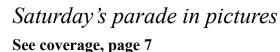




Celebrating Juneteenth





Business grounded by science

Making a splash in the beauty industry See Metro, page 9



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Bortland

Volume XLVII • Number 24



www.portlandobserver.com Wednesday • June 20, 2018



Established in 1970 Committed to Cultural Diversity



PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Nicole Kennedy and Karanja Crews cut the ribbon for the grand opening of the world's first hip-hop themed cannabis dispensary near Northeast 16th and Killingsworth, drawing support from local government leaders promoting equity in the licensing of operators and for employment in Oregon's new recreational marijuana industry. Also pictured at Saturday's event were (from left) Oregon Congressman Earl Blumenauer, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler, City Commissioner Amanda Fritz and State Sen. Lew Frederick.

Green and Equitable

Dispensary represents progress and end to war on pot

BY DANNY PETERSON THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

can-American owned and hip-hop as the store. northeast Portland, shows promise for bringing economic growth to a disadvantaged community while also giving back through its unique training program to help other members of the community find economic opportunity in the legal cannabis industry. The store opened with the support of high-ranking public officials Saturday.

co-owner Karanja Crews, who legends of rap, features strains of on pot. The opening of an Afri- grew up in the same neighborhood cannabis that pay homage to hip-

> sary near the corner of Northeast server. 16th Avenue and Killingsworth Street, sat freshly painted in bright green and yellow trim for its grand opening, appropriately on rapper Tupac Shakur's birthday. Crowds of people eagerly awaited entrance and blasts of hip-hop were both from Portland, hope to raise audible on the sunny day.

The store with its posters and vinyl records of the late rapper, "This is more than a store, this along with Nas, Wu-Tang Clan,

hop, dispensary co-owner Nicole a grant and partnered with a non- [and] are severely underrepresentthemed dispensary, a world first, in Called Green Hop, the dispen- Kennedy told the Portland Ob- profit education agency to train ed in the legalized cannabis indus-

> "In the 90s, hip-hop culture really normalized cannabis use and made it as part of a lifestyle, rather than making it so taboo," Kennedy explained.

awareness, and even help reverse some of the racial disparity issues associated with the cannabis industry, such as gentrification and

is a representation of equity," said A Tribe Called Quest, and other America's history of waging war mainly people of color. We over

aspiring youth of color who want try," Kennedy said. to work in the legal cannabis industry, as well as offering paid-internships for career advancement of newcomers.

"We're training people of color Crews and Kennedy, who are to get them into the industry and to help them have a way in. Because the industry is very network based, and it's really white-washed. But when you look at who has been targeted for cannabis crimes, it's

represent the prison population Their business has already won when it comes to cannabis crimes

> The training program will also look into record-expungement options for prior cannabis offenders.

> State Sen. Lew Frederick, an African American lawmaker from Portland who has worked on bills to lessen the blow of marijuana offenses in the past, emphasized the importance of practices like

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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A fashion icon's remarkable story

"You can be aristocratic without having been born into an aristocratic family," remarks Andre- Leon Talley, reflecting on his life in the new documentary, "The Gospel According to André." Although he likely could not have articulated that perspective when he was a young child growing up in the Jim Crow South, one senses that he somehow knew it to be true from earliest childhood.

Talley's capacity to respond to the beat of his own heart's drum comes through as he and a variety of friends -- ranging from his former classmates and a teacher in segregated North Carolina in the and boosted his prospects enough Durham, N. C. to fashion greats late 1950s. Inspired by the mag- to support his subsequent move to like Marc Jacobs, Tom Ford, and azine pages that he would tack New York City in the early 1970s. Anna Wintour -- reflect on the par- up on his bedroom walls, Talley There he began working as an aide ticularity of his voice and on his reached for his own expressions of to Andy Warhol and Diana Vreeremarkable life.

The arc of Talley's story could hardly be more dramatic and un-schools in the South, Talley won predictable. At the age of 9 or 10, a scholarship to Brown Universihe discovered Vogue magazine at ty for a graduate degree in French the public library, and its world of literature. Brown exposed him to style and elegance became his es- an effete world more tolerant of

OPINIONATED JUDGE DARLEEN ORTEGA



PHOTO COURTESY MAGNOLIA PICTURES

The life and career of André Leon Talley, a fashion icon who grew up reaching for his own expressions of style even when it got him bullied, is dramatically profiled in the new documentary, 'The Gospel According to André.

style even when it got him bullied.

