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Racial Equity Progress

*Report finds success
but more work ahead*

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Hazardous Beauty

*An intersection
of gender, race
and class*

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The Portland Observer 45

'City of Roses'



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PHOTO BY OLIVIA OLIVIA/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A temporary men's shelter was opened Monday in a building on the corner of Southwest Fourth Avenue and Washington Street, a site which had previously housed the now-defunct Western Business College.

Property owners give up space for homeless

BY OLIVIA OLIVIA
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

For many, the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday was a reminder of the late civil rights leader's dream for freedom and equality. Across the city, service projects and community gatherings took place to honor King's work and set an example for giving back and racial progress, but one of the most notable moments came with Monday's opening of an emergency men's shelter in downtown Portland.

Beds now fill the former classrooms of the Washington Center, which had housed the now-defunct Western Business College on the corner of Southwest Fourth Avenue

Shelter Answers Call

and Washington Street. The building's owners, Menashe Properties, temporarily donated the mostly empty site to help homeless people, where the gap between the American Dream of owning a home clashes so sharply for disadvantaged residents who are living on the streets.

The donation could be compared to a vision King advocated for when he called for a "Beloved Community," in which all peo-

ple can share in the wealth of the earth and where poverty, hunger and homelessness would not be tolerated because interna-

tional standards of human decency would not allow it.

The plan to use the Menashe property as a temporary housing site was formalized with the help of Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman who is responsible for the Portland Housing Bureau. The Portland Business Alliance also threw their support behind the proposal and met with Menashe Properties to facilitate the temporary use of the building.

The effort followed a declared housing state of emergency by Mayor Charlie Hales and a rental state of emergency as issued by the Community Alliance of Tenants of Oregon, a non-profit group that estimates there are 4,000 people in need of shelter on any given night in the Portland area.

The number of people without a place to call home has been on the rise in the past

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The Portland Observer

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Racial Equity Progress

Report finds success but more work ahead

Racial equality legislation moved at a record pace in Oregon last year, but more engagement will be needed to advance civil rights bills in the future, according to a new annual report by a coalition of racial and social justice organizations.

"Facing Race: the 2015 Oregon Legislative Racial Equality Report," was issued last week by a group that included the Urban League of Portland, Coalition of Communities of Color, Basic Rights Oregon, Center for Intercultural Organizing and others.

According to Rev. Joseph Santos-Lyons, executive director of the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon, and one of the other groups that participated in the study, lawmakers were involved with community members early and more often in 2015 than in past sessions.

Some of the accomplishments included



Nkenge Harmon Johnson

the passage of laws to end racial profiling, giving workers paid sick leave, and banning questions about prior criminal records on job applications until after an applicant is considered a job finalist.

Nkenge Harmon Johnson, president and chief executive officer of the Urban League of Portland, cautioned that there was still more work to do to fully advance racial equity in the state.

"We need folks to champion racial equity legislation," she said, before presenting the report's recommendations to lawmakers and the public. The document included calls for increased representation of people of color among elected representatives, greater engagement from legislative leadership, and good implementation and funding for the civil rights bills that passed in 2015.

Andrea Miller, executive director of Causa, another group involved in the study, stressed that helping communities of color and other disadvantaged groups was ultimately

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Police Relations Suffering

A new study commissioned by the mayor to improve police training shows that over half of the Native Americans polled in Portland distrust police. The study found that most whites found the police "trustworthy" while slightly less than half of African Americans agreed. Only about a third Native Americans said the same.

Suspect Caught in Hit-and-Run

The driver in a hit-and-run that critically injured a pedestrian on Friday night surrendered to authorities Monday. The victim, who was struck at the intersection of Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and Jarrett Street, is expected to survive.

Planned Parenthood Files Lawsuit

On Thursday one of the biggest nonprofits in the United States filed a federal lawsuit alleging extensive criminal misconduct by anti-abortion activists who produced a

The Week in Review

misguiding video targeting the handling of fetal tissue at some Planned Parenthood clinics. The organization says they have had to up their security since the footage with false allegations came out, and that the groups targeting them committed fraud.

Wage Increase Proposed

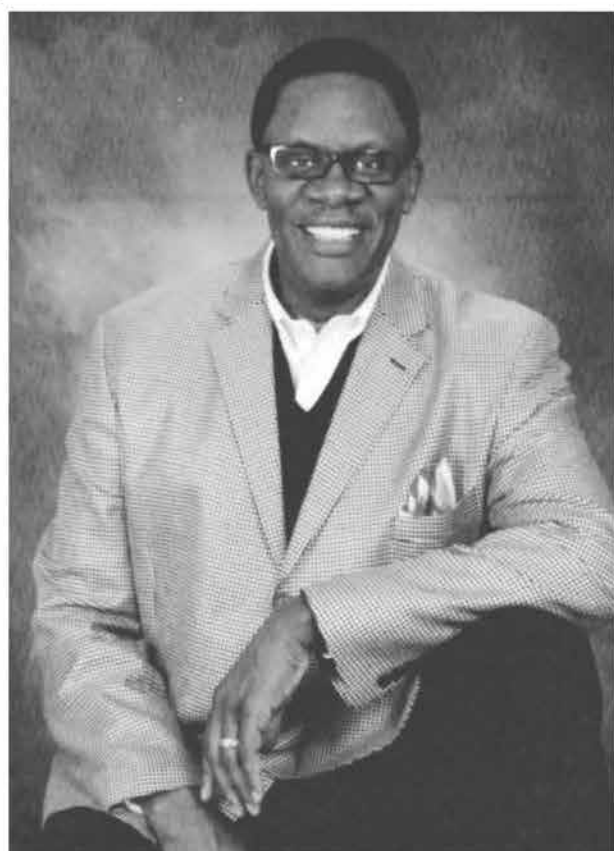
Gov. Kate Brown announced a proposal Thursday to increase the minimum wage throughout Oregon. The plan calls for a two-tiered minimum wage increase gradually over the next six years. Wages would be higher in Portland than in other areas, with the metro area having a minimum wage of \$15.52 hourly by 2022.

