

PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Nicole Kennedy brings diversity to the new legal cannabis industry by running the Green Hop marijuana dispensary on Northeast Killingsworth Street with her business partner Karanja Crews (not pictured). The hip-hop themed weed shop is one of two African-American owned businesses in Portland operating with support from the city's cannabis tax specifically meant to bolster cannabis entrepreneurs from communities of color that were disproportionately and negatively affected by the criminalization of marijuana in the past.

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Making sure the new business side of pot is diverse

BY DANNY PETERSON

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER The rise and support for two blackowned Portland businesses in the new legal cannabis industry shows how the city is fulfilling its restorative justice and reparations goals to mitigate past harms done in communities of color from America's historic war on pot.

In the first year that Portland's trail blazing cannabis tax revenue policy has been in effect, two African American-owned marijuana businesses have received financial support for specific programs that can help them get a leg up in a new industry that is overwhelmingly dominated by whites.

Green Hop, a dispensary in northeast Portland and incubator for cannabis professionals of color; and Green Box, the first legal cannabis subscription box delivery service to get officially licensed in Portland, each received \$30,000 grants from the tax revenue.

It's a move City Commissioner Chloe Eudaly called "just one step toward tangible restorative justice."

Nicole Kennedy, the co-owner of Green Hop, told the Portland Observer the grant



Rent Control Law Signed by Governor Historic victory for housing advocates

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown signed the nation's first statewide mandatory rent control measure on Thursday, giving a victory to housing advocates who say spiraling rent costs in the economically booming state have fueled widespread homelessness and housing insecurity.

Brown, a Democrat, said the legislation will provide "some immediate relief to Oregonians struggling to keep up with rising rents and a tight rental market."

Landlords are now limited to increases once per year that cannot exceed 7 percent plus the change in the consumer price index, which is used to calculate inflation.

The law prohibits them serving nocause evictions after a tenant's first year of occupancy, a provision designed to protect those who are living paycheck to paycheck and who affordable housing advocates say are often most vulnerable to sudden rent hikes and abrupt lease terminations. It takes effect immediately. Democrats

Continued on Page 5



PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Solidarity for Women's Rights

Thousands of protestors march down Southeast 10th Avenue in the heart of Portland State University's urban campus Sunday in a display of solidarity and equal rights for women. The 2019 Womxn's March, a much smaller but significant sequel to the massive women's march that followed Donald Trump's election, put a new focus on indigenous, people of color, and LGBTQ women after new leadership took the reins to organize this year's march.

Earthquake Building Warnings Delayed

The Portland City Council agreed last week to a nearly two year delay on requirements that owners of unreinforced brick and stone buildings post signs warning the buildings may be unsafe in an earthquake. Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty pushed for the change after the enforcement drew much ire among African American church leaders, those who own music venues, and other community members.

Stroke Claims Actor at 52 Riverdale and Beverly Hills, 90210 star Luke Perry died Monday after suffering a massive stroke last week. He was 52. Tributes on social media, included stories about how much of a gentleman the former heart-

throb was.



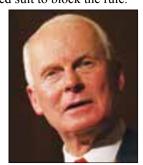
Oregon Sues over Title X Gag Rule

Oregon Gov. Brown and Attorney General Rosenblum filed a lawsuit Tuesday challenging the constitutionality of the Trump Administration's new Title X "gag rule" to re-



strict access to reproductive health services and information about abortion. The lawsuit was joined by 21 states' Attorneys General. The American Medical Association and Planned Parenthood also filed suit to block the rule.

State Leader Dead at 69 Dennis Richardson, 69, died last week after a battle with brain cancer. The Oregon Republican Secretary of State was remembered for his integrity, warmth, kindness and perseverance. A state funeral was scheduled for Wednesday at the State Capitol.



Norma Paulus Broke Polticial Barriers

Norma Paulus, a pioneering Oregon Republican who was the first woman elected to statewide office in Oregon, died Thursday at age 85. Paulus was a member of the Legislature, Oregon's secretary of state from 1977 to 1985, her party's nominee for governor in 1986 and the state's elected superintendent of schools for two terms in the 1990s.

Washington's Inslee Running for President

Washington's Democratic Governor, Jay Inslee, emphasizing the "existential threat" of climate change to the safety of the United States, officially announced his candidacy for president Friday, joining a field of Democrats that's already swelled to more than a dozen candidates.

Portland Teen Charged with Murder

A 15-year-old boy is facing murder charges after he shot and killed an 18-year-old at a Portland Motel 6 last December, police say. Jeremiah Hannon is also accused with another teen of beating up a man aboard a MAX train just five days after the shooting. That victim in that case told police he had asked the teens to turn down the music they were playing on the train before they attacked him.

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The Portland Observer



The Week in Review page 2



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page 9



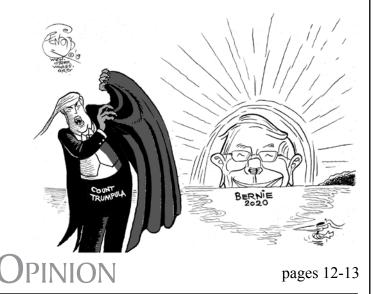
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pages 14



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PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

I-5 traffic in Portland's Rose Quarter near Harriet Tubman Middle School (behind trees at right). A plan to widen the freeway to ease congestion is moving ahead despite opposition from parents of the school and other groups concerned about air pollution and an increase in vehicle emissions.

Not on Board

Groups align against I-5 expansion

BY DANNY PETERSON THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A coalition of dozens of organizations, small businesses, and Portland community members are worried Oregon Department of Transportation's proposed Rose Quarter freeway project will further worsen the air quality of nearby Harriet Tubman Middle school, among other concerns, despite a recent environmental assessment No More Freeway Expansions

from the state agency claiming the opposite would occur.

"Myself and other parents from Tubman--especially the other members' parents of the PTSA-we definitely think it's a bad idea for them to expand a freeway, pretty much behind or close to the school Tubman. I definitely believe that the air quality wouldn't be good for our kids as we're already experiencing bad air there," Tadimika Edwards, president of the Tubman Middle School Parent Teacher Student Association told the Portland Observer.

Edwards is also part of the

coalition, a group that slammed ODOT's recent claim that the proposed \$450 billion widening of Interstate 5 for a larger segment of roadway in the Rose Quarter district-among other modifications--would actually benefit air quality, decrease carbon emissions, and shorten travel time. The main premise being that a wider freeway in this section will match up to other segments of I-5 and decrease emissions from idling cars and trucks.

The coalition vehemently disputes the claims.

