org.

Hamid will speak on Thurs-

day, April 5 at 7:30 pm at the Ar-

lene Schnitzer Concert Hall. This

Arts; tickets are available from

"Exit West examines many

Eagles coach Doug Pederson reer playoff games. He finished 28 brought home the championship in his second year in charge. Belichick is 5-3 in Super Bowls and his

of the questions - of safety, **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10** fate, belonging, otherness - that available through libraries across surround us today," said Direc-Multnomah County, including tor of Libraries Vailey Oehlke. e-books and audio books. High "Moshin Hamid takes concepts schools and organizations serv-

that we sometimes treat in abing youth will receive about stract or clinical terms and washes them in humanity to help us think and feel differently. Exit West is an incredible work."

Mohsin Hamid is a Pakistani event is presented by Literary writer. He is the author of four novels and his writing has been featured on bestseller lists and adapted for the cinema.





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.

Better Health Care for Communities of Color

With this huge responsibility comes opportunity

BY MICHAEL ANDERSON-NATHE Throughout our history, communities of color have faced multiple barriers to accessing health care, from systemic discrimination and cultural insensitivity, to the reality of unaffordability; these communities face more health-re-

lated hardships and an inequitable system of care. And despite Portland's progressive reputation, its history of racism perpetuates these experiences. But we can do better.

Health equity is achievable and requires deliberate action on our part. That's what we believe at Health Share of Oregon, where I serve as chief equity and engagement officer. I feel passionately that we can do more than just reduce barriers to care-we can eliminate health disparities.

Health Share is Oregon's largest coordinated care organization, or CCO, serving Oregon Health Plan (OHP) members in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties. Beginning in February, Health Share started serving the majority of all OHP members across the tri-county area. That's over 300,000 children, adults and families and one of every three OHP members statewide.

With this huge responsibility comes opportunity.

By coordinating care for OHP members across the Portland metro region, we have the opportunity to streamline community investments and advance health and wellness based on region-wide data and through a health eq-

uity lens. We can ensure our provider network is meeting the needs of our community and act even more deliberately and thoughtfully to advance equity for our members. Further, we can reduce inefficiencies and redundancies, fortify community

ers that specialize in culturally specific care, including North by Northeast Clinic, Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center and the Native American Rehabilitation Association. We also provide technical assistance to health plans to help make their models of care more culturally relevant.

Health Share recently invested \$3.3 million to build necessary infrastructure to grow the Community Health Worker workforce and increase access to a culturally specific and community-based resources for Oregon Health Plan members statewide.

When kids are screened for developmental disabilities, they're more likely to access the support and care they need to prepare them for kindergarten and beyond. As part of our commitment to equity, we identified huge disparities in non-English-speaking communities, where many families are unaware of available screenings or their benefits. We're partnering with community organizations, including Early Learning Hubs, to increase our outreach to non-English-speaking families, provide more screening to kids and connect families with ser-

Health Share recently invested \$3.3 million to build necessary infrastructure to grow the Community Health Worker workforce and increase access to a culturally specific and communitybased resources for Oregon Health Plan members statewide.

interventions, diversify our workforce, and identify best practices, resulting in better health, smarter spending and healthier people across the entire service area-the very vision of the coordinated care model.

Although there is much work to be done, I am proud of our efforts thus far. In particular, I'm proud of the ways we're putting equity into action:

We're proud to work with provid-

Treatment and care from peers who've been there: For people managing chronic diseases, working through mental health challenges or recovering from addiction, the support of a peer can lead to better outcomes and greater resiliency. We're working to make them an integral part of the health care system, in particular for communities of color.

Toward equity, from childhood on:

vices to help them learn, grow and thrive.

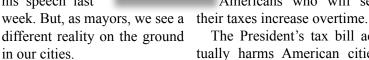
As we continue to advance health equity, we recognize how far we still have to go, but ultimately look forward to working with our members and Portland's diverse communities on this journey.

Michael Anderson-Nathe has led Health Share's equity and engagement team since 2014.

A Different Reality on the Ground in Our Cities

Proposals exacerbate the challenges

BY TONI HART President Trump confidently declared that the state of the union strong in is his speech last



So far, the President's policy proposals haven't done enough to ensure that every American has an equal opportunity to



and employment challenges so many are struggling to overcome.

The President continues ise. to promise that the recent Americans who will see

The President's tax bill ac- of our cities. tually harms American cities by eliminating critical funding generated by state and local tax deductions which funds infrastructure projects, and ensures Program (LIHEAP), which on-par with the national aver- across the country.

thrive. To the contrary, these that citizens from a range of serves as a lifeline for nearly age. Immigrants are our neighpolicies are on track to exac- socio-economic backgrounds seven million families in comerbate the economic, health, have access to the best possible munities struggling to pay for educational opportunities. We cannot see how the President's plan will deliver on his prom-

and harms low-income his budget proposal slashes infrastructure programs that are crucial to the continued vitality

clude eliminating the Highway Trust Fund, and the Low-In-

basic energy needs.

Finally, the President maintained his rebuke of hardworking immigrants by citing crim-On the campaign trail, and in inals and gang members as the tax reform bill will pro- President Trump's State of the justification for his shameful vide tremendous relief to Union address, he claimed that immigration policy. Nearly 44 families, but the bill mostly he will improve our nation's million immigrants currently with the President on these and benefits the super wealthy crumbling infrastructure. But, reside in the U.S., over 20 mil- a host of other issues that are lion of whom are naturalized important to the sustainability citizens.

> Thirty six percent of U.S.born children of immigrants

bors, colleagues and friends.

They are productive members of our society struggling to thrive in a system stacked against them. It is un-American to attack them. And, that's why we are committed to protecting them when and how we can.

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Toni Hart is the mayor of These infrastructure cuts in- are college graduates - five New Haven, Conn., and the percent higher than the nation- president of the African Ameral average - and sixty four per- ican Mayors Association on come Home Energy Assistance cent are homeowners, which is behave of 500 black mayors



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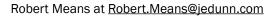
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