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Edgy Video

Portland rapper's
controversial hip hop

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Alarm Grows Over Toxins

Public health
offers free testing

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The Portland Observer 46

'City of Roses'



Volume XLV
Number 23

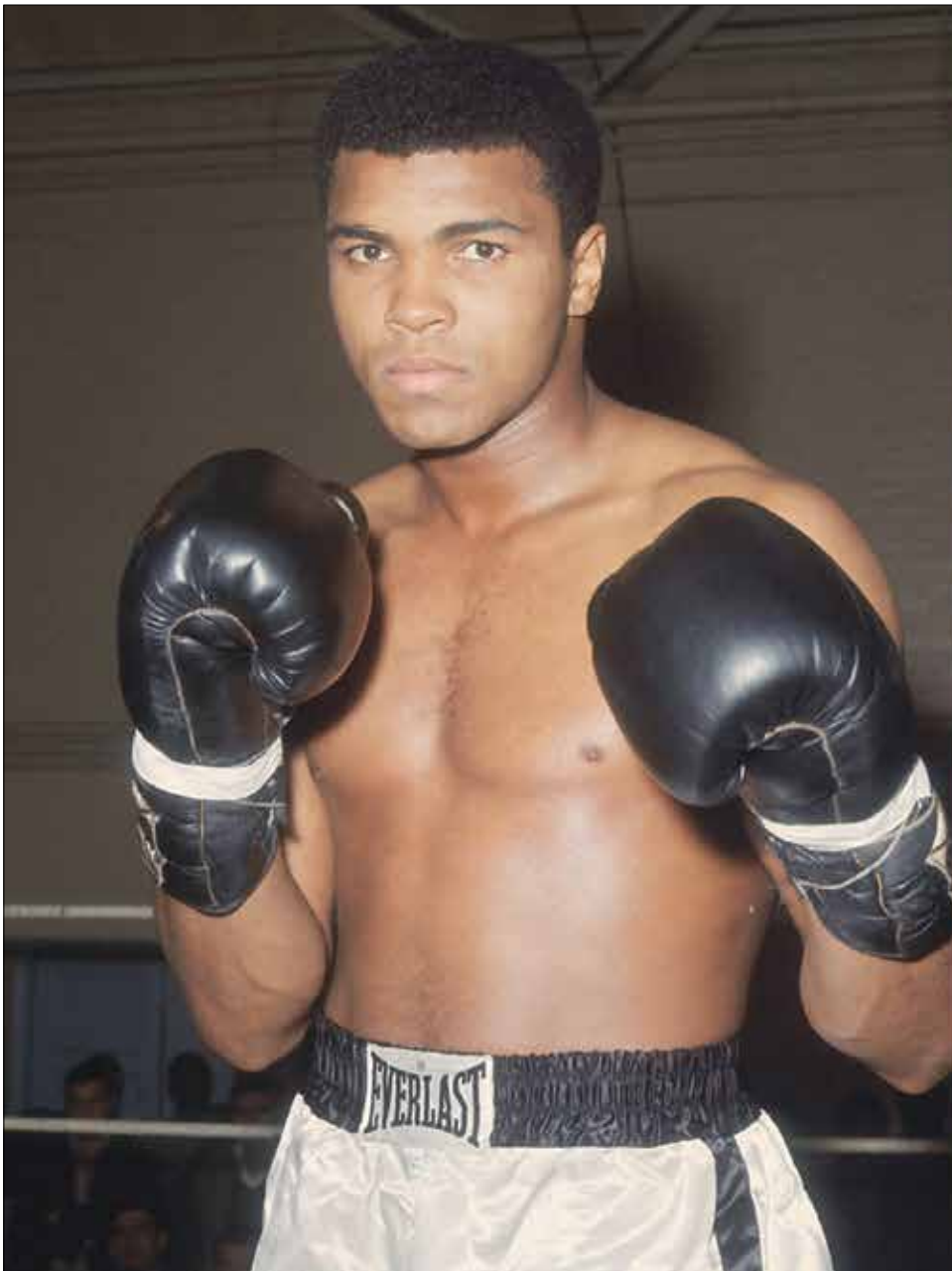


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Wednesday • June 8, 2016



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Muhammad Ali, who riveted the world as 'The Greatest' boxer of all time, is pictured through the years from a 21-year-old world championship heavyweight contender to his status in retirement as a world ambassador.

Muhammad Ali

World to Gather for Final Farewell

(AP) -- A traditional Muslim funeral for "The Greatest" Muhammad Ali will be held in his hometown of Louisville, Kentucky, on Thursday with an interfaith service to follow on Friday drawing political and religious leaders from around the world, according to memorial plans released by Ali's family on Monday.

Ali died Friday at age 74. Former President Bill Clinton, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and King Abdullah II of

Jordan are expected to speak at the Friday service. Representatives from a number of religions, including Islam, Christianity, Catholicism, Judaism, Mormonism and Buddhism will also be present.

With a wit as sharp as the punches, Ali dominated sports for two decades before time and Parkinson's disease, triggered by thousands of blows to the head, ravaged his magnificent body, muted his majestic voice and ended his storied career in 1981.

He won and defended the heavyweight championship in epic fights in exotic locations, spoke loudly on behalf of blacks, and famously refused to be drafted into the Army during the Vietnam War because of his Muslim beliefs.

Despite his debilitating illness, he traveled the world to rapturous receptions even after his once-bellowing voice was quieted and he was left to communicate with a wink or a weak smile.

Revered by millions worldwide and reviled by millions more, Ali cut quite a fig-

ure, 6-foot-3 and 210 pounds in his prime. "Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee," his cornermen exhorted, and he did just that in a way no heavyweight had ever fought before.

He fought in three different decades, finished with a record of 56-5 with 37 knockouts — 26 of those bouts promoted by Arum — and was the first man to win heavyweight titles three times.

He whipped the fearsome Sonny Liston

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Working for Racial Justice

Two women received special recognition from the YWCA of Clark County last week for advancing the organization's mission to eliminate racism, empower women and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

Felisciana Peralta received the annual Val Joshua Racial Justice Award for her work as Multicultural Retention Manager at Clark College, as well as her role as president of the Washington State Multicultural Student Services Diversity Council, and her leadership in developing best practices for implementing Washington "Dreamer Act" within institutions of higher education throughout the state.



Felisciana Peralta

Astrid DuBois, a graduating senior from Vancouver iTech Preparatory, was the recipient of the Val Joshua Youth Social Justice Award and Scholarship. DuBois



Astrid DuBois

was cited for consistently striving to educate her peers on the importance of diversity in fields related to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

Parent Leader Young Visionary

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon recently named Charles McGee III, founder and president of the Black Parent Initiative, as its first "Young Visionary" in recognition of leadership that inspires hope for future generations.

