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PHOTO BY SHANE DIXON/VIA AP

Police stand outside the Cheerful Tortoise bar following the June 29 shooting of a Jason Washington, a 45 year-old black Navy veteran and postal worker who was shot and killed by Portland State University police while trying to stop a bar fight across from the campus.

Next Steps in PSU Shooting

Campus opens two probes; board open to disarming

BY DANNY PETERSON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

After a grand jury cleared two Portland State University police officers of criminal charges in the shooting death of a lawful-

ly armed black man and evidence from the case is before the public for the first time, the university will begin its own public investigations into the circumstances of the case which will include an examination of PSU's policing policies and may result in a decision to disarm campus police entirely, PSU officials said.

On Thursday, a Multnomah County Grand Jury determined that PSU police acted either in self defense or to protect

other lives when Jason Washington, a 45-year-old Navy veteran, father, grandfather, and U.S. Postal Service employee, was shot on June 29. The deadly confrontation marked the university's first officer-involved shooting since arming its security force three years ago in a controversial decision.

Evidence released to the public for the first time shows Washington was carrying his friend's firearm and had his own con-

ceal carry permit at the time. Body cam video from campus police show he was shot after trying to stop a bar fight outside the Cheerful Tortoise, a popular bar in the vicinity of the campus.

The two officers involved, Shawn McKenzie and James Dewey, fired 17 shots at Washington, after warning him to drop the gun.

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50th Reunion Date Correction

The Jefferson High School Class of 1968 will be celebrating its 50th year reunion with a reception and dinner on Saturday, Sept. 29 at the Riverside Golf and Country Club, 8105 N.E. 33rd Dr. The wrong date for the event was published in last week's issue. We regret the error.

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Supreme Court Nominee Accused

Woman says she was sexually assaulted

(AP) —Senate Republicans and Democrats fought determinedly Tuesday over who should testify at a high-stakes hearing on the allegation Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh sexually assaulted a girl in high school, 36 years ago.

Oddly, it remained unclear whether Christine Blasey Ford, the woman who set off the controversy over President Trump's nominee, would appear at Monday's Judiciary Committee hearing.

Democrats said they wanted more time for the FBI to investigate — and more witnesses besides Kavanaugh and Ford, hoping to avoid what would turn into merely a “he said, she said” moment. Those witnesses would include Kavanaugh's high school friend Mark Judge, who Ford said was in the room when she was assaulted, but Judge said no. Kavanaugh has denied Ford's allegation, and Judge says he



Brett Kavanaugh, President Trump's nominee for Supreme Court Justice.

doesn't remember any such incident.

The furious jockeying over the hearing underscored the political potency so close to the November General Election that will decide control of both the House and Senate, not to

mention the confirmation of a conservative justice likely to serve on the high court for decades.

Democrats see their arguments about treating women fairly as the best hope for either sinking the appellate judge's nomination or, should Kavanaugh win confirmation, amplifying their appeals to female voters in November. Republicans have been careful to be seen as giving Ford a chance to be heard, mindful that outright dismissal of her accusation could hurt on Election Day.

Still, the risks of a public hearing starring the all-male lineup of Republicans on the committee could be high. Republicans said late Tuesday they were considering hiring outside attorneys, presumably including women, to question the witnesses.

Kavanaugh, 53, was at the White House for a second straight day, but again did not meet with Trump. The president said he was “totally supporting” Kavanaugh and rejected calls

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



Carolinas Flood after Florence

The governors of South Carolina and North Carolina warned residents Tuesday that a massive flooding was not yet done after four days of record rainfall from Hurricane Florence which struck the east coast on Friday. In North Carolina, 16 rivers are at major flood level and 26 people died due to the storm. More than 2,200 people were rescued and 10,000 people remain in shelters.

Accused of Jail Attack

Jeremy Christian, the man accused of murdering two people in a racially charged attack on the MAX last year is now charged with assaulting a black inmate in jail. Christian appeared in court last week to face one count of 4th-degree assault for causing physical injury to a prisoner at the Multnomah County Jail last July 29.



Prison Wage Protest Turns Violent

Three people were arrested Thursday after a protest in the south Waterfront area near

The Week in Review

OHSU turned violent. Police said they used pepper spray for crowd control after protesters refused to move out of the street, blocked building entrances and threw a bottle at police. Organizers affiliated with Occupy ICE and other groups said they were protesting “OHSU's use of prisoners who are paid only five cents an hour to wash their bloody sheets in unsafe conditions.”



Buyer Found for Courthouse

Multnomah County announced last week that it has found a buyer for its century-old downtown courthouse, which it plans to vacate in 2020. Portland-based NBP Capital plans to buy and renovate the building when the county moves to the new courthouse, currently under construction near the Hawthorne Bridge. NBP has agreed to pay \$28 million for the

building, then lease it back to the county rent-free for two years until the new courthouse is complete.

Nike Shares Set Record

Shares of Nike reached an all-time high Friday afternoon, rebounding from a recent dip spurred by concerns about consumer boycott after the athletic apparel maker signed a high-profile deal with former NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick. The company's stock was up nearly 2 percent since before the campaign launched. Longer-term, Nike stock has surged 33 percent this year as Wall Street bet that the company would be able to ride out the negative publicity.

Thorns Advance to Title Game

On Saturday, the Portland Thorns made league history, advancing once again to the National Women's Soccer League championship game after defeating Cascadia rival Seattle Reign 2-1 in a semifinal match. The Thorns are the first-ever National Women's Soccer League team to secure a spot in the championship game for three consecutive years.

OxyContin Maker Sued

Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum Thursday sued Purdue Pharma, the maker of OxyContin, for falsely and deceptively marketing its opioid drug in Oregon. The complaint alleges that Purdue deceptively marketed OxyContin to Oregon seniors, misrepresented the risks and benefits of the drug, and lied to the Oregon Board of Pharmacy, all to maximize Purdue's profits.

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FOOD



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PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

County Clark Sheriff Chuck Atkins joins a group of law enforcement leaders in Vancouver speaking out to denounce hate, racism and prejudice, a sentiment that is being shared by local civil rights groups, representing communities of color in southwest Washington.

United Against Hate

Clark sheriff, others speak out on racism

Clark County officials in southwest Washington want the public and its employees to know that it rejects hate groups that propagate violence and discrimination, a message that's now being shared by civil rights groups representing black and Latino communities in the area.

On the heels of recent violence attributed to extremist right-wing groups in Vancouver and the region, as well as a former Clark County Deputy Sheriff who was let go for her affiliation with one such group, Clark County Sher-

iff Chuck Atkins released a joint statement with Prosecuting Attorney Tony Golik to denounce prejudice in all forms.