Solidarity Against Hate

A solidarity rally was held Saturday at Portland City Hall to support members of the community who have been the victims of hate speech and violence. #StandForLove and #InterruptHate was organized by groups with a range of religious, ethnic, and community viewpoints. Speakers included civil rights leaders, like Jo Ann Hardesty, president of Portland's NAACP chapter, and others.

Sentenced for Killing Girlfriend

A Portland-area man was sentenced Friday to 20 years in prison in the 2015 death of his girlfriend, whose body was found in the Willamette River off Kelly Point Park. Nicholas Estrada, 23, pleaded guilty to manslaughter and unlawful use of a weapon as part of a plea bargain while Monica Taylor, the mother of the victim Elyesicia C. Payton, addressed the court and looked on.



Dr. Billy R. Flowers

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What's on your list today?

LOCAL NEWS



PHOTO BY VINCENT REYNOLDS

Bonnie Ratner (left) and Skeeter Greene focus on interracial friendships in 'Hazardous Beauty,' one of the attractions at this month's annual Fertile Ground Festival of New Works festival.

Hazardous Beauty

The intersection of gender, race and class draws fire when a new piece that focuses on interracial friendships comes to this month's Fertile Ground Festival of New Works.

"Hazardous Beauty" follows two women - one black, one white - as they become "critique" partners in a memoir writing class.

What starts out as a writing critique turns into a penetrating dive into each other's lives, including hard choices in love, work, art and aging. Can they be allies for each on this writer's journey or will hard words fly, old wounds fester, and women weep? And what does it matter?

Written by Portland-based

playwright Bonnie Ratner, this staged reading will be performed at Portland Abbey Arts, 7600 N. Herford Ave., courtesy of Community Dream Productions, on Friday, Jan. 29 and Saturday, Jan. 30 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 and can be purchased at boxofficetickets.com/go/event?id=307523.

Non-profits' Spending under Cloud

Roy Jay, a prominent African American business leader and community advocate, is firing back against an Oregon Department of Justice investigation to determine if he unlawfully profited from the non-profit groups he headed.

A spokesperson, R. Weldon Woodruff, issued a statement on behalf of Jay on Friday, claiming "a conspiracy to discredit one of Portland's hardest working business and community ambassa-



Roy Jay

dors."

State investigators are trying to determine if there was an inappropriate use of funds for Jay's tax-exempt Independent Development Enterprise Alliance, an umbrella organization for his African American Chamber of Commerce, Project Clean Slate and Ride Connection's shuttle program, the Portland Tribune reported.

Jay, through an attorney, Charles Paternoster, denied any wrongdoing.



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Community Activist Turns 100!

Since 1916, one local woman has beaten the odds in a long life dedicated to her family and community. Opal Strong turns 100 this month and family members are inviting the community to celebrate her centennial year with light refreshments and fellowship. The surprise birthday party will be held on Friday, Jan. 29 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Life Change Church, 3635 N. Williams Ave.

In her decades of community service, Mrs. Opal Strong has advocated for senior rights, improving public transit, preserving the African American community in the Albina neighborhood, and other causes. She has been a Spirit of Portland Award recipient, a Portland Observer Mother of the Year,



Opal Strong

president of the Humboldt Neighborhood Association, and a member of the Albina Womens League, among dozens of other things.

Racial Equity Progress

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

mately fighting for the good of all Oregonians.

"Our goal is allowing all Oregonians to thrive," she said. She encouraged legislators, including Reps. Alyssa Keny-Guyer, Joe Gallegos, and Jessica Veda Peder-

son, who were all present for the annual report's presentation, to continue the progress that legislators had made last session.

Rep. Gallegos closed the event by affirming the need for an Oregon where everyone can thrive. "We need an educated and healthy workforce to thrive," he said.

Obituary



In Loving Memory

Lucille B. Nixon

Lucille B. Nixon was born June 15, 1920 and died Jan. 10, 2016. Funeral services will be held on Monday, Jan. 25 at 11 a.m. at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, 5935 N. Minnesota Ave.

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BUSINESS

Go Karts, Events and More

A local African American and his business partner are growing their Vancouver entertainment company with both fixed and mobile Go Karts tracks, meeting space for special events, and steps to expand operations with new locations.

Charles Lott, a talented black businessman known for supporting families, churches, and working with at-risk youth, and Chris Ray, known for his generosity and support for Flash Love, a local foster care home, are co-owners of Diamond R Go Tracks, Inc. located at 13510 N.E. Fourth Plain Rd.