McGee founded the Black Parent Initiative at age 19. As president and CEO of the nonprofit organization, he works to transform the lives of children one parent at a time by creating stable, engaged adults by instilling a new ethic of self-reliance, empowerment, voice and determination within their family culture.

McGee was born in Liberia and fled a violent civil war at age five with his family. He grew up in northeast Portland. While a student at Franklin High School, he began a career of activism and community organizing, presenting the school board with a petition calling for race sensitivity training



Charles McGee III

for Portland Public School teachers that led to a district-wide conversation on race.

As a student at Portland State University, he ran for a seat on the Portland School Board on a platform of increasing student involvement in district decision-making.



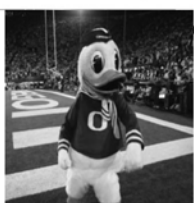
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The Week in Review

Clinton Locks Down Nomination

Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton basically sealed the deal Monday to become her party's presidential nominee and first woman to head a major presidential ticket. Heading into the last leg of the primary showdown with Bernie Sanders, she's put herself over the top with superdelegates. The primary process won't be final until Washington, D.C. votes on June 14.



Weed Expands with Edibles

THC containing concentrates, topical and edibles became legal June 1 in Oregon. Under Oregon's new recreational marijuana law, THC containing products will be at much lower potencies than those sold to medical marijuana patients.

Park Facilities to Test for Lead

Portland Parks and Recreation decided Thursday to begin testing all of its faucets and drinking fountains for lead. It comes after high lead levels were found in 2013 but never fixed at the Multnomah Arts Center in southwest Portland. The first priority will be given to sites where a high likelihood of young children and expecting mothers may drink the water or where the building or plumbing dates back to 1970 through 1985, a period when lead was sometimes used in plumbing.

Runaways Steal TriMet Bus

Two 15-year-old runaway boys were arrested in Clackamas County last week after stealing a TriMet bus parked in the transit agency's Center Street garage at 4012 S.E. 17th Ave. They were detained about 5 miles away, dressed in TriMet attire.

Oil Train Derails in Gorge

A Union Pacific train carrying crude oil derailed off its tracks, crashed and exploded, spilling 42,000 gallons of oil Friday in the Columbia River Gorge. While most of the explosive debris has been cleaned up, officials were still working on containing oil and a subsequent sheen on the nearby Columbia River.

Fatal I-5 Freeway Crash

The I-5 freeway heading southbound from Hayden Island was backed up for hours Sunday when a semi tractor and trailer was involved in a fiery crash with three other vehicles. A Vancouver man was killed in the crash.

Hitch Turns to Terror

An eastern Oregon woman is in custody after slicing the throat of a man that offered her and her four children a ride to a hospital. Umatilla County charged Vanessa Logman, 30, with attempted murder and assault. The driver survived with only 11 stitches. Logman's four children have been placed in the custody of social workers from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

The Portland Observer

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What's on your list today?

LOCAL NEWS



PHOTO BY CERVANTE POPE/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Tamara Shadrin helps Bodhi, a 5-year-old kindergartner at Beech Elementary get his finger pricked for a blood test to evaluate if he has been exposed to lead. The free evaluation took place in conjunction with the Multnomah County Health Department at 5329 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Alarm Grows Over Toxins

BY CERVANTE POPE
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland parents and citizens have found themselves on high alert as discoveries of toxins in the air and the water are increasing.

It began earlier this year when the public was informed of high concentrations of cadmium, chromium, arsenic and other carcinogenic metals in the atmo-

sphere around glass manufacturing plants in southeast and north Portland.

Next, parents were left in a panic at the discovery of lead in Portland Public Schools, prompting the district to apologize for delays in shutting off water sources impacted by lead in faucets. Over the past few days, the school district also reported that it had discovered Radon in some

classrooms, and Portland Parks and Recreation found that it too failed to shut off faucets contaminated by lead, possibly for years at the Multnomah Arts Center in southwest Portland. The arts center serves children and is a meal site for seniors.

Multnomah County Health Department officials are re-

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Police Panel Departure Explained

BY CERVANTE POPE
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Kathleen Saadat, a long time and esteemed Portland racial justice activist serving as the chair of the Portland Police reform monitoring Community Oversight Advisory Board has indicated that discord surrounding police reform issues did not influence her decision to retire.

Saadat recently announced that she would be resigning from her position after taking part in the panel for only a year, but told the Portland Observer that the departure was only because she's ready to slow down. She plans to continue her writing and painting while



Kathleen Saadat

staying connected to the community, but won't be obligated to a working position.

"I'm 75 years old. I came out of retirement to take the position, and I committed for a year and

now I'm going back into retirement," she said. "I don't know why it's hard for people to believe that I just want to retire and relax. It's wearing me down, and my health matters."

Saadat replaced former Oregon Chief Justice Paul DeMuniz after he stepped down in April of last year. She said the police oversight board has on-going issues that do need to be addressed, but not anything bad enough to cause her to leave.

Maintaining a good sense of humor on the situation, she said, "To quote Thurgood Marshall about his retirement- 'Hell, I'm old!'"

Muhammad Ali

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

twice, toppled the mighty George Foreman with the rope-a-dope in Zaire, and nearly fought to the death with Joe Frazier in the Philippines. Through it all, he was trailed by a colorful entourage who merely added to his growing legend.

"Rumble, young man, rumble," cornerman Bundini Brown would yell to him.

And rumble Ali did. He fought anyone who meant anything and made millions of dollars with his lightning-quick jab. His fights were so memorable that they had names — "Rumble in the Jungle" and "Thrilla in Manila."

But it was as much his antics — and his mouth — outside the ring that transformed the man born Cassius Clay into a household name as Muhammad Ali.

"I am the greatest," Ali thundered again and again.

Few would disagree.

Ali spurned white America when he joined the Black Muslims and changed his name. He defied the draft at the height of the Vietnam war — "I ain't got no quarrel with them Viet Cong" — and lost 3 1/2 years from the prime of his career. He entertained world leaders, once telling Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos: "I saw your wife. You're not as dumb as you look."

He later embarked on a second career as a missionary for Islam.

The quiet of Ali's later life was in contrast to the roar of a career that had breathtaking highs along with terrible lows. He exploded on the public scene with a series of nationally televised fights that gave the public an exciting new champion, and he entertained millions as he sparred verbally with the likes of bombastic sportscaster Howard Cosell.