"We reject hate, bigotry, harassment, violence or the inciting of violence, and all actions intended to harm or intimidate others based on race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, immigration status, or any other attribute which serves to marginalize people or groups of people," said the statement, issued earlier this month.

In response, a joint statement was released from the Vancouver NAACP and League of United Latin American Citizens expressing appreciation of Atkins, Golik and other community members who stand up against hate, as well

as calling for greater scrutiny of background checks for incoming and current law enforcement employees, among other concerns.

Atkins told the Portland Observer there wasn't a single incident in particular that spurred the statement, but an accumulation of hate-related incidents or movements in general over the last year and a half or so.

Right wing Patriot Prayer was one such protest group, which had a penchant for assembling in Vancouver and transporting themselves to downtown Portland.

Atkins, who was elected Sheriff of Clark County in 2015 and has a career in law-enforcement there spanning 35 years, said there's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Hardesty Disputes Smith Charge

Portland City Council Candidate Loretta Smith accused her November election opponent Jo Ann Hardesty of theft by mismanagement of funds Tuesday after a story on Oregon Public Broadcasting about a lack of fiscal oversight at the Portland NAACP

when Hardesty served as president of the organization.

According to the OPB story, Hardesty helped revive the civil rights group after it become defunct, but records and interviews with people both inside and outside of the organization raised

questions about its financial oversight and record keeping during Hardesty's term as the former president of the organization.

The Hardesty campaign called Smith's allegations a desperate attempt to tarnish Hardesty's credibility.

Next Steps in PSU Shooting

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Portland State University President Rahmat Shoureshi released a statement following the grand jury's decision. He said PSU has hired two independent firms, one to examine the school's policy of arming campus police and another to conduct its own investigation into the shooting. The consulting firms were chosen based on an oversight committee's recommendations, an effort to make the review process more transparent.

"Mr. Washington's death has deeply shaken all those involved as well as the greater campus community, and we are determined to learn from it," Shoureshi said. "My hope is that our actions following this tragedy will help make our campus and community a safer place for years to come."

The PSU Board also released a statement that signaled they will carefully consider the findings of the policy review, calling Jason Washington's death a "tragedy".

"The Board of Trustees has been and continues to be deeply affected by the June 29th death of Mr. Jason Washington," the statement read. "The Board wrestled with the decision to arm campus police in 2014, and we are prepared to wrestle with it again—with open minds—to determine whether the current policy should be continued or changed."

Dewey and McKenzie will be placed on desk duty—still with firearms -- while the university's independent investigation gets underway, officials said. The officers had been on paid administrative leave since the shooting. A re-evaluation of their status will

be conducted after the independent study is completed, the university said.

Body camera videos from the two officers involved, and 70 freeze frame photos from the police investigation that were released through a public records request show different angles of the shooting. In addition, cell-phone video shot by a witness and released shortly after the shooting shows Washington repeatedly trying to restrain a friend before he was shot.

A 397-page police report completed by the Portland Police Bureau, and also released Friday, revealed that Washington's gun belonged to his friend, Jeremy Wilkinson, who had asked Washington to take it so he didn't make a "poor decision" in a drunken confrontation. Washington was

also found to have had a blood alcohol content reading of more than three times the legal driving limit when he died.

The footage from Dewey's camera shows the campus police officer rolling up to a fight outside the bar around 1:30 a.m. As he exits the patrol vehicle, a camouflage-clad man, Patrick Dean, is heard telling the officer, "He pulled a gun on us! He pulled a gun!" as he points to Washington, who appears to be trying to keep his friend from a fight.

In later interviews with police, Dean later said Washington "didn't pull it out [on] anybody, he didn't point it at anybody."

Washington's visibly intoxicated friend, Wilkinson, is seen in the police video breaking away and then punching another man until he is kicked by Dean in the head and knocked out.

As Washington tries to pull yet another man away from the unconscious Wilkinson, Dewey grabs Washington's arm from behind and tells him to back away from the fight. A black object that appears to be a gun is visible protruding from Washington's right hip pocket.

Dewey and the other police officer repeatedly yell at Washington to "drop the gun."

A witness told several media outlets immediately after the shooting that she saw the gun fall out of Washington's pocket after he fell to the ground, and he was shot after he picked it up.

It's unclear from the angle of both police body camera videos, and the eyewitness video, however, whether Washington is holding the gun when he is shot.

Right before the shots are fired, an officer is heard saying, "We will shoot you." It then takes approximately 3 seconds before both officers begin firing their weapons and Washington falls to the sidewalk, dead, next to Wilkinson, after being hit in the cheek, ear, chest, back, and hip area. The records also show 17 bullet casing were found at the scene.

In the police video, Dean, the man who earlier claimed Washington pulled a gun on him, becomes distraught at the sight of the shooting, screaming at the officers, "You killed him! He's dead! He's dead, bro, I don't even know him, and he's dead!"

Wilkinson's gun, a black Walther PPQ 9mm pistol, is reportedly found about 6 inches from Washington's right hand. Washington's permit to carry a concealed handgun was found in his wallet, a police officer's report said.

Washington did not seem heavily intoxicated, according to several witness's testimony to police. But according to toxicology results, Washington's blood alcohol content was 0.24 when he died.

The police investigation also

revealed Wilkinson's reaction after the shooting: "Holy sh— Michelle's gonna kill me," Wilkinson said, in reference to Washington's widow, Michelle, according to a police transcript. "I gave him my gun, he got in trouble for that, oh my gosh."

Michelle Washington showed up two hours after the shooting because her husband was not responding to messages and was late coming home.

She had no idea he'd been shot and stumbled on the scene after tracking Washington's cellphone, the police report said. She found out from a police detective 40 minutes later that Washington was the man killed and helped identify him by describing his tattoos.

She also said in a statement immediately after the Grand Jury findings were made on Thursday that her family was disappointed in the decision to not bring any criminal charges, but thanked the grand jury for their service anyway, and added that she would consult her private attorney on proceeding with a civil lawsuit, and other next steps.

"We want those responsible for the death of my husband to be held accountable," she said. "We will always remember and love Jason and know he was needlessly killed while attempting to keep the peace."

"We intend to vigorously pursue legal action against those who are responsible for this tragic death," Michelle Washington's lawyer, Christopher Larsen, added.

