



Diversity in Medicine
Incoming class at OHSU celebrated
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CAREERS
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Committed to Cultural Diversity



A block party Saturday in northeast Portland will support the local dispensary Green Hop as it continues teaching classes for jobs in the cannabis industry for communities of color most affected by past criminalization of marijuana. Local emcee Fountaine will headline.

Block Party for Green Hop

Dispensary
puts emphasis
on careers,
neighborhoods

A local hip-hop themed dispensary is once again holding a block party in part to emphasize efforts by local African Americans displaced by gentrification to return to their historic neighborhoods and to raise donations to continue career programs geared to communities of color most impacted

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Counter-protesters prepare to clash with Patriot Prayer protesters during an Aug. 4, 2018 rally in Portland. Since President Donald Trump's election, the city has become a political arena for far-right and far-left groups to face off. (AP photo)

Police Brace for Clash of Protests

History with hate groups adds to dynamic

(AP) -- Portland police are mobilizing to prevent clashes between out-of-state far-right groups planning a rally for downtown Saturday and the homegrown anti-fascists who oppose them.

The rally — and the violence it may bring — are a relatively new reality for police, as an informal

coalition of white nationalists, white supremacists and extreme-right militias hones its focus on Portland as a stand-in for everything it feels is wrong with the U.S. At the top of that list are the masked and black-clad anti-fascists who turn out to violently oppose right-wing demonstrators as soon as they set foot in town.

"It's Portlandia, and in the public mind it rep-

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The Week in Review



Speed Racing Crackdown

Portland Police conducted 26 traffic stops, towed four vehicles and arrested five suspects related to illegal street racing over the weekend. The actions were part of a crackdown the police are undertaking to curb displays of speed racing, which has included using the help of the bureau's Air Support Unit.

Claim filed Against ICE

About 300 protesters joined interfaith leaders at the Washington County Courthouse in Hillsboro Monday to protest the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency for detaining and arresting immigrants when they come to court. The rally came on the same day the ACLU of Oregon and a partnering law firm filed a federal tort claim on behalf of a legal resident and county worker who was detained by ICE.

Body Found in Zoo

The body of a man who was reported missing since Saturday was found Monday in a construction site at the Oregon Zoo, police said. Carl Stanley Ross Sr., 62, was found in the rhino habitat,

which had no animals inside and the cause of death has not been determined.

Accused Financier's Suicide

Jeffrey Epstein, the 66-year-old financier and sex offender who was facing new charges of trafficking girls for sex, died of an apparent suicide Saturday in his federal jail cell in Lower Manhattan. The New York Times reported the jail chose to house Epstein by himself and did not make routine check-ins after he attempted to commit suicide three weeks earlier.



Protests Shuttles Airport

One of the world's busiest airports canceled all flights after thousands of pro-democracy demonstrators crowded into Hong Kong's main terminal Monday, while the central government in Beijing issued an ominous characterization of the protest movement as something approaching "terrorism."



Wildlife Protections Weakened

The Trump administration Monday announced major changes for the way the Endangered Species Act is applied, weakening the law by making it harder to protect wildlife from multiple threats posed by climate change.



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The Week in Review

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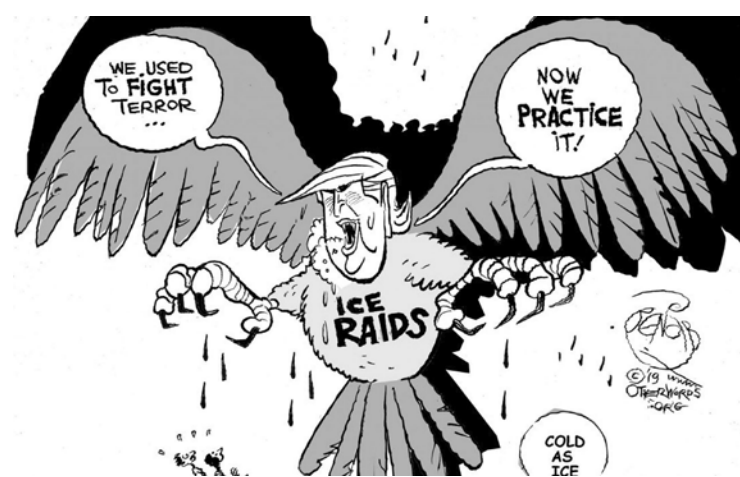
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LOCAL NEWS



PHOTO BY ERIN HOOVER BARNETT/OHSU

Oregon Health and Sciences University welcomes incoming students to campus, the school's most racially diverse group ever of future doctors. The class of 2023 includes Native Americans and Native Alaskans recruited as part of a special outreach, pictured here with faculty and program staff.

Diversity in Medicine

OHSU welcomes most diverse class ever

Oregon Health and Sciences University is celebrating an incoming class of future medical doctors that is the most racially diverse group in school history. The class of 2023 stood shoulder-to-shoulder on Friday donning their white medical coats for the first time and reciting the medical Oath of Geneva as an audience of physicians, family members,

friends and mentors gave their smiles and tears.

The ceremony marked the beginning of the 160 students' formal training. Over 60 percent of the class is female, and over 30 percent are from racial or ethnic backgrounds other than white and from a disadvantaged background, OHSU said. Fourteen percent also came from a racial

or ethnic group underrepresented in medicine.