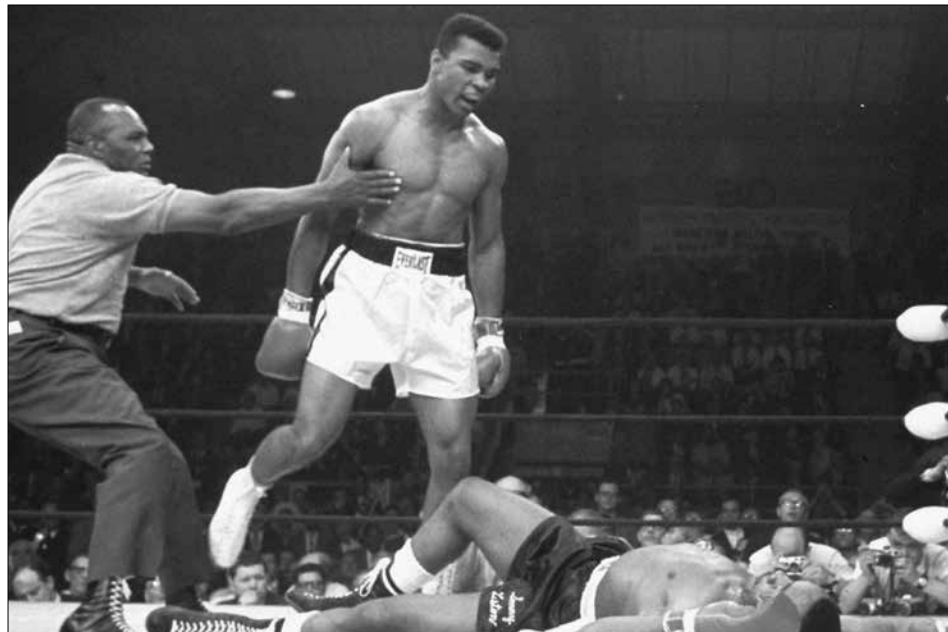
Ali once calculated he had taken 29,000 punches to the head and made \$57 million in his pro career, but the effect of the punches lingered long after most of the money was gone. That didn't stop him from traveling tirelessly to promote Islam, meet with world leaders and champion leg-

islation dubbed the Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act. While slowed in recent years, he still managed to make numerous appearances, including a trip to the 2012 London Olympics.

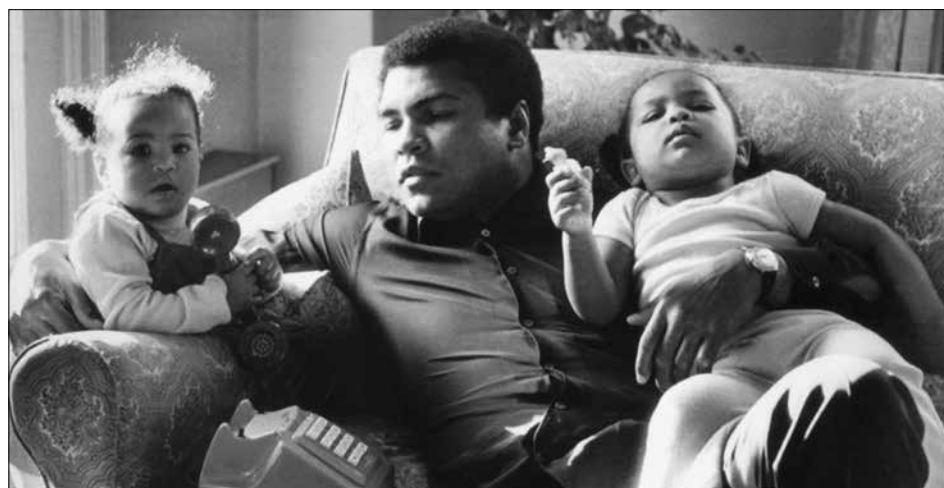
With his hands trembling so uncontrollably that the world held its breath, he lit the Olympic torch for the 1996 Atlanta Games in a performance as riveting as some of his fights.

Born Cassius Marcellus Clay on Jan. 17, 1942, in Louisville, Kentucky, Ali began boxing at age 12 after his new bicycle was stolen and he vowed to policeman Joe Martin that he would "whup" the person who took it.

He was only 89 pounds at the time, but Martin began training him at his boxing gym, the beginning of a six-year amateur career that ended with the light heavy-



Heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali stands over fallen challenger Sonny Liston, shouting and gesturing shortly after dropping Liston with a short hard right to the jaw in the first round of their 1965 title fight in Lewiston, Maine, one of sports' most iconic moments.



Heavyweight boxer Muhammad Ali with his daughters Laila and Hanna at their home on Dec. 19, 1978.

weight Olympic gold medal in 1960.

Ali had already encountered racism. On boxing trips, he and his amateur teammates would have to stay in the car while Martin bought them hamburgers. When he returned to Louisville with his gold medal, the Chamber of Commerce presented him a citation but said it didn't have time to co-sponsor a dinner.

In his autobiography, "The Greatest," Ali wrote that he tossed the medal into the Ohio River after a fight with a white motorcycle gang, which started when he and a

friend were refused service at a Louisville restaurant.

After he beat Liston to win the heavyweight title in 1964, Ali shocked the boxing world by announcing he was a member of the Black Muslims — the Nation of Islam — and was rejecting his "slave name."

As a Baptist youth he spent much of his time outside the ring reading the Bible. From now on, he would be known as Muhammad Ali and his book of choice would be the Quran.

Ali's affiliation with the Nation of Islam

outraged and disturbed many white Americans, but it was his refusal to be inducted into the Army that angered them most.

That happened on April 28, 1967, a month after he knocked out Zora Folley in the seventh round at Madison Square Garden in New York for his eighth title defense.

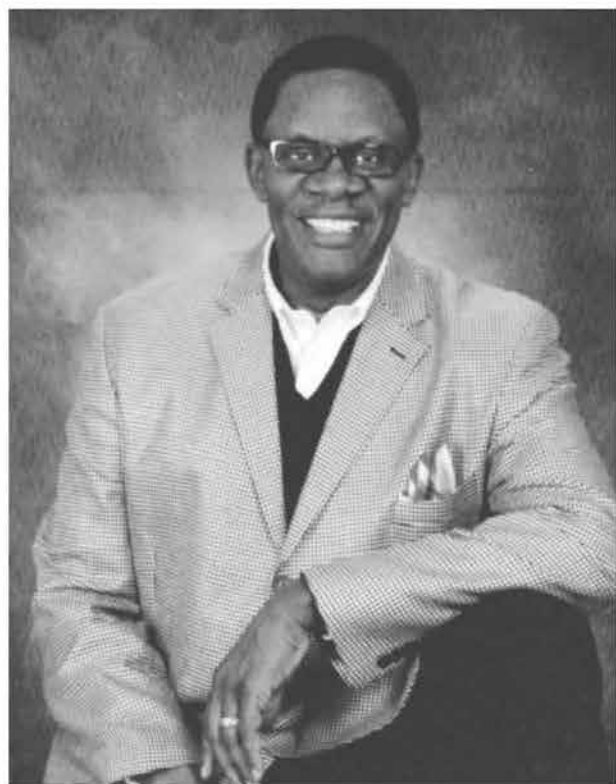
He was convicted of draft evasion, stripped of his title and banned from boxing. A few months later the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the conviction on an 8-0 vote.

