



Making the Case

Senator has high hopes for Measure 11 reforms

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Hobbs Waters on Empowerment

Youngest artist ever featured at downtown space

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Blazers guard Damian Lillard shoots over Denver center Nikola Jokic Monday in the first game of the second round playoff series. The Nuggets won 121-113. (AP photo)

Blazers Begin Second Round

(AP) —The Denver Nuggets rode a 37-point performance from center Nikola Jokic to a 121-113 win over the well-rested Portland Trail Blazers Monday night in the opener of their second-round playoff series, despite Damian Lillard's strong 39-point effort and Enes Katner's formative return.

Lillard, who struck for 50 points, including a 37-footer at the

buzzer to oust Oklahoma City in five games, missed 8 of 12 3-point attempts and Gary Harris blocked his 3 from behind in the closing minute to keep the Trail Blazers from closing in.

Kanter separated his left shoulder in Game 5 against the Thunder but scored 26 points in his return to the lineup.

Back-to-back layups by Lillard pulled Portland to within five

points with nine minutes left, but Jokic sank a pair of free throws off CJ McCollum's flagrant foul sandwiched by a pair of dunks by Mason Plumlee as Denver pushed its lead back to double digits at 107-96.

Game two in the best-of-seven series is Wednesday at the Pepsi Center in Denver. Games three and four will be on Friday and Sunday in Portland.

Franklin Picks Lightning for Mascot

Shout it out for the Franklin High Lightning.

The southeast Portland school has made a decision on the likely name for their new mascot.

A selection committee has picked Lightning over two other finalists, the Ambassadors and the Thunderbolts. The school board is expected to vote on the nickname

in June.

Franklin had to cut its old nickname — Quakers — when the board updated school naming policies last year, forbidding names deemed discriminatory or too religious.

The Lightning keeps a connection with Benjamin Franklin, the school's namesake.

“Something that we felt to be very important part of the process is the connection Ben Franklin to the mascot name, and so knowing the impact he's had regards to his experiments, in particular with electricity and lightning, we thought it was a definite connection,” said Principal Chris Frazier.



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LOCAL NEWS

Making the Case

Hopes High for Measure 11 Reform

BY DANNY PETERSON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A bill proposing juvenile justice reforms in regard to Oregon's mandatory minimum sentencing law—which has disproportionately impacted communities of color—is on the cusp of passage after decades of effort.

"We still need to do some significant lobbying to make sure that folks understand what it's doing and what it's not doing and why it's doing those things. But I think we'll be able to make that case and I hope that it will pass out of the House as a result," Sen. Lew Frederick, a sponsor of the legislation, told the Portland Observer.

Senate Bill 1008 would allow more flexibility in dealing with juvenile offenders, ending the practice of automatically prosecuting 15, 16 and 17-year-olds as adults when charged with murder, robbery, assault and sex offenses.

The bill had a two hour hearing last week at the House and is waiting for a work session with the House Committee on Judiciary before it can proceed to a vote, according to the Legislature's website, as of Tuesday.

Frederick said the reforms are long overdue.



Lew Frederick

A report from 2011 by Partnership for Safety and Justice and Campaign for Youth and Justice stated that while the black youth population of Oregon was around 4 percent, they represented 19 percent of Measure 11 indictments.

In addition, Frederick said the recidivism rates for those who transfer to adult prison—as opposed to staying in the youth system—were much higher.

SB 1008 would give more power to judges, as opposed to prosecutors, initially placing youth accused of any crimes in the youth justice system instead of the adult justice system. Moving a youth to the adult justice system would require prosecutors to request a special hearing with a judge who would decide where youth are placed.

It would also establish a process

where all youth who are convicted in adult court would eventually be afforded a "second look," halfway through their sentence, by a judge. A youth could serve the remainder of their sentence under community based supervision, instead of in prison, if they showed rehabilitation and accountability of their crimes had taken place.

The bill also requires an additional review by a judge before a youth is transferred to an adult prison for those with long sentences. Currently, Oregon youth who are given long sentences are allowed to be in youth prison until age 25, and then they must transfer to an adult prison. The bill would make it so that the judge could review the 25-year-old's rehabilitation and accountability of their crimes and make a determination to either send him to adult prison or transfer them to community-based supervision—applying only to cases where offenders only have two years left on their sentence.

Life without parole sentences would also be eliminated, ensuring that anyone under 18 convicted of a crime receives a chance for parole after 15 years of imprisonment.

The bill received bi-partisan support in passing the Oregon Senate—receiving three of its votes by Republicans—receiving a 20-10 vote. The legislation was carried by Senators Jackie Winters, R-Salem, and Floyd Prozanski, D-Eugene.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Cleveland Tackles Racism

After blackface and other unsettling events

Citing deeply unsettling events of hate speech and racial insensitivity at Cleveland High School, Principal Ayesha Freeman has assembled an after-school student-of-color-focused panel discussion about racism, for staff and students to participate in.