For the first time, the incoming group also include recruits from a new OHSU program specifically aimed at preparing Alaska Native and Native Americans to excel in medical school, called the Wy'East Post-Baccalaureate

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Child, Family Services Jobs Posted

The Oregon Department of Human Services this month is posting more than 300 jobs related to helping children and families in Oregon. The hiring initiative is driven by an executive order from Gov. Kate Brown aimed at improving safety and building capacity in Oregon's child welfare system.

"In order to ensure our children are safe, we need more caring and dedicated people on the ground working with families," Brown said. "Hiring more child welfare workers is one important step to right-sizing the system so that it better serves our most vulnerable children and families. Oregonians with a passion for helping children and families thrive can make an enormous impact through state service at the Department of Human Services."



Gov. Kate Brown

Some of the jobs available include hotline screeners who serve as first responders to child safety concerns; child protective service caseworkers to investigate safety concern reports; certifiers to identify and certify relative caregivers,

foster parents and adoptive parents across all ethnic and cultural groups; and permanency caseworkers who specialize in working with children, families, foster parents and caregivers to ensure children are safe in their homes.

"These new hires will reduce caseloads, which will help us better address safety issues and provide more support to foster families," Department of Human Services Director Fariborz Pakseresht said. "An influx of new staff also will provide much-needed relief to our current child welfare caseworkers and help reduce turnover."

The Oregon Legislature approved funding for these new positions during the 2019 legislative session. For more information on available jobs and to apply, visit oregon.gov/dhs/children.

Police Brace for Clash of Protests

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resents everything these (far-right) groups are against," said Heidi Beirich, director of the Intelligence Project at the Southern Poverty Law Center, which tracks hate groups. "It's progressive, and even more offensive to them, it's progressive white people who should be on these guys' side."

The groups know they will get a headline-grabbing reaction from Portland's so-called "antifa," whose members have issued an online call to their followers to turn out to "defend Portland from a far-Right attack." Portland's Rose City Antifa, the nation's oldest active anti-fascist group, says violence against right-wing demonstrators

is "exactly what should happen when the far-right attempts to invade our town."

Portland leaders are planning a major law enforcement presence on the heels of similar rallies in June and last summer that turned violent, and the recent hate-driven shooting in El Paso, Texas. None of the city's nearly 1,000 police officers will have the day off, and Portland will get help from the Oregon State Police and the FBI. Mayor Ted Wheeler has said he may ask Gov. Kate Brown, a Democrat, to call up the Oregon National Guard.

"There's no winning for the cops in a situation like this. There just isn't," Beirich said. "This is hard-core stuff, and I don't think you can be too cautious."

Experts who track right-wing militias and hate groups warn that the mix of people heading to Portland also came together for a Unite the Right rally in 2017 in Charlottesville, Va., which ended when a participant rammed his car into a crowd of counter protesters, killing one person and injuring 19.

The rally is being organized by a member of the Proud Boys, who have been designated by the Southern Poverty Law Center as a hate group. Others expected include members of the American Guard, the Three Percenters, the Oathkeepers and the Daily Stormers. American Guard is a white nationalist group, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, while the

Three Percenters and the Oathkeepers are extremist anti-government militias. The Daily Stormers are neo-Nazis, according to the center.

Portland's fraught history with hate groups adds to the complex dynamic.

Many of today's anti-fascists trace their activist heritage to a group that battled with neo-Nazis in Portland's streets decades ago, and they feel this is the same struggle in a new era, said Randy Blazak, the leading expert on the history of hate groups in Oregon.

White supremacists murdered an Ethiopian man, Mulugeta Seraw, in Portland in 1988. And by the 1990s, Portland was known as Skinhead City because it was the home base of Volksfront, at the time one of the most active neo-Nazi groups in the U.S. As recently as 2007, neo-Nazis attempted to gather in Portland for a three-day skinhead festival.

"When I'm looking at what's happening right now, for me it's a direct line back to the 1980s: the battles between the racist skinheads and the anti-racist skinheads," Blazak said. "It's the latest version of this thing that's been going on for 30 years in this city."

Police, meanwhile, have seemed overwhelmed by the cultural forces at war in their streets.

At the June rally, masked antifa members beat up a conservative blogger named Andy Ngo. Video of the 30-second attack grabbed national attention and further turned the focus on Portland as a new battleground in a divisive America.

Republican Sens. Ted Cruz, of Texas, and Bill Cassidy, of Louisiana, introduced a congressional resolution calling for anti-fascists to be declared domestic terrorists, and President Donald Trump echoed that theme in a tweet last month. Portland's City Hall has been evacuated twice due to bomb threats after the June 29 skirmishes, and Wheeler, the mayor, has been pilloried by critics who incorrectly said he told police to stand down while anti-fascists went after right-wing demonstrators.

"I don't want for one minute anyone to think that because we're being thrust into this political show, that I or the public have lost confidence in (police officers') ability to do what we do," said Police Chief Danielle Outlaw, who is regularly heckled as she leaves City Hall by those who feel the police target counter protesters for arrest over far-right demonstrators.

Police have noted the violence in June was limited to a small area of downtown Portland despite three different demonstrations that lasted more than five hours, with hundreds of people constantly on the move. They also made two arrests last week in a May Day assault on an antifa member that became a rallying cry for the city's far-left.

"We'll be ready for the 17th here in little Portland, Oregon," Wheeler, the mayor, told The Associated Press. "But at the end of the day, the bigger question is about our nation's moral compass and which direction it's pointing."

Blazak, the Oregon hate groups expert, said he worries the extreme response from a small group of counter protesters is starting to backfire. Many in the city oppose the right-wing rallies but also dislike the violent response of antifa, which provides social media fodder for the far-right.