"These findings fly in the face of decades of research in the field of public health, transportation planning and carbon mitigation,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

omedian is No Show for Trial

A Multnomah county Judge issued an arrest warrant Monday for comedian and actor Katt Williams after he failed to show up for trial on charges of assaulting his chauffeur driver at the Portland Airport last October.

Williams' lawyer stood in his client's place and Judge Kenneth Walker set bail for \$10,000.

The comedian and actorwhose real name is Micah Sierra Williams-earlier pleaded not guilty to a charge of 4th-degree assault for allegedly punching his driver Wali Kanani after Kanani wouldn't let Williams' dog ride in the front seat. Williams was slated



Comedian and actor Katt Williams (AP file photo)

to appear on Nick Cannon's "Wild 'N Out" improv comedy show at the Moda Center at the time.

The chauffeur suffered a broken tooth, laceration to the face, and struggles with chronic migraines and ringing in his ears as a result of the incident, the lawsuit stated. He is asking \$990,000 in compensation and punitive damages.

Williams, who lives in Georgia, could settle the case out of court. In some cases, under the approval of a judge, a monetary compensation may count as a civil compromise that would allow a 4th degree criminal charge to be dismissed in Oregon.



Owner, Operator

Not on Board **Avalon Flowers**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

and contradict the numerous headlines we've seen in local and national newspapers throughout the past eighteen months," the coalition said.

Not one urban freeway expansion in North America has successfully lowered congestion levels, due to a phenomenon known as "induced demand," according to the group's website.

The project, which received funding through a 2017 statewide transportation package, would add auxiliary merging lanes throughout the 1.8 mile area broadly between the I-84 and I-405 interchanges on I-5, as well as 12-foot shoulders on both sides of north and southbound travel lanes to make way for emergency vehicles or for minor collisions to be dealt with.

Those additions would cut further into a hillside near Tubman middle school, which is already perched adjacent to the highway, according to a video commissioned by the coalition that used ODOT's own schematics.

A Portland State University study completed back in April warned against Tubman kids playing outside for extended periods, especially during high traffic times, due to the current poor air quality. Linda A. George, one of the PSU scientists who conducted the study, told Willamette Week that widening I-5 could result in higher concentrations of the pollutants from vehicle exhaust-which include arsenic and petroleum byproducts--and that they could extend further onto the property.

The coalition's stance is that congestion pricing-also known as variable tolling--should be enacted as a way to reduce congestion, instead of widening the freeway. Coalition spokesperson Aaron Brown told the Portland Observer the tolling can be enacted in a way similar to TriMet's low income fare program: discounted or free fares for those who are low income

He said congestion pricing discounts based on income could mitigate the disproportionate impact the tolling would have on low income communities located near inner north and northeast Portland, such as those who attend Tubman, which has 48.9 percent of its students qualified for free or reduced price meals and is over 68 percent students of color.

The school's proximity to the freeway and the accompanying pollutants was previously addressed by Portland Public Schools by spending \$12.5 million on a new roof and state-of-the-art HVAC system to eliminate toxics in anticipation of its re-opening last fall.

A proposed sound wall, that ODOT included in its assessment. to reduce noise levels of nearby traffic for Tubman was of little comfort to Edwards, who is a parent at the school and also works at Urban League of Portland as an outreach specialist helping the chronically homeless get housed.

Whether it decreases noise level or not, our concern is more of the air quality," she said.

The public comment period for the proposed I-5 Rose Quarter Improvement Project will close on Monday, April 1 at 5 p.m. Until then, ODOT will hold a drop-in open house on Thursday, March 7 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Leftbank Annex Clubroom, 101 N. Weidler St; a public hearing on Tuesday, March 12, with speaker sign ups from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m., and a program starting at 5 p.m. at the Oregon Convention Center, Room A108; and an online open house will be available now through April 1 at i5rosequarter. org



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TriMet Hires Experienced Executive

A transportation industry executive from Seattle will begin working for TriMet this month as its new chief operating officer, supervising the agency's transportation, maintenance, IT and safety and security divisions.

Samuel "Sam" Desue Jr. brings 22 years of public and private transportation experience to Portland.

Desue previously worked in transportation services in the Seattle and Kansas City metropolitan regions. He moved up through the ranks at the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority, starting there as the director of transporta-



Sam Desue Jr.

tion in 2013 and serving as chief operating officer, interim general manager and, most recently, deputy chief executive officer.

Desue set priorities for the agency by developing a five-year strategic plan; improving on-time performance; promoting industry best practices and technologies; implementing a safety/security task force; and forging strong partnerships with community and business groups, first responders and city leaders, TriMet officials said.

Prior to Kansas City, Desue **CONTINUED ON PAGE 14**



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Joyce Washington Believed in this Community and all those that made this Community Great.

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The Portland Observer

Rent Control Law Signed by Governor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

who control the Legislature say the state's housing crisis justified passing the bill as an emergency measure.

In hearings for the bill passed, tenants testified that they have struggled to keep up with skyrocketing rents, with many said they've been forced from their homes.

Kori Sparks, a resident of the fast-growing city of Bend, said she relies on disability and has "to deal with the stress of losing an accessible home on short notice."

She said rent control will protect vulnerable people from "a predatory system where profit comes before people and denies them of a basic human right."

Builders in Oregon have not been able to construct enough houses and apartments to meet the demands of the thousands of people moving to the state for jobs and in some cases, for a lower cost of living. Many people move to the state from California.

A state report estimated that a in the country. renter would need to work 77 hours a week at minimum wage to afford a 2-bedroom apartment. One in three renters in Oregon pay more than 50 percent of their income on to build or maintain properties. rent, far higher than the Congressional-set definition of housing affordability, which suggests setting makes it harder for apartment aside 30 percent toward rent.



Oregon Gov. Kate Brown holds a ceremony Thursday to sign a rent control law at the State Capitol in Salem. The bill ismeant to address a housing crisis that has touched every corner of the state. (AP photo)

area, the average rental unit costs er-income households," to data released by the city. Orethe highest rates of homelessness owners.

Landlords and developers argued that rent control would make the housing crisis worse, saying investors will now be less willing

"History has shown that rent control exacerbates shortages, owners to make upgrades and In the Portland metropolitan disproportionately benefits high-

said that rent control alone isn't about \$1,400 a month, according Doug Bibby, president of the enough, and that the state needs ensure that every Oregonian, in National Multifamily Housing gon is also suffering from a lack of Council, a national association Brown has proposed a \$400 milaffordable housing and has one of representing apartment building lion investment in affordable

an "all hands on deck" solution. housing solutions in her two-year thrive," she said. The governor acknowledged budget proposal.