The announcement follows an alleged incident where a group of white students at the school decorated a chocolate cake as blackface and sold it at a bake sale. Freeman emailed parents Thursday to relay "an event...that was hurtful to our staff and students of color."

A Cleveland student identified as white tweeted an image of the cake, saying "a bunch of white girls at my school made a blackface chocolate and we're all pissed about it."

Four days before then, Freeman sent an email telling students and parents that a teacher had found a "string tied like a noose" hanging from an entrance to the school.

At future panel discussions, topics such as "How is racism showing up at Cleveland?" "What can we do about it? What can we do differently?" and "How



A chocolate cake decorated in blackface at Cleveland High School and posted on Twitter.

can we come together as a community to heal?" will be discussed, according to Portland Public Schools' website.

An anti-hate assembly, specifically to honor the Native American Community will occur this Thursday, May 2 at the school. A Family Equity Council where concerns from parents will be heard will also be held on Tuesday, May 7 at 6 p.m. at school's library, where "all families who wish to attend for a community discussion about how to move forward" are invited.

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Making the Case

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Measure 10—passed the same year as Measure 11—mandated that revisions to Measure 11 could be made without bringing it to voters if the legislature voted a two-thirds majority. The Senate did that and the House must do the same in order for it to proceed to the desk of Gov. Kate Brown, who has signaled support for reforming Measure 11 in the past, to be signed into law.

Frederick said a lot has changed since Measure 11 originally passed over 20 years ago, paving the way for these reforms.

“I think that there’s a real understanding of the impact, that it’s not just been an impact on minority communities, but it’s been an impact on low income communities across the state.”

Frederick said Democrats having a super majority in the legislature, as well as more bipartisan support for reforms, has helped. He said the increased scientific understanding of the brain development of young people has contributed to the reforms.

The development of the hu-

man brain continues into at least the mid-20s, according to experts. That was one point given by Joe O’Leary, director of the state’s juvenile justice department—Oregon Youth Authority—in written testimony in favor of SB 1008. He also pointed to racial and ethnic disparities and therapeutic approaches outperforming punitive approaches when it comes to reducing recidivism, citing a 2007 Center for Disease Control Study that concluded that transferring youth to adult court “typically results in greater subsequent crime, including violent crime, among transferred youth.”

Some of the bills’ other supporters include Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, Oregon Department of Corrections Director Colette Peters, and a coalition of 40 other organizations, according to the website of American Civil Liberty Union Oregon, which backs the bill.

Objecting to components of the bill is the Oregon District Attorneys Association, who has pleaded with lawmakers to refer any Measure 11 changes to voters.



Explore Washington Park

Free shuttle service to explore Washington Park, with stops to all major attractions, including the Oregon Zoo, Hoyt Arboretum and Children’s Museum, are now running for the spring and summer season with both daily and weekend schedules. Daily service started this week, but come October, the service changes to weekends only for the fall and winter.

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For appointment hours phone Gloria at 360-952-1432, Ruth at 360-723-8497, John (503) 358-9655 or Lottie (directory organizer) at 206-271-0311.






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CALENDAR

May 2019

MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
		<div>1</div> <div>Mother Goose Day Hawaiian Lei Day May Day Worthy Wage Day <i>(child care providers)</i></div>		<div>2</div> <div><i>Dr. Benjamin Spock</i> <i>Born in 1903</i></div>		<div>3</div> <div>Space Day National Sun Day Constitution Memorial Day in Japan</div>		<div>4</div> <div> Kentucky Derby takes place today National Weather Observers' Day</div>		<div>5</div> <div>Cinco de Mayo Children's Day In Japan</div>			
<div>6</div> <div>Ramadan Begins <i>Eiffel Tower opens to the public in 1889</i></div>		<div>7</div> <div>National Teacher Day <i>1st Stamp Collection Started</i> <i>Pulitzer Prize Established (1917)</i></div>		<div>8</div> <div>National School Nurse Day No Socks Day</div>		<div>9</div> <div><i>First Newspaper</i> <i>Cartoon In the USA in 1754</i></div>		<div>10</div> <div>Clean Up Your Room Day <i>Christopher Paul Curtis born, 1953</i></div>		<div>11</div> <div> Twilight Zone Day <i>Peter Sis born, 1949</i> <i>Mark Lupica (BDay)</i></div>		<div>12</div> <div>Mother's Day International Nurses Day Kite Day Limerick Day</div>	

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Celebrating unity in the community, students from Self Enhancement, Inc. participate in last year's Good in the Hood Parade. Signups are now being taken to enter this year's parade, scheduled for June 22.