After attending segregated

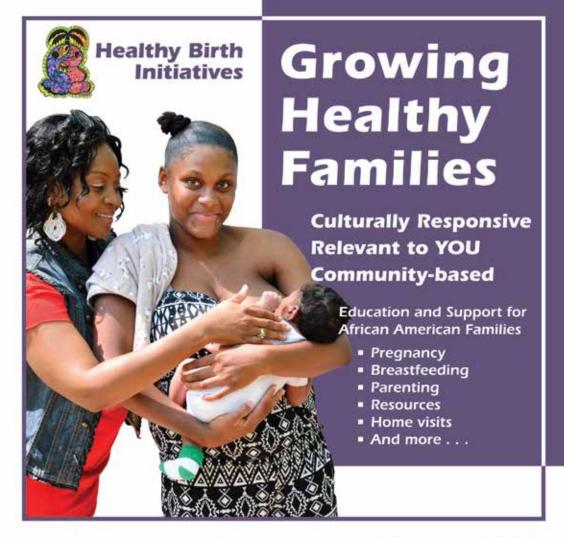
land, the venerable former editor-in-chief at Vogue, and made himself indispensable in the New York fashion scene. Eventually he became not only the right hand to Vogue editor Anna Wintour (who acknowledges that he knows more cape from the less idyllic world of his penchant for experimentation, about fashion history than she

does) but a person whose opinion appears to matter to virtually ev-

As improbable as his story seems, Talley sees the threads to his early life, and is that rare person whose early ties still bind. He speaks reverently and specifically of his relationship with the grandmother who raised him, who kept a spotless house filled with the smells of her baking and who loved him unconditionally. While Talley has said that they did not speak of how he was bullied, he conveys how profoundly his grandmother's acceptance affected him. He also speaks ardently of the lessons of style he learned from the denizens of the black church in Durham that he attended while growing up, who often shed their daily uniforms as maids and servants to come dressed on Sunday in carefully assembled suits, dresses, gloves, and elaborate

Talley's mind and heart clearly were primed for beauty and artistic expression, and the capacity to spot those things where they would otherwise be missed. The grandson of a sharecropper, he speaks, though only in passing, of the impact of slavery and lynching on his childhood, and of painful manifestations of racism he has experienced in his profes-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



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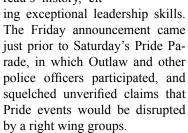
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The Week in Review

First Transgender Captain

Portland Police Chief Danielle Outlaw has promoted Lt. Stephanie Lurenco to captain, the first transgender officer to hold the position in the bureau's history, cit-



Renamed Harvey Milk Street

Pride Week in the LGBTQ community saw the renaming of a 13-block stretch of Southwest Stark Street in honor of civil rights pioneer Harvey Milk, when the Portland City Council voted unanimously Thursday to honor the late San Franciscan, who was one of the first openly gay elected officials before being assassinated in 1978.

Immigration Detainees Visited

U.S. Sens. Jeff Merkely and Ron Wyden, and Reps. Suzanne Bonamici and Earl Blumenauer met with male immigrants being held by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) at the Sheridan federal prison Saturday. The Democratic lawmakers and the ACLU claim the 123 detainees were being held in violation of their rights under Trump's "zero tolerance" immigration policy.

Shot Dead at School Track

A man who was found deceased from a gunshot wound Sunday morning on the track of the temporary site of Grant High School on Southeast 91st Avenue has been identified as 30-year-old Barak Rosen. There are no suspects in custody. The state medical examiner determined Rosen died of "homicidal violence" from multiple gunshot wounds.

Civil Rights Champion Dies

A close confidante to the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Dorothy Cotton, passed away last week in her Ithaca, N.Y. retirement home at the age of 88. Cotton was the only woman in King's inner circle of aides, marched tirelessly in civil rights demonstrations, typed King's "I Have a Dream speech," and was a major player in securing Southern black people the right to vote.

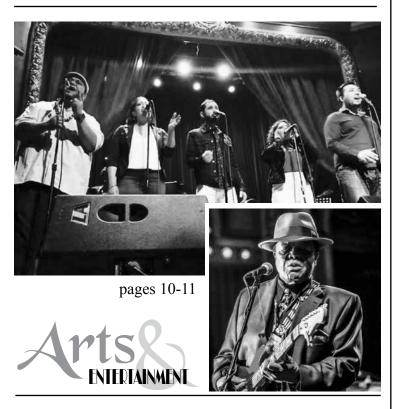


The Week in Review

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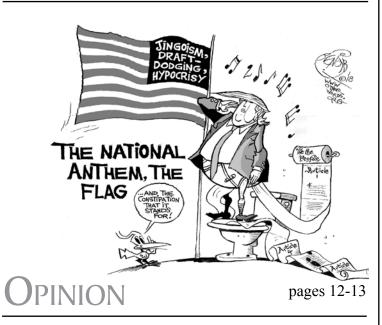
Calendar

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CLASSIFIEDS

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This page

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What's on your list today?

Keeping it Affordable

Non-profit partners with AmeriCorps to revitalize homes

BY DANNY PETERSON

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A nonprofit in northeast Portland is hosting 12 AmeriCorps volunteers this summer to protect vital affordable housing by upgrading homes with green technology, building community gardens and more.

The work is being done in conjunction with the Sabin Community Development Corp., a non-profit located on Northeast Alberta Street that has been dedicated to providing long-term affordable housing for low and moderate income residents in the face of rising housing costs since

Sabin maintains a tenant base that is 73 percent African American, a demographic similar to what many of north and northeast Portland's pre-gentrified inner city neighborhoods were comprised of in the early 1990s. Many of the residents served by Sabin have been there over a decade, and with AmeriCorps' help, they're revitalizing the homes of over 100 low income families.