Many in boxing believe Ali was never the same fighter after his lengthy lay-off, even though he won the heavyweight championship two more times and fought for another decade.

With his fourth wife, Lonnie, at his side, Ali traveled the world for Islam and other causes. In 1990, he went to Iraq on his own initiative to meet with Saddam Hussein and returned to the United States with 15 Americans who had been held hostage.

For his part, Ali didn't complain about the price he had paid in the ring.

"What I suffered physically was worth what I've accomplished in life," he said in 1984. "A man who is not courageous enough to take risks will never accomplish anything in life."



Dr. Billy R. Flowers

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ing to surgery. Our office is highly trained and skilled at handling problems like that of your child's. Don't be fooled by the thought of "watching the condition" either. Without proper assistance it won't go away. Offer your children the best in health care. Give them regular Chiropractic checkups. As the twig is bent so grows the tree!

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Alarm Grows Over Toxins

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

sponding to the growing public concerns.

"The county has a really interesting role in that we don't regulate lead in the water or radon, and those (toxins) aren't in our buildings," said public health information officer Julie Sullivan-Springhetti. "But the people in those buildings are our residents, and Multnomah County cares about health."

Under the backdrop of a Change.org petition calling for Portland Public Schools Superintendent Carole Smith's resignation over the toxicity issues, and others demanding more action from government officials, education on the home front can offer some preventative safety tips.

"There's always a little bit of lead floating around in your liver and your muscles," says Dr. Zane Horowitz of the Oregon Poison Center. "Levels between 0-5 (micrograms/deciliter) aren't unusual for kids that live in an inner city environment."

Since lead was used in everything from paint to children's toys to piping for hundreds of years, its presence is still prevalent in many of Portland's older homes and buildings. The problem, Dr. Horowitz says, lies in the length of exposure time and the height of levels in the blood stream.

According to the health department brochures, extended exposure to lead can cause learning and behavioral problems, brain damage, speech impairment, stunted growth, liver damage, seizures and coma. Severe cases can be fatal.

Dr. Horowitz says a binding agent called Succimer, also known as Chemet, is a prescription for treatment that can bind metals in the body and help excrete the toxins over a period of time.

"It does take a while," says Dr. Horowitz. "Sometimes it could take months or as high as a year depending on how long they've been exposed to it and the levels in their body."

Horowitz says blood lead levels need to be or exceed 45 micrograms/deciliter to receive a Succimer treatment.

The risks for high lead levels would be lower in school because a child is in attendance for limited hours.

"You can ask your child if they drink a lot of water at school. If it's just a sip every now and then, there's probably not the highest risk of them having high levels in their system," explains Dr. Horowitz.

Multnomah County works

with WIC (Women, Infants and Children program) to provide free lead blood testing for children less than six years of age and pregnant women.

"We want families to recognize the potential risks of lead poisoning so they can do due diligence in keeping their homes free," says Mary Kay DiLoreto,

In the last three years, every lead test that's been taken in a doctor's office or in a pop up clinic was recorded by the state.

We know from those 15,000 tests that 188 were positive for lead in children under 19, with about 170 of those cases for children under age six, Sullivan-Springhetti says.

According to the health department brochures, extended exposure to lead can cause learning and behavioral problems, brain damage, speech impairment, stunted growth, liver damage, seizures and coma. Severe cases can be fatal.

the program supervisor for WIC Northeast, which operates a pop up clinic out of Multnomah County's Walnut Park building at 3929 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

About 80 of these clinics are held every year at various locations around the county intended to inform and educate the public on lead risks and prevention.

Unfortunately, extended exposure to radon gas and airborne heavy metals isn't as easy to identify or counteract.

Of all the carcinogenic toxins Portlanders have been involuntarily exposed to lately, radon is the number one cause of lung cancer in people who don't smoke cigarettes, according to the U.S. Environmental Protec-

tion Agency.

"There really is no treatment for removing radon from your body," says Horowitz, "and there are no immediate effects at all, just the lifelong risk of getting lung cancer becomes higher."

People exposed to toxins 8 hours a day for life, for example, would have higher levels to the risks of increasing cancer, says Dr. Horowitz. He said the real risk for people who garden or

pointing risks and solutions.

Taking on these health issues one at a time, the county is tackling lead first with a public outreach to get people tested. Portland Public Schools will test every school this summer for lead.

"We want to go to and work with the community, so we're hoping this is the beginning of the conversation and that by the time this horrible experience with Portland public is over that we will have a lot of people that know a lot about lead," says Sullivan-Springhetti.

Multnomah County encourages concerned citizens and parents to get their blood lead levels tested, as well as the water fixtures in their homes.

"We want people to know that no matter whom you are, no matter where you live, you have a right and you have access to the county coming to help answer questions about your health. That's what's really important," says Sullivan-Springhetti.

For more information on lead and testing, contact the county Leadline at 503-988-4000 or email leadline@multco.us. A list of free testing dates and locations for pregnant women and children under six can be found at <https://multco.us/health/lead-poisoning-prevention/getting-your-child-tested-lead>.

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TriMet is an equal opportunity employer, committed to developing an organization that reflects and is sensitive to the needs of our diverse community, including veterans, the elderly and individuals with disabilities.

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.

Finally, a True Black Prime Contractor at TriMet

A grand reason to celebrate

BY JAMES POSEY

It is a well-known fact that TriMet has been the perennial leader among governmental agencies for successful results in hiring and supporting minority contractors and workers over several decades. This history spans as far back as the 1982 I-84 Banfield Light Rail project. The chronology includes the Westside Hillsboro line, their signature Interstate Light Rail project, a series of local street car projects, the South Corridor I-205 MAX, the Milwaukie MAX and more.

Thus, TriMet's most recent action of awarding a major contract to black-owned Raimore Construction is evolutionary and is the culmination of many years of struggle. It represents progress of huge portions. This \$6.8



million contract to build transit shelters for the Milwaukie MAX line is a turning point, a major breakthrough, and a momentous achievement not only for minority contractors but the entire Oregon

catalysts for enormous economic growth and wealth-building throughout the region. As well, it's also understood that compared to their white counterparts, African-Americans and other mi-

Like many other government bodies, TriMet's emphasis has been focused on supporting minority contractors in a social-welfare context rather than in fundamental investments in the economic

and operation are in a historically-black community of northeast Portland where the owners and key staff live, work and play. With a few exceptions, their workforce is distinctively black with no equivocation. And more importantly, there is a high probability the black community will be economically enriched by the company's participation in this segment of the transportation market.

This is the vision, mission and goal of the disadvantage business enterprise (DBE) program, which has seldom been implemented effectively in the Oregon's construction market. Therefore, TriMet should be commended, recognized and encouraged to continue this truly progressive example of authentic equity and inclusion. Indeed, the community as a whole has a grand reason to celebrate.