PSU President Shoureshi invited students and community members to attend an Oct. 4 PSU Board of Trustees meeting concerning the shooting and the future of the campus security force. The PSU Student Union said its members would be there in force. Students are also planning a rally on Monday, Sept. 24 in order to call for the immediate disarmament of PSU campus officers and the firing of Dewey and McKenzie.

A student union posting on Twitter said Washington was a victim of racial profiling from PSU police, "This is why we do not, and have never wanted armed police officers on PSU's campus," the post said.

Washington's death reignited a long-worn debate about the policy to arm campus officers at PSU, which was first equipped with guns starting July 2015.

The 2014 vote by the Board of Trustees in favor of arming officers has seen the opposition of student groups and activists ever since and surveys of the school's students and faculty showed the majority were opposed to the policy back in 2013, according to an NAACP statement, who called the shooting "shameful and egregious."

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The African American women's support group "Sisterhood" is building new connections in the community.

Stay Clean Summer Celebration

A support group for African American women is inviting the public to their first annual "Stay Clean" celebration marking the end of summer.

Called Strength in Sisters to Empower Recover Health Openness Opportunity Dedication (SISTERHOOD), the group is holding the open-to-the-public event on Saturday, Sept. 29,

from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at their headquarters at 2601 S.E. 160th Ave., near Division Street.

The group focuses on creating a safe and welcoming environment for sisters to talk or seek solace, building supportive relationships, community involvement and leadership. Activities like social gatherings and events are held every Tues-

day and Thursday from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the organization's southeast Portland headquarters.

Food, fun, music, and mingling are on the agenda for the Saturday's free event, which is designed to establish community connections with members of the public who want to know more about the organization.

United Against Hate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

been a "groundswell" of protest groups locally, who often end up inciting violence at their demonstrations.

The sheriff said he's received some criticism for the statement's commitment to fight discrimination against undocumented immigrants, but called the complaints unwarranted.

"Deputy's job is not to enforce immigration laws. The enforcement is at the federal level," Atkins said.

While he said enforcing laws broken on the local level, regardless of immigration status, will always be upheld, to enforce federal immigration policy, regardless of its legitimacy or lack thereof, is simply against the law.

As for the former sheriff deputy who was associated with a hate group, Erin Willey, Atkins said her affiliation slipped through the agency's background check.

"It was an eye-opener for me to have somebody from inside my agency have an affiliation," Atkins said.

Willey was spotted on social

media wearing a shirt with the logo of the Proud Boys, a far-right group that has propagated sexist, Islamophobic, and racist rhetoric and its recognized by the Southern Poverty Law Center has a designated hate group that formed in 2016.

When the post was brought to Atkins' attention by local media, it spurred an investigation and eventual firing of Willey.

"It lessens the people's trust factor in an agency like mine to uphold the law, to be associated...with people that are clearly trying to push the law to its edge and break the law out there in the community and cause hate and discontent. That goes against the character of this agency."

Southwest Washington LULAC and Vancouver NAACP are both groups that Atkins said he's met with in the past and hopes to continue to stay connected. Their joint statement expressed appreciation of local law enforcement improving communications with its community.

The letter also called for more thorough enforcement of hate-crime laws and legislative action to make such laws stronger.

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

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

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

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

7 P.M. - 9 P.M.
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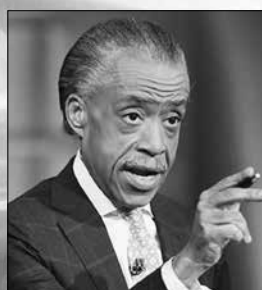
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6 A.M. - 12 NOON
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CALENDAR
September 2018



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					<div>1<div>World War II began, Hitler invaded Poland, 1939</div></div>	<div>2<div>National Blueberry Popsicle Day U.S. Treasury Dept. Established, 1789</div></div>
<div>3<div>Labor Day Skyscraper Day Treaty of Paris Signed, 1783</div></div>	<div>4<div>Syd Hoff born, 1912 Newspaper Carrier Day Google First Incorporated (1998)</div></div>	<div>5<div>National Cheese Pizza Day First Continental Congress Convened (1774)</div></div>	<div>6<div>Read a Book Day Pilgrims set sail from Plymouth, England (1620)</div></div>	<div>7<div>Grandma Moses born, 1860 (painter)</div></div>	<div>8<div>International Literacy Day King Richard the Lion-Hearted born, 1157</div></div>	<div>9<div>Rosh Hashanah Grandparents Day Teddy Bear Day California became the 31st state, 1850</div></div>
<div>10<div>Swap Ideas Day Elias Howe patented the sewing machine. In 1846</div></div>	<div>11<div>Make Your Bed Day World Trade Center attack in 2001 O. Henry born, 1862 (writer)</div></div>	<div>12<div>National Chocolate Milk Shake Day Jesse Owens Olympian, born 1913</div></div>	<div>13<div>National Peanut Day Positive Thinking Day</div></div>	<div>14<div>Francis Scott Key wrote 'Star Spangled Banner,' 1814</div></div>	<div>15<div>Make A Hat Day National Hispanic Heritage Month</div></div>	<div>16<div>Collect Rocks Day Mayflower Day Mexican Independence Day Stepfamily Day</div></div>
<div>17<div>Citizenship Day National Apple Dumpling Day Constitution Day</div></div>	<div>18<div>The New York Times was first published in 1851</div></div>	<div>19<div>International Talk Like a Pirate Day Poet John Keats Wrote 'To Autumn' in 1819</div></div>	<div>20<div>First Railroad Station Opened</div></div>	<div>21<div>Miniature Golf Day World Gratitude Day International Peace Day H.G. Wells born, 1866</div></div>	<div>22<div>Dear Diary Day Elephant Appreciation Day U.S. Post Office Opened In 1789</div></div>	<div>23<div>First Day of Autumn Good Neighbor Day (4th Sunday)</div></div>
<div>24<div>National Bluebird of Happiness Day Supreme Court established in 1789</div></div>	<div>25<div>Balboa discovered the Pacific Ocean in 1513</div></div>	<div>26<div>Johnny Appleseed born John Chapman, in 1774</div></div>	<div>27<div>Crush A Can Day First Steam Locomotive Run (1825)</div></div>	<div>28<div>California Native American Day First Airport Opened (1909)</div></div>	<div>29<div>Stanley Berenstain The U.S. Army was established in 1789</div></div>	<div>30<div>Safety Pin Invented (1849)</div></div>

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Obituary



George Kelley

In Love and Memory

Sunrise: May 4, 1923

Sunset: Sept. 5, 2018

A memorial ceremony with full military honors will be held for George Kelley on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 12:30 p.m. at Willamette National Cemetery, 11800 S.E. Mt. Scott Blvd. A repass celebration will follow at 3 p.m. on the same day at Project Truth Community Church, 4905 N.E. St. John Road, in Vancouver.