The business is multi-purpose corporation that donates a portion of its proceeds to charity. The services it offers include corporate Go Kart events, business advertisements on the Go Karts; a safe environment for people preparing for driving permits and licenses, space for special events, and a mobile track that can be delivered to remote locations.

The co-owners said they recently purchased the former Vancouver Albertsons' store as a future site for the largest indoor Go

Kart track on the West Coast. The space boasts 150,000 square feet for a super nightclub, restaurant, video gaming and a coffee shop. A third location in Longview off of I-5 at the Old Regency Theatre Building on the south side of the Three Rivers Mall is envisioned to include space for an outdoor Go Kart track, laser tag venue, restaurant, video gaming and an auditorium for shows and other entertainment.

Lott is accepting sponsorship/scholarship applications from non-profit community based organizations that work with at-risk youth. You can reach him for more information at 503-891-0036.

For more information about Diamond R Go Tracks, call 360-604-3068 or visit the company website diamondgokart.com.

Charles Lott (right) and Chris Ray are co-owners of Diamond R Go Tracks, Inc. located in Vancouver at 13510 N.E. Fourth Plain Rd.



New Leader for Hispanic Chamber

The business group serving Portland's Latino community has a new president.

Oscar Arana will succeed Gale Castillo, founding member and the initial president of the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber. He is the director of strategic development and communications for the Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA) in northeast Portland, and previously worked for U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden as his Multnomah County field



Oscar Arana

representative. Arana has a master in business administration and a journalism and communication degree both from the University of Oregon.

"We are proud that Oscar won a scholarship from the Hispanic Chamber while he was earning his MBA, and he is a graduate of our Latino Leadership Program. He brings a personal understanding of how important our services are to the community," said Gustavo Cruz, the chamber's board chair.

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OPINION

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.

Guns Lethalize Anger and Despair

Common sense actions are the right direction

BY MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

Every single year, more than 30,000 Americans have their lives cut short by guns —30,000. Suicides. Domestic violence. Gang shootouts. Accidents.

Hundreds of thousands of Americans have lost brothers and sisters, or buried their own children. Many have had to learn to live with a disability, or learned to live without the love of their life.

President Obama spoke movingly about the lives shattered by America's gun violence epidemic on Jan. 5 as he announced a series of new executive actions to reduce gun violence. These new measures will not prevent every shooting that snuffs out the lives of nearly seven children to gun violence daily; they will save many lives and help staunch the

relentless plague of gun violence that terrorizes our nation's homes, schools and communities.

The president's executive actions clarify that for purposes of requiring background checks a person does not need to sell guns in a traditional storefront to be "engaged in the business" of selling guns. Some of those who conduct sales over the Internet or at gun shows will now be required to obtain a license and run background checks on potential purchasers or face stiff penalties. These steps, coupled with greater efficiency and effectiveness in our background check system, enforcement of existing gun laws, and new investments in mental health treatment and research into gun safety technologies, are long overdue.

Legislative action to strengthen huge weaknesses in our nation's gun laws is still required but the president's common-sense execu-

tive actions move us in the right direction.

Several measures highlight one of the key components of our gun violence crisis: that much gun violence begins at home. So many wrongly believe that gun violence happens mostly "out on the streets" and others believe owning a gun will protect their family from gun violence. The opposite is true: A gun in the home increases the risk of homicide, suicide, and accidental death.

Guns lethalyze anger, domestic disputes, mental illness and despair. A gun in the home makes the likelihood of homicide three times higher, suicide three to five times higher, and accidental death four times higher. The pro-gun lobby has created the fantasy of a gun as a homeowner's perfect protection against a mythical intruder. In reality, each time a gun in the home injures or kills in self-defense, there are four

unintentional shooting deaths or injuries, seven criminal assaults and homicides with a gun, and 11 completed or attempted gun suicides.

Suicides are the leading cause of gun deaths in America. In 2014, 21,334 adults, children and teens committed suicide with a gun compared to 10,945 gun homicides. Whites are most likely to die by gun suicide followed by American Indians and Alaska Natives. Whites were more than three times as likely as blacks and nearly five times as likely as Hispanics to commit suicide by guns. In 2014, 929 children and teens committed suicide with a gun and 1,455 children and teens died in gun homicides.

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence notes the presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of homicide 500 percent. Even when it is not used to kill, a gun wielded by a domestic abuser increases the frequency of ongoing,

nonfatal domestic abuse by increasing the abuser's ability to control a victim; the ever-present threat of gun violence makes it more difficult for victims to leave their abusers.

The FBI defines a "mass murder" as an event in which four or more people are killed. By that definition the majority of "mass shootings" are cases of domestic violence and the majority of mass shooting victims are women and children.

We can do better. We must do better. President Obama said: "We know we can't stop every act of violence, every act of evil in the world. But maybe we could try to stop one . . ." He echoes Nobel Literature Laureate Albert Camus' words in 1948: "Perhaps we cannot prevent this world from being a world in which children are tortured. But we can reduce the number of tortured children."