Good in the Hood Parade Signups

It's time to get ready for the annual Good in the Hood Parade, coming to inner north and northeast Portland on Saturday, June 22nd!

Celebrating unity in the community, the multicultural event is one of the largest community parades in the Pacific Northwest. Volunteers are already expecting this year's parade route to be bigger and

more exciting than last year's!

You can join in the fun by organizing a parade entry. Register on the Good in the Hood website, goodinthehood.org. The deadline to sign up is May 30.

For questions or more information, email Good in the Hood Parade Coordinator Denise Millhollen at parade@goodinthehood.org or call 971-302-6380.



Lightning Thief Rock Musical

The story of a young man born half-human and half-Greek god takes center stage in "The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical," starring Chris McCarrell (left) and James Hayden Rodriguez. The Newsday musical adaptation of the best-selling novel by Rick Riordan plays at Portland's Keller Auditorium, Tuesday, May 7 and Wednesday, May 8. For tickets and more information, visit portland5.com.



PHOTO BY AARON ROBINSON/COURTESY PORTLAND'S

Portland's Center for the Arts presents Portland artist Hobbs Waters, the youngest artist ever to be featured at the downtown performing arts venue. The 12-year-old is a dedicated ballet dancer who also draws paintings and t-shirts to generate sales to pay for his continuing dance education. An artist reception with Waters will kick off the month long exhibit on Thursday, May 2 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Hobbs Waters on Empowerment

Exhibit features works by young dancer and artist

Portland's Center for the Arts is proud to feature Portland artist Hobbs Waters in a new month long exhibit, "Empowerment is the Passage to Freedom." At 12 years old, Hobbs is the youngest artist ever to be featured at the performing arts venue, located at 1111 S.W. Broadway.

Hobbs is a dedicated dancer, having recently been accepted to—and receiving full merit scholarships for—both the San Francisco Ballet's summer dance intensive training and the Kaleidoscope Dance Theatre's 28th Annual New York Dance Festival. His primary focus is ballet, but he also studies contemporary, fusion, modern and jazz styles. Earlier this year, he attended the International Association of Blacks in Dance conference in Dallas, Texas.



PHOTO BY AJ-McCREARY/COURTESY PORTLAND'S

Hobbs Waters' "Empowerment is the Passage to Freedom" exhibit at the Portland's Center for the Arts, 1111 S.W. Broadway, expands on the young artist's social justice themes, from abstract paintings to pen and ink illustrations.

Waters also flexes his artistic muscles in a number of other disciplines: Cello, trumpet, and a variety of visual mediums. In the last year alone, he has exhibited work at The Q Center, Milieu PDX, Tiny Moreso, Basic Space Gallery, and Luke's Frame Shop, among others. He also started his own t-shirt line at citytroll.com to help fund his continuing dance education.

His exhibit "Empowerment is the Passage to Freedom" contains a breadth of mixed-media works from abstract painting to pen and ink illustration that follow and expand upon the social justice themes in Waters' previous exhibits, with the goal of embracing differences and representing and celebrating diversity.

An opening reception will be held during First Thursday, May 2, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. with live performance and refreshments in the rotunda of Antoinette Hatfield Hall.

Art exhibits and opening receptions are always free and open to the public. All are welcome.

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Mother's Day Gala – The St. John's All Nations Church of God in Christ presents "The Pearls of Motherhood" Mother's Day Gala, Saturday, May 11 at the Monarch Hotel, 12566 S.E. 93rd Ave. in Clackamas with special guest speaker pastor Evelyn McCoy Harris and dance entertainment by Alicia Ndouniama. Cost is \$60. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. For more information, call 503-247-8337.

From Sacajawea's Point of View – "Crossing Mnisose" is a play that weaves together Native American voices from past and present with current efforts to save the Missouri River and ancestral burial grounds from the Dakota Access Pipeline. Commissioned by Portland Center Stage at the Armory, shows continue through Sunday, May 5 on the U.S. Bank Main Stage at The Armory.

Black Health Celebration – North by Northeast Community Health Center, the only medical clinic in Oregon devoted to black health, will hold a Community Supper on Saturday, May 18 at the Jantzen Beach Red Lion from 5:30-9:30 p.m. Everyone is invited! Join emcee Jamaal Lane, Alonzo Chadwick, Andrew Clay and many others for a night of music, dancing, community, and raising money for a great cause. For tickets, visit nxneclinic.ejoinme.org.