"We are really excited to have AmeriCorps volunteers here," said Sabin CDC's Executive Director Mary Schoen-Clark. "They will help us lift up our capacity to improve the housing and lives of the people we serve," she added.

The work is designed to increase a sense of belonging by

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



In an effort to preserve affordable housing in gentrified northeast Portland, volunteer AmeriCorps workers work on upgrades to the Alberta Commons Apartments, including landscaping, as plants are prepared for transfer to a new garden. The apartments are owned by the non-profit Sabin Community Development Corp.

Honored for Social Justice

Two residents of the Vancouver area are being honored by the YWCA of Clark County for their leadership in working toward the elimination of racism and the promotion of peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

Cindi Fisher and William Clark will receive the Val Joshua Racial Justice Award and the Youth Social Justice Award, respectively, during an awards ceremony on Saturday, June 23 at 1 p.m. at Clark College in Vancouver.

The event will be held in conjunction with the Vancouver United States. NAACP's celebration of Juneteenth, the unofficial holiday



William Clark

The award ceremony will be followed by a job fair and a marking the end of slavery in the panel discussion on ending sys-



Cindi Fisher

temic racism, as well as family friendly activities throughout the day, music, and dance from Portland's Groovin Highsteppers.

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All services are provided free.





A fashion icon's remarkable story

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

sional life. I've read some criticism of the film's failure to delve more deeply and critically into how Talley achieved what he did and into his personal failings. The criticism seemed to me to miss the point entirely; in some ways, there is no way to explain how a person moves through such challenging circumstances to find his voice with such clarity. Director

answers will oversimplify the inquiry. Instead, she shows us Talley being his voluble vet tender-hearted self, demonstrates his connection to his origins and his capacity to build lasting ties with people across a particular broad spectrum of time, class, race, and context.

That's the story. It's a depiction of the resilience of someone who came from the margins, who is still in some sense an outli-Kate Novack's approach avoids er -- and who manages to shift

asking direct questions for which every conversation in which he participates, just by showing up as himself. Even in the world of fashion, which many would see as frivolous, a story like this one has potential to teach and inspire.

> Darleen Ortega is a judge on the Oregon Court of Appeals and the first woman of color to serve in that capacity. Her movie review column Opinionated Judge appears regularly in The Portland Observer. Find her movie blog at opinionatedjudge.blogspot.com.

Keeping it Affordable

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

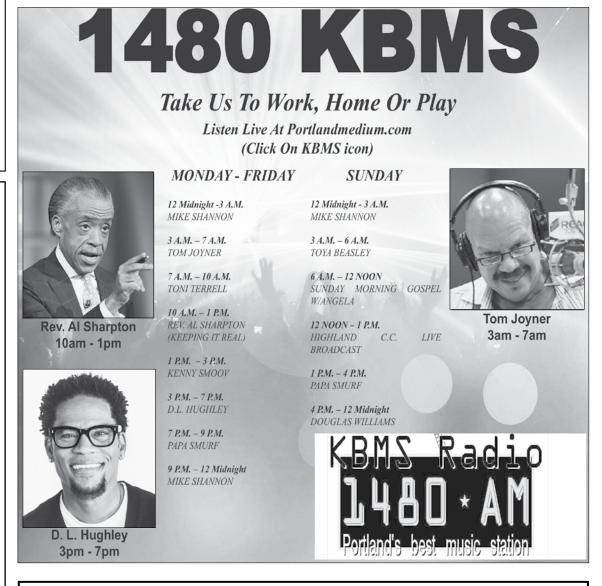
developing aesthetically pleasing and safe spaces to enjoy. The renovations include fixing drainage pipes, painting over chipped door frames, and transplanting yard plants to areas with more light. New green technology has been added to all 116 units, including

water saving fixtures and low energy lighting that will save in excess of 1,000 gallons of water and reduce energy consumption District. by at least 60 percent a year, respectively.

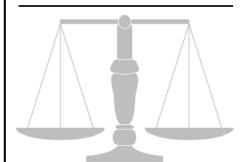
The nonprofit will soon host a garden party to celebrate the opening of the first of many community gardens built in partner-

ship with City Repair, another volunteer organization dedicated to community improvements in public spaces, and with funding from the East Multnomah County Soil and Water Conservation

"Sadie's Garden Party" will be held on Saturday, June 30 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Alberta Commons, which is located at 5010 N.E. 19th Ave., and feature the organization's hippo mascot Sadie.



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A group photo from the first Worship in Pink Clergy Breakfast, which was held in 2011.

Churches Promote Early Screenings

gram for congregations of all organization trains local church faiths to learn about and support volunteers as they host activities breast health awareness is being in their congregations to promote held Thursday, June 28 at 8:30 the importance of screening early a.m. the Legacy Emanuel Loren- for the detection of breast cancer. zen Conference Center in north Portland.

cancer awareness started in 2011 year's event. RSVP to Kathv in conjunction with the Susan G. Kendrix at worshipinpink@ Komen Foundation of Oregon and komenoregon.org or call 503-735southwest Washington, a local breast cancer support and prevention organization.