James Posey is a Portland contractor and business owner, co-founder of the National Association of Minority Contractors, and former president of the Coalition of Black Men and vice president of the Portland NAACP.

It is not clear that TriMet actually understands the full impact of what it has done in terms of hiring Raimore as the first black general contractor to complete a major construction project in Oregon. It is no secret that these large transportation projects have been the catalysts for enormous economic growth and wealth-building throughout the region.

community.

It is not clear that TriMet actually understands the full impact of what it has done in terms of hiring Raimore as the first black general contractor to complete a major construction project in Oregon. It is no secret that these large transportation projects have been the

minorities have always struggled to benefit significantly from the billions of dollars expended on these projects.

One reason this had not happened previously is because metro-area governmental organizations have been unwilling to really commit to institutional inclusion.

infrastructure of communities of color.

And now, once again TriMet has made history by hiring an authentic black contractor, a contractor who has all the prerequisite skills and independent resources to be successful. Raimore is genuine because its physical location

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Letter to the Editor

Improving Housing and Wages

As stated in the preamble of Oregon Initiative Petition 65, the High School Graduation and College Readiness Act, "Oregon has one of the lowest graduation rates in the nation. More than 10,000 Oregon students fail to graduate each year. As a result, they face a future of lower earnings, higher unemployment and greater reliance on public assistance."

According to the Oregon Office of Economic Analysis, when including the entire state of Oregon, middle wage jobs have continuously diminished, while low and high wage jobs have increased significantly over the past decade. According to U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics, 9 out of the top 10 occupations in Portland bought an average median annual income of a mere \$26,177 in 2012. On top of the list was a "retail salesperson," while the second leading occupation for employment was "food preparation service, including fast food" and the

third was "cashier."

Since 1999, Oregon strictly prohibited enacting mandatory inclusionary policies to create affordable housing, joining only Texas in the entire country which refused to offer this vital protec-

tion to their citizens. But Senate Bill 1533 was promoted as a solution when it was passed in the State Legislature during the last session and signed into law by Gov. Kate Brown.

The generally accepted formula for pricing affordable housing units is derived from 60 percent of the region's annual median wage. SB 1533's definition of affordable housing is "households with incomes equal to or higher than 80 percent of the median family income."

According to the Portland Housing Bureau, the 2015 median income for a family of four in

Portland was \$73,900. Applying the minimum 80 percent threshold, the region's median wage, for a family of four, is equivalent to \$58,800 as a qualifier for affordable housing. This newly enacted law gives housing developers a favorable option to appeal to a wealthier citizen. They will have the ability to charge an additional few hundred dollars for rent, due to this higher threshold in determining affordability requirements. This will essentially discriminate against families making less than \$58,800 annually here in Portland.

SB 1533 also grants out of state developers multiple incentives, such as advantageous tax breaks, and full or partial exemptions from property taxes, and also the legal permission to construct taller projects.

Additional benefits can be established for these developers that can be determined at will, and can be enabled by any city or county in the state. Currently out of state apartment developers are building residential structures all over the Portland metropolitan area that are far too expensive for native Oregonians to afford. How will our elected officials provide human security to all Portlanders, and not just to the abundant amount of economically fortunate transplants, who have transformed our city's demographics over the past decade?

Also, how will our city and state leaders increase our graduation rates here in Portland, and assist this highly volatile generation of our society, our future leaders, in providing them with the proper education to succeed in obtaining a profession that actually produces a livable wage, and one that will not force them to sleep in their car?

Alexander Krokus,
North Portland



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OPINION



A Jury of One's Peers? "A Definite NO"

Prosecutors unfairly seek white juries

BY S. BOBBIN SINGH

The U.S. Supreme Court in a 7-1 ruling last month issued an opinion that prosecutors purposefully and unconstitutionally excluded all potential African-American jurors from the jury in the trial of Timothy Foster, a black man, in Georgia in 1987. The all-white jury sentenced him to death.

The finding that jurors can't be excluded from a jury because of their race isn't new. In 1986 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Batson v. Kentucky* that the selection of jurors by race was unconstitutional. However, while *Batson* made it illegal to select jurors on the basis of race, prosecutors and defense lawyers are still able to exclude jurors through peremptory challenges for any other reason other than race.

The any other reason doesn't have to be relevant to the case at hand. Unfortunately, judges commonly accept the peremptory challenge at face value and allow the exclusion, concluding that there is no discrimination. The practice, therefore, is to strike potential jurors who are black and

assert any plausible race neutral reason for the strike.

At Foster's 1987 trial, prosecutors used four of their nine peremptory strikes to exclude all four black prospective jurors. The prosecutors claimed they struck these jurors for reasons unrelated to race.

Two decades later, attorney Steve Bright and the Southern Center for Human Rights were able to obtain the prosecution's notes from the jury selection process. They proved to be profoundly disturbing, showing prosecutors identified black people on the list of prospective jurors with specific, multiple explicit marks. Moreover, they listed all of the black jurors as "Definite NOs." The Supreme Court has now ruled that what happened in Mr. Foster's case was unconstitutional and granted him a new trial.

Evidence shows all-white juries are more likely to convict and sentence black defendants more severely than a jury that is racially diverse. For example, according to studies in Washington state "when the facts of the cases are similar, jurors are three times more likely to recommend a death sentence if the defendant is black instead of white."

Moreover, every juror that convicted and sentenced Washington's black death row inmate was white.

What Timothy Foster's case and the data from Washington show is that the jury selection process, especially in death-eligible cases, is heavily influenced by race and that prosecutors intentionally seek to create white juries.

This means black defendants are less likely to face "a jury of their peers." Other examples demonstrate that our criminal justice system is deeply infected with racism. For example, jurors are typically chosen from lists of registered voters, but black people are less likely to be registered.

As the recent Racial and Ethnic Disparities Report from Multnomah County concluded, people of color are disproportionately impacted by the criminal justice system. Prosecutors are likely to exclude minorities from juries knowing that their personal experience may have caused them to distrust law enforcement.

More insidious still is that Oregon is one of two states that allow for non-unanimous jury convictions in felony (non-death) cases. This feature of Oregon's justice system ensures that even if people of color make it through the screening process to sit on a jury, their voices can be silenced because only 10 of the 12 jurors need to find a person guilty to ensure a conviction.

In Oregon, we do not track the demographics of jurors who serve on juries. We have no clear way of

knowing whether or not people of color are actually represented in a meaningful way in our criminal justice system as jurors. Several studies of other states have shown that pervasive discrimination exists in the jury selection process. There is no reason to think Oregon is immune.

The discovery of the type of notes kept by the prosecutor in Mr. Foster's case is uncommon. Proving such clearly discriminatory intent will often be impossible due to the rarity of such a blatant record. It is only by tracking juror demographics that we will be able to see patterns and understand who is being allowed to participate in our justice system.