Celebrate Mamas – Celebrate mamas in Oregon with hosts Cole and Dayna Reed, Rae Dunnville, YeeWon Chong, Cleo Tung, Abel Valladares, Jessie Burke, Lindsay Sadlou and Ruthie Crawford, Thursday, May 9 at 6 p.m. at Disjecta, 8371 N. Interstate. This is an event to build community and challenge the narrative around motherhood. Food and beverages will be provided. Free but RSVP required at bit.ly/2019ORMamasDay.

Gun Violence Drama – In a world premiere play, a cast of six diverse women bring the story of Brandon, a young man who is always in and out of trouble, until he is shot in the back by a member of his own community. "A Dark Sky Full of Stars," directed by Portland's Jocelyn Seid, shows through May 12 at Shoebox Theater, 2110 S.E. 10th Ave. For tickets visit theatrevetigo.org or call the box office at 503-482-8655.

Norman Sylvester Band – Norman Sylvester Band plays Saturday, May 11 at the Spare Room; Friday, May 17 at C I Bar & Grill in Tualatin; Saturday, May 18 at Smockville Brewhouse in Sherwood; Friday, May 24 at Clyde's; and Saturday, May 25 at the Memorial Weekend Blues Festival at the Nehalem Bay Winery.

Roots-n-Harmony Benefit – Cathedral Park Performing Arts Collective hosts their 3rd annual benefit show and silent auction "Roots-n-Harmony" on Saturday, May 4 at 6 p.m. at the Wayfinding Academy in St. Johns. The all-ages event includes a buffet-style dinner, live music, theatre performances and a silent auction and raffle to benefit the collective's student scholarship program.

The Royal Trickster – Tenali tries to restore order to the kingdom in the NW Children's Theater and School production of 'Tenali – The Royal Trickster,' now showing through May 12 at 1819 N.W. Everett St. Tickets are \$18-22 for adults, and \$14-18 for youth. Call 503-222-2190 or visit nwcts.org.

Zoo for All – The Oregon Zoo has launched "Zoo for All," a discount program that provides \$5 admission for low income individuals and families. Visitors may purchase up to six of the \$5 tickets by bringing 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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A: I had a patient once ask the same question. Her concern, however, was that Chiropractic might hurt. After becoming a patient, she began to make progress. Slowly but surely the nauseating effects of the migraine were leaving her. One day, relaxed and without pain, she said to me "I can't believe that I waited 20

years for this!" That's one comment I'll never forget! The story had a happy, but isn't it sad that it had such an unfortunate beginning. So many suffer for so long with their pain. They literally waste years of their lives, waiting, thinking that it is just a temporary condition. Life itself is a temporary condition. We are all here

for only a while. Why waste one precious moment, let alone years suffering needlessly? Find your freedom through good health NOW... naturally. Find your freedom through Chiropractic...and make each day count. Isn't it time you stepped up to safe, effective Chiropractic?

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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Lady Sings the Blues



Siren Nation, a group promoting women of all ages in the arts, presents the annual Billie Holiday Tribute Night concert on Saturday, May 4 at the Alberta Rose Theater.

Musicians of many genres will honor one of the greatest jazz singers and songwriters of our time when Portland's Siren Nation presents the 13th annual Billie Holiday Tribute Night on Saturday, May 4 at 7 p.m. at the Alberta Rose Theater. Poet Renee Mitchell will emcee.

Lady Day was a seminal influence on jazz and pop singing. Her vocal style, strongly inspired by jazz instrumentalists, pioneered a new way of manipulating phrasing and tempo. Above all, she was admired all over the world for her deeply personal and intimate approach to singing.

The tribute will feature performers Arietta Ward with Alex Milsted, Nafisaria Scroggins-Thomas, Debora Patton, Tave Fasce Drake, The Saying & the Said, The Cabin Project, Tamara Walker Lenore, Jasmine VanDemarr, Sarah Clarke, Annette Lowman, Pacific Trio and Laura Cunard.

Proceeds will benefit Siren Nation, an all volunteer non-profit dedicated to promoting women of all ages in the arts. Tickets are \$18 in advance.

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Standout vocalist and multi-instrumentalist MorMor (Seth Nyquist) will delight audiences with his falsetto sound and own brand of R&B and pop music when he performs in Portland, Thursday, May 2 at the Holocene, 1001 S.E. Morrison. The Toronto music star is winning accolades with a new single and critically-acclaimed debut EP.

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DHS 11826 NE Glisan St
Portland
May 10 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Department of Human Services SE
8129 SE Malden St, Portland
May 141-3 p.m.
May 211-3 p.m.

Department of Human Services SW
50 SW 2nd Ave, Portland
May 7 9-11 a.m.

Greater Portland Young Parent Fair
3550 SE 92nd Ave, Portland
May 23..... 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Head Start Clarendon Early Learning Center
9325 N Van Houten Ave, Portland
May 201-3 p.m.