"The opposition is playing right into the alt-right's hands by engaging with them this way," he said.

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PHOTO BY ERIN HOOVER BARNETT/OHSU

Christopher Ponce Campuzano, an OHSU medical student from the Class of 2023 gets a hug from mentor Carolyn Zook, a member of the undergraduate medical education program team. Campuzano is the first immigrant of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival status in the school's most racially diverse incoming class.

Diversity in Medicine

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Pathway.

"I'm so much more confident and comfortable not only in the idea of becoming a physician but just starting medical school," said Kyna Lewis, a Tlingit Alaskan Native and Wy'East cohort member. "I found a place where I actually belong. I have a community. That's more than I could have hoped for."

Another student from incoming class represented the first immigrant student who has Deferred

Action for Childhood Arrival status. Ponce Campuzano was one of three members of the class of 2023 to have participated in the OHSU Equity Summer Research Program, an eight-week, hands-on internship with research and clinical elements.

"That summer I fell in love with the medical research I was doing at OHSU, and the amount of support I was getting from the faculty and staff on a daily basis," he said, describing the roots to his inspiration for applying to the medical school.

Brand to Lead PCC Diversity Office

Portland Community College has promoted an interim school leader and former dean of students as its new permanent chief diversity officer.

Tricia Brand held the post on a temporary basis since last year and has been responsible to other duties related to equity over the past few years. She recently played an instrumental role in the college's presence as part of the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education, school officials said.

Brand began her tenure at the college in 2014 as the Associate Dean of Students at PCC's Southeast Campus. There she helped establish the campus' first ever Resource Center for providing direction to services such as academic advising, the orientation center, testing and placement and career exploration. She



Tricia Brand

was also the campus' Title IX investigator.

In the past six months, Brand sponsored multiple college-wide social justice workshops, attended by more than 200 employees. She has assisted the president's office with organization of PCC Faculty

and Staff of Color caucuses and the Communities of Color Council. In April, she represented the college on a panel regarding equity in the workforce called "How Oregon Works."

Brand previously served in a variety of administration positions at Lewis & Clark College since 2009, and before then worked at the University of Arizona starting in 2006.

Blood Pressure and Sleep Research Study



Researchers at OHSU are interested in studying how sleep impacts blood pressure in White and Black adults ages 30-60 years old with aims to develop better therapies for hypertension.

Participation requires 2-3 screening visits and a multi-day inpatient stay at OHSU; participants are compensated for their time.

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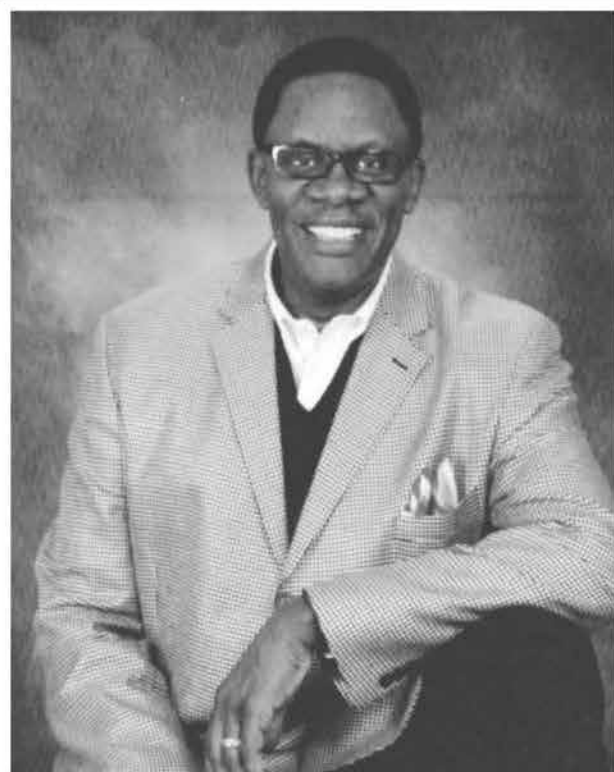
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A Digital Music Niche

Pair teaches
art of making a
record

BY DANNY PETERSON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Two local entrepreneurs are finding their niche in the age of digital music by bringing an accessible form of music education to East County.

Longtime musical collaborators Grant Burgess and Jeff McCall opened "Midschool" at 45 Powell Rd. in historic downtown Gresham this summer.

They teach courses in digital music production at a fraction of the price of many college music courses, but students won't be subjected to learning sheet music or even learning any instrument, per se. Instead, the focus is on computers and sample-based methods of music production.

"It replaces so many parts of making a record, making music. 30, 40 years ago, you had to go to a studio and you had to know 15 people whose job it was to do each part...now you can do it all by yourself and you don't need to rely on others and you also don't need to be classically trained or particularly wealthy or connected," Grant Burgess, the school's



PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Jeff McCall (left) and Grant Burgess are the creators of "Midschool," a new inclusive and low barrier digital music education program in Gresham.

co-founder, explained.

"Waiting for your friends is the best way to never put any material out your whole life. Come learn how to do it yourself, all the way from start to finish," added Jeff McCall, Burgess' business partner and longtime musical collaborator.

Burgess said that the high accessibility of the music production techniques they employ is bolstered by the provision of new and vintage music equipment the school provides to students.

Though electronic music production crosses many genres, the

pedagogical approach the instructors take is rooted in the origins of hip-hop, when its early founders changed the music scene permanently by adapting turntables and vinyl LPs to become instruments onto themselves, in the late 1970s.