The annual event aims to provide messages of hope, inspiration, and education about breast health to increase the number of wom-

A unique clergy breakfast pro- en receiving mammograms. The

If your church is interested in participating, your pastor and a "Worship in Pink" for breast guest are invited to attend this

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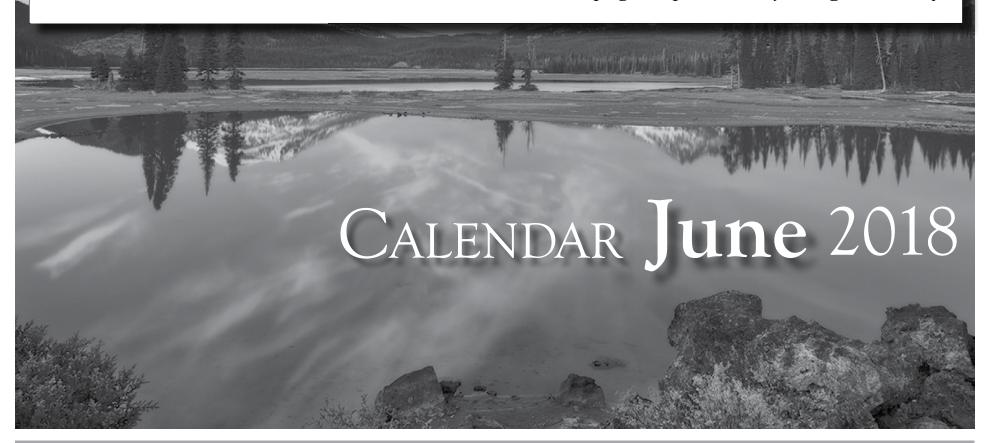




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Chris Van Allsburg born, 1949 International Picnic

Day

19 **Juneteenth** Tasmanian Devil Debuted in 1954

American Eagle Day Ice Cream Soda Day

First Day of Summer

US Department of Justice Established in 1870

Theodore Taylor born, 1922 Typewriter Patented In 1868

U.F.O. Day; First documented UFO sighting on this day

25 LEON Day - LEON is NOEL spelled backwards

26 Bicycle Patented In 1819 Toothbrush Invented In 1498

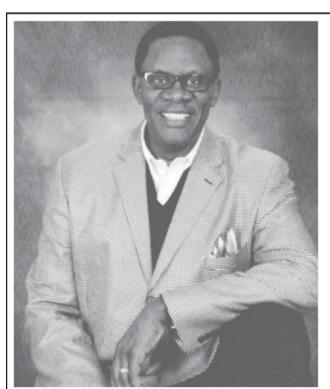
Helen Keller Born in 1880 Melody for Happy Birthday Song Written in 1859

28 Paul Bunyan Day

First iPhone released, 2007 Camera Day

30 Meteor Day National Organization of Women Founded In 1966





Dr. Billy R. Flowers



29

An ongoing series of questions and answers about America's natural healing profession.

Part 22. Chiropractic and Health A way of Life...not just a passing diagnosis.

check-up my doctor says that I'm "fit as fiddle." If this is true, why do I often suffer pain?

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Celebrating Juneteenth 2018

PHOTOS BY
MARK WASHINGTON/
PORTLAND OBSERVER
PUBLISHER



Students, staff, and parents of KairosPDX elementary school march proudly for Saturday's Juneteenth parade.



The Beat Goes On marching band floods the streets with music.



King Middle School Lions Drill Team marches down Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd for the annual Juneteenth celebration.



Portland's Juneteenth parade honors the late Mother of Juneteenth in Oregon, Clara Peoples who brought the celebration of the emancipation of slavery from Muskogee, Okla. to Portland in 1945.



City Council candidate and current Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith waves to onlookers and her supporters carry signs of support at Saturday's Juneteeth parade.





The younger King Sun School Drill team marches with a banner of school pride.



A child waves at the crowds from the seat of a U.S. Air Force truck representing the Armed Forces at Saturday's annual Juneteeth Parade.



Police Chief Danielle Outlaw, the first African American female police chief in Portland history, was grand marshal of the Juneteeth parade. She is pictured atop a convertible with her father.



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Portland native makes splash in beauty industry with environmentally friendly,

Bringing Science to Business



BY DANNY PETERSON

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland native Kalauna Carter is making waves in cosmetics by helming an environmentally, cruelty free, nail polish business called Kolors by K that has already garnered some high profile customers.

As an African American woman, Carter was motivated by the lack of representation of women in the beauty industry.

"We see the products, we see the models, but how many of them are truly wearing products made by women of color? Not many," she said.

Now Based in Tallahassee, Fla., Carter attained a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science, concentrating in plant and soil science from Tuskegee University. In May, she graduated with a Master's degree in Environmental Management from the same historically black college.

Carter took her love of nail polish and knowledge of chemical components to entrepreneurial ends when she discovered how dangerous the chemicals in many mainstream commercial beauty

"If I can figure this out without all these chemicals. I could be on to something." she recalled saying to herself at the time.

With the advice of a cousin. Teresa Scott, she went to work and that's when Kolors by K was born, launching in sum-

Now, she sells her nail polish online at kolorsbyk.com, as well as to retail stores in growing numbers.