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



Why the President Should Visit Haiti

An addition for Obama's bucket list

BY DR. RON DANIELS

Recently much attention has been made of President Obama's "bucket list," those things he would like to accomplish before the end of his term. Among the items on his list is a visit to Cuba. This would be a dramatic event, climaxing one of the signature achievements of his presidency - breaking the decades-long diplomatic and economic isolation of Cuba to usher in a new era of normalized relations. The site of an American President, the first African American President, being welcomed in Cuba, an Afro-Hispanic nation, would be stunning and historic!

But, I also believe a visit to Haiti, the world's first Black Republic should be on Obama's bucket list. The Haiti Support Project of the Institute of the Black World 21st Century always views January as Haitian Independence Month because it was on Jan. 1, 1804 that General Jean Jacques Dessalines declared Haiti's independence. This after a long, brutal but glorious struggle for self-determination during which the Haitian freedom fighters defeated the British, Spanish and ultimately decimated the army of Napoleon Bonaparte of France!

Never in the history of humankind had an enslaved people defeated their slave

masters to create an independent nation. The Haitian Revolution, which gave birth to the world's first Black Republic, was one of the greatest feats in history! Not only did the Haitian freedom fighters create an independent nation at the height of the European and American slave trade, they further declared that any enslaved person who set foot on Haitian soil would be free!

These declarations alone are of sufficient historical significance to warrant acknowl-

Under the leadership of General Henri Christophe and at the behest of the French, Haitian troops contributed to the defeat of the British in the battle of Savannah during the Revolutionary War. The colonies achieved their independence and were able to found a new nation on what was Native American land, because the Louisiana Purchase was a direct outgrowth of the defeat of Napoleon's armies by the Haitian Freedom Fighters. This disastrous defeat end-

it was the NAACP under the leadership of Walter White that led the opposition to the U.S. occupation. The reality of an independent black nation in the Caribbean undercut the argument of black inferiority as a rationale for legal and de facto segregation in the U.S. Haiti was a beacon of hope to African people everywhere!

Needless to say, support for the ruthless Duvalier regimes and constant destabilizing interventions and interference in Haiti, the U.S. has seldom afforded the first black republic the dignity, respect and support its historical significance and contribution to this nation deserve. A state visit by President Barack Obama would be an occasion to acknowledge these historical wrongs and properly recognize Haiti's contribution to the U.S. and the World! It might also usher in a new era of respectful and mutually beneficial relations with Haiti; a nation with 10 million people (with a vibrant and productive Diaspora in the U.S.) which has the potential to become an economic powerhouse in the region.

So, President Obama, add a visit to Haiti to your "bucket list," and while you're there add a tour of the magnificent Citadel, one of the greatest monuments to freedom and self-determination in the world, to the itinerary. Let the planning begin for a glorious experience in the world's first black republic!

Dr. Ron Daniels is president of the Institute of the Black World 21st Century and distinguished lecturer at York College City University of New York.

...the U.S. owes a huge debt of gratitude to Haiti for its contributions to this nation's struggle for independence and the expansion of its territory.

edgement with a visit by President Obama. This recognition would be particularly significant since Haiti was stigmatized, marginalized and punished by the U.S. and other slave trading nations for fear that the example of an independent black nation would be infectious, spreading among enslaved Africans everywhere to fuel rebellions. This was indeed what happened.

It is important to state that President Obama should also visit the first black republic because the U.S. owes a huge debt of gratitude to Haiti for its contributions to this nation's struggle for independence and the expansion of its territory.

ed Napoleon's grand vision of creating an economic axis between Saint Dominique (Haiti), the most prosperous "colony" in the Caribbean and the vast French territory in North America, anchored by the city of New Orleans at the mouth of the Mississippi River. After the humiliating defeat at the hands of the Haitians, Napoleon abandoned this ambitious goal and sold the Louisiana Territory to the U.S. at a bargain basement price. The size of the U.S. nearly doubled as a result of this acquisition, a fact that Americans should forever be thankful to the Haitians for facilitating.

When the U.S. invaded Haiti in 1915,

OPINION

Statue of Trumperty

AN OTHERWORDS CARTOON
BY KHALIL BENDIB



Time to Make All Wages Living Wages

Winning the fight for \$15

BY JILL REESE

Millions of low-paid Americans rang in 2016 with a raise, as a handful of state minimum wage increases went into effect on the first day of January.

Many of those raises are a barely noticeable 15 or 20 cents an hour — little comfort to people struggling to make ends meet. But workers in the cities and states that voted for more robust wages last year saw much more significant gains.

Minimum wage workers in Alaska, California, Massachusetts, and Nebraska, for example, are finding a dollar-an-hour increase in their paychecks. Workers in Hawaii are enjoying an extra \$1.25 an hour. In Seattle, some workers at bigger companies are seeing a substantial \$2 hourly increase as the city's



\$15 minimum wage is phased in.

The national campaign for a \$15 minimum wage emerged as a leading economic justice issue last year. It's also a critical racial justice issue: Half of all African-American workers and almost 60 percent of Latino workers make less than \$15 an hour.

The momentum to raise the minimum wage will only increase in 2016 as public support grows. Yet too many states — 21 of them, concentrated mainly in the South — haven't budged from the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour, unchanged since 2009.