Burgess and McCall—who together go by the name Widowmaker—share over 40 years of musical production experience that has included big names in hip-hop, commercial, and community projects. Notable collaborators include Sage Francis, Slug of Atmosphere, Ayatollah, Westside Gunn,

and Conway the Machine.

One of their beats was recently featured on the Cartoon Network programming block Adult Swim, which features adult oriented comedy shows—both animated and live action—that are often surreal. Their breaks between shows have amassed a cult following for showcasing up and coming indie hip hop acts.

Though there are plenty of hip hop producers to-be at the school, which specializes in small class sizes, there's also a variety of other genres that coalesce under the same roof, such as singer/songwriters, and neo-soul and k-pop fanatics, Burgess said. The instructors also encourage students to record with real instruments, too, such as pianos and string instruments, even if students don't know how to formally play them in a traditional sense.

Burgess and McCall also instruct students to gather sounds from unorthodox places, such as sampling old VHS tapes, or even recording natural sounds—like pebbles being thrown into a stream—for texture.

The school provides all the equipment students need, such as the latest professional Ableton software, fast computers, and an extensive vinyl collection for sampling.

Burgess previously taught music production classes at Mount Hood Community College and MetroEast Community Media in Gresham.

He said the goal of the organization includes creating a space where musical and cultural barriers are lowered by cultivating a "community of artists."

"Regardless of skin color, classical musical training, gender identification, or physical ability or disability, everyone can do this work."

Midschool holds classes Mondays through Wednesdays, as well as open labs Friday and Saturday evenings. Their next five week course begins the last week of September and costs \$500.

For more information, visit midschoolgresham.com.

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ment--one-off courses this fall to strengthen their skill set.

The online business degrees include an accounting assistant degree, an accounting clerk certificate, a human resource management certificate, a human resource management essentials certificate, as well as an admin-

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PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Charles Robertson (left) and Kris Soebroto help run Village Gardens, a non-profit community garden and grocery store in north Portland aimed at connecting low income and diverse communities to fresh, healthy food.

Village Gardens a new resource for fresh and healthy

BY DANNY PETERSON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A local non-profit is taking a unique approach to connecting low income communities to fresh, healthy food by facilitating both a community garden and a grocery store that sells its produce, providing access for community members to grow their own food and discounts in a retail setting for its low income customers.

Village Gardens was established in 2001 by community leaders in the St. Johns Woods apartments (now called Cathedral Gardens Apartments) and organized with Janus Youth Programs' support. In addition to the community garden, which serves about 80 gardener families, an orchard of

Changing Eating Habits

about 50 fruit trees is co-located at the site, and the harvests from the garden and orchard serve about 400 people per day in the grocery store.

"We share food, cook food, grow food, and sell food, as a way to build community and build economic resilience in the neighborhood," Village Gardens Program Director Kris Soebroto told the Portland Observer.

"For the most part, it doesn't get any more local than a block and a half away,"

added Charles Robertson, Village Gardens' prepared foods manager, referencing the close proximity the grocery store, located near the corner of North Trenton Street and Newman Avenue, is to the garden, just a short walk to the east.

The outreach comes as low income communities experience a worsening access to healthy foods, particularly in the last half century, a trend that's occurred locally and across the nation, Robertson said. Research also suggests racial and ethnic disparities

prevail when it comes to the availability of fresh food grocery stores serving lower income neighborhoods.

"That's making these communities the hub of diabetes and unhealthy eating habits," he said.

Robertson has been involved with Village Gardens since 2008, about the time the grocery store component of the organization was being established, and was integral to getting that program off the ground through grant writing and organizing. That occurred in response to the closure of a for-profit grocery store in the neighborhood, leaving low income residents few healthy options for food.

The operators of the former store also had a mission of servicing low income customers and had about a third of the store's sales come from the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)

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Maxey 100th Birthday Party

The Maxey Family is hosting a BYOP (bring your own picnic) 100th birthday celebration for our "Queen Mother" Mrs. Johnnie Maxey on Saturday, Aug. 24, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Dawson Park on North Stanton and Williams Avenue.

We hope you can join us for this blessed celebration! Cake & Punch will be served.

Mrs. Maxey has lived in Portland since 1941. Friends and family are encouraged to bring your favorite picture of Mrs. Maxey. Birthday cards only - please no gifts. There will also be a money tree.

Cards can also be mailed to Mrs. Johnnie Maxey in care of Carolyn Gahlana and Maxey Easterly

P.O. Box 12681, Portland, OR 97212

You can also post your pictures with the hashtag - #jomturns100, @jomturns100



Mrs. Johnnie Maxey will celebrate her 100th birthday on Saturday, Aug. 24 with a family picnic at Dawson Park.

or you may email them to the family or request more information at jomturns100@gmail.com.

Block Party^{for} Green Hop

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

by cannabis prohibitions in the past.

Headlined by local emcee Fountaine, and doubling as the artists' album release party, Green Hop's second annual free block party will take place Saturday, Aug. 17 from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. near the corner of Northeast 16th Avenue and Killingsworth Street.

Green Hop co-founder Karanja Crews, who runs the dispensary with fellow northeast Portland-raised Nicole Kennedy, said the event is meant as a re-claiming of space for displaced black residents that everyone is welcome to celebrate.

"The Block Party represents

a 're-entrification' movement, which means to re-enter a neighborhood that has been gentrified," Crews said.

Fountaine said he is excited to perform at the block party not only because of what Green Hop means to the community but also because he will get to debut his newest album, "South of Nowhere."