Viewing will take place earlier on Friday, Sept. 21 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Terry's Family Funeral Home, 2337 N. Williams Ave.

"You will be truly missed. Love, from your family."

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

'We Should All Be Feminists'



Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Acclaimed author selected for Everybody Reads

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, a Nigerian-born artist whose influence spans continents and genres has been selected for the Multnomah County Library's next Everybody Reads community reading project.

Starting in January, all neighborhood libraries will have copies of Adichie's book "Americanah" for adults, and her essay "We Should All Be Feminists" for high school students. The library encourages readers to share extra copies with friends, coworkers and neighbors.

With the selection of two titles, Everybody Reads 2019 offers an opportunity to explore a multitude of issues, including the experience of Africans in America and feminism in the 21st century.

"Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's writing is simply beautiful, but it also plumbs deep truths within and around us," said Multnomah County Director of Libraries Vailey Oehlke. "With these two works, she offers us vehicles for important and constructive conversations about our culture and ourselves."

Adichie has received acclaim as an author, poet, playwright and speaker. She was a recipient of a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship and her work has been recognized with the O. Henry Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award (fiction) and the PEN Pinter Prize, among many other distinctions.

She is the author of three novels, Purple Hibiscus (2003), Half of a Yellow Sun (2006), and Americanah (2013). She also wrote a short story collection, The Thing around Your Neck (2009), the essay We Should All Be Feminists (2014) and Dear Ijeawele, or a Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions (2017).

Adichie will speak in Portland on Thursday, March 14 at 7:30 pm at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Tickets are available from the Portland organization Literary Arts.



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A recreation of a live radio production of 'Dracula' at the Kiggins Theater in downtown Vancouver will put you in the spirit for Halloween.

Dracula at the Kiggins

A special live production of "Dracula" will bring the spirit of a Transylvanian Halloween to Vancouver's Kiggins Theater, on Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m.

"It's time to shine up your fangs and get your silver crosses ready," said John Barber, professor of creative media and digital culture at WSU Vancouver and the show's producer and director. Costumes by audience members are encouraged.

"Dracula" is based on the 1938 perfor-

mance by Orson Welles and the Mercury Theatre on the Air. The original radio drama was adapted from Bram Stoker's 1897 novel of the same name, considered one of the greatest horror novels ever written. The story examines society's fears of the unnatural during late 19th- and 20th-century Victorian society.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. Admission is \$12 at the door, \$8 online through the Kiggins website. Concessions, beer and wine will be available for purchase.



Mississippi
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Beaverton



Ayasha Shamsud-Din and Talunaka Washington (center) of the Portland African American Leadership Forum (PAALF) visit the Oregon State Penitentiary to accept a 2017 donation of \$2,500 to purchase coats for children in foster care. The donation was raised by inmates of Uhura Sasa, an African American culture club at the prison. A new campaign to raise donations for coats for children is now underway.

Giving Back; Making a Challenge

BY EARL McDONALD-WILKINS

In 2016, Uhuru Sasa, the African American culture club located inside the Oregon State Penitentiary, learned that Talunaka Washington, a child and community advocate with the Portland African American Leadership Forum (PAALF) and the daughter of Portland Observer Publisher Mark Washington was trying to raise funds to purchase coats for chil-

Inmates reach out to help foster kids

dren involved with the Multnomah County foster care system.

Uhuru Sasa decided to hold a fundraiser inside the prison to help. In the first year, the club raised \$1,000; and Talunaka purchased 120 additional coats for children in our community. Last year, Uhuru Sasa raised \$2,500 and Talunaka was able to purchase

300 additional coats for children.

This year, Uhuru Sasa will hold its third annual fundraiser in October; and the club has issued a challenge to the Black Parent Initiative, Intel, Beneficial State Bank, OnPoint Credit Union and/or their chief executive officers to match whatever dollar amount Uhuru Sasa

can raise inside OSP. 100 percent of all funds will go to purchase winter coats and other clothes for children in need.

All financial contributions can be sent in care of Talunaka Washington, Dept. of Human Services, District 2 Volunteer Unit, 11826 N.E. Glisan St., Portland, OR 97220.

Earl McDonald-Wilkins oversees community outreach for Uhura Sasa



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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

African Homowo Festival

You're invited to a free community festival to showcase the traditions of the Ga people of Ghana, West Africa and other African immigrants from Portland with performances of songs and dance that will take place on Saturday, Sept. 22 from noon to 6 p.m. at Sunnyside School Park, 3421 S.E. Salmon St.

All are welcome and encouraged to join in – to dance, sing, eat, and wish for health, abundance, and other good fortunes.

Nii Ardey Allotey, the festival organizer and a Ghanaian master drummer and dancer, hopes the festival will “bring people together and for everyone to feel like they can share with one another” as well as “showcase what Portland has to offer – to show that it truly is a world-class city.”

The lineup of local and national talent includes Comfort Tette of New York, a professional dancer and former Ghana National Dance Ensemble member; Ibrahim Kelly of Portland, a Mali-born master djembe fola (player), Malian blues guitarist, Dusu Mali Band leader, dancer, and instructor; Loveness Wesa, a Zimbabwe-born



Zimbabwe-born Portland writer, choreographer, producer, musician and dancer Loveness Wesa will join a lineup of performers Saturday, Sept. 22 for the free Homowo and Twins Festival at Sunnyside School Park in southeast Portland.

writer, choreographer, producer, dance performance ensemble musician, and dancer' and Ekome, from Portland, founded and led by a traditional Ghanaian music and Nii Ardey Allotey since 1992.

‘The Color Purple’ on Portland Stage

Musical a powerful story of sisterhood

Portland Center Stage at The Armory has launched its new season with the Tony Award-winning musical “The Color Purple,” adapted from Alice Walker’s classic novel about the sisterhood, resilience and self-empowerment found in a community of black women living in rural Georgia in the early 20th century.

The cast includes Broadway star Felicia Boswell as Celie, whose journey toward love and self-worth forms the heart of the play.

Published in 1982, Walker’s novel won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the National Book Award. Steven Spielberg’s 1985 movie adaptation of the story was a critically acclaimed box office success, receiving 11 Academy Award nominations.