"It will take much more to communities large and small, has access to housing choices that allow them and their families to

--Associated Press





The Annual Balm In Gilead HIV/AIDS And Health Initiative **EVENTS**

• Balm In Gilead Breakfast & Health Forum at the Lorenzen Auditorium at Legacy Emanuel Hospital 2801 N Gantenbein Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97227 When: Saturday, March 09, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.

• Balm In Gilead HIV/AIDS And Health: Healing and Prayer worship service at Maranatha Church, 4222 NE 12th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97211

When: Sunday, March 10, 2019 at 3:30 P.M.

<u>Sponsored By</u>: Albina Ministerial Alliance (AMA)

The Portland Observer

A Reversal ^{of} Fortunes

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

has helped her business greatly.

"We've been able to move into a better position, re-assess our needs, and be able to meet some of the needs we already had, like marketing and things like that. So that's been amazing," Kennedy said.

Kennedy runs the dispensary with her business partner Karanja Crews, and together, they launched what it called "the world's first hip-hop dispensary," at its grand opening last year.

Green Hop also runs an educational program for youth of color who are of legal age under Oregon's legal marijuana laws, and are interested in working in the cannabis industry. Green Hop Academy facilitates hands-on training in the cannabis profession, classes, as well as setting up students with real-world internships in every area of the cannabis business-from growing to budtending.

Economists have found dis-

of white and black businesses is in large part due to the smaller amount of capitol that's accessible to black entrepreneurs. Acording to an investigation by Buzzfeed in 2016, less than one percent of cannabis dispensary owners nationwide were black.

In Portland, the NuLeaf Project was founded by an African-American couple to help communities of color thrive in the legal cannabis industry. The nonprofit was selected by the city to manage and disperse grants funded by the city's marijuana tax.

'NuLeaf and the City of Portland are addressing the economic harm caused by cannabis criminalization while also funding growth businesses that are typically overlooked," said Jeanette Ward Horton, NuLeaf's executive director.

and chief executive officer of Portland's Green Box delivery service, described how coming up short on opportunity, he said. capital was something that inhib-



Kaitlyn Verret is employed as a budtender, helping customers pick from a selection of legal cannabis to purchase for recreational use at the Green Hop dispensary, a black-owned business on Northeast Killingsworth Street.

Adrian Wayman, the founder Getting financial support from three percent cannabis tax, an inileap forward and an unbelievable 2016, is also meant to reverse dis-

parities between the success rates ited the growth of his company. ments Portland makes from its juana criminalization in the past.

Portland's dispensary taxes was a tiative that was passed by voters in parities in communities of color in The economic justice invest- terms of the impacts from mari-

In the nine years prior to cannabis legalization in Oregon, African Americans made up 21 percent of cannabis-related arrests in Portland while accounting for just six percent of the city's population.

In addition to investments in cannabis businesses and jobs training, revenues from the marijuana tax are meant to help expunge cannabis convictions. Portland is the first government in the U.S. to leverage cannabis tax revenue in this way.

Kennedy, who grew up in the neighborhood where the dispensary now stands, said seeing this kind of community reinvestment is meaningful to her after seeing the area go through so much change over the years.

"I know people very close to me who have been impacted by the war on drugs," Kennedy said. "Being able to be here and to have funds reinvested back into the shop has just been very powerful to me," Kennedy said. "We're reinvesting it back into the shop to dig our stake deeper into the ground to say we are going to stay, we're going to be here."

In a video on NuLeaf Project's website, Wayman recalled the irony of recently getting finger-printed to get his retail license to sell cannabis for his delivery service, remembering that 10 years earlier he had been finger-printed after getting arrested for pot possession.

"And now, today, fast-forward, I'm receiving a grant to sell the same thing that I got arrested for. Like, that's mind blowing, that's a true full circle. It shows that the community wants to fix the wrong," he said.

Need health insurance?

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CareOregon

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Mar 8 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Mar 13...... 9-11 a.m. Mar 20..... 9-11 a.m. Mar 27 9-11 a.m. **Clackamas Service Center**

8800 SE 80th Ave, Portland Mar 12 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Department of Human Services Alberta 30 N Webster St Ste A, Portland Mar 51-3 p.m.

Department of Human Services SE 8129 SE Malden St, Portland Mar 12.....1-3 p.m. MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Department of **Human Services SW** 50 SW 2nd Ave, Portland

Mar 5 9-11 a.m. Mar 12 9-11 a.m. Mar 19..... 9-11 a.m. Mar 26 9-11 a.m.

JOIN 1435 NE 81st Ave Ste 100, Portland Mar 1412-2 p.m.

North by Northeast **Community Health Fair** 714 NE Alberta St, Portland 2-5 p.m. Mar 8

Parkrose Community United Church of Christ 12505 NE Halsey St, Portland Mar 18.....1-4 p.m.

Portland Rescue Mission 111 W Burnside, Portland Mar 14.....8-10 a.m. Mar 28.....8-10 a.m.

Union Gospel Mission 3 NW 3rd, Portland Mar 26 2-4 p.m.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Beaverton Library 12375 SW 5th St, Beaverton Mar 13.....1-3 p.m.





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Page 6





A pair of rebellious teens (Zahraa Aldoujaili and Yara Aliadotter) discover the power of filmmaking in 'Amateurs,' a cross-generational comedy from Swedish writer and director Gabriela Pichler. The film kicks off the Portland International Film Festival on Thursday, March 7.

Films from All Over the Globe



My favorite part of the Portland year has arrived! The Portland International Film Festival (PIFF) begins two weeks of screening films from all over the globe this Thursday with its opening night film, "Amateurs," a cross-generational comedy from Sweden. Most weekdays during PIFF it is possible to see three films per day and one can see four on the weekends.

Every year, I see films at PIFF that never get a theatrical release, and often those films rock my world and end up on my list of the 10 best films of the year.

If you're a glutton like me, your best bet is to buy a festival pass, which gives you lots of flexibility to see whatever is playing at a more and more dangerous situaparticular venue (Whitsell Auditorium, Fox Tower, Cinema 21, Cinemagic, and OMSI). But you can also easily sample by buying individual tickets. If you go that route, buy online ahead of time at nwfilm.org to secure a spot.

I've missed most of the press screenings as yet but can recommend two films to consider: "To Late to Die Young," from Argentina, is a close observance of the coming-of-age of two teenagers

into adulthood. The film is inspired by director Dominga Sotomayer's own experience spendmusicians and performers living off the grid outside Santiago in 1990. It's a languorous space with lots of room for kids to experiment with shifting identities. The film is specific in its observation of adolescent self-consciousness, but not ground-breaking. There is not much in the way of plot, however, this film offers a nice combination of universal themes and very specific time and place. In Spanish, it plays on Friday, March 8 and Wednesday, March 13 at Cinemagic.