"I lost around six family members this year, so everything coming together, being around black love, a good time, a good environment at one of the staples will be nostalgic, and a good 'stay-cation' to let go and let everything loose."

The Willamette Week Best New Band finalist for 2019 will be performing along-

side local acts Bocha, Donte Thomas and all of the newly formed "Produce Organic" collective, [E]mpress, The Dutchess (formerly Nina XO), King Wess and a clear crowd favorite from last year's party, drummer/songstress MadamGoLong.

In addition, all proceeds from the event will benefit Green Hop academy, which teaches black and Latino communities the cannabis industry from "seed to sale," offering them a rare insight into the booming multi-billion dollar legal arena of all-things Mary Jane.

There will also be a variety of local vendors and info booths for people to enjoy.

Online-Based Business Degrees

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

istrative professional degree or certificate.

The college's placement center

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The one-off professional devel-

opment classes take place in the college's Oregon City campus in September and October and include courses such as Emerging Leader, Mentor Training, Customer Service and Conflict Resolution.

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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Multicultural Night Market

Beaverton Night Market, a new multicultural event with international food, crafts, live music and cultural performances, will again fill the public space at The Round in downtown Beaverton on Saturday, Aug. 17 from 5 to 10 p.m. Area residents from many regions of the world will share handmade crafts and goods representing their cultural roots. Visitors can also sample delicacies from Egypt, Cuba, East Africa, Mexico, India, Southeast Asia and more.

Vancouver Water Feature Opens

The highly anticipated Columbia River water feature at Vancouver Waterfront Park in downtown Vancouver is now open to the public.

The interactive art installation designed by artist Larry Kirkland opened on Friday, a \$3.5 million gift to the city paid for by private donors and foundations. The Vancouver Parks and Recreation Department will maintain the water feature as it draws locals and visitors to enjoy the city's waterfront for years to come.

The 12-foot tall and 16-foot wide stone and bronze monolith is oriented north and south to the adjacent Columbia River. The east face is a cast bronze bas relief map of the Columbia Basin. The west face is an engraved stone with a topographic map of the origins of the Columbia, the "Great River of the West."

Water cascades down it in a variable flow, reflecting seasonal changes in the flow of the river. The water is chlorinated and can be waded through and played in by visitors.



Day campers from Vancouver Parks and Recreation play in the new water feature at Vancouver Waterfront Park, in downtown Vancouver.

Tackling Identity and Traditions



In a small town in Mexico, once a year, men transform into women and become the Chunta. One group is made up of traditionalists who believe that only straight men should wear the gowns and makeup, and the other welcomes dancers of all identities—especially those who face violence for being out

and proud. The Northwest Film Center presents a screening of the documentary "The Chunta," that gets up close and personal with two rival dance groups as they prepare for the Chunta, on Thursday, Aug. 15 at 7 p.m. the Portland Art Museum. The film's director Genevieve Roudané will be in attendance for a question and answer following the film. You can also come early for a reception that begins at 6 p.m.



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OPINION

Climate Change Is a Poor People's Issue

Best reason to support a 'Green New Deal'

BY MALLIKA KHANNA

If you've read anything about climate change over the past year, you've probably heard about the IPCC report that gives a 12-year deadline for limiting climate change catastrophe. But for many parts of the world, climate change already is a catastrophe.

Recently in Bihar, one of the poorest states in India, more than 40 people were killed by a severe heat wave in just one day. A study by UNICEF suggests that "in the next decade, 175 million children will be hit by climate-related disasters in South Asia and Africa alone." Closer to home, Miami's steady sinking is depleting useable drinking water at an alarming rate.

The truth is vulnerable communities have been dealing with the effects of climate change and environmental pollution for decades now.



The 85-mile stretch between Baton Rouge and New Orleans — aptly nicknamed Cancer Alley — is a stark example. Thanks to petrochemical pollution there, Louisiana at one point suffered the second-highest death rate from cancer in the United States, with some localities near chemical plants getting cancer from air pollution at 700 times the national average.

This is no accident: Corporations deliberately target places like Cancer Alley because they're home to socially and economically disadvantaged people whom the corporations assume can't fight back.

There's even a name for it: "least resistant personality profiles." Sociologist Arlie Hochschild discovered this term in a 1984 study done by a consulting firm to determine where a waste board could build a plant without local communities complaining.

According to the study, the people least likely to protest having their health put at risk were typically "longtime residents of small towns in the South or Midwest, high school educated only, Catholic, uninvolved in social issues, and without a history of activism, involved in mining, farming, ranching, conservative, Republican, advocates of the free market."

While this study only tells part of the story, it does a lot to explain why poor communities face the worst consequences of climate change and pollution. These inequities cut across racial lines: As Hochschild's study shows, "least resistant personalities" include small town, working-class white communities in the South and Midwest, as well as poor black

people in places like Cancer Alley.

The problem isn't just corporations, but government at all levels.

After Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico in 2017, the federal government did next to nothing. The comparison between the responses to 9/11 and Hurricane Maria — whose death tolls were almost exactly the same — highlights just how overlooked the suffering caused to marginalized communities by climate change is.

The idea that environmentalism is an "elite" concern is a lie. Those who stand to gain the most from sweeping environmental protections are the marginalized people corporations assume can be put in toxic environments without fear of backlash.

That's the best reason yet to support a Green New Deal, which would not only curb climate change, but also revitalize the U.S. economy, create millions of jobs, and create alternatives to harmful, unsustainable industries like the petrochemical industry in Cancer Alley that have harmed people for years.

That could make poor communities a lot less poor — and a lot more resilient.