“The Color Purple” at Portland Center Stage at The Armory is now showing through Oct. 28. Tickets range from \$25 to \$87 with special \$5 tickets available for Oregon Trail Card holders through the Arts for All program. For tickets and more information, visit pcs.org.



Lana Gordon (left) is Shug and Felicia Boswell plays Celie in ‘The Color Purple,’ adapted from Alice Walker’s classic novel about the sisterhood, resilience and self empowerment found in a community of black women living in rural Georgia.

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

BUSINESS Guide

Tough as Nails -- Portland actress Margie Boule stars as the late Ann Richards, the Texas gov-



ernor who was known for her outspoken feminism and one-liners, in the play "Ann," now playing through Sept. 23 from Portland's Triangle Productions at the Sanctuary at Sandy Plaza, 1785 N.E. Sandy Blvd. Shows are at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday-Saturdays with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15-35. Call 503-239-5919 or visit trianglepro.org.

Raunchy Musical -- A sexually frustrated country-singing cowgirl is the center of attention in Whiskey Dixie, a play that pokes fun at many sexual taboos and hot topics, playing Sept. 21 to Oct. 13 at Imago Theater, 17 S.E. Eighth Ave. The show is written, directed and crewed primarily by women and playfully navigates the currents of the present-day American patriarchy while encouraging audiences to seize the day.



MLK Dream Run -- Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his "I Have a Dream" speech, the seventh annual MLK Dream Run, sponsored by the diverse North/Northeast Business Association, takes place Sunday morning, Sept. 23, starting and ending on the corner of MLK Boulevard and Rosa Parks Way. Races will have staggered morning starts with music, food and entertainment. A kickoff celebration will be held at the same location the day before from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

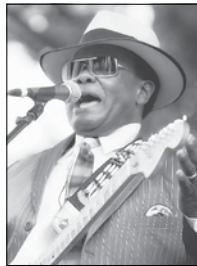


Gorge Shuttle Returns -- The Columbia Gorge Express bus service by the Oregon Department of Transportation has made its return, now going as far east as Hood River and offering serve seven days a week, year round. The bus departs from the Gateway Transit Center to Rooster Rock State Park, Multnomah Falls, Cascade Locks and Hood River.

SOLVE Cleanup Saturday -- Celebrate and care for your community by volunteering on Saturday, Sept. 29 for the SOLVE Beach & Riverside

Cleanup. SOLVE invites all Oregonians to help remove invasive plants and clean up hundreds of miles of beaches, rivers, and city streets before fall rains wash litter and debris into storm drains and out to sea. Find your favorite project and sign up at solveoregon.org

New Chinatown Museum -- "Made in Chinatown, USA: Portland," a photo exhibit capturing the cultural pride of Portland's Asian community marks the opening of a new Portland Chinatown Museum at 127 N.W. Third Ave. Admissions is a suggested \$5 and free on First Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.



Norman Sylvester -- 'Boogie Cat' Norman Sylvester plays Friday, Sept. 21 at the Vinyl Tap; Friday, Sept. 28 at Clyde's; Thursday, Oct. 4 at 5 p.m. at Portland Center Stage at the Armory; Friday, Oct. 5 at C I Bar and Grill in Tualatin; and Saturday, Oct. 6 at Catfish Lou's.

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 \$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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OPINION



How Did We Get Here And How Do We Get Out?

Partisan electors block will of the people

BY STEPHEN TILLET

While driving my daughter to school I was listening to CNN on the radio as some commentators discussed Robert

Woodward's latest book, "Fear: Trump In The White House."

Usually, she intentionally tries to tune out whatever discussions are taking place about national politics. But on this morning, after listening to what the commentators were saying she asked me, "Daddy, why is he there?" That led me to try and explain, in terms that a first grader would understand, the electoral process in the United States and to introduce her to the concept of the Electoral College.

Historically, the American people have proven to be a pretty astute judge of character of people running for the presidency. Unfortunately, the last three times when the Electoral College outcome was different from the votes cast by the American people, there have been disastrous consequences.

After the election of 1876, where Samuel J. Tilden earned a majority of the votes cast, but was denied the White House, it result-

ed in aborting Reconstruction and launched us into an almost 100 year journey of Jim Crow/Apartheid segregation in America, that our nation has yet to fully recover from.

Following the election of 2000, our country invaded a country that did not attack us, destabilized an entire region of the world, and our economy crashed. In 2016, in spite of losing by almost

are in today.

When people who do not win elections are declared the winner anyway, it deprives them of the legitimacy and moral authority to govern with the approval of the governed. This is not sustainable!

Our electoral process cannot continue to acquiesce to partisan electors, in lieu of the expressed will of the voters, to place into office people who will meet the

Our electoral process cannot continue to acquiesce to partisan electors, in lieu of the expressed will of the voters, to place into office people who will meet the demands of wealthy corporate interests at the expense of everyone else.

3 million votes, because of the Electoral College someone who was demonstrably unfit and unprepared to serve as president was given the keys to the White House and, as Woodward's book lays out in exhaustive detail, we find ourselves in the horrid position we

demand of wealthy corporate interests at the expense of everyone else.

Our deficit is exploding. The judicial appointments that are making conservatives giddy will, at the end of the day, result in greater protections for a corpo-

rate class that abuses the nation as a whole, continued attacks on our voting rights, and an increase in the excesses of the security and police state that are already very problematic.

Sadly, all of this is the result of the America's original sin/birth defect of slavery. In the latter part of the 1700s, Constitutional architect James Madison wrote: "There was one difficulty of a serious nature however attending an immediate choice by the people. The right of suffrage was much more divisive in the north rather than the southern states; and the latter could have no influence in the election on the score of Negroes. The substitution of electors obviated this difficulty and seemed on the whole to be liable to the fewest objections."

While that rationale might have carried the day when they were trying to form our republic over 240 years ago, it's time has come and is way past gone! Either we get rid of the Electoral College or, I fear, the very existence of a "United" States will be at risk in the future. The Electoral College must go!

Stephen Tillett is author of "Stop Falling for the Okeydoke: How the Lie of 'Race' Continues to Undermine Our Country." He is a retired Air Force chaplain, serves as a pastor in Annapolis, Md., and is president of the Anne Arundel County NAACP.

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

The Wealth Hiding in Your Neighborhood

Absentee billionaires buying condos

BY CHUCK COLLINS

The rich are hiding trillions in wealth.

You've probably heard about their offshore bank accounts, shell corporations, and fancy trusts. But this wealth isn't all sitting in the Cayman Islands or Panama. Much of it's hiding in plain view: maybe even in your town.