Head Start Kelly Center
9015 SE Rural St, Portland
May 2.....9:30-11:30 a.m.

NbyNE Community Health Fair
714 NE Alberta St, Portland
May 102-5 p.m.

Portland Rescue Mission
111 W Burnside, Portland
May 9.....8-10 a.m.
May 23.....8-10 a.m.

PSU Nourish Wellness Fair
Viking Pavilion Regional Event Center, Portland
May 8.....12-2 p.m.

COMMUNITY EVENT! Village Market Day New Columbia
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP 3664

Drupal platform and website redesign for Metro, Oregon Zoo, Expo Center, Portland's 5 and Oregon Convention Center

Metro, a metropolitan service district organized under the laws of the State of Oregon and the Metro Charter, located at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-2736, is requesting proposals for **Drupal platform and Website Redesign** for a three-year contract to update Metro's public website platform and redesign its family of five websites listed above.

A voluntary pre-proposal conference will be held at 600 NE Grand Avenue, 97232 on May 14 2019 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Room 370A. Interested vendors and subcontractors are encouraged to attend the conference in order to gain information about the RFP requirements.

Sealed submissions are due no later than 2:00 PM, May 30, 2019 in Metro's business offices at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-2736, Attention: Riko Tannenbaum, Procurement Analyst, RFP 3664.

Solicitation documents can be viewed and downloaded from the Oregon Procurement Information Network (ORPIN) at <http://orpin.oregon.gov/open.dll/>

Metro may accept or reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, or waive irregularities not affecting substantial rights if such action is deemed in the public interest.

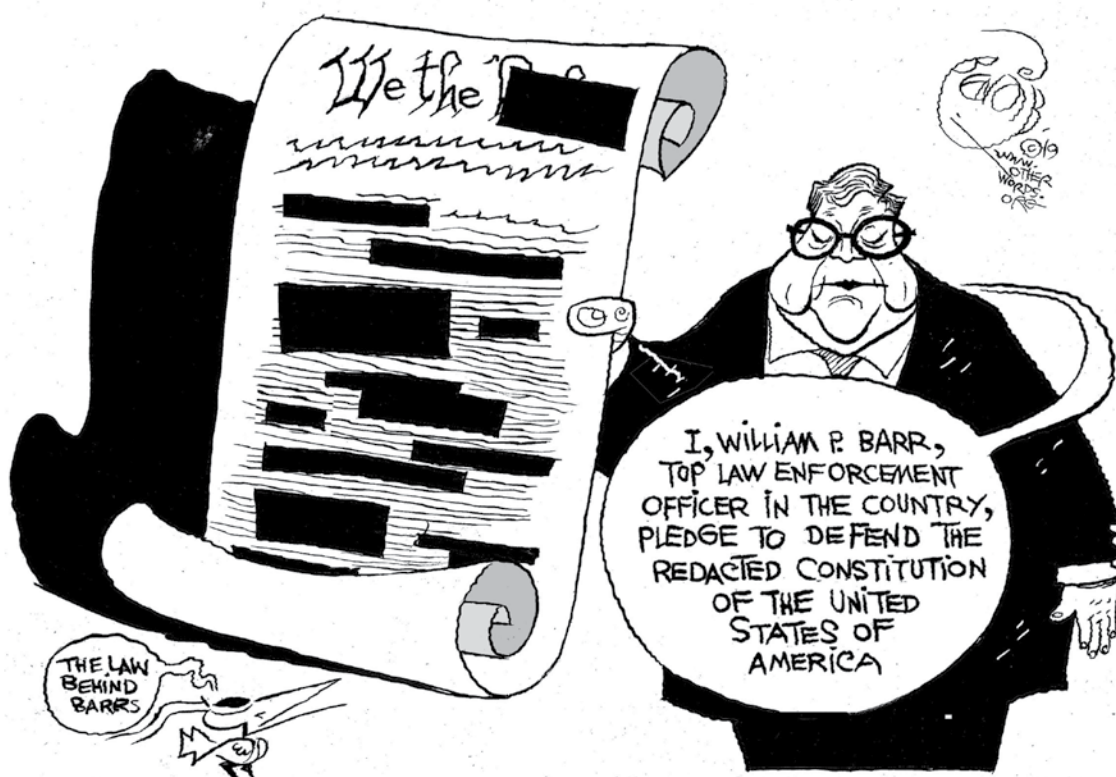
Metro extends equal opportunity to all persons and specifically encourages minority, women-owned and emerging small businesses to access and participate in this and all Metro projects, programs and services.