Carter's products boast numerous certifications, including being "10-free," which ronmentally friendly chemical compounds that have often been linked to cancers in women ranging from ovarian to breast: camphor, toluene, formaldehyde, fluoride resins, xylene, ethyl tosylamide, parabens, phthalates and fragrances are among them.

The polishes are also FDA approved, vegan, and internationally certified as not tested on animals. Carter is the first woman

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14





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BOOGIE CAT PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS A PHENOMENAL CONCERT

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Blues and Gospel Converge

You're invited to join Portland blues legends Norman Sylvester and LaRhonda Steele as they lead a special musical journey where blues and gospel converge Friday, June 29 at the Alberta Rose Theater, 3000 N.E. Alberta St from 8 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

"A Phenomenal Concert: The Journey of Blues and Gospel in America" is a concert that will take you from the cradle of life in Africa, to the field hollers of slaves, and evolve into the Blues from the Mississippi Delta and the urban landscapes like Chicago. Blues and gospel have been major art forms in the history American music used for communication, inspiration, and healing.

Also joining Sylvester and Steele on stage will be Lenanne Sylvester-Miller, Renato Carato and Peter Mopss, the Interfaith Gospel Choir, and others.

to learn the history of Ameri-



Renowned blues musician Norman Sylvester will team up with LaRhonda Steele and others to take audiences down a musical history journey showcasing the roots of American blues and gospel

can music and the performance All ages welcome, with accompacelebration of our music legacy. Tickets to "Phenomenal Concert" are \$20 and doors open at 7 p.m.. com.

nying adults. More information can be found at albertarosetheatre.



Rise Up, a Seattle-based Hamilton Musical Tribute Band, is playing at the Alberta Rose Theater this Saturday, June 23 in their first trip to Portland.

Hamilton Musical Tribute

Up makes its Portland debut at the Alberta Rose Theater this Saturday, June 23 with two shows. The Seat- winner of 11 Tony awards, a

Cori Stewart--

Owner, Operator

A tribute band to the Broadway tle-based band, which has garnered hit musical Hamilton, called Rise acclaim in its own right, frequently sells out its performances.

The Hamilton musical is the

Grammy, and even a Pulitzer Prize for incorporating the life of one of America's founding fathers, Alexander Hamilton, with hip-hop from a script penned and performed by Lin-Manuel Miranda and features a cast of mostly people of color.

In addition to the songs from the musical, the Rise Up tribute band performs new Hamilton-related material.

It's a great way for any die-Hamilton fans to relive the energy from the musical, or for people who've never been able to secure a ticket to the Broadway show to hear the tunes for the first time, the band said.

On Monday, a few tickets were still available for Rise Up's 3 p.m. show on Saturday; the 8 p.m. show on the same day has already sold old. More information can be found at facebook.com/Rise-UpSeattleBand.



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Grant Application
Workshop -- Leaders
and volunteers with local
nonprofit organizations are invited to learn about Oregon Commu-

nity Foundation's Community Grant Program and other funding opportunities with experts on Thursday, June 21 at 5:30 p.m. at the Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center and Rosemary Anderson High School facility at 2208 S.E. 182nd Ave.

My People's Market -- My People's Market returns on Saturday, June 30 with an exciting mix of 100 diverse entrepreneurs, makers, and artists along with Portland's best food and beverage artisans. Bring the family to Rose Quarter Commons from noon to 8 p.m. for live outdoor music, art, performances and plenty to eat and drink--celebrating Portland's diverse and vibrant communities.



Gorge Shuttle Returns -- The Columbia Gorge Express bus service by the Oregon Department of Transportation has made its seasonal return, now going as far east as Hood River. For this week, the bus departs Friday through Sunday from the Gateway Transit Center to Rooster Rock State Park, Multnomah Falls, Cascade Locks and Hood River. On Monday, June 11, the bus will start service seven days a week, year-round.

Good in the Hood -- Legendary R&B performer Howard Hewitt will headline the multicultural Good in the Hood Celebration, June 22-24 at King School Park. This year will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the naming of Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary school and pay tribute

to Portland's civil rights history. Activities include live bands every day, a kid's area, multicultural food, crafts, marketplace vendors, Portland Farmers Market, free health screens and more.

Norman Sylvester -- 'Boogie Cat' Norman Sylves-

ter plays Friday, June
22 at 5 p.m. at the Tigard
Balloon Festival, and at 9
p.m. at Clyde's; Saturday, June 23
at noon at the Mosier Festival and at

4:30 p.m. at the Gorge Blues and Brews in Stevenson, Wash.; Sunday, June 24 at 4 p.m. at the Good in the Hood Festival at King School Park and Friday, June 29 at 7 p.m. for the Phenomenal Concert History of the Blues at the Alberta Rose Theater.

Vancouver Book Fest -- Fort Vancouver Regional Library is hosting a three-day used book sale with thousands of books for kids and adults on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, June 21-23 at Library Hall, 1007 E. Mill Plain Blvd. Hours will be 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. all days.