America's big cities are increasingly dotted with luxury skyscrapers and mansions. These multi-million dollar condos are wealth storage lockers, with the ownership often obscured by shell companies.

In Boston, where I live, there's a luxury building boom. According to a study I just co-authored, out of 1,805 luxury units — with an average price of over \$3 million — more than two-thirds are owned by people who don't live here.

One-third are owned by shell companies and trusts that mask their ownership. And of these units, 40 percent are limited liability companies (LLCs) organized in Delaware.

Why Delaware?

Criminals around the world set up their shell companies in Delaware, the premiere secrecy jurisdiction in the United States —

where you don't have to disclose who the real owners are. As a result, human traffickers, drug smugglers and tax evaders all enjoy the anonymous cover of a Delaware company.

Many of these companies use illicit funds to purchase real estate in North American cities to launder their ill-gotten money.

In New York City, dozens of luxury

zerland.

The U.S. Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network has increased its scrutiny over real estate markets in Miami, New York, and parts of California, Texas, and Hawaii.

But that just makes the rest of the country more attractive for secret cash — even far from big cities. In a small Vermont town, I met a Russian investor who lives in Dubai.

According to a study I just co-authored, out of 1,805 luxury units — with an average price of over \$3 million — more than two-thirds are owned by people who don't live here.

towers have been connected to global money laundering. In Vancouver, B.C., Chinese investors disrupted the city's housing market so badly that the province established a foreign investor tax and a tax on vacant properties.

With European countries now insisting on more transparency, illicit cash is now cascading into the United States. In fact, the U.S. is now the world's second-biggest tax haven and secrecy jurisdiction, after Swit-

He was buying up thousands of acres of Green Mountain farmland.

Our communities are being fundamentally transformed by land grabs and luxury building booms. These drive up the cost of land in central neighborhoods, with ripple impacts throughout a community. And this worsens the already grotesque inequalities of income, wealth, and opportunity.

Our communities should defend themselves.

Property ownership should have to pass the "fishing license" or "library card" test. In most communities, to get a library card or a fishing license, you need to prove who you are and where you actually live.

In Boston, they're pretty strict — you need to show a utility bill with your name on it. Cities should require the same for real estate purchases.

At a national level, bi-partisan legislation from Senators Marco Rubio and Sheldon Whitehouse would require real estate owners to be disclosed when buyers use shell corporations and pay millions in cash. That would be a welcome development.

Better still, cities should tax luxury real estate transactions on properties selling for over \$2 million to fund local services. Such a tax in San Francisco generated \$44 million last year that's been used to fund free community college and help the city's neglected trees.

Communities could discourage high-end vacant properties by taxing buildings that sit empty for more than six months a year. Cities like Vancouver have created incentives to house people, not wealth.

We need to defend our communities for the people who live in them, not just store their wealth there.

Chuck Collins co-authored the report *Towering Excess for the Institute for Policy Studies*. Distributed by OtherWords.org.

Young Voices Help Create Nation They Deserve

Children fighting for freedom

BY MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

I wrote recently about a few of the brave children who helped change our nation during the Civil Rights Movement. There are many, many others whose examples should inspire us today. Claudette Colvin — sometimes called "The First Rosa Parks" — was a 15-year-old black girl who challenged bus segregation in Montgomery, Ala. on March 2, 1955, nine months before Mrs. Parks.

Claudette boarded a Montgomery city bus and refused to give her seat to a white person when ordered by the driver to do so. Claudette had been studying the U.S. Constitution and the connection between constitutional rights and segregation in school, and insisted she had a constitutional right to her seat because she had paid the same fare. She became the first of several women arrested for refusing to abide by the state's segregation laws and one of four plaintiffs in *Browder v. Gayle*, the case that successfully overturned bus segregation laws in Montgomery and Alabama.

Later, when Claudette described her decision to stay in her seat that day, she used a powerful image: "It felt like Sojourner Truth was on one side pushing me down and Harriet Tubman was on the other side

of me pushing me down. I couldn't get up."

Claudette was just one of many young people determined to prove in the wake of *Brown v. Board of Education* that they would no longer be confined to "separate but equal." On Aug. 27, 1956, twelve black students desegregated Clinton High School in Clinton, Tenn. making it the first public high school in the south to desegregate. Two years later the school building was bombed; no one was arrested.

But the Clinton Twelve were the leading

The fearless Unita Blackwell, then a SNCC field officer and parent of one of the students, filed a lawsuit to allow suspended students to return and wear the pins and to demand that Issaquena County schools finally desegregate.

edge of a change wave that could not be stopped. A year later, nine black students who enrolled at Central High School in Little Rock, Ark., despite white mob violence, captured national headlines after Gov. Orval Faubus ordered the Arkansas National Guard to block their entry into the school. The students refused to give up

requiring federal troops to be called in to escort the Little Rock Nine to class.

Other students fought for other freedoms. In January 1965, a group of students at the all-black Henry Weathers High School in Issaquena County, Miss. began wearing Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee freedom pins to class. A reprimand by school administrators sparked an outpouring of support from other students and community leaders causing 300 students to be suspended for wearing and distributing banned "freedom" buttons.

The fearless Unita Blackwell, then a SNCC field officer and parent of one of the students, filed a lawsuit to allow suspended students to return and wear the pins and to demand that Issaquena County schools finally desegregate. She and other community leaders helped open an alternative Freedom School to educate those

who boycotted the high school while the fight went on. Unita Blackwell would later become the first black woman mayor in Mississippi.

Even the youngest children were determined to make a difference. Sheyann Webb, "The Smallest Freedom Fighter," was eight years old. Sheyann was the youngest to join the march from Selma to Montgomery on "Bloody Sunday," March 7, 1965. After the day's violent events she went home and wrote plans for her own funeral, but returned for the final Selma march without her parents' knowledge or consent. She was suspended from her elementary school for participating in the Selma march but kept fighting for freedom.

We should make sure children today know these and many other stories about courageous children from the past. We are at another inflection point where children's voices are desperately needed to help create the nation they deserve.

Let's applaud those young people who have stepped forward to end epidemic gun violence in schools and churches and on streets they must walk; protest the separation of children from their parents; and seek to ensure the right to vote is exercised by all who have it. I hope they will continue to stand, march, and work together seeking freedom and justice for all. We adults should follow their examples.

Marian Wright Edelman is president of the *Children's Defense Fund*.

CLASSIFIED/BIDS

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

Portland Community College Request for Proposals (RFP) for Network Design Consultant

**Proposals Due on October 17th, 2018
by 2:00 pm, PDT**

Portland Community College ("PCC") is soliciting proposals from qualified proposers to provide Network Design Consulting for the 2017 Bond projects.