Many of these holdouts have deep pools of poverty. Most deny poor families health care by refusing to expand Medicaid, and nearly all have held the sub-minimum wage for tipped workers to \$2.13 an hour for 25 years.

The problem with efforts to raise the wage city by city and state by state is that it leaves out workers in states without

a citizen initiative process, or in communities without strong unions or leadership. Millions of low-wage workers are at risk of becoming a left-behind underclass.

That means it's time for Congress to increase the national minimum wage — and to abolish the lower, sub-minimum wage for tipped workers. If they aren't sure how to do it, leaders from New York to Los Angeles have provided plenty of examples.

Research from my organization, the Alliance for a Just Society, shows that a living wage for a single adult ranges from \$14.26 in Arkansas to \$21.44 in Hawaii. On average, a worker would have to put in 93 hours a week just to get by on the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour.

The numbers underscore the crisis facing families in our country.

Often, low-wage workers are told that the solution is to go get a better-paying job, but the re-

ality is there are nowhere near enough jobs that pay a living wage. The occupations with the most job openings — in retail and restaurants — pay the least, and they're most likely to be part-time.

We've become a low-wage nation, with implications that reach far beyond just low pay. Low-wage jobs also mean part-time hours, unpredictable schedules, and no benefits or paid sick leave — making it impossible for workers to break even.

It's unacceptable that anyone who works full-time in our country should go hungry, homeless, or without care for their child. This is the year to make all wages living wages. Without action, Congress is endorsing the creation of a new class of poverty among our workers.

Jill Reese is the associate director of the Alliance for a Just Society, a national organization focusing on economic and racial justice. Distributed by OtherWords.org.



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and your kitty will be pretty.*



'Mousai Remix,' a Portland-based string quartet comprised of Oregon Symphony members Emily Cole, Shin-young Kwon, Jennifer Arnold and Marilyn de Oliveira.

Mary's Woods Concert Series

Mousai Remix, a Portland-based string quartet comprised of Oregon Symphony members Emily Cole, Shin-young Kwon, Jennifer Arnold, and Marilyn de Oliveira, will perform on Sunday, Jan. 31 at 2 p.m. in the Mary's Woods Chapel of the Holy Names in Lake Oswego.

The quartet is assembled out of a passion to study and perform the great string quartet literature, a desire to share their love of music with the Portland

community, and promote music education in Portland-area schools.

The upcoming performance is part of the "Music in the Woods" concert series offered by Mary's Woods, a nonprofit organization sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Names to provide housing, health, and vital aging services for older adults. For tickets and more information, visit musicinthewoods.com.

Polished Lush Vocals

R&B soul songstress Emily King will bring her lush vocals and pop funk tunes to Doug Fir Lounge on Tuesday, Feb. 2 at 8 p.m.

King is a Grammy-nominated singer and songwriter born and raised in Manhattan's Lower-East Side. She recently released the critically acclaimed EP 'The Switch,' touring and playing live with the likes of Maroon 5, John Legend, Emeli Sande, Alicia Keys, Aloe Blacc, Sara Bareilles and countless others.

King celebrates her roots in pop, soul and indie influences by carefully crafting compositions that showcase her polished, lush vocals.



Soul songstress Emily King will perform at the Doug Fir Lounge on Tuesday, Feb 2 at 8 p.m.

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Native American culture is celebrated at Portland Community College's annual powwow, returning Saturday, Jan. 23 in the Health Technology Building on the PCC Sylvania campus.

Native Traditions

Cultural event
inspires and
enlightens

Portland Community College expects more than 1,000 people to attend its leading cultural event, a traditional Native American powwow, returning Saturday, to the PCC Sylvania campus in southwest Portland.

The 17th annual "Wacipi" or "They Dance" powwow will begin at noon in

the Health Technology Building with activities continuing through 9 p.m.

Drum groups and dancers from across the region will participate. Native American crafts and food, activities for children, and raffle prizes are also planned. The event is free and open to the public. Campus parking is also free.

"One of the main goals of the day is to focus on youth," said powwow volunteer Daniel Soucy. "The powwow enlightens visitors about Native American culture and provides inspiration, fellowship and encouragement to Native American students at the college as they work toward their goals in education."

Proceeds from the powwow support the Native American Student Scholarship fund, which aims to increase access and retention of Native American students at PCC.

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

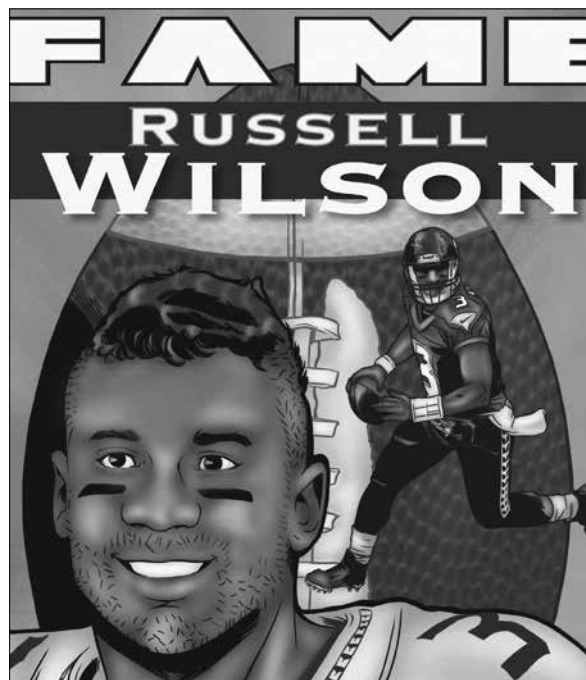
Comic Focus of Fame

Comic and sports lovers are celebrating a new comic book focusing on Seattle Seahawks Quarterback Russell Wilson as the team's undisputed leader becomes the latest subject of Storm Comics' Focus of Fame series.