The only way to move forward is to fight back against corporations that deliberately target the people they think can't fight back — and against a government seemingly unconcerned about the effects of pollution and climate change. The catastrophe is happening now, but so is the movement to combat it.

Mallika Khanna is a freelance writer from New Delhi and a graduate student at Indiana University. This op-ed was distributed by OtherWords.org.

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OPINION

The Truth about America's Racist Presidents

Fighting back against a hateful message

BY LEGRAND H. CLEGG II

"From the beginning the American presidency has been stained by racial prejudice, often a reflection of broader sentiment among white citizens. Such views have persisted well into modern times," so wrote Sarah Mervosh and Niraj Chokshi in the New York Times on Aug. 1. What triggered the article was a newly released audio recording which revealed that, in 1971, then Gov. Ronald Reagan of California called African people monkeys in a telephone conversation with President Richard Nixon.

To laughter from Nixon, Reagan also stated that Africans are still uncomfortable wearing shoes. Revelation of this audio recording comes on the heels of President Donald Trump demanding that four Democratic Congresswomen of color go back to their home countries, echoing sentiments that racist whites have often hurled at African-Americans. Furthermore, just over a week ago the president attacked a predominantly black Baltimore-based congressional district as a "disgusting, rat and rodent infested mess", where "no human being would want to live." In the past, the president has also

questioned the intelligence of prominent African Americans.

Many if not most American presidents appear to have had racist proclivities. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson owned slaves. Theodore Roosevelt dismissed "Negroes" as a "perfectly stupid race"; while Woodrow Wilson was a staunch segregationist and Dwight D. Eisenhower expressed prejudiced sentiments and told racist jokes. Even civil rights advocate Lyndon B. Johnson espoused racist views and used slurs to de-

ignore white claims of our inferiority, and striven as a group to prove ourselves equal to all other people. But this noble approach has not resulted in a cessation of white supremacist propaganda emanating from either the white masses or the White House. At this juncture, then, we must address these insults head-on whenever and wherever they appear; lest we lose another generation of black youths to the forces of racism that have instilled in too many of them a sense of hopelessness and inferiority.

First, we should insist that black people do not resemble apes. Apes

ACT, GRE, etc. is virtually equivalent to their white counterparts. Furthermore, since scientists have determined that black people are the genetically dominant parents of the human family, and whites insist that one drop of black blood determines that one is black, how, then, does genetic dominance equate to genetic inferiority?

Third, several studies of black newborns in Africa and the United States show that, prior to acculturation, black babies are the most advanced in the world. Commenting on the discoveries of white specialist Marcelle Geber, author Joseph C. Pearce has written:

By and large we as African Americans have long chosen to ignore white claims of our inferiority, and striven as a group to prove ourselves equal to all other people. But this noble approach has not resulted in a cessation of white supremacist propaganda emanating from either the white masses or the White House.

scribe black people.

While I have addressed white allegations of black inferiority and incompetence before, it appears that during this dangerous time when our current president appears determined to promote blatant white supremacy, repetition is most certainly in order to briefly set the record straight.

By and large we as African Americans have long chosen to

have thin lips, straight hair, hairy bodies and flat behinds. When shaven, apes have pink skin. black people generally have thick lips, wooly, curly or wavy hair, smooth bodies and protruding behinds. Our skin color ranges from black to brown, red and yellow -- not pink.

Second, when African Americans experience educational parity with whites, black performance on standardized I.Q. tests such as SAT,

"She found [in Uganda] the most precocious, brilliant and advanced infants and children ever observed anywhere ... sensor motor learning and general development were phenomenal. Indeed miraculous. These Ugandan infants were months ahead of American or European children. A superior intellectual development held for the first four years of life." (emphasis added). The racial comparisons,