The impact of the US Supreme Court's decision in Foster is likely to be limited because of the unusual existence in that case of written records making the discriminatory exclusions obvious. But there's no reason to think that it's in any way an isolated example of racially biased jury selection.

The combination of overrepresentation of people of color in our criminal justice system and the under-representation of people of color in positions of judicial decision-making results in a system that intentionally targets those on the margins.

S. Bobbin Singh, J.D., is the executive director of the Oregon Justice Resource Center.



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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Portland hip hop entertainer Swiggle Mandela in his new music video.

Portland Rapper's Edgy Video

Swiggle Mandela has just released a controversial new hip hop music video with a positive message.

The Portland rapper's "40 Acres and a New Car" is breathtaking and riveting for its strong images and lyrics about gentrification, prostitution, child neglect, and the dark history of Portland's racist past.

The video starts with Swiggle being escorted to his execution in a convoy of black cars for a lynching perpetrated

by an "urban tribe" of people, complete with participants of all colors, some with tribal paint. The video is meant to represent a right-of-passage and to honor our history with a spiritual rebirth.

Swiggle Mandela will also be performing at Portland's historical Juneteenth celebration on Saturday, June 18. To watch the music video "40 Acres and A New Car" search Swiggle Mandela, on YouTube.com Facebook.com, Instagram, or Twitter.

Dr. Charles Drew

11th Annual Community Blood Drive



American Red Cross



Dr. Charles Drew Blood Drive

Saturday, June 18, 2016

7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

American Red Cross Portland Blood Donation Center
 3131 N. Vancouver Ave.

11:30 AM — 12:30 PM Discussion Panel

Guest Speaker: Marcia Taylor, Executive Director, Sickle Cell Foundation of Oregon
 The Lamberth Family — Living With Sickle Cell and Blood recipient story

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Students Learn Hands-On Real-world meaning comes with outreach

The ReBuilding Center in north Portland and Portland Public Schools are teaming up to bring science, technology, engineering, art and math skills to nearly 200 seventh-graders.

With help from their classmates, teachers, parents, ReBuilding Center volunteers, staff, and partners, students are engaging in a hands-on learning process where failure, experimentation and creative solutions are encouraged.

In the last few weeks, a group of middle school students from West Sylvan and Cesar Chavez have designed and built their own three-string guitars using repurposed and donated materials. Two more groups from Lane and George middle schools started the process this week.

This initiative is part of the ReBuilding Center's new ReFind Center—a fully equipped wood shop intended to educate and serve the community. Each class spends three days learning the scope of what is possible, prototyping their designs, and working with local fabricators, designers, and other role models to apply real-world meaning to their classroom learning. Students learn about design processes that apply to everything from architecture to software development.

This initiative gives teachers the opportunity to show the relevance of their lessons while students put new meaning to esoteric subjects such as how sound and sine waves relate. This project was co-developed by the ReBuilding Center's Volunteer Services Manager, Dave Lowe, and makerspace expert Mike Alfoni.

A Portland student crafts a three-string guitar with recycled materials from the ReBuilding Center in north Portland as part of hands-on learning where failure, experimentation and creative solutions are encouraged.



June 11th 2016
Dinner at 7:00pm Show Time 8:30pm

An Evening of Elegance
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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Portland Parks & Recreation Pools are getting ready for summer with the opening day for outdoor pools coming, Tuesday, June 14.

Ready for Summer

Another summer of swimming and other aquatic activities will kick off this month at the Portland Parks and Recreation pools. Opening day for the city's outdoor pools is Tuesday, June 14. The Grant pool, however, is closed for renovations, expected to open by August if not before.

Parents who want to enroll their children in swimming lessons are advised to act now. As part of the Parks and Recreation's Summer Free For All, free open play swim sessions are offered throughout the summer at pools across the city.

For more information on how to sign up for swimming lessons or participate in other summer activities, contact the pool in your area or the aquatic administration office at 503-823-5130.

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A photograph courtesy of the Oregon Historical Society shows Chinatown in Portland's Old Town around 1900.

Exploring Portland's Chinatowns

Travel back in time in "Beyond the Gate"

Unbeknownst to many Oregonians, in 1900, Portland was home to the second largest Chinatown in the nation. While many locals have walked

through the gates leading into Northwest Portland's Old Town, few know the rich history of Portland's two historic Chinatowns and the stories of those who made their home here.

Now on display at the Oregon Historical Society

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Motown the Musical

Classic hits ground stellar production

Motown the Musical is the true American dream story of Motown founder Berry Gordy's journey from featherweight boxer to the heavyweight music mogul who launched the careers of Diana Ross, Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson, Marvin Gaye and so many more.

Featuring more than 40 classic hits such as "My Girl" and "Ain't No Mountain High Enough," Motown the Musical tells the story behind the hits as Diana, Smokey, Berry and the whole Motown family fight against the odds to create the soundtrack of change in America. Motown shattered barriers, shaped our lives and made us all move to the same beat.

Motown the Musical will be at Portland's Keller Auditorium for eight performances, Tuesday, June 1 through Sunday, June 19. Tickets can be purchased at BroadwayInPortland.com, the Portland Opera Box Office at 503-241-1802 or at all TicketsWest locations



Motown the Musical tells the story of Motown founder Berry Gordy and the stars he helped launch, including Diana Ross, Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson, Marvin Gaye and so many more. Performances are scheduled Tuesday, June 14 through Sunday, June 19 at Keller Auditorium.



Les Femmes'
65th Annual Debutante' Ball

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For More Information – Please Contact: *Les Femmes*
503.830.5732

Les Femmes is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization. our contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

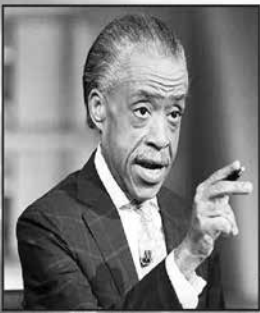
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7 A.M. – 10 A.M.
TONI TERRELL

10 A.M. – 1 P.M.
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MIKE SHANNON

12 Midnight - 3 A.M.
MIKE SHANNON

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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Soulful Line Dance Work-

out -- Join Sistahs4Life for a Soulful Line Dance Workout each Wednesdays at Holladay Park starting June 15 through Aug. 31 from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. For more information, visit sistahs4life.com or call 971-319-3745

Cottonwood in The Flood -- A fully staged drama about the African American experience in Vanport in the 1940s, 'Cottonwood in the Flood,' is now playing through June 12 at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave. The play deals with the rapid rise, and even more rapid fall of the city. Tickets available online and at the door.