This year's only Italian film is "Dogman," about a dog groomer, Marcelo, with a gift for working with even the wildest dogs, but who has met his match with a local hellion who drags him into tions. Its star won the Best Actor award at Cannes last year for this performance, and he is quite captivating to watch--a mixture of impressionable and, in the end, determined, though not to a well-conceived purpose. Director Matteo Garrone (Gomorrah) has a particular gift for capturing traps of male identity, and this film, if you can handle some violence, is a fascinating character study. It plays at Cinema 21 on

shakily crossing the threshold March 16 and 20.

Darleen Ortega is a judge on the Oregon Court of Appeals and the first woman of color to serve ing her holidays in a rustic and in that capacity. Her movie reclose-knit community of artists, view column Opinionated Judge appears regularly in The Portland Observer. Find her movie blog at opinionatedjudge.blogspot.com.



Portland filmmaker and clinical psychologist Jan Haaken's documentary feature, 'Our Bodies Our Doctors,' tells the story of what it means to be an abortion provider today with threats of violence and political efforts to criminalize abortion. The film will premiere on International Women's Day – Friday, March 8 at 8:45 p.m. at Whitsell Auditorium, downtown.

Our Bodies Our Doctors

tells the rarely-discussed story of what it means to be an abortion provider today: confronting threats of violence and facing intensified political threats and efforts to criminalize abortion.

Religious control over health care is expanding, including in many pro-choice states. The abortion debate continues to be defined by gruesome images of the anti-abortion movement. In contrast, this film provides a crucial, hopeful point of view: An intimate glimpse into the lives of these courageous providers Art Museum, downtown.

"Our Bodies Our Doctors" who have devoted their careers to ensuring women have access to skilled, compassionate care.

> The film also features Portland providers, often unsung heroes, who have taken national leadership roles in the fight for women's reproductive rights.

> "Our Bodies Our Doctors" will premiere at the 42nd Annual Portland International Film Festival on International Women's Day -Friday, March 8 at 8:45 p.m. and again on Tuesday March 12 at 6 p.m., both screenings at the Whitsell Auditorium in the Portland





Celebrating Women in Film

of March in celebration of the Brown Girl Rise. women who have shaped the and behind the camera.

women's stories.

Highlights include the rarely-shown 1982 masterpiece Losdaughter in attendance on March color. 30; a special queer horror presentation of The Stepford Wives; the new documentary about performance art renegade Narcissis-

In honor of Women's History ter; and a screening of the 2016 Month, the nonprofit Hollywood hit Hidden Figures in collabo-Theatre will spend the month ration with the local nonprofit

The goal of the Feminist film industry, both in front of March film series is to celebrate the contributions that wom-The films will span genres, en have made, and continue to eras and sensibilities, with only make, to the film industry, while one thing in common: Telling acknowledging the ongoing need for intersectional advocacy on behalf of marginalized voices, specifically trans and nonbinary ing Ground with the director's filmmakers and filmmakers of

> festival lineup, visit hollywoodtheater.org.



Screenings run throughout the Losing Ground is a 1982 masterpiece film that never received a full theatrical release but won month of March. For a complete awards on the festival circuit and became the first feature-length drama directed by a black American woman. It will screen as part of a month long celebrating women in film series during March at the Hollywood Theater.



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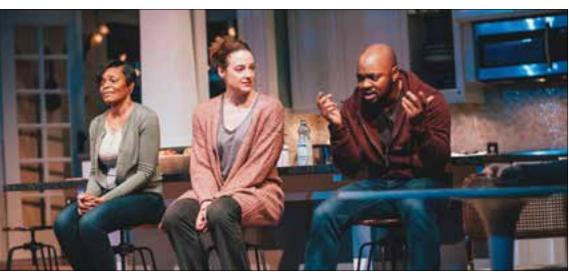


PHOTO BY PATRICK WEISHAMPEL/BLANKEYE.TV/COURTESY PORTLAND CENTER STAGE

The Beauty of Being Human

Lisa Renee Pitts (from left) Dana Green and Brian Michael Smith in "Tiny Beautiful Things" at Portland Center Stage at the Armory. Now playing through March 31, the funny and touching play is about resilience and the simple beauty of being human. Based on a Portland's author Cheryl Stayed's book 'Wild' and her beloved advice column 'Dear Sugar.' For tickets and more information, visit pcs.org



Modern Blues Women

Adia Victoria likes to call herself a modern blues woman. The 32-year-old songwriter from South Carolina and now based in Nashville is known for her "gothic blues" style as well as roots music, afro punk and country. She performs Monday, March 11 at the Doug Fir Lounge in southeast Portland.

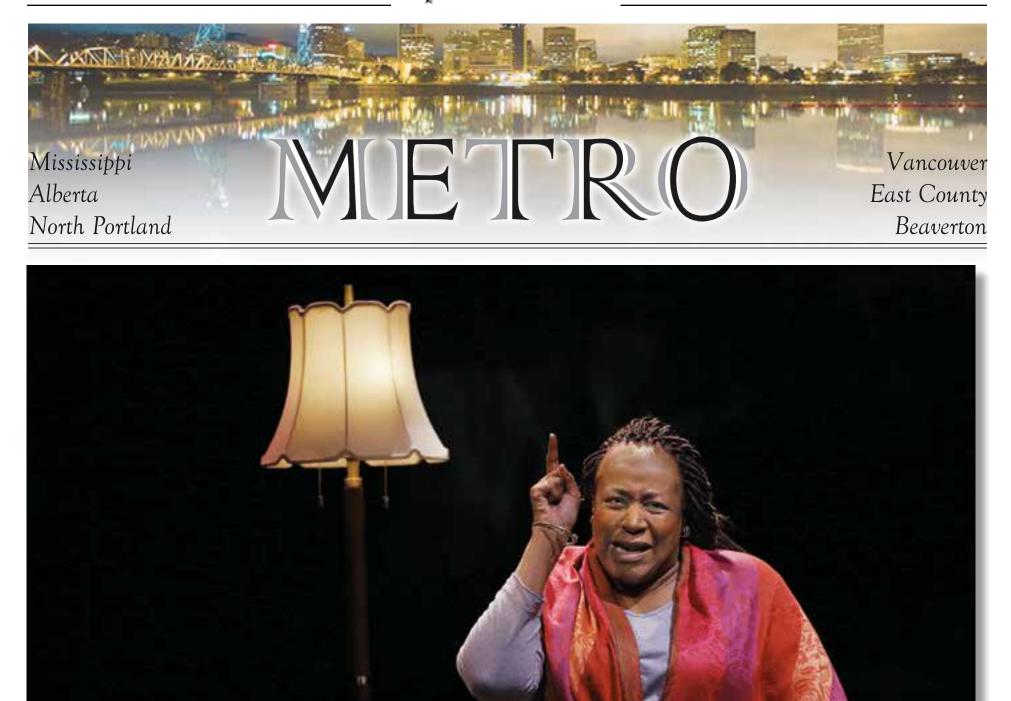


PHOTO BY CHRIS BENNION/COURTESY THE ARMORY Dael Orlandersmith explores the social unrest in Ferguson, Mo. following the fatal police shooting of Michael Brown, an unarmed black teenager, in 'Until the Flood,' her Pulitzer Prize finalist play.