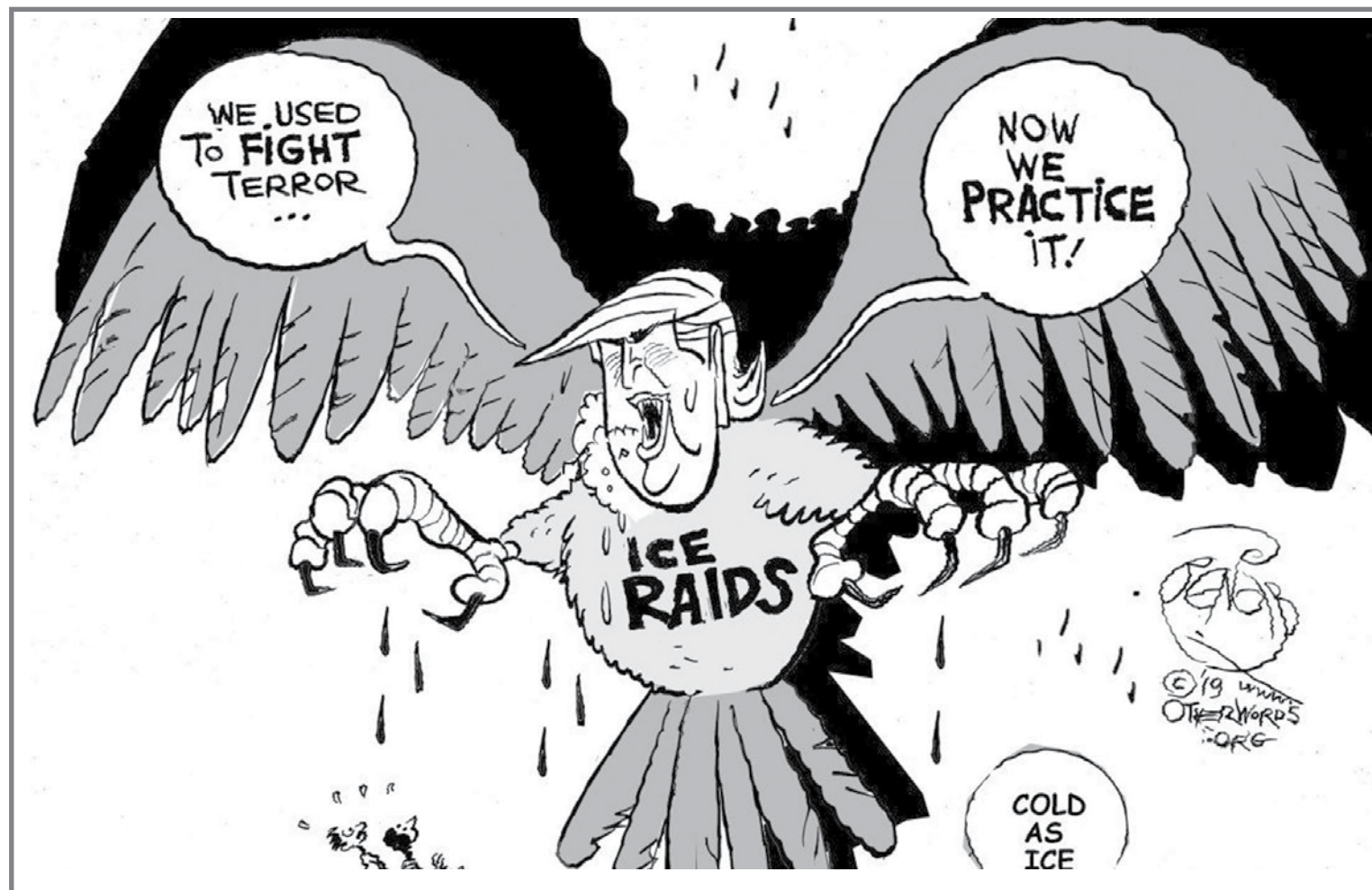
published by Geber and other scientists, are truly staggering.

Fourth, when Donald Trump orders black people to return home, what does he mean? In his book, *The First Americans Were Africans: Documented Evidence*, David Imhotep demonstrates that American Indians are actually descended from black Africans who reached the Americas at least 50,000 years ago -- long before Columbus, slavery and the Trump family!

Finally, authors Robert Bauval and Thomas Brophy have written that "scientists in the field of genetics have been pointing out that it may actually be correct to say that the world was created by black people." This is borne out by the fact that blacks appear to have laid the foundation of civilization. In other words, Africans pioneered in the fields of architecture, art, athletics, government, law, mathematics, medicine, navigation, religion, science, writing, etc. Furthermore, these black people invented and wore shoes long before Reagan's ancestors emerged from caves! The astonishing achievements of ancient Africans included not only building of the pyramids of Egypt, but also constructing neighboring temples, some of which contain blocks of stone weighing between 200 and 400 tons each, that were arranged and set up with remarkable precision. Black dominance in antiquity has led white author Flora Lugard to write that, during that era, "... [T]he leading race of the Western World was a black race." Historian Richard Poe has also observed that, among ancient people, there was the "presumption that dark skin connoted higher intelligence."

The racism emanating from the White House and spreading across the country today is nothing new. Many presidents in the past questioned black intelligence, used racial slurs, incited racist violence and scoffed at black demands for equality. Nevertheless, we have a long history of resistance to white supremacy and racism. In honor of our ancestors, and for the future of our children, we must continue our struggle, especially against Donald Trump whose hateful message -- embraced by a naive and gullible base -- threatens to incite a race war.

Legrand H. Clegg II is the city attorney emeritus for Compton, Calif., president of the Western Region of the Association for the Study of Classical African Civilizations and producer of the documentary, *"When Black Men Ruled The World"*.



BID/CLASSIFIED

NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID

Portland Community College

Arc Fault Upgrades and Electrical Improvements – Cascade Campus

Bids Due by September 17, 2019 - 2:00PM (Pacific)

Mandatory PreBid Conference: August 19, 2019 - 2:00PM (Pacific)

Portland Community College ("PCC") is soliciting bids from qualified Contractors to provide Arc Fault Upgrades and Electrical Improvements for PCC's Cascade Campus.

Complete minimum specifications and required bid documents are in the Invitation to Bid (ITB) document. The ITB can be obtained from the Oregon Procurement Information Network (ORPIN) system. Prospective bidders must register with ORPIN at: <http://orpin.gov/> to obtain the ITB documents

There will be a mandatory PreBid Conference, held in Terrell Hall, Room 112 at the Cascade Campus: 705 N. Killingsworth St., Portland OR 97217 at 2:00PM on Monday August 19, 2019. Attendance sign-in sheets will be available at the PreBid Conference. Bids received from entities not on the sign-in attendance roster will be rejected.

Sealed bids must be delivered to the following office, and addressed as cited below, no later than 2:00PM (Pacific) on September 17, 2019:

Portland Community College ITB – Arc Fault Upgrades and Electrical Improvements – Cascade Campus
Attn.: James Lasseter
9700 SW Capitol Highway – Suite 260
Portland OR 97219

Late bids will not be considered.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the PCC Planning and Capital Construction office, located at: 9700 SW Capitol Highway – Suite 260 Portland OR 97219 commencing at 2:30PM (Pacific Time) on September 17, 2019. Any interested party is invited to attend the public bid opening.