Wilson's meteoric career from college sensation at the University of Wisconsin to star quarterback for the Seattle Seahawks, is both inspirational and engaging. Named rookie of

the year in 2012, Wilson led the Seahawks to their first Super Bowl victory last year, forever cementing his reputation as an exemplary athlete and as well validating his four-year, \$87.6 million contract.


"Fame: Russell Wilson" explores his life – his ups and downs, triumphs and tragedies – as he rose to fame. Print and digital formats are available. For more information, visit comicfleamarket.com.



A new comic based on Seattle Seahawks Quarterback Russell Wilson.

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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Norman Sylvester and his daughter Lenanne Sylvester get ready for a Mardi Gras concert.

Boogie Cat Mardis Gras

Don't miss your chance to celebrate Mardi Gras with Louisiana native and celebrated Portland jazz musician Norman "Boogie Cat" Sylvester.

The Fat Tuesday event on Feb. 9 will turn up the funky blues as Norman takes the stage with his amazing musician daughter, Lenanne, and one of the best horn players of 2015, Peter Moss.

The big bash is slated for the Adrianna Hill Grand Ballroom on the second floor of the Pythian Building, 918 S.W. Yamhill St. Enjoy happy hour eats and drinks, Mardi Gras beads, alongside a great show for \$8.

Doors open at 6 p.m., and the show starts at 7, with the party going until 10 p.m. For tickets in advance, visit tickettomato.com.

Family trauma, secrets and regrets -- S. Renee Mitchell's new play "Ophelia in Oblivion," exploring death, karma,



guilt and family dysfunction, comes to life in dramatic reading performances this month as part of the annual Fertile Ground Festival of New Works. The staged full-length performances will take place at Celebration Tabernacle, 8131 N. Denver Ave., on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 22 and 23 at 7:30 p.m. and again on Sunday, Jan. 24 at 2:30 p.m.

Back by Popular Demand -- The musical "The Book of Mormon," a religious satire co-created by the makers of South Park returned to Portland this week with shows playing at Keller Auditorium through Sunday, Jan. 24. A winner of nine Tony awards, the play tells the story of two naïve and optimistic missionaries who have trouble connecting with their villagers in Uganda who are more worried about war, famine, poverty, and AIDS than about religion.

Holy Trinity Tribute Night -- On Saturday, Jan. 23 at 9 p.m. at the Holocene, 1001 S.W. Morrison St., celebrate your three favorite black pop divas by dancing the night away to 'The Holy Trinity' -- Beyoncé, Rihanna, and Nicki Minaj who will be on play all night courtesy of DJs Ronin Roc and Freaky Outty. Enjoy a free R&B themed photo booth all night and come dressed commemorating your favorite of the three ladies to help judges decide at the end of the night who is truly the queen of queens. Cover

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

is \$10.

Norman Sylvester -- Boogie Cat Norman Sylvester plays on Friday, Jan. 22 at Clyde's; and Saturday, Jan. 23 at Solae's Lounge.

American Drama Masterpiece -- Lakewood Theatre Company in Lake Oswego presents "Golden-Boy," the Clifford Odets drama masterpiece about a young violinist who gives up his career for a chance at immortality in the boxing ring. Performances continue through Feb. 14. Order tickets online at www.lakewood-center.org.

Music Millennium Free Shows -- The Music Millennium, 3158 E. Burnside, hosts in-house live performances. Enjoy free music and the opportunity to meet artists. Call 503-231-8926 for a schedule.

Fourth Sunday Jam Night -- A friends and family variety comedy show in a Saturday Night Live format with local recording and performing artists, bands, dance crews, poets, and drama groups, takes place each fourth Sunday of the month at 7 p.m. at Celebration Tabernacle, 8131 N. Denver Ave. The free event is open to the community.

Discount Tickets -- Local 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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3 P.M. - 7 P.M.
D.L. HUGHLEY

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

9 P.M. - 12 Midnight
MIKE SHANNON

SUNDAY

12 Midnight - 3 A.M.
MIKE SHANNON

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TOYA BEASLEY

6 A.M. - 12 NOON
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An award-winning chamber trio, 'Of Ebony Embers,' perform the music of great African American composers. The group will be featured during a noon music theater concert, Monday, Feb. 1 at Clackamas Community College.

Music of Harlem Celebrated

Jazz greats Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk and Charles Mingus, as well as composers Jeffery Mumford and George Walker, will be featured in "Of Ebony Embers: Vignettes of the Harlem Renaissance," a free music theater concert, Monday, Feb. 1 at Clackamas Community College.

The performance examines the lives of three legendary

black poets from New York: Langston Hughes, Countee Cullen and Claude McKay, as seen through the eyes of the great painter and muralist Aaron Douglas.