A playwright's celebrated performance about Ferguson

Pulitzer Prize finalist and celebrated performer Dael Orlandersmith comes to Portland Center Stage at The Armory to perform her compassionate, timely play Until the Flood, exploring the social unrest in Ferguson, Mo., following the fatal police shooting of Michael Brown, an unarmed black teenager.

Originally commissioned by Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Until the Flood is drawn from Orlandersmith's extensive interviews with residents across the greater St. Louis area to create composite characters that reflect a wide range of perspectives and experiences of race in Missouri.

Orlandersmith crafts a stunning theatrical experience that must be seen. Variety called Until the Flood "both eye-opening and quietly moving," while the Chicago Tribune called it "palpably compassionate," writing that it "achieves a great beauty by bringing us together rather than driving us apart.

The Armory will host several free community events surrounding the play, including a screening of Whose Streets?, a documentary about the Ferguson uprising, and a series of moderated post-show discussions with community leaders that will explore the themes of the play through local perspectives.

Preview performances of "Until the Flood' begin Saturday, March 16 and continue through Thursday, March 22; opening night is Friday, March 22; and shows will run through April 21 in the Ellyn Bye Studio at The Armory.

Regular tickets range from \$25 to \$57. Visit.pcs.org, call 503-445-3700 or stop by the box office at 128 N.W. 11th Ave.





A free screening of the documentary 'Lorraine Hansberry: Sighted Eyes/Feeling Heart' at Reed College on Monday, March 11 will commemorate the 60th anniversary of the premiere of Hansberry's landmark play 'A Raisin in the Sun.'

Passionate Activist

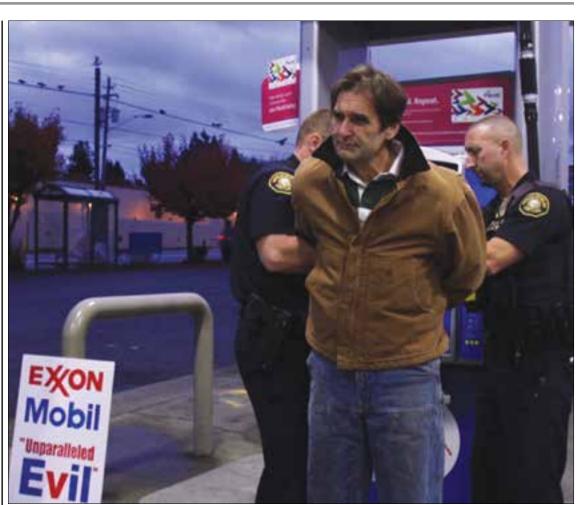
Sun" remains a beloved theatri- litical movements of our time. cal jewel, but the story of its author is not widely known.

munity to learn more during a activist and artist whose words free open-to-the-public screen- and ideas are as relevant today ing of the documentary "Lor- as they were when she first wrote raine Hansberry: Sighted Eyes/ Feeling Heart" by Tracy Heather Strain exploring the life and Monday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m. work of this passionate civil in the Reed College Performing rights advocate and queer writer Arts Building.

Lorraine Hansberry's ground- of color who played a significant breaking play "A Raisin in the role in the major cultural and po-

On camera interviews and rare archival material in the film Reed College invites the com- create a nuanced portrait of an them.

The screening takes place



Ken Ward puts himself in the direct path of the fossil fuel industry to combat climate change in the film 'The Reluctant Radical.' St. Philip the Deacon Episcopal Church, 120 N. Knott St., invites the community to a screening and discussion of the film on March 13 at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

Environmental Justice in Focus

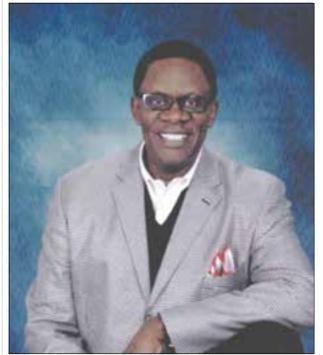
As we have seen from heat waves, extreme cold, flooding, hurricanes, and other disasters, it is communities of color and areas with low income populations that are often hit first and hardest by the effects of climate change.

Bringing this critical issue of the day to the community for discussion and reflection, St. Philip the Deacon Episcopal Church, 120 N. Knott St., invites the community to a film screening and discussion of the 2018 film "Reluctant Radical" taking place Wednesday, March 13 at 7 p.m. Admis-

sion is free.

Ken Ward, environmental activist and subject of the film, and Lindsey Grazel, the filmmaker, will be present for a post question and answer session.

The Reluctant Radical follows Ward through a series of protests, culminating in the coordinated action to shut down all the U.S. tar sands oil pipelines. The film showcases both the personal costs and also the fulfillment that comes from following one's moral calling, even if it means breaking the law



Dr. Billy R. Flowers



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

Part 19. The Golden Years: Keeping in full swing throughout the autumn of life

Back when I was younger, I loved playing golf. Now some-thing is always hurting so I don't dare play! Could you help?

: It is so unfor-tunate that Amillions of our senior citizens have worked and saved and give to their Community only to find the "golden years' more "old" than "gold". Right at the height of their freedom, they often find it difficult

to get around, their old activities. Unfortunately, it is often thought that they must "learn to live with it" or be given yet another pain pill. Actually that may be anything but true. In our office we commonly see people in their seventies and eighties. And they love the

spring in their step and the twinkle in their eyes they get through Chiropractic. Why don't you get back in the swing of things again? Give us a call today. Isn't it time you stepped up to Chiropractic? Life's "golden years" truly can be golden once again!

Flowers' Chiropractic Office

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Page II



Page 12

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.

Real Hate Crimes, Harassment on the Rise

I've lived through it myself

BY GRAY NDIAYE Jussie Smollett, a popular actor and singer-songwriter, was recently ar-

rested and charged with filing a false police report.

Smollett alleged that he was attacked in late January by two white men who spewed racist and homophobic slurs as they assaulted him.

A standout detail was his claim that the assailants said, "This is MAGA country." Smollett has been very critical of the Trump administration and said he believed this was some sort of retaliation.