Robot Revolution

-- A new exhibit at OMSI brings some of the most innovative robots from all over the world. Learn about the skills robots possess that mimic and often surpass human capabilities in "Robot Revolution," now showing through Sept. 7.

Zoo for All -- The Oregon Zoo has launched "Zoo for All," a new discount program that provides \$5 admission for low income individuals and families. Visitors may purchase up to six of the \$5 tickets by brining a photo ID and documentation showing they participate in low income service, like the Oregon Trial Card, Medicaid, Section 8, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and Head Start.

Discount Tickets -- Low income families and individuals can purchase \$5 tickets to classical musical performances in Portland as part of a unique program called Music for All. Participating organizations include the Oregon Symphony, Portland Opera, Oregon Ballet Theater, Chamber Music Northwest, Portland Youth Philharmonic, Portland Baroque Orchestra, Friends of Chamber Music, Portland Chamber Orchestra, Portland Piano International, Portland Symphonic Choir, Cappella Romana and Portland Vocal Consort.



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The Trouble with Roadside Saliva Tests:

Proposals damage civil

liberties

BY CHLOÉ WHITE

In the wake of marijuana legalization, many states are looking for new ways to

keep impaired drivers off the road. Unfortunately, some proposals would lead to problematic and possibly unconstitutional police practices. One such idea is warrantless roadside saliva testing.

During a roadside saliva test, a police officer takes a saliva sample from a driver's mouth and inserts the sample into a machine that at least theoretically can detect whether any amount of cer-

tem. Yuck factor aside, there are several problems with this.

First, at best, these tests merely

detect the presence of drugs in a person's system. Unlike breathalyzers, they say nothing about actual impairment at the time of testing. As such, the use of saliva tests could result in the detention of someone who has

any detectable amount of substance in their body—again, legal or illegal—even though this adds nothing to the determination of whether that person is an impaired driver.

Second, these tests pose serious due process and equal protection concerns.

Roadside stops are considered seizures under the Fourth Amendment, and many factors contribtain controlled substances—legal ute to whether or not a given sei-

or illegal—is in the driver's sys- zure is legitimate. Because these warrantless tests will be positive for commonly prescribed medications, such as anti-depressants and pain management medicines, they will undoubtedly result in longer seizures and interrogations of drivers with disabilities who lawfully take the tested-for, doctor-prescribed medicines than those who do not.

This is the essence of disparate and unequal treatment—people with any presence of those particular drugs in their system are always going to be seized for a longer time, no matter their actual impairment. And from a racial justice standpoint, in a country where people of color are disproportionately stopped and searched by police, we can expect that they will also be subjected to this test more frequently than

Saliva testing also raises substantial issues regarding personal dignity and privacy. A saliva test on the side of the road is much more invasive of privacy and bodily integrity than a breathalyzer test due to the physical removal of oral fluids and DNA. People's privacy should not be invaded by a warrantless test that has no relation to actual impairment and road safety.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, it has not yet been clearly established that saliva test devices are even accurate or reliable. States should not be relying on or investing money in technology that has not been absolutely proven to be accurate, especially when they jeopardize some of our most fundamental liberties.

Early indications are that at tor of the ACLU of Vermont.

least some lawmakers are aware of the problems with roadside saliva testing. Senators in Vermont recently defeated a bill that would have allowed police to conduct these warrantless oral fluids tests. Other states, however, are beginning or are considering pilot programs of these tests on their roads and highways, including California, Michigan, Colorado, Kansas, and Illinois.

Improving road safety is an important goal, but these warrantless tests do nothing to advance that goal while creating multiple civil liberties concerns. Drivers should not have to sacrifice their constitutional and civil rights for a roadside saliva test that is invasive, ineffective, and unreliable. And let's face it, it's also pretty

Chloé White is the policy direc-

Challenging Trump's Excesses in the Courtroom

Long Live the Litigators

BY MARTHA BURK

Shortly after Donald Trump was awarded the presidency by our perverted and antiquated electoral system, I got des-

perate calls from some normally non-political family members and friends. They wanted to know what they could do to counter the governing debacle they knew would come. Most asked where they could give money.

to the litigators."

While think tanks and polmuch-needed resource in a democracy, groups that slow them down until a re- tions.

cluded groups active in areas I al groups that provide any sort thought were most threatened. of abortion counseling — often recommended the ACLU, Planned Parenthood, the Human only three days after Trump's in-Rights Campaign, Earth Justice, auguration. the Mexican American Legal

gime change.

likely to tackle the coming challenges not only to established icy shops are also a law, but to common sense and decency.

Like most folks, I like to be directly challenge the right. But this time there was government in court can no joy when those challenges sometimes stop the worst arrived like a barrage of incomexcesses — or at least ing missiles from multiple direc-

The Trump administration's My list was short, but in- move to block funding to globincluding contraception — came

Dismantling regulations on Defense Fund (MALDEF), and other fronts was no less drastic.

overturned 33 environmental regulations ranging from decisions on the Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipelines to migratory bird protections, and 24 more were on the chopping

The Muslim travel ban, the ban on transgender individuals serving in the military, and ending DACA were just the most prominent of the dozens of other rollbacks that came almost daily and have never let up.