Akin Babatunde is the playwright and director. The performance takes place in the Gregory Forum at CCC's Oregon City Campus and is open to public.

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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Join the 'Rogue Pack' for Bob #middleschool #tweenandteens, an evening of stories, music and dance written and performed by middle school students from Jason Lee K-8 and Boys & Girls Aid. The Portland Fertile Ground Festival of New Works event plays Jan. 28 at 5 p.m. at Jason Lee School, 2222 N.E. 92nd Ave., and Jan. 29 and 30 at 7:30 at Sellwood Playhouse, 901 S.E. Spokane.

Theatre, Dance, Music and More

Diverse lineup at festival of new works

The Portland-grown Fertile Ground Festival of New Works kicks off with dozens upon dozens of new artist works from Portland's teeming jungle of artists to perform on stages, nooks and crannies all over Portland for 11 days from Thursday, Jan. 21 to Sunday, Jan. 31.

With a wide variety of new producers, along with several returning companies, the 8th annual festival offers an astonishing breadth of creative work for the stage, including theater, dance, music, animation, circus, clowns and more.

"Portland is a fount of innovation and creativity, a place where new ideas thrive and creators are (almost literally) on every corner," said Nicole Lane, Fertile Ground Festival director. "Likewise, Fertile Ground is an incubator for new



Take a musical ride through love lost, gained and squandered when 'The Blues Cabaret' presents 'Buried Fire,' as told through 16-plus songs from the group's new album 'Where Love Begins.' The show is a Portland Fertile Ground Festival of New Works event playing Jan. 20 at 7:30 p.m. O'Connor's Vault, 7850 S.W. Capital Hwy., and Jan. 21 and 22 at 7:30 p.m. at Michelle's Pianos, 500 S.E. Stark.

works of art creation citywide, I'm continually surprised at the abundance and diversity of new 'acts of creation' by Portland artists, many of whom are producing their own work and taking a giant leap to share it with Fertile Ground audiences."

All festival ticket infor-

mation and event listings can be accessed through fertilegroundpdx.org. A printed Festival Guide is also available in many theatre lobbies around town including Artists Repertory Theatre, Portland Center Stage and Portland's 5 Centers for the Performing Arts, among others.



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United Way is hiring a part-time **Early Learning Coordinator** to work collaboratively in a job-share position to support its Early Learning Team and the Early Learning Multnomah Hub. 17.5 hours per wk, providing administrative, database, and project management support. 3+ yrs nonprofit, project coordination, and admin experience and advanced proficiency with taking and transcribing meeting minutes.

Hiring Range: \$17-\$20 hour, DOE. For more info and to apply, www.unitedway-pdx.org/careers.

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United Way is hiring an **Early Learning Manager** to manage the metrics and accountability framework for the Early Learning Multnomah Hub and Hub grants. 5+ yrs in the human service field; BA Degree; or a comparable combination of experience/education. An existing understanding of and experience working within early the learning community. Experience working on early learning within the 4-county region preferred. Project management experience and a working knowledge of research, program evaluation, and data management.

Hiring Range: \$48,192 to \$57,830. For more info and to apply, www.unitedway-pdx.org/careers.

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United Way is hiring an **Early Learning Operations and Policy Director** to direct its Early Learning Multnomah Hub operations and engagement of key sectoral partners in our work. 8+ yrs related experience in the human service field, with program development, administration, fiscal oversight, and supervisory experience; BA Degree in Business Admin or related field; or a comparable combination of experience/education. An existing understanding of and experience working within the early learning community and leading a collaborative effort involving a variety of diverse stakeholders. Experience working on early learning within the 4-county region preferred.

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Shelter Answers Call

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

few years and has grown worse in recent months with a spike in no-cause evictions and rent increases that have pushed long-term, otherwise responsible renters out of their homes. While the city has been trying to build low-income subsidized housing at a rapid rate, there has been a dearth of market-place affordable rentals for the working poor and middle-class – or people who would otherwise would not qualify for government subsidized “affordable housing.”

Scores of residents gave even more visibility to the issues on Friday when they met for a rally at Portland City Hall, only blocks from the new temporary men’s shelter, later marching into the streets to protest needless rent-hikes and demand a moratorium on no-cause evictions, which many feel unfairly target the elderly, people of color, and families with children.

Margot Black of the Portland Tenants Union said the new shelter was wonderful for the 100 people it will keep warm and safe at night, but said more needed to be done to prevent homelessness in the first place. “We don’t want to minimize the importance of shelters and emergency housing or seem ungrateful,” Black said. “But we have to think of shelters as a root canal and rent control and regulating evictions and rent-hikes as preventative care.”

While many can agree they would like to see reasonable market-rate apartments for average working class people and families, the new shelter is considered a boon to the community, at least while it lasts. The space is expected to be open for at least three to six months, possibly longer, depending on how the building’s eventual sale goes and how quickly it is transferred to new owners. Those precious few months could be crucial during winter and early spring when Portland weather is at its coldest and wettest.

“That will get us through winter, which is a critical time for the homeless,” says Saltzman of the shelter’s projected run. He also urged other business and property owners to consider supporting the community in similar ways. “This is an excellent example of the city and the business community working together, and I hope we can do more of it,” says Saltzman. “If anyone else has a building we can use, we would be glad to hear from them.”