Originally viewed as the victim, Smollett is now accused of orchestrating his own attack.

This has created an uproar. Smollett's attack was a major news story, and a plethora of public figures expressed support for him. The public isn't only shocked but also outraged by the latest accusations — especially survivors of hate crimes.

home. Though I was never physi- saw the ad and let me know. cally assaulted, I've been targeted uality

crucial factors of my identity; cident. I am both black and gay. In the spring of 2015, a fake advertise-

ment looking for sex. My class- bashing, they didn't think it was a Rights Campaign reported that in This situation hits close to mate who lived in my complex

It was embarrassing because for harassment due to my sex- other students had seen the ad. I contacted both campus security It's been a challenging jour- and the police. Nothing happened. ney navigating between two I still have no closure on this in-

> In the fall of 2015, I was leaving class with a friend. A car followed

real threat (never mind my being chased by a car).

It was a Christian university. Since then, I've always wondered what they would do if I were a straight, white male who was verbally bashed and chased with evidence on tape.

Though both of these events left an impact, I'm lucky that it was no

2017, 29 transgender individuals were brutally killed. This is the highest ever recorded — though the 26 transgender individuals murdered last year comes close.

In fact, hate crimes have been on the rise for three consecutive years, according to the FBI. As a black man and a gay man a member of two marginalized groups often targeted — this is a source of constant fear and anxiety.

Unlike Smollett's case, which was an extremely rare case of possible false reporting, rights groups estimate that far more real incidents go unreported.

Hatred is still prevalent. Whether verbal or physical, these attacks are very real and can carry fatal outcomes. The Jussie Smollett episode shouldn't distract us from this. One man may have lied, but the real story is how many lives are still threatened.

Please don't stop supporting victims of hate crimes or advocating for justice.

Gray Ndiaye is a modern-day griot (musician and storyteller) who resides in Southern California. He's on Twitter and Instagram at @graythegriot. Distribut-

Hatred is still prevalent. Whether verbal or physical, these attacks are very real and can carry fatal outcomes. The Jussie Smollett episode shouldn't distract us from this. One man may have lied, but the real story is how many lives are still threatened.

cial app. The advertisement listed mophobic slurs at me, chasing me my college apartment number and was advertising for men to come over.

into a corner. This was caught on tape by security cameras.

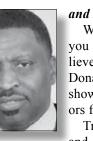
I alerted campus security, and It was written as if it were a although they saw the clear vi-

ment was posted on a college so- us while its passengers yelled ho- worse. Due to the current divisive state of our country, hate crimes have been on the rise across most categories.

In particular, there's been a spike in hate crimes regarding woman. I was gone at the time, but suals on the tape, nothing hap-race, religion, sexual orientation, men began coming to my apart- pened. Since it was a verbal and gender identity. The Human ed by OtherWords.org.

Further Proof on what we know about Trump

Editor's note: NAACP President and Chief Executive Officer **Derrick Johnson issued** the following statement regarding Michael Cohen's testimony last week before the U.S. House of Representa-



and Reform: When someone shows

you who they are, believe them the first time. Donald Trump has been him. showing us his true colors for decades.

Trump's presidency

nothing in Michael Cohen's tes- for white supremacists – all of meddled in our election, prompttimony is surprising for a person this maps out the actions and per- ed voter suppression tactics and that has historically racialized and stigmatized those around

From his racist housing practices, to his villainization of the proves what we already knew: Central Park 5, to his birther and entire career has accusations against President is a co-conspirator to a potential free world and Cohen's testimony tives Committee on Oversight been an affront to civil rights so Obama, to creating safe havens crime of a foreign nation that only cements this.

is wholly uninterested in advanc- cratic process. ing the cause of civil rights.

we have a sitting president, who

sonality of a liar and a racist who ultimately subverted our demo-

Trump has proven in his This testimony just further words, in his deeds and in his policies that he's not worthy of his position as the leader of the

Retter to the Editor More Lanes, More Gridlock

After sitting in traffic for over an hour on my way back to Portland from my job substitute teaching in Hillsboro, I'm almost tempted to believe that the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) plan to invest \$450 million in a 1.8 mile lane highway expansion sounds like a good idea. Luckily, I spent the day teaching students about the importance of research and data and how our notions of what is "common sense" are not always rooted in reality.

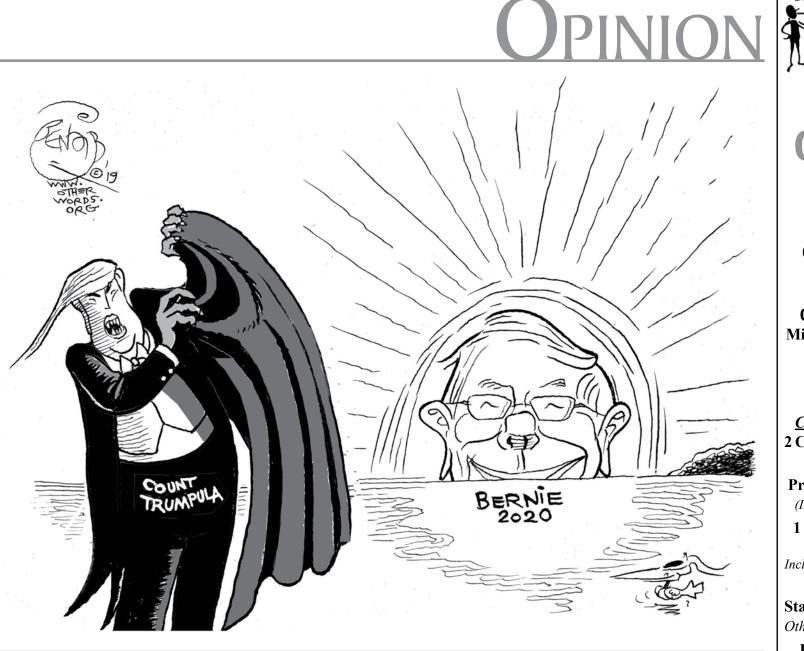
More lanes, it seems, should ease the flow of traffic. In reality, however, highway expansion has never improved traffic conditions - what we see every time, instead, is an influx of vehicles on the road, all stuck in the same mind-numbing, infuriating gridlock.

out, is one of those instances. the midst of a full blow climate More lanes, it seems, should crisis seems like a monumenease the flow of traffic. In reality, however, highway expansion has never improved traffic conditions - what we see every time, instead, is an influx of vehicles on the road, all stuck in the same mind-numbing, infuriating gridlock.