Rose Festival CityFair -- The Rose Festival's CityFair brings all the fun of an amusement park right down to the Tom McCall Waterfront, with park rides, fair games and much more to be enjoyed by children and adults. The final weekend of CityFair takes place Thursday, June 9 through Sunday, June 12.



Rose Festival's Grand Floral Parade -- The signature event of the Rose Festival, the Grand Floral Parade, takes place Saturday, June 11, starting at 10 a.m. from Memorial Coliseum to downtown via Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and the Burnside Bridge.

Dress for Success Clothing Sale -- Score amazing deals on new and gently used women's designer clothing, shoes and accessories as Dress for Success Oregon, 1532 N.E. 37TH Ave., opens their doors for a summer clothing sale on Friday, June 10 from noon to 7 p.m., and Saturday, June 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Summer Story Time -- Children of all ages and their parents are invited to drop in for a free summer story time at Concordia University in northeast Portland. The events are scheduled each Saturday during the months of June, July and August from

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Concordia's George R. White Library and Learning Center.

Swashbuckling Peter Pan -- Portland

Playhouse, 602 N.E. Prescott St., presents the Tony-Award nominated action adventure "Peter and the Starcatcher" at its intimate 100 seat theater. The swashbuckling, family-friendly prequel to Peter Pan is one of the most Tony Award-nominated plays of all time. Shows have been extended through Sunday, June 12. Tickets are \$20-36. Visit portlandplayhouse.org or call 503-488-822.



Norman Sylvester -- Boogie Cat Norman Sylvester and his band play Friday, June 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the Artists Repertory Theater; Saturday, June 11 at the Spare Room; Friday, June 17 at the Half Penny in Salem; Saturday, June 18 at 12:30 p.m. for the Cider Summit at Fields Neighborhood Park, and at 7 p.m. at the Dahlia Theater in Canby; Friday, June 24 at the Blue Diamond; and Saturday, June 25 at 6 p.m. for the Lake Oswego Festival of the Arts.

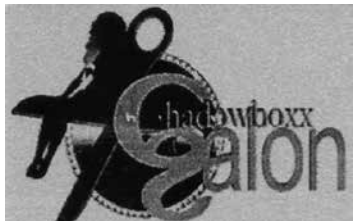
Music Millennium Free Shows -- The Music Millennium, 3158 E. Burnside, hosts a series of in-house live performances. Enjoy free music and the opportunity to meet artists. Call 503-231-8926 for a schedule.

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.

Clothing Closet -- Each first Saturday of the month, a complimentary breakfast and clothing drive takes place at First AME Zion Church, 4304 N. Vancouver Ave. The goal is to clothe and feed Portland one person at a time. For more information, call Nydia Campbell-Pullom at 503-317-1089.

Cuisines of Asia -- Indulge your taste buds at Lan Su Chinese Garden this June with Cuisines of Asia, a celebration of Asia's vast culinary experience. For more information on the participating restaurants, chefs and experts, visit lansugarden.org.

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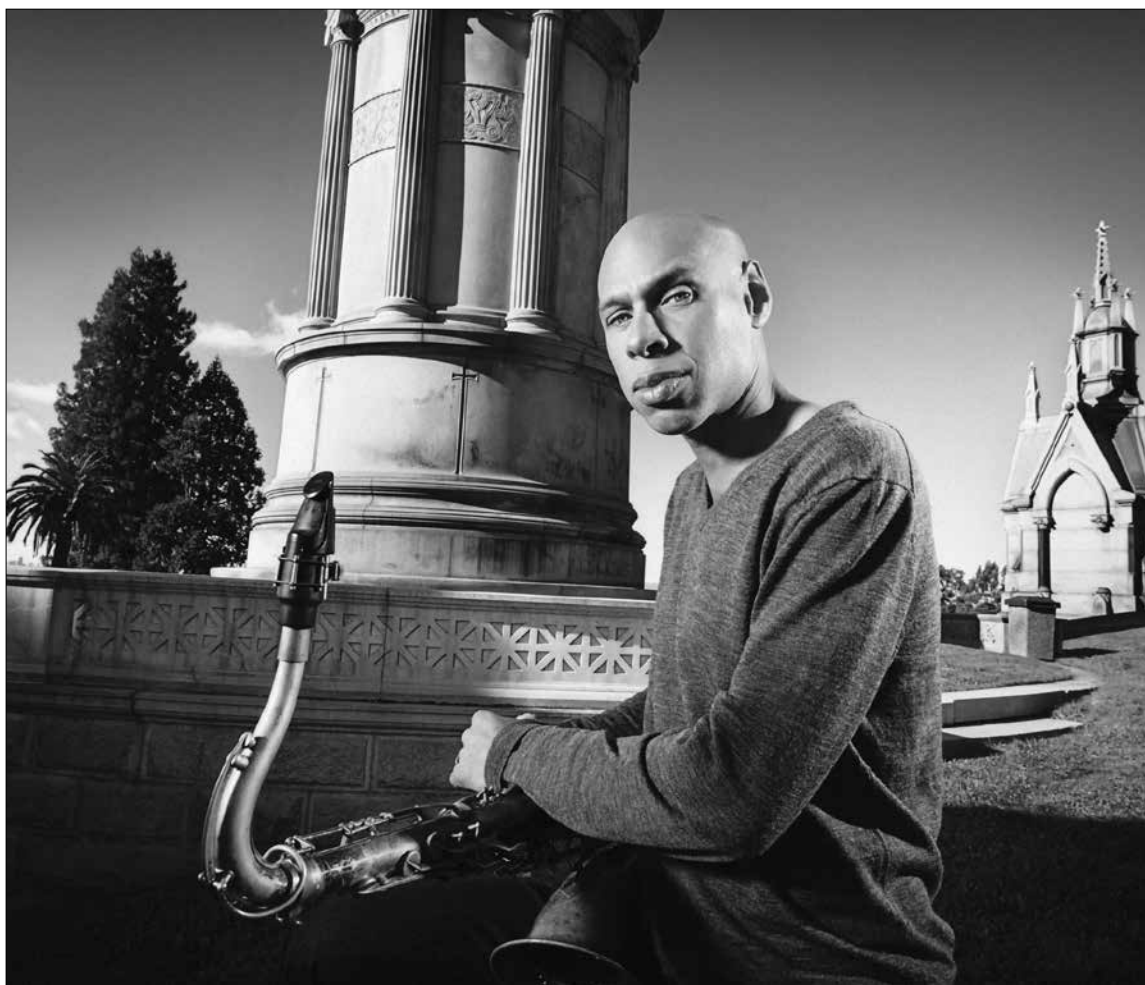


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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Joshua Redman, one of the most acclaimed and charismatic jazz artists to have emerged in the 1990s, will play two shows at Jimmy Maki's, 221 N.W. 10th Ave., on Wednesday, June 15.

PDX Jazz at Jimmy Maki's

PDX Jazz is bringing two internationally-recognized jazz artists on back-to-back dates at Jimmy Maki's in downtown Portland this month.