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CALENDAR January 2016

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

				<div>1</div> <div>New Year's Day</div> <div>Betsy Ross born, 1752</div> <div>Ellis Island Opened, 1892</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Isaac Asimov born 1920 (Astronomer)</div> <div>Crosby Bonsall born, 1921</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Festival Of Sleep Day</div> <div>J.R.R. Tolkien born, 1892.</div>
<div>4</div> <div>Trivia Day</div> <div>Isaac Newton born, 1643</div> <div>Jakob Grimm born, 1785</div>	<div>5</div> <div>First Woman Governor, 1925</div> <div>George Washington Carver Day</div> <div>National Bird Day</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Bean Day</div> <div>Epiphany (Christian Holiday)</div> <div>Sherlock Holmes born, 1854</div>	<div>7</div> <div>First U.S. Presidential Election held, 1789</div> <div>Old Rock Day</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Elvis Presley born, 1935</div>	<div>9</div> <div>1st U.S. Balloon Flight (1793)</div> <div>National Apricot Day</div> <div>National Static Electricity Day</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Secret Pal Day</div> <div>First Meeting of United Nations General Assembly in London, 1946</div>
<div>11</div> <div>Amelia Earhart flew solo across the Pacific Ocean, 1935</div>	<div>12</div> <div>Work Harder Day</div> <div>Author Jack London born, 1876</div>	<div>13</div> <div>Make Your Dreams Come True Day</div> <div>Poetry Break Day</div>	<div>14</div> <div>National Dress Up Your Pet Day</div> <div>The Revolutionary War ended (1784)</div>	<div>15</div> <div>First Super Bowl Played in 1967</div> <div>Hat Day The first top hat was worn (1797)</div>	<div>16</div> <div>Prohibition began in 1920</div> <div>National Nothing Day</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Muhammad Ali (Cassius Clay) born, 1942</div> <div>Benjamin Franklin born, 1706</div>
<div>18</div> <div>Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Born in 1929</div>	<div>19</div> <div>Artist Paul Cezanne born, 1839</div> <div>Popcorn Day</div>	<div>20</div> <div>Inauguration Day (Every 4 years: 2013, 2017, 2021)</div> <div>Cheese Day</div>	<div>21</div> <div>National Hugging Day</div> <div>First flight of the Supersonic Concorde (1976)</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Brian Wildsmith born, 1930</div> <div>National Blonde Brownie Day</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Measure Your Feet Day</div> <div>National Handwriting Day</div> <div>National Pie Day</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Eskimo Pie Patented by Christian Nelson in 1922</div>
<div>25</div> <div>Opposite Day</div> <div>First Winter Olympics held, 1924</div>	<div>26</div> <div>Australia Day (first settled, 1788)</div>	<div>27</div> <div>National Geographic Society Founded (1888)</div> <div>Julius Lester born, 1939</div>	<div>28</div> <div>Jackson Pollock born, 1912 (Artist)</div> <div>National Kazoo Day</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Baseball Hall of Fame established (1936)</div> <div>National Puzzle Day</div>	<div>30</div> <div>Franklin D. Roosevelt born, 1882 (23rd President)</div>	<div>31</div> <div>Backwards Day</div> <div>Jackie Robinson born, 1919 (Baseball Great)</div>

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Braised Kale with Bacon and Cider

Ingredients:

- 2 bacon slices
- 1 1/4 cups thinly sliced onion
- 1 (1-pound) bag chopped kale
- 1/3 cup apple cider
- 1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar
- 1 1/2 cups diced Granny Smith apple (about 10 ounces)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Preparation:

1. Place a Dutch oven over medium heat. Add bacon; cook 5 minutes or until crisp, stirring occasionally. Remove bacon from pan, reserving 1 teaspoon drippings in pan. Crumble bacon, and set aside.
2. Increase heat to medium-high. Add onion to pan; cook 5 minutes or until tender, stirring occasionally. Add kale, and cook 5 minutes or until wilted, stirring frequently. Add cider and vinegar; cover and cook 10 minutes, stirring occasionally.
3. Add apple, salt, and pepper; cook 5 minutes or until apple is tender, stirring occasionally. Sprinkle with bacon.



Roasted Red Onions and Delicata Squash

Thin-skinned delicata squash has an edible peel, helping this side come together quickly.

Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter, melted
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh thyme
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 3 garlic cloves, sliced
- 2 (12-ounce) delicata squashes, halved lengthwise, seeded, and cut into 1/2-inch slices
- 1 (1-pound) red onion, cut into 12 wedges
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, divided
- Cooking spray
- 3 tablespoons chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley

Preparation:

1. Place a baking sheet in oven. Preheat oven to 475° (leave pan in oven).
2. Combine first 5 ingredients in a large bowl, stirring with a whisk. Add squash and onion; toss gently to coat. Sprinkle vegetable mixture with 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Carefully remove preheated pan from oven; coat pan with cooking spray.
3. Arrange vegetable mixture in a single layer on pan. Bake at 475° for 20 minutes or until tender, turning once. Sprinkle with remaining 1/4 teaspoon salt, remaining 1/4 teaspoon pepper, and chopped parsley.

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