Complete scope of work and required proposal documents can be obtained from the PCC Solicitation Opportunities link: <https://www.pcc.edu/purchasing>. (Click on the Solicitation Opportunities link, open the Solicitation screen, and click on the RFP Project DOWNLOAD button. A registration form opens, and once filled, the RFP will be sent to the email indicated on the form). Interested proposers who are not equipped to download the document(s) may request a copy by contacting Sandy Wanner, Bond Procurement, 971-722-8411, or by sending an email request

to swanner@pcc.edu. Proposals must be delivered by **October 17, 2018, on or before 2:00 pm PDT**, to Portland Community College, 9700 SW Capitol Hwy, Ste. 260, Portland, OR 97219, Attn: Sandy Wanner.

Late proposals will not be considered.

Proposals may be rejected for not complying with all prescribed public contracting procedures or for good cause on a finding by PCC that it is in the public interest to do so. PCC reserves the right to reject any proposals and to waive irregularities.

The contract awarded under this RFP will be subject to the payment of prevailing wages under ORS 279C.800 to 279C.870 [and the Davis-Bacon Act (40 USC §§ 3141 to 3148), if applicable].

Prequalification of proposers is not required.

Minority-owned, woman-owned, emerging small business, disadvantaged business enterprises, and service-disabled veteran owned businesses will be afforded full opportunity to submit their proposal in response to this solicitation and will not be discriminated against.

Dated this 19th day of September, 2018

REQUEST FOR BIDS

METRO

Cooling System Improvements at the Oregon Convention Center ITB 3575

Metro, acting by and through the appointed Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission (MERC), is inviting bids for Cooling System Improvements for the Oregon Convention Center (OCC).

Sealed bids are due no later than 2:00 p.m. October 2, 2018 in Metro's business offices at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-2736, Attention: Julie Hoffman, Procurement Analyst, ITB 3575. Bids will be opened publicly at that time.

The Contractor awarded this project will provide all labor and materials required to perform the work as described in the ITB, including but not limited to:

- Replace one rooftop cooling tower [CT#4] as specified
- Replace and/or install new cooling system pumps, valves, piping, filters, chemical feeders, and other accessories and equipment as specified
- Install new hollow core metal personnel roof access door and associated stairs/ladders
- New electrical and mechanical work for system operations as specified
- Integration of Alerton Controls building automation systems as required

A voluntary Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for all potential prime and sub-contractors September 18, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. at Oregon Convention Center MLK Lobby.

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.

Metro and its contractors will not discriminate against any person(s), employee or applicant for employment based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, disability, political affiliation or marital status. Metro fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, see www.oregonmetro.gov.



Metro

Administrative Assistant, full-time, Portland Expo Center, \$17.02 - \$22.97 hourly. Deadline date: September 20, 2018

Department Head Stagehand - Electrician, full-time, Portland's 5 Centers for the Arts, \$28.88 hourly. Deadline date: September 24, 2018

Utility Lead - Swing Shift, full-time, Portland's 5 Centers for the Arts, \$22.10 - \$23.13 hourly. Deadline date: September 27, 2018

These opportunities are open to First Opportunity Target Area (FOTA) residents: This area includes the following zip codes located primarily in N, NE and a small portion of SE Portland: 97024, 97030, 97203, 97211, 97212, 97213, 97216, 97217, 97218, 97220, 97227, 97230, 97233, 97236, and 97266, whose total annual income was less than \$47,000 for a household of up to two individuals or less than \$65,000 for a household of three or more.

Visit oregonmetro.gov/FOTA for the complete job announcement and a link to our online hiring center or visit our lobby kiosk at Metro, 600 NE Grand Ave, Portland.

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PORTLAND OBSERVER ARCHIVE PHOTO

The Portland Harbor Community Coalition, a group of advocates overseeing work to clean up the Willamette River, invites supporters to attend a special "Heal the Willamette" ceremony led by the indigenous community on Saturday, Sept. 22.

Health the Willamette Ceremony Invite

Native community to lead in prayer and song

A group of advocates overseeing work to clean up the Willamette River invite supporters to join them at Cathedral Park in north Portland this Saturday, Sept. 22 for a day of healing as local Native Americans join them for traditional songs, prayer and dance.

Portland Harbor Community Coalition Coordinator Cassie Cohen says the ceremony will be a great example of how Metro regional government, the event's primary funder, is now supporting grassroots, community of color organizations to provide impactful events and greater access to nature.

"Our communities have been disconnected from the Willamette River," Cohen said. "This event gives us a rare moment to collectively reflect on what we want for

our river, its people and wildlife."

The coalition is fighting for an equitable cleanup of the Willamette taking into consideration the most-impacted communities impacted by decades of pollution in the water, river bottom and beaches. The federal cleanup project is expected to cost \$1 billion over several years and offer remediation for a stretch of the river from the Broadway Bridge to Sauvie Island.

Saturday's ceremony, scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., is a continuation of several we've had over several years," said American Indian Movement, Portland chapter elder Art McConville. "We believe the power of prayer will protect everything from the harmful effects of the pollutants in the water, and will restore spiritual life to the water itself," McConville said.

For more information about the event, email Portland Harbor Community Coalition media coordinator Donovan Smith at dmsmith106@gmail.com or call 503-756-6128.

Supreme Court Nominee Accused

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

for the FBI to investigate the accusation.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said an FBI investigation was essential. However, Trump rejected the idea of bringing in the FBI to reopen its background check of Kavanaugh, which would be likely to delay a confirmation vote until after the election. Republicans hope to have him confirmed by the Oct. 1 start of the next Supreme Court term.

Ford has said she was willing to testify. But panel chairman Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, said repeated efforts to reach her had failed.

Ford, now a California psychology professor, went public with her story Sunday, telling The Washington Post that Kavanaugh had forced himself on her in a bedroom at a party when he was 17 and she was 15, attempting to remove her clothes and clapping his hand over her mouth when she tried to scream. She says she escaped when Judge jumped on the bed.