But I was also right on another front, and on that I can take heart. Litigators quickly stepped up to delay — and maybe eventually end — the abuses.

Human rights and immigration groups jumped in immediately when Trump issued his travel ban, even showing up at airports to aid stranded immigrants. They were successful in stopping the worst excesses and delaying a much watered-down partial ban for several months. Even as the partial ban took effect they pressed on, and if the ening progress given the consid-Supreme Court ultimately overturns it, it will be thanks to them.

Environmental groups have so far stalled Trump's planned pipeline building, and predict their lawsuits will delay it until he is out of office, and possibly for gender justice quickly filed suit when Trump announced the transgender ban, and they be- tributed by OtherWords.org.

I had only one answer: "Give the NAACP as some of the most In his first year alone, Trump lieve it will be overturned permanently in the next few months. And DACA defenders including MALDEF, the NAACP, and attorneys general from several states continue to block the Trump administration's attempt to kill the program.

The administration's latest attack on reproductive rights comes in the realm of federal support for family planning services and other preventive health care for low-income, under-insured, and uninsured individuals. New guidelines will support groups that advocate the risky "rhythm method" and the discredited "abstinence only" education over more conventional and effective contraception.

It's widely seen as another backdoor attempt to defund Planned Parenthood, a major provider of sex education and birth control nationwide. So Planned Parenthood and the ACLU have filed suit to stop implementation.

On balance, all of this is hearterable challenges of dealing with an unpredictable and malicious head of state. At least until voters engineer a regime change.

Martha Burk is the director of the Corporate Accountability Project for the National Counforever. Similarly, advocates cil of Women's Organizations (NCWO) and the author of the book Your Voice, Your Vote. Dis-



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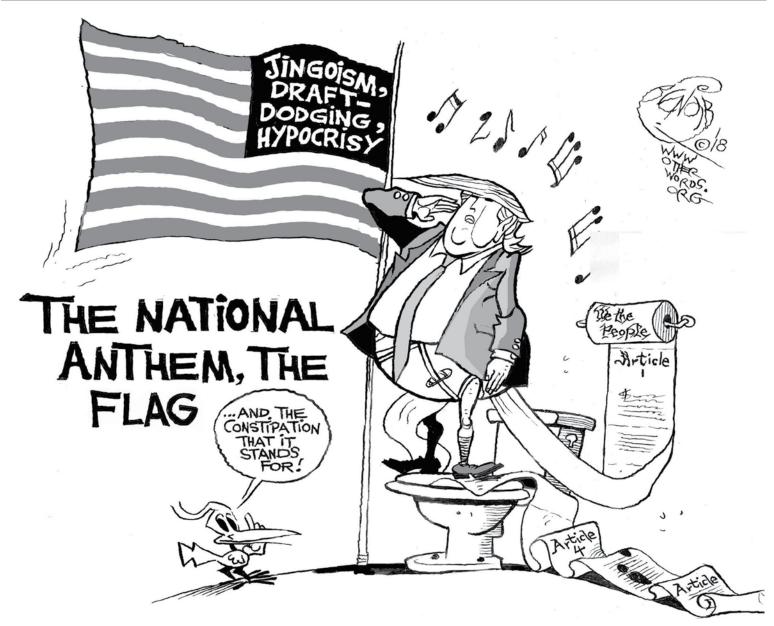


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Pardons Aren't Policy

BY EBONY SLAUGHTER-JOHNSON

Before all the North Korea news hit, the last few weeks seemed to show another surprising turnaround for President Trump: some sympathy for criminal justice reform.

After a visit from Kim Kardashian, the president commuted the sentence of Alice Marie Johnson, a great-grandmother serving a life sentence for a first time, non-violent drug offense. Then he said he'd reach out to the NFL players taking a knee to protest police brutality — players he'd spent months antagonizing.

The president insisted that he by police in 2017. on whom to pardon next.

That's a welcome gesture, but it also shows that Trump doesn't really understand the issue. Individual pardons can't replace policy in addressing racial inequity. For every individual Trump might pardon, thousands more will face arrest and incarceration for the tem. same crimes.

were about 24 percent of the population, they were 58 percent of those stopped by police. In the first half of that year, the ACLU of Pennsylvania found that black Americans were 69 percent of

stops in Philadelphia, despite constituting 48 percent of residents.

Black Americans' interactions with law enforcement are more likely to be deadly, too. The Washington Post found that black Americans, who comprise 13 percent of the national population, 100-to-1 crack to cocaine mandawere nearly a quarter of those shot tory minimum sentencing dispari-

inderstood the driving purpos- Instead of just pardoning a few extreme example of the racist unes behind the NFL protests, even people, President Trump could derpinnings of the criminal justice Joe Arpaio. Opportunities to stoke saying players could advise him ask the Department of Justice to reverse course by entering into consent decrees — reform agreements, basically — with police than their white counterparts, departments with histories of racial misconduct and brutality.

Existing inequities follow black Americans once they come under the grip of the criminal justice sys-

The U.S. Sentencing Commis-

In New York City in 2017, sion concluded that black men where black Americans receive sentences that are an average of nearly 20 percent longer than "similarly situated" white men. And the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund found that, as of July 2016, black Americans were over 40 percent of those on death row.