With 40 percent of Portland's carbon emissions flowing from transportation, fueling an increase that has been proven inef-

Highway expansion, it turns fective to remedy traffic woes in tally bad idea. ODOT should be investing in ramping up public transportation and other green infrastructure - this is Portland, not L.A. Head over to nomorefreewayspdx.com before April 1 to leave a public comment and tell ODOT to oppose the Rose Quarter highway expansion and invest the money where it's needed.

> Suzie Kassouf Southeast Portland



America's Worst Nightmare since Watergate

A president spouting false claims

BY TOM H. HASTINGS Our national embarrassment. Our national emergency. There he is, residing for a minute in the

White House, a minute that is the longest lucid American nightmare since Watergate.

The day is not complete until Trump has lied to the American people and the world, until he's insulted any and all critics even when those critiques are deliberative and strictly evidence-based, and even when they are people revered.

Trudeau? Really? Toss in some misogynist identity slurs, several braggart malignant narcissistic self-congratulating ridiculous claims-even managing to combine them with insulting Samuel L. Jackson—and a few gaslighting redundancies and there isn't much left on the Trump list of abusive things to do today.

Brilliant. A waddling, braying, tweeting embarrassment to any ant Americans.

My colleague and I do workshops, sometimes for visiting for-

eign professionals. Almost no matter their country or countries of origin, I lead with a sincere apology for the Dear vote but still managed to get installed in the most powerful office on Earth

and all critical thinking, fact-reli- American white man. It gets us off Courie, for goshsakes. on the right foot.

> Now comes journalists from some dozen countries, mostly European but a few from the Middle East and one from Asia. None of us have ever met each other.

I open with an apology for Leader who lost the popular slights, for insults, for mortifying misstatements and unwarranted UN laughingstock braggadocio emanating from the old white guy

Last week we saw a grifter lawyer, Michael Cohen, turn state's evidence against his former boss—and even though Cohen, as Trump's lawyer, was a serial liar, he presented Congress with actual nearly universally respected, even forensic evidence that Trump committed Ruth Bader Ginsberg? Justin felonies, not just in the past, but while in office. Shades of Spiro Agnew.

> yan National Police. I apologize nent and whose thumbs seem to for obvious reasons. Most Ameri- have zero impulse control, mancans have likely forgotten Trump's aging to praise dictators and vilirepugnant comment about African fy popular democratic leaders as "sh-hole" countries. I assure you a matter of course-not to menthat Kenyans and other Africans tion his incessant juvenilia about absolutely have not. They appre- all manner of journalists, from ciate a genuine apology from an the Wall Street Journal to Katie for the defense in court.

Here comes a roomful of Ken- who just seems verbally inconti-

Last week we saw a grifter lawyer, Michael Cohen, turn state's evidence against his former boss-and even though Cohen, as Trump's lawyer, was a serial liar, he presented Congress with actual forensic evidence that Trump committed felonies, not just in the past, but while in office. Shades of Spiro Agnew.

My father was a psychologist, not I, but clearly, Trump's claims of fake news are what psychologists call projection. I attest to my own profound confusion at his clumsy hate speech and utter cultural incompetence and frankly, negotiating fails despite his blowhard boasts and his fake autobiography-his next memoir: How to Be a Rotten Role Model for American Youth and the Great Big Butt of International Jokes. My wincing and shaking head let them know that I'm fully as confounded as I am certain they are.

This is what it means to be an American dealing with a fake president spouting cringeworthy claims even as we try to create decent relationships with bewildered people from other lands.

Tom H. Hastings is from Portland. He is director of PeaceVoice and on occasion an expert witness

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Page 14

The Portland Observer



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Relief Facility Security Agent -On Call, part-time, Portland'5 Centers for the Arts, \$18.48 -\$19.24 hourly. Deadline date: March 14, 2019

Stage Door Attendant, parttime, Portland'5 Centers for the Arts, \$14.35 - \$14.62 hourly. Deadline date: March 14, 2019

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

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Calling on African American **Business owners (young/older)** community org; churches, etc., to come and get preregistered to participate, by getting listed/adv. in the "20/20" African American Bus. Directory, the directory that will showcase what African American Business owners are doing here in the N.W. region of the USA; cities such as Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, etc. Come meet/see Lottie Cross of Seattle

Oregon. For more info phone J. Olive at 503-358-9655 / R.London at 360-723-8407, or call Lottie (direct) at 206-271-0311 or email at aabd2016@ outlook.com

WA (the premier organizer of the Directory). She will be in Portland, Saturday afternoon,

March 16th, from 1-3pm at the

North Branch Library, located at

512 N. Killingsworth, Portland,



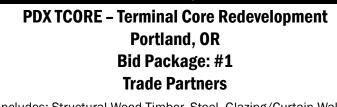
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TriMet Hires Experienced Executive

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

worked at both Pierce Transit and Community Transit in performance-driven leadership Washington, where he directed with a commitment to safety, so he transportation services. He also will be a great fit here at TriMet," oversaw ground transportation said TriMet General Manager at SeaTac International Airport Doug Kelsey.

as well as operations at Seattle Monorail.

"Sam brings a reputation for

"Transit is critical to the citizens of the Portland metro area," said Desue. "I look forward to partnering with the General Manager to set TriMet on a strategic path for the future."

Desue will begin his role as TriMet's COO on March 18.



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MONDAY - FRIDAY SUNDAY

12 Midnight -3 A.M. MIKE SHANNON

3 A.M. - 7 A.M. TOM JOYNER

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

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

I P.M. - 3 P.M. KENNY SMOOV

Rev. Al Sharpton

10am - 1pm

D. L. Hughley

3pm - 7pm

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

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

9 P.M. - 12 Midnight MIKE SHANNON

12 Midnight - 3 A.M. MIKE SHANNON 3 A.M. - 6 A.M.

> TOYA BEASLEY 6 A.M. - 12 NOON SUNDAY MORNING GOSPEL W/ANGELA

> 12 NOON - 1 P.M. HIGHLAND LIVE C.C. BROADCAST

Tom Joyner 3am - 7am

1 P.M. - 4 P.M.PAPA SMURF

4 P.M. - 12 Midnight DOUGLAS WILLIAMS





The Portland Observer

Portland International Film Festival The Northwest Film Center opens the 42nd Portland International Film Festival,

Oregon's largest and most culturally diverse film event on Thursday, March 7 and it will run through March 21. Screenings take place at Whitsell Auditorium inside the Portland Art Museum, Cinema 21, Regal Fox Tower, OM-SI's Empirical Theater and Cinemagic. For a complete schedule, tickets and festival passes, visit nwfilm.org



Honoring Unsung Women - Celebrate Women's History Month and explore the inspirational roles black women play when the empowerment group Sistas hosts its second annual "Visibly Invisible: Honoring Our Unsung Sheroes award ceremony, Saturday, March 9, from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at The Old Church Concert Hall, 1422 S.W. 11th Ave. Admission is a suggested \$10 donation and all are welcome. Reserve a seat by visiting empoweredsistas.com/events.