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OPINION

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Dangerous Time for Women's Rights

Banning abortion not enough for some on right

BY MARTHA BURK

We're living in the most perilous time for abortion rights and reproductive freedom since Roe v. Wade was decided in 1973.

While some erosion of abortion rights has occurred over the decades — parental consent laws, waiting periods, procedure curtailment — the fundamental right has largely been ruled by the courts, and viewed by the public, as guaranteed under Roe. Around 60 percent of Americans support a legal right to the procedure.

Now state legislatures are escalating their assault on that right — and on the women who attempt to exercise it.

Since President Trump succeeded in elevating Brett Kavanaugh — an abortion foe, alleged sexual assailant, and mean drunk to boot — to the Supreme Court, his right-wing lynch mob has launched a laser-focused attack on reproductive freedom. They've been flooding the states with anti-abortion legislation in hopes of getting a case to the Supreme Court that will overturn Roe.

Republicans paved the way for Trump's conservative hijack of the judiciary during Obama's tenure. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell held the Supreme Court seat created by Justice Scalia's death vacant for more than a year

until the next election, along with 108 other federal judgeships that require only Senate approval. Trump is wasting no time filling the vacancies.

To grease the wheels, the Judiciary Committee has ended the decades-old practice of seeking advice from the American Bar Association on nominee qualifications and started holding hearings during congressional recesses. Recently the Senate voted to shortcut the process even more by reducing the time between final confirmation votes on district court judges from 30 hours to just two.

Currently, 85 percent of Trump's circuit court nominees are members of the Federalist Society, an ultra-conservative legal network strongly connected to anti-abortion organizations.

Many of Trump's nominees for lower courts are outspoken foes of abortion rights themselves. Case in point: In a ruling upholding the constitutionality of a Kentucky law requiring abortion providers to perform an ultrasound and make the fetal heartbeat audible to the patient, Judge John K. Bush referred to "unborn life" rather than "fetus."

Packing the courts with anti-choice judges is a necessary precursor of the larger strategy taking aim squarely at Roe. Judges can't decide until they have something to decide on — and arch-conservative zealots are serving up plenty of potential cases.

More than 250 bills restricting abortions have been filed in 41 states this year. At least a third have successfully passed 20-week abortion bans, based on the unfounded assertion that a fetus can feel pain

20 weeks after fertilization.

An even more frightening new trend has developed since the confirmation of Kavanaugh. "Fetal heartbeat bans," which outlaw abortions once a fetal heartbeat is detected, have passed in at least six states and are being pushed in several more. Some of these laws, like Ohio's, offer no exceptions for rape or incest.

Doctors say such bans could outlaw abortions as early as five weeks into pregnancy, before many women know they are pregnant. Though laws have been blocked from taking effect pending court challenges, abortion opponents are banking on at least one of these attempts being upheld by Trump's anti-abortion Supreme Court majority, overturning Roe.

Merely banning abortion isn't enough for some on the rabid right — they want to criminalize it altogether. One Alabama lawmaker proposed a bill that would make abortion a felony at any point during pregnancy, including in cases of rape and incest.

But the most horrific bill of all was recently debated in the Texas state legislature. It defines all abortions as murder, punishable by death in Texas.

These extreme bills aren't passing — yet. But the numbers are frightening: 446 people testified in favor the Texas measure, with only 54 standing against it.

Will burning at the stake be next? Be very afraid.

Martha Burk is the director of the Corporate Accountability Project for the National Council of Women's Organizations (NCWO) and the author of the book *Your Voice, Your Vote*.

OPINION

Affordable College for Students like Me

Debt can deepen already stark inequality

BY ARIEL TOMLINSON

As a black woman who was raised in poverty, I understand what it means to face constant hardships.



I grew up in a single parent household watching my mother's mental health deteriorate over time. She relies on disability checks to support herself, so hasn't been able to financially support me for college.

Attending college has always been a dream of mine, but the road hasn't been easy. After dropping out of high school at 15, I went back to get my GED at 20. Eventually, I enrolled in the Community College of Denver and graduated in 2015.

Currently, I'm pursuing my bachelor's degree at the Metropolitan State University in Colorado. Pell Grants help finance my high-

er education, but there's a lot they don't cover. I still have to take out student loans to fill the financial gap, which means I'm taking on student debt to fund my education.

My experience might be different if Congress acts soon and reauthorizes the Higher Education Act (HEA) — by far the most important law in higher education. The HEA hasn't been reauthorized in more than 10 years, which means the needs of college students across our country aren't being met.

That's because the cost of attending a 4-year higher education institution has risen 1,122 percent since 1978. Meanwhile, 95 percent of jobs created since the Recession have gone to someone with an education beyond high school. Getting yourself out of poverty basically requires a postsecondary education, which means taking on debt.