> The Department of Justice currently mandates blind reviews of capital punishment cases. Beyond just pardons, Trump could extend those reviews to other sentences to reduce bias.

Drug enforcement and sentencing, including the now-diminished

Although black Americans are no more likely to use or sell drugs they're nearly 3 times more likely to be arrested for drug offenses and 6.5 times more likely to be incarcerated. Mandatory minimum sentences, which have been identified as one of the main drivers of mass incarceration, impact black

Americans nearly twice as often as white Americans.

From here, the president could persuade lawmakers in Congress to reform those mandatory minimum sentences. He could encourage Attorney General Jeff Sessions to rescind his memorandum directing federal prosecutors to "charge and pursue the most serious, readily provable offense," against non-violent drug offend-

At the very least, he could abandon his own embrace of punitive drug rhetoric and policy.

Unfortunately, I doubt President Trump will do any of these things. I'm not even sure he'll make good on those pardons he's promised to consider.

This is, after all, a man who endorsed police brutality, called for ty, are often regarded as the most the death penalty for drug dealers, and pardoned the racist Sheriff racism seem far too politically expedient for this president.

But for anyone serious about it, including Trump, the road forward

Ebony Slaughter-Johnson is an associate fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies who covers history, race, and the criminalization of poverty. Distributed by Other-



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Bringing Science to Business

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

of color to sell a cosmetic product with such certifications, she said.

Carter aspires to be a role model for young African American women everywhere and encourage all women to follow their passion as she did.

In 2014, she was named an academic all-star by a White House Initiative highlighting students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities across the nation. But that wasn't the only time she was noticed by the White House.

When then-First Lady Michelle Obama spoke at her college in 2015, Carter developed a personal relationship with Obama's publicist. After Kolors by K launched in 2016, the publicist got in touch with Carter to let her know Obama was interested in her polish.

woman whom I looked up to dear- found at kolorsbyk.com.

ly would wear my polish. From Oprah to Serena and even Mrs. Obama. NEVER would I have thought The FLOTUS would want to wear my polish? But she did. She even got two Kolors for her daughters," Carter shared on a Facebook post on June 4.

A graduate of Portland's De La Salle North Catholic School, she credits divine assistance with helping her make the dramatic switch from scientist to entrepreneur, with little to no experience in the latter.

"God placed entrepreneurship on my heart, but when I started my business I had no idea what entrepreneurship was," Carter said. "When God creates us, the desires he puts on our hearts were put there by Him to fulfill our purposes for him," she added.

Carter plans to expand to other cosmetic products as her brand "I remember praying that a grows. More information can be

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PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Nicole Kennedy and Karanja Crews are business partners for their new Green Hop dispensary in northeast Portland. The owners are pledged to give back to the community by running training and internship programs for young African Americans wanting to find employment in the legal cannabis industry which under represents blacks.

Green and Equitable

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

the expungement of convictions for past possession of a drug that is now state-legal.

"We have seen several generations of young black men and young black women become felons," Frederick said at the Green Hop ribbon-cutting ceremony. By getting these convictions expunged, he said, folks can actually "get jobs, get housing, get education, get loans to become entrepreneurs in the community."

The dispensary was the recipient of a \$96,000 grant from the city's three percent cannabis tax for the purposes of workforce development and support for minority-owned cannabis businesses.

The revenue will be used to run the training program Green Hop Academy, geared for young African Americans over the age of 21 working toward getting licensed as a bud tender. They also run a 10 week paid internship program that is done in partnership with Portland Opportunities Industrial Center to give newly

experience.

City Commissioner Amanda Fritz, who championed the cannabis tax, and urged for a portion of it to go to economic development in communities of color that have been disenfranchised past cannabis prohibitions, said the dispensary was exactly the kind of place she'd hoped the revenue would support.

"We particularly wanted to start repairing some of the wrongs of the past," she said.

Mayor Ted Wheeler, who has worked with other U.S. mayors to fight to end cannabis prohibition him to become an entrepreneur, nationally, voiced his support,

"The City of Portland will be with you 100 percent," Wheeler

er, who was also in attendance, has been backing cannabis reform bills in Congress, pushing for states' rights on legal pot and to correct inequities in punishment from cannabis cases. Less than one percent of the legal can-

licensed bud-tenders workforce nabis industry is African American, Blumenauer said.

> "Barbara Lee and I introduced a resolution this week in Congress to encourage the development of policies that corrects that. We've got legislation to deal with criminal records," he added.

> Kennedy and Crews both have teaching backgrounds, with Kennedy originally starting out as a nurse and medical assistant, and Crews dedicated to bolstering the African American community for non-profits in and outside Portland.

When asked what inspired Crews said the elements of hiphop, as outlined by rapper KRS-One, set him on the path to becoming a business co-owner.

"One of the elements is street Congressman Earl Blumenau- entrepreneurism. So just me being a hip-hop head, just understanding the importance of economic development...that's always been in me, it's been in my spirit. We took a leap of faith to run the business, to start the business," he said.



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