Decolonizing Beauty - The Kenton Library in north Portland hosts a forum to explore what it means to think and live beyond colonial structures and understandings of beauty and bodily worth with Cory Lira and a panel comprised of black, indigenous and other people of color, Sunday, March 3 from 2 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Race, Bias and the Brain – The Hollywood Library in northeast Portland presents Dr. Binyam Nardos of OHSU who will discuss his findings on race, emotional arousal and racial

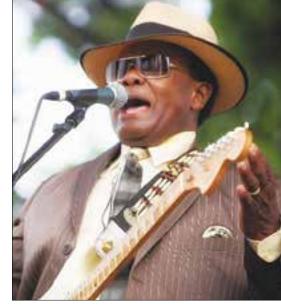
required. Super fun! Join us!



bias and how they affect our perceptions and decisions, sometimes with life-threatening implications, Wednesday, March 13 from

6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Zoo for All – The Oregon Zoo has launched "Zoo for All," a discount program that pro-



vides \$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.

Norman Sylvester Band - "Boogie Cat" Norman Sylvester plays Friday, March 8 at the Rogue Pub in North Plains; Saturday, March 9 at the Spare Room; Saturday, March 16 at Mac's Place in Silverton; Friday, March 22 at Clyde's; Saturday, March 23 at CI Bar & Grill in Tualatin; Wednesday, March 27 at Billy Blues in Vancouver; Friday, March 29 at the Vinyl Tap; and Saturday, March 30 at the Half Penny in Salem.

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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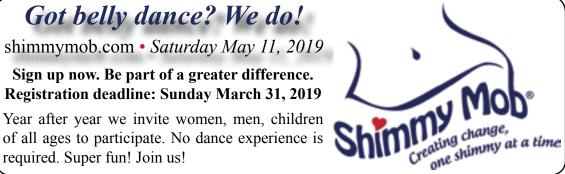
8 - 7



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Food

Winter Weeknight Dinners in Under an Hour

Spaghetti alla Carbonara

Ingredients:

- 1 pound dry spaghetti 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespools extra-virgin onve on
 4 ounces pancetta or slab bacon, cubed or sliced into small strips
- 4 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 2 large eggs
- 1 cup freshly grated Parmigiano-Reggiano, plus more for serving
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 1 handful fresh flat-leaf parsley, chopped

Directions:

1. Prepare the sauce while the pasta is cooking to ensure that the spaghetti will be hot and ready when the sauce is finished; it is very important that the pasta is hot when adding the egg mixture, so that the heat of the pasta cooks the raw eggs in the sauce.

2. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil, add the pasta and cook for 8 to 10 minutes or until tender yet firm (as they say in Italian "al dente.") Drain the pasta well, reserving 1/2 cup of the starchy cooking water to use in the sauce if you wish.

3. Meanwhile, heat the olive oil in a deep skillet over medium flame. Add the pancetta and saute for about 3 min-



utes, until the bacon is crisp and the fat is rendered. Toss the garlic into the fat and saute for less than 1 minute to soften.

4. Add the hot, drained spaghetti to the pan and toss for 2 minutes to coat the strands in the bacon fat. Beat the eggs and Parmesan together in a mixing bowl, stirring well to prevent lumps. Remove the pan from the heat and pour the egg/cheese mixture into the pasta, whisking quickly until the eggs thicken, but do not scramble (this is done off the heat to ensure this does not happen.) Thin out the sauce with a bit of the reserved pasta water, until it reaches desired consistency. Season the carbonara with several turns of freshly ground black pepper and taste for salt. Mound the spaghetti carbonara into warm serving bowls and garnish with chopped parsley. Pass more cheese around the table.



Winter Minestrone

Ingredients:

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 carrots, peeled and chopped
- 2 celery stalks, chopped 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 2 cloves game, clushed
 1 russet potato, peeled and cubed
- 2 fresh rosemary sprigs
- 1 (1-ounce) Parmesan rind
- 3 ounces thinly sliced pancetta, coarsely chopped
- 1 pound Swiss chard, destemed, coarsely chopped
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 (14 1/2-ounce) can diced tomatoes in juice
- 1 (15-ou.) can cannellini beans, drained, rinsed, divided
- 2 (14-ounce) cans low-sodium beef broth, divided
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley

Directions:

1. In a large, heavy stockpot or Dutch oven, heat the oil over medium heat. Add the onion, carrots, celery, pancetta, and garlic. Cook, stirring frequently, until the onion is translucent, about 10 minutes. Add the Swiss chard and potato. Season with salt and pepper and cook for 2 minutes. Stir in the tomatoes and rosemary sprigs. Bring the mixture to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer until the chard is wilted and the tomatoes are very soft, about 10 minutes.

2. In a food processor or blender, combine 3/4 of the beans with 1/2 cup of broth. Blend until almost smooth. Add the pureed bean mixture, remaining broth, and Parmesan rind to the vegetable mixture. Simmer, stirring occasionally, until the potato pieces are tender, about 15 minutes. Stir in the remaining beans and the parsley. Simmer until the beans are heated through and the soup is thick, about 2 minutes. Discard the rosemary stems (the leaves will have fallen off) and season with salt and pepper, to taste. Ladle the soup into bowls and serve.

Marinated Pork Chops

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup plus 1 tspn vegetable oil
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons rice vinegar
- 1 tablespoon minced ginger
- 1 tablespoon Sriracha
- 2 teaspoons sesame oil
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- Zest and juice of 1 orange
- 2 green onions, sliced
- Eight 4-ounce thin pork chops, bone-in (1/4-inch thick)
 2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro, for garnish

Directions:

1. Place 1/4 cup vegetable oil, sugar, vinegar, ginger, sriracha, sesame oil, garlic and orange juice and zest in a food processor and process for 15 seconds. Put the pork chops in a heavy-duty resealable plastic bag. Add half of the marinade and reserve the other half until serving. Squeeze out the air, seal and move the chops around in the bag to coat evenly. Marinate in the refrigerator at least 30 minutes, and up to 8 hours.

2. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F.

3. Remove the chops from the bag. Place the reserved marinade in a small saucepot. Bring to a boil to reduce and thicken the sauce a bit, about 2 minutes.

4. Heat large stainless saute pan over medium-high heat and add the remaining 1 teaspoon oil. Brown the chops in the hot pan, 1 to 2 minutes per side. Place the saute pan in the oven and cook until done (155 degrees F internal temperature). Serve with a spoonful of the glaze, with cilantro and sliced green onions sprinkled on top.