FOOD

Autumn Glow Salad

Ingredients:

- 1 (2-lb.) butternut squash, peeled and cut into 1/2-in. cubes
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt, divided
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup dried green lentils
- 1/2 teaspoon cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon red wine vinegar
- 2 cups arugula
- 1 tablespoon crumbled feta cheese
- 2 tablespoons All-Purpose Tahini Dressing

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400°F.
2. Place squash, oil, 1/4 teaspoon salt, and pepper in a bowl; toss to combine. Spread mixture in a single layer on a foil-lined baking sheet. Bake at 400°F for 28 to 30 minutes, tossing once halfway through.
3. While squash bakes, place lentils in a medium saucepan. Cover with water to 3 inches above lentils; bring to a boil. Reduce heat, and simmer 20 minutes or until lentils are tender. Drain. Stir in remaining 1/4 teaspoon salt, cumin, and red wine vinegar. Let stand 10 minutes.
4. Arrange arugula on a plate. Top with 1 cup butternut squash (reserve remaining for Butternut-Kale Frittata), 1/2 cup cooked lentils (reserve remaining for Poached Egg Power Bowls), and cheese. Drizzle All-Purpose Tahini Dressing over top.



This plant-powered salad delivers over 50% of your daily fiber and one-third of your daily potassium goal. Butternut squash is an excellent source of eye-healthy vitamin A and a good source of immune-boosting vitamin C and blood pressure-supporting potassium.



All-Purpose Tahini Dressing

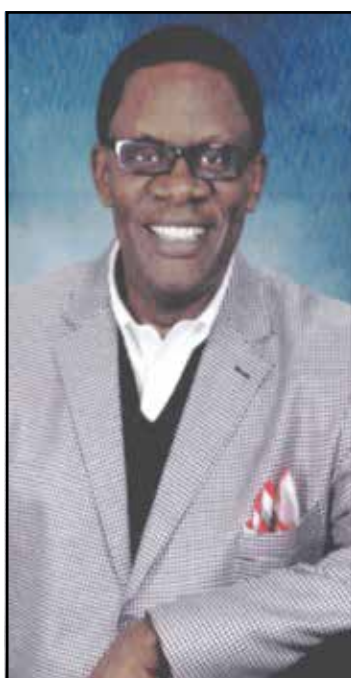
Tahini is made from toasted ground hulled sesame seeds, which are especially rich in cholesterol-lowering phytosterols. Rich and nutty, we look to this pantry staple to add savory depth and sumptuous creaminess to salads and grains. Look for tahini that is well blended (little to no separation) and make sure to give it a good stir before using. If the dressing thickens up too much after refrigeration, mix in an extra teaspoon of water.

Ingredients:

- 3 tablespoons tahini (sesame seed paste), well stirred
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/8 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 3 tablespoons warm water

Directions:

Combine tahini, lemon juice, garlic powder, salt, and pepper in a bowl; mix well. Whisk in water, 1 tablespoon at a time, until dressing reaches desired consistency. Refrigerate in an airtight container.



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

THE SPINAL COLUMN™

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Part 36. Healing Time

to see a mother carrying her infant out of the adjusting room. And yet, 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 (curvature 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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An Open Letter to the Community

from Unity Center for Behavioral Health

The safety and well-being of patients and staff at Unity Center for Behavioral Health is our number one priority. The very reason Unity Center was created was to dramatically raise the bar on the quality of care provided to those in our community suffering from mental illness. Our staff and leadership care deeply about the lives we touch and the people we serve. That's why the work underway to remedy the areas where we have fallen short is so important.

In May of 2018, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) responded to safety concerns raised by Unity Center staff. OHA began an exhaustive on-site review of our environment of care. We opened our doors to OHA and have been actively engaged with the agency in its process. We take our staff's concerns and OHA's investigation seriously and are focusing intensely on fixing the problems at hand.

Significant progress has been made. We've increased staffing. We've modified both our physical environment and our practices. We've removed items that were identified as safety hazards. We spent three full days supporting our staff with a refresher training course on policies and procedures. We've improved our documentation of patient care and medication administration. We are committed to remedying each and every area of concern identified in the OHA's Statement of Deficiencies. And we are not done yet.

Truly, we are grateful to Unity Center staff who have raised concerns. We are grateful to the OHA for its extensive outside review. We are grateful to the reporters who have asked tough questions. We are grateful even to our loudest critics. And we are grateful to our community partners for their close monitoring of our progress, and for their support. We are better today because of them. We encourage our employees, who are our eyes and ears in every patient care setting, to continue to contribute to our vigilant observation and documentation of safety conditions at Unity Center.

The need for access to the care provided at Unity cannot be overstated.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, one in five people has a mental health issue, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that an estimated 50 percent of all Americans will be diagnosed with a mental illness or disorder at some point in their lifetime. The nonprofit Mental Health America in a study last year ranked Oregon as having among the highest rates of people suffering from mental illness and the poorest access to counseling, care and treatment.

Portland-area hospital emergency departments are often underequipped to treat mental health emergencies. Before Unity Center, long wait times and limited access to specialized psychiatric care meant patients didn't get the immediate help they needed. In too many cases, patients were leaving our hospitals no better off than

when they arrived. Without a clear plan of action, patients' conditions can worsen, sometimes leading to chronic medical conditions, homelessness or incarceration. Something needed to change.

That's why Unity Center opened its doors in January 2017. Since then, our mission remains unchanged: to provide immediate psychiatric care and a long-term path to recovery for people experiencing a mental health crisis. We treat patients with compassion and dignity, acknowledging the underlying trauma contributing to a patient's mental illness, helping them find relief and stabilization, and creating a long-term treatment plan.

We are 100% committed to the success of Unity Center.

In just over 18 months, Unity Center has served more than 7,000 people in desperate need of help. We hear from patients and families who tell us how Unity Center has made a difference in their lives. But our journey has not been without hurdles. Unity Center is the first mental health initiative of its kind in the region. Despite the collective depth of experience of our hospital partners in treating patients with mental health issues, there have been unforeseen challenges in adapting our policies and procedures to an environment that serves the volume of severely ill psychiatric patients that we have at Unity Center.

Nonetheless, we are unwavering in our commitment to the success of Unity Center. Our community is counting on us. Our patients are counting on us. Unity Center staff, who are dedicated to the patients we serve, need us to be successful. We cannot go back to the cycle of suffering and inadequate care that those among us living with mental illness have endured.

We will leave no stone unturned in seeking opportunities to improve the safety and environment of care for patients and staff at Unity. These efforts will continue long after the OHA investigation is concluded.

Thank you for reading this letter and allowing us to share our story with you directly. We have created a website at www.unityfacts.org to share information and updates on our progress as the OHA process continues. We invite you to be a part of our journey of growth, learning, improvement and service to those in our community suffering from mental illness.

Sincerely,

Trent Green

President of Legacy Emanuel Medical Center and Unity Center for Behavioral Health on behalf of the Unity Center Board of Managers.