British jazz vocalist and pianist Anthony Strong plays on Tuesday, June 14, and Joshua Redman, one of the most acclaimed and charismatic jazz artists to have emerged in the 1990s, performs two shows on Wednesday, June 15.

Strong has become an international jazz sensation in just his handful of years as a bandleader and solo artist. Redman was named the winner of the prestigious Thelonious Monk International Saxophone Competition, and over the years has collaborated with a "who's who" of jazz elites. He has received three Grammy award nominations and performs all over the world to sold out crowds.

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INC Project

Worksystems is seeking proposals from organizations to host the Immigrant Nurse Credentialing Project, which will provide a pathway for experienced internationally-educated nurses currently living in the United States to obtain Oregon State Board of Nurses Registered Nurse licensure and practice in the US.

The RFP is estimated be posted on Worksystems' website: www.worksystems.org on June 7, 2016.

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SUB BIDS REQUESTED

GATEWAY DISCOVERY PARK PROJECT

Bids Due: June 13, 2016 @ 2:00pm

Sub-Bid Packages Available: May 23, 2016

Contact: Duy Nguyen
dnguyen@rrgcinc.net

Project Overview

Gateway Park & Urban Plaza will be a new 3.2 acre neighborhood park located on the corner of NE Halsey and NE 106th. The Master Planning process of 2010 outlined some important features including a programmed urban plaza, green space, inclusive nature playground, skate dot, and picnic area.

This project consists of the following Sub Bid Opportunities:

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06/20/16 4:30 PM Pacific Time

The City of Portland Bureau of Parks & Recreation (PP&R) is seeking a customer-service oriented Public Works Supervisor. This position supervises a team of heavy equipment operators and amenities maintenance staff that provide repair and preventative maintenance for a diverse portfolio of assets within a large, urban parks and recreation system.

For more detailed information for this position or to apply, please visit www.portlandoregon.gov/jobs.

PORTLAND PIONEERS OF COLOR WALKING TOURS (on FaceBook)

A walking tour showcasing some of Portland's early African American pioneers who lived in Historic downtown when Oregon became a State up to the 1920's. Tour highlights actual locations in the downtown Portland area.

TOURS (2 hours)
Saturday, June 18th
Saturday, July 16th
Saturday, August 20th

Where: DOWNTOWN
TIMES: 1pm

Tour meets on east side of SW 1st and Ankeny (next to Portland Saturday Market)

\$10.00 per Adult
\$2.00 ages 10-17

Free - children under ten

Purchase tickets from tour guide at tour location.

portlandpioneersofcolortours@yahoo.com



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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.

To apply: visit our web site at: www.oregonmetro.gov/jobs 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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Exploring Portland's Chinatowns

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

through June 21, visitors can travel back in time to discover their stories in the original exhibition Beyond the Gate: A Tale of Portland's Historic Chinatowns.

After gold was discovered in 1848, Chinese miners, laundrymen, cooks, gardeners, merchants, and doctors migrated to California and the Northwest. Immigrants who settled in Oregon established "Old Chinatown" (1850-1905) which was centered on Southwest Second and Front Avenues.

After the 1905 Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition and Oriental Fair brought hundreds of thousands of visitors to the Rose City and sparked a building boom, many Chinese merchants left the community they had built south of Burnside and reinvested in Northwest Portland near Union Station, creating "New Chinatown" (1905-1950).

Chinese in Oregon were deeply impacted by federal exclusion laws, but they nevertheless built homes, commercial enterprises, and families whose legacies continue today.

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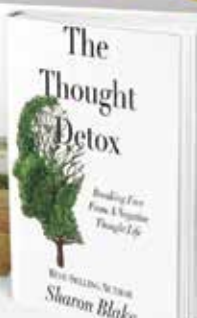
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Well Body WEDNESDAY



GUEST SPEAKER:
SHARON BLAKE

Ascension's Well Body Wednesdays are to encourage you to approach your health and wellbeing holistically. This simply means thinking about and taking care of your mind, body and spiritual needs. June's wellness dimension is **Mental Health!**

Welcoming guest speaker Sharon Blake, CEO of Life Chronicles Publishing and Best-Selling Author presenting her book, "The Thought Detox: Breaking Free From A Negative Thought Life". To learn more about Sharon and how she is walking in her purpose please visit www.mylifechronicles.org

This event is open to the public. A \$5.00 donation is suggested.

Questions? Please email: zay@ascendwellfi.com

Alma Education & Movement Space 1233 SE Stark St. Portland, OR 97222 | www.ascendwellfi.com



Simon Nagata, Toyota North America's executive vice president and chief administrative officer, visits Portland and helps launch a partnership with volunteer driver programs helping the elderly and disabled. He is pictured with Elaine Wells, executive director of Ride Connection, which Toyota supported with a \$5,000 donation.

Driving to Make a Difference

Improving accessibility and bringing transportation solutions to the elderly and disabled is the goal of a new partnership with Toyota to promote and support volunteer driver programs in 50 states.

As part of the local outreach, Toyota North America last month donated \$5,000 to the non-profit Ride Connection to help meet the

ever growing demand for rides in Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington counties.

Ride Connection provides public transit services that help pick-up senior citizens and take them to doctor's appointments, shopping trips and community events. The service is one of the organizations affiliated with the National Volun-

teer Transportation Center.

Toyota awarded \$400,000 to the national group as part of its new partnership, including the donation of two vehicles, a 2016 Toyota Prius and a 2016 Mobility Sienna, to help more than 800 volunteer driver programs in 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

DMV Prepares for Debit/Credit

Oregon DMV offices will begin accepting debit and credit card payments during the next four months with all 60 offices to be ready by the end of September.

Prior to a successful pilot launch of credit and debit ser-

vices in May, DMV accepted only cash, checks and money orders at its field offices. Credit and debit card payments have been accepted for online vehicle registration renewals since 2004, and DMV has hosted ATM cash machines at

many of its busiest offices.

To visit an Oregon DMV office in person, DMV suggests that you visit OregonDMV.com to make sure you have everything you need. You also can check wait times at many of the busiest offices.

Madison Tops for Global Learning

Madison High School has been named a Top Global Learning School by an international high school student exchange group.

AFS-USA is honoring the northeast Portland school for fostering global citizenship through intercultural learning—both inside and outside of the classroom—from hosting international

students, sending students abroad, and incorporating intercultural and experiential learning opportunities in the curriculum.

The ability to speak another language, to navigate in a different cultural context and to marshal a global perspective are skills that today's students need to succeed in our increasingly independent world.

Over the years, Madison High School has hosted over 75 students from 60 different countries, and sent over 20 students abroad to many different countries.


"We're so thankful and proud to work in educational partnership with schools like Madison High School," said Jean Goecks, AFS local team chair.

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