This is a Public Works Project, subject to the provisions of ORS 279C.800 through 279C.870 including the payment of workers not less than the applicable prevailing wages, pursuant to ORS 279C.840 as listed in the Prevailing Wage Rates for Public Works Contracts in Oregon, published by the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) July 1, 2019. The publication can be downloaded at the following web address: http://www.oregon.gov/boli/WHD/PWR/Pages/pwr_state.aspx. The work will take place in Multnomah County, Oregon.

Bids may be rejected for not complying with all prescribed public bidding 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 and all bids and to waive irregularities.

This Notice is dated this 9th day of August, 2019.
James Lasseter – PCC Buyer and Contract Specialist

SUB BID REQUEST

Aloha High School Seismic Improvement & Re-Roof Project, Summer 2020

Invitation to Bid

Proposals are due 8/13/2019 by 12:00pm

Bid Contact: Nick Steers

Email Address: steersn@hswc.com

Bid Documents & Other Information are located at link:
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The Manager of Entrepreneurship and Community Economic Development will use skills to nurture healthy teams, build inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystems, and foster collaborative relationships with public, non-profit, and private sector partners. This role places you at the helm of an innovative team. As a thought partner and coach, you will support the team in developing and implementing best/emerging practices and programs that foster inclusive entrepreneurship and innovation, small business growth, community capacity to support business vitality, and increased access to middle wage jobs for priority communities.

Below are some of the programs under the guidance of this position, centered on creating a more equitable and inclusive economy.

- Inclusive Business Resource Network – A network of 16 partners who in the past year have provided culturally responsive business technical assistance to more than 900 underrepresented entrepreneurs.
- Mercatus Collective – An online platform that elevates the unique and universal narratives of entrepreneurs of color in Portland. Mercatus connects the city and region with the talents, businesses, services and products that come from diverse, local entrepreneurs.
- My Peoples Market – Prosper Portland's partnership with Travel Portland presents this marketplace gathering of Portland's diverse and vibrant entrepreneurs, makers, artists, culinary wizards and beverage crafters.
- Neighborhood Prosperity Network – The program and network of community-based partners is designed to support social equity-based community economic development at the neighborhood level.

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For more information or to apply, please visit our website at <http://prosperportland.us/for-job-seekers/>. You must submit your application by August 25, 2019, to be considered.



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Event Custodian - part-time, Oregon Convention Center, \$14.31 - \$17.52 hourly. Deadline date: August 21, 2019

Gate Attendant/Usher - part-time, Portland's 5 Centers for the Arts, \$15.00 hourly. Deadline date: August 15, 2019

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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PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Village Gardens Prepared Foods Manager Charles Robertson was integral to the non-profit's establishment of a food market back in 2008 with his grant writing and organizing, and has been involved with the Janus Youth program in north Portland ever since.

Changing Eating Habits

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

and Women Infants and Children (WIC) beneficiaries, Soebroto said. But a pattern emerged where customers would run out of benefit dollars to spend on fresh produce near the end each month, causing the store to stock less in those items.

To combat that problem, Village Gardens launched its Good Food program, which enables self-identifying SNAP and WIC eligible customers an additional 20 percent discount in all fresh, frozen, and dried produce. In

addition, those benefit-recipient customers' purchases earns them points toward future discounts—for every \$50 spent in SNAP or WIC benefits, they receive \$5 of free produce.

Now, Soebroto said, the store is stocking produce high throughout the month.

"That's a real game-changer. More than a game changer, that is a life-changer. Because we went from people just doing junk food...if you can imagine junk food throughout the month to actually having higher sales in produce throughout the month, that's a real



PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Ev Tapio, the farm manager for the non-profit Village Market, located at 4632 N. Trenton St., stocks fresh produce from the organization's community garden a block and a half away, which provides much needed nutritional food at affordable prices to diverse and low income customers.

life changing event," Robertson said. "We've achieved what we hoped to achieve....just helping change people's eating habits."

Since 2016 the Good Food programs provided a total of \$72,243 in incentives and fresh produce to customers, Village Gardens' website stated.

The program's success is in part thanks to support from city, county, federal, and charitable donations. Village Market does not stay afloat through grocery sales alone, relying on the support they receive from community partners like the U.S. Department of Agriculture nutrition incentive program, The Portland Children's

Levy, Home Forward, CareOregon and the Siletz Charitable Foundation.

Also, as part of its pledge with supporters, the store has agreed to stock culturally relevant, affordable healthy food, and agreed to not sell alcohol or tobacco. In addition, about nine out of 10 of the store's staff is local residents.

Soebroto likes that the store benefits the neighborhood and invites them in for a direct-from-the-source experience like no other.

"Last year I think we were out of like mustard greens or something in the market and someone...took the customer down to the garden, harvested them, and

sold them. We get to sell green tomatoes, which you can't get in a grocery store, and folks are super excited, they're peeking over the garden and asking for green tomatoes. We get to just be immediately responsive."

In addition, an outdoor gazebo in the garden serves as a community gathering space. A potluck held amongst neighbors last month welcomed a visit from City Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty.

Village Gardens accepts volunteer work, provides leadership opportunities, and any local vendor interested in selling their product in the market can get in touch with them at 503-548-0374.



COURTESY VILLAGE GARDENS

In addition to being a hub for healthy food for diverse and low income communities in north Portland, Village Gardens also provides a gazebo in the garden for community gatherings, such as the potluck held during City Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty's visit to the non-profit last month.



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