Still, many families like mine fear that getting an education might not be worth the debt they take on.

My two younger sisters, Destiny and Kayla, have decided to

not attend college. They're both bright and talented individuals that I know would succeed in college, but they're afraid of the debt they'd incur. They've told me that watching me struggle to pay for school has influenced them not to pursue a college degree.

This truly breaks my heart as their older sister, but I understand student debt is a risk not everyone wants to take. For many young people who wish to attend college, this debt can deepen already stark inequality, especially for people of color like me.

Pell Grants are among the most common ways that low-income students can afford college. But even the maximum Pell Grant award of roughly \$6,000 doesn't come close to covering tuition, books, and living expenses. That's why many low-income students are forced to take out loans to finance the rest of our education and burden ourselves with debt we know we can't afford.

Updating the HEA could help ensure that Pell recipients are receiving the necessary financial aid they need to avoid graduating with

crippling debt. And it could make the financial aid process simpler to ensure students are getting the money they qualify for.

I intend to continue my higher education journey through my Master's degree, though I know this will likely increase my student loan debt. Frankly, the idea of owing more debt terrifies me. But like many other college students, I have no other choice but to take out more loans to ensure I get the education I need to find a job that pays well.

Maybe one day we'll have debt-free college in this country. Or maybe, as Senator Elizabeth Warren recently proposed, working people will get their student debt forgiven.

Until then, there's a simple step we can take: Reauthorizing the Higher Education Act and making sure today's students get a fair chance at a successful higher education experience.

Ariel Tomlinson is a mental health and higher education advocate based in Denver, Colorado. Distributed by OtherWords.org.

Didn't Need Mueller to Tell Us Trump is a Skunk

Protect the people and impeach No. 45

BY OSCAR H. BLAYTON

No person in his or her right mind will deny that America is a thick-et of racism, misogyny, entitlement for the wealthy, dishonesty and a fictitious veneer of meritocracy. So, it is befitting that we have an occupant in the White House who exemplifies all these things.

Donald Trump clearly displayed his many loathsome traits before being elected to the highest office in the land. He also proved that he had neither the knowledge nor the understanding necessary to competently lead a nuclear power.

The only believable aptitude that his campaign presented to the American electorate was his abiding belief in white supremacy. And he rode that one trick pony all the way to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

After occupying the Oval Office for more than two years, Trump has had his corrupt and illegal practices laid out in more than 400 pages of a government report produced by a team of investigators and lawyers led by Special Counsel, Robert Mueller.



Political pundits have expressed their shock and surprise at the depth of Trump's immorality. The legion of lies, his schemes to overthrow the rule of law and his constant efforts to obstruct justice were revealed in page after page of Mueller's report.

But the most surprising thing about this episode of America's history is not Trump's immorality, but the sense of surprise — real or pretended — expressed by members of the major media outlets.

When you climb into a pigpen to kiss a hog, you should not be surprised by what winds up on your lips. And many Americans have been French kissing this swine for more than two years.

The question now should not be "How did things come to this?" The answer is clear. We elected a villain to the White House. The question we must now answer is: "How do we rid the American body politic of this cancer?"

Some Democratic leaders in the U.S. House of Representatives are counseling against impeaching Trump. Instead, they call for the American voters to turn him out of office in 2020. Fearful of losing their seats by angering conservatives, these shameful Congressmembers are asking voters to do the job they were elected to do.

Cowering before small but vocal segments of their constituencies, these self-serving politicians are willing, for the sake of their own re-elections, to surrender the public good to the worst elements of our society.

When these politicians make their next predictable pilgrimages to black churches and neighborhoods seeking what they believe are "guaranteed" Democratic votes, they should be pressed on why they did not see fit to protect the American people and move to impeach No. 45. Every day Trump remains in office is a threat to the well-being of people of color. His policies diminish our quality of life and the tone he sets in the White House gives license to those in America whose hateful, racist inner demons have waited decades for a chance to wreak havoc on their victims.

For months, Robert Mueller was hailed as the hero who had ridden in on his white horse to make everything right in Washington. But his report disappoints by failing to call out Trump's illegal actions for what they are. Anecdotes in the Mueller Report confirming already well-founded suspicions and widely known violations of law that had been reported in the media for months did little to further inform the public of Trump's wrongdoings. And in

its present form, the report is subject to manipulation by Trump allies to normalize his behavior and anesthetize the American people to the abuse heaped upon us daily by this administration.

Anyone who cannot see an attempted conspiracy between the Trump campaign and the Russian government is simply choosing not to look. Anyone who is not convinced that Trump clearly obstructed — and attempted to obstruct — justice is choosing to abandon the rule of law.

Trump committed his many crimes in full view of the American public, so the facts laid out in the Mueller report should come as no surprise.

Right-thinking Americans should not allow politicians to be surprised at the contents of the Mueller report. Any politician who expresses such surprise is either too dishonest or too stupid to be returned to office.

Right-thinking Americans should not allow politicians to shirk from legitimate efforts to impeach Donald Trump. If they are too cowardly to weather the turmoil of an impeachment process, they should pack their bags, leave Washington and look for another line of work.

Oscar H. Blayton is a former Marine Corps combat pilot and human rights activist who practices law in Virginia.



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Campus Police Power Targeted

(AP) -- The Oregon Senate last week unanimously voted to curtail some of the policing authority from security officers hired to patrol college campuses.

The proposal, which now goes to the House, is known as "Kaylee's Law" after Kaylee Sawyer, a 23-year-old who was raped and murdered by a Central Oregon Community College secu-

rity guard in 2016.

Security officers will no longer have stop and frisk authority under the bill. Schools must also conduct national background checks on potential hires.

Uniforms and vehicles must also look distinct from those of traditional law enforcement officers. Sen. Floyd Prozanski, a Democrat from Eugene, said that

is to make sure "people know when they are dealing with an actual law enforcement officer."

Students from Portland State University pushed a similar bill that would prohibit campus police from carrying a gun, responding a deadly shootout near campus last year. That measure isn't expected to move forward this session.

PDX Jazz Presents Kendrick Scott



Kendrick Scott

PDX Jazz presents Kendrick Scott and his Kendrick Scott Oracle band, considered one of the premier ensembles in jazz right now.

"He's a brilliant mind bringing innovation to the music and at the same time he's creating a safe place for young talent to develop and grow," said renowned trumpeter and bandleader Terence Blanchard.

In the decade that Scott occupied the drum throne in Blanchard's band, he had the opportunity to learn first-hand from an established master who gave Scott the space to find his own voice both on his instrument and as a composer.

Kendrick Scott Oracle plays Monday, May 5 at the Jack London Revue, downtown. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 the day of the show.

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3 A.M. - 7 A.M. TOM JOYNER	3 A.M. - 6 A.M. TOTA BEASLEY
7 A.M. - 10 A.M. TONI TERRELL	6 A.M. - 12 NOON SUNDAY MORNING GOSPEL WANGELA
10 A.M. - 1 P.M. REV. AL SHARPTON (KEEPING IT REAL)	12 NOON - 1 P.M. HIGHLAND C.C. LIVE BROADCAST
1 P.M. - 3 P.M. KENNY SMOOV	1 P.M. - 4 P.M. PAPA SMURF
3 P.M. - 7 P.M. D.L. HUGHLEY	4 P.M. - 12 Midnight DOUGLAS WILLIAMS
7 P.M. - 9 P.M. PAPA SMURF	
9 P.M. - 12 Midnight MIKE SHANNON	

Rev. Al Sharpton
10am - 1pm

Tom Joyner
3am - 7am

Obituary

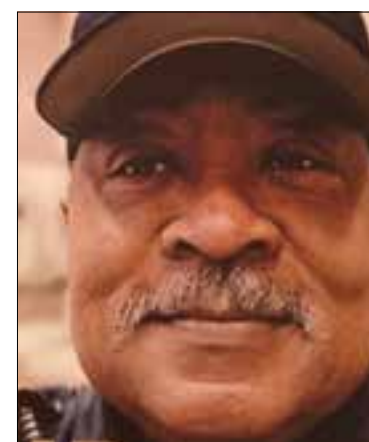
Longtime Resident Remembered

Nathaniel "Big Nate" Griffin Jr.

Nathaniel Griffin Jr., a longtime Portland resident, transitioned into peaceful rest Dec. 16, 2018.

Nathaniel, known by many as "Big Nate," provided years in service as a United States Marine Corpsman during the Korean War; as a Portland Police Officer during the 1960s and 1970s; and as a security patrol officer with the Kaiser Foundation.

Nate was known for this love of cars and was a proud owner of a classic silver Corvette. He will be lovingly remembered by his wife, Leslie; children Nikki, Nate and Yaphet; grandchildren; and other family members and friends.



Nate's memorial services will be held Friday, May 3 at 11 a.m. the Willamette National Cemetery, 11800 S.E. Mt. Scott Blvd., with a final farewell celebration to be held Saturday, May 4 at 2 p.m. at the Billy Webb Elks Lodge, 6 N.Tillamook St.



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In Loving Memory Sandra Johnson

Sandra Johnson (Chaney) died April 18, 2019. Funeral services will be held Tuesday, May 14 at 11 a.m. at Mallory Avenue Church of Christ, 3908 N.E. Mallory Ave.

