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Committed to Cultural Diversity

Chief Outlaw Leaving; Deputy Promoted



Danielle Outlaw will become police commissioner in Philadelphia.

Year begins with change in police bureau leadership

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON PORTLAND OBSERVER EDITOR

Danielle Outlaw, the first African American woman to lead the Portland Police Bureau, has accepted a new job to lead the Philadelphia police department, and Jami Resch, Outlaw's recently named deputy police chief, will be promoted to become Portland's next permanent police chief.

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler announced Outlaw's departure and Resch's hiring on Monday.

Outlaw came to Portland two years

ago from the Oakland Police Department in California. During her tenure here, she challenged the city and law enforcement to address racial inequities and now becomes the police chief of the fourth largest police department in the nation, with more than 6,500 sworn and 800 civilian members.

"I'd like to congratulate Chief Outlaw for landing a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Mayor Wheeler said Monday in a news release. "We thank her for her service to the city of Portland and the Portland Police Bureau where she helped make a positive difference. She came to Portland exceedingly qualified for the position of police chief, and leaves more prepared than ever for her new position in Philadelphia."

Wheeler credited Outlaw for helping build community trust and public confi-



Jami Resch is appointed Portland's new police chief.

dence in the Portland Police Bureau. He said under her leadership, the bureau formalized the use of the Incident Command System model for critical incidents and crowd management, and implemented crime strategies tailored to each precinct that have effectively reduced crimes against persons, property and society.

Outlaw praised Mayor Wheeler for placing his confidence in her during the two years she served in Portland.

"For police chiefs, I don't think there is ever an ideal time to transition on to our next role in life. However, I am making this transition on good terms, knowing the bureau will be left in the hands of a strong leadership team, led by Chief Jami Resch. And while there will always be work to be done toward improvement, that does not take away from

the fact that the members of the bureau are not only extremely talented, compassionate and professional, they are also resilient and accountable to themselves, each other and to the community," Outlaw said.

"I leave knowing the Bureau will remain committed to community safety while building trust. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Portland's Police Chief, serving alongside the members of the Bureau and partnering with countless, remarkable individuals within Portland's community. I will forever be appreciative of my experience here," she added.

Portland City Commission Jo Ann Hardesty, the first black female member of the Portland City Council and a longtime

2019 Year in Review

A look back at some of our top stories



A New Seat of Power

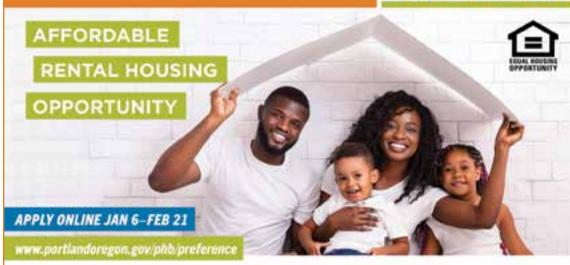
Jan. 9 – Longtime political activist Jo Ann Hardesty takes office as Portland's newest city commissioner, a historic benchmark in terms of seating the first African American woman on the City Council and tilting the governing panel to a woman-majority for the first time in history.



NAACP Generations

Jan. 30 – Vancouver NAACP volunteer and community artist Claudia Carter curates historical exhibit in celebration of the local civil rights group and Black History Month called 'NAACP Generations: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow in collaboration with the Clark County Historical Society.





Three new apartment buildings offering affordable rental housing are opening throughout North/Northeast Portland in 2020. Those interested in one of these new affordable housing opportunities must apply through the North/ Northeast Preference Policy application between Jan 6th–Feb 21st.

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Keeping the Focus on Health

Feb. 13 – Miracles Club Program Director Maleka Taylor (right) and Wellness Within Reach Administrative Coordinator Makda Berhane oversee programs focused on improving health outcomes in the African American community, managing health initiatives previously run by the African American Health Coalition, which dissolved.



Mitigating Displacement

Feb. 20 – Community leaders break ground on a new 70-unit affordable housing complex at Northeast Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks Way. The project by Portland Community Reinvestment, Inc. (PCRI) is rooted in the African American community, the nonprofit's second major effort to create housing for people who have been displaced.



A Reversal of Fortunes

March 6 – Nicole Kennedy brings diversity to the new legal cannabis industry as co-founder of the Green Hop marijuana dispensary in northeast Portland. The hip-hop themed shop operates 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.

INSIDE



The Year in Review

page 2



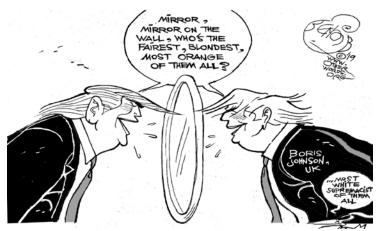
page 5-7





Metro

page 8



OPINION

pages 9

CLASSIFIED/BIDS

pages 10

Local News



PHOTO BY BEVERLY CORBELL/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Tom Hughes, former Portland Metro Council president, speaks at the grand opening celebration for the new 600-room Hyatt Regency Oregon Convention Center Hotel in northeast Portland, with a diverse group of employees of the new hotel filling the stairs behind him.

Convention Hotel Opens

Equity was goal in construction; hotel staff hires

BY BEVERLY CORBELL
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

When the Oregon Convention Center was constructed on the east side of the Willamette River in the late 1980s, hundreds, if not thousands, of African Americans were pushed out of their homes and businesses.

Those neighborhoods will never come back, but at a ribbon cutting for the new Hyatt Regency Oregon Convention Center Hotel, former Metro Council president Tom Hughes said there was an emphasis on diversity and equity for both in the construction of the 600-room hotel and hiring of local staff to run it.

"We wanted to create an opportunity for people who live in this neighborhood, many of whom were displaced by the construction of the (Veterans Memorial) Coliseum and Convention Center and other places, that did away with a lot of housing that was in this area," Hughes said.

Hughes said he had been working with Metro on "a diversity, equity and inclusion program" when

plans for the hotel began to take shape, and Mortenson, the construction company that built the hotel, was fully on board, he said.

"Mortenson partnered with us on this even more than we'd expect, with a program that attempts to move people through a pre-apprenticeship program by working on several projects together, to eventually get experience and family wage jobs for the rest of their lives," Hughes said.

Hyatt Regency general manager Shane Nicolopoulos said that Mortenson was invested in the Community Construction Training Program, a collaborative effort to increase access to trade careers for women and people of color.

Mortenson spokeswoman Kelli Amico said final numbers for people of color and women who worked on building the hotel will be available in January, but said the company "emphasizes diversity and inclusion in all of its projects."

Nicolopoulos said Hyatt held job fairs for residents of the Metro First Opportunity Target Area (FOTA), who have filled 41 percent of the hotel's 300 jobs.

"Leading up to the hotel's opening, it was a priority for us to develop job and training opportunities," he said.

Metro's FOTA was created in 1989 to give displaced residents priority for jobs at the Convention Center and was later expanded to other areas from which residents were forced to move.

The new hotel, with three restaurants and 18 meeting rooms, along with the 11,000-square-foot Regency Ballroom and the 5,000-square-foot Deschutes Ballroom, is the first hotel to be built adjacent to the Convention Center, which recently underwent a \$40 million renovation that city leaders hope will attract more business to the city.

The hotel was designed by ESG Architects and achieved the highest rating for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification.

Getting the hotel built wasn't easy, Hughes said, and took "many, many years" and took the cooperation of both city and county elected officials.

"There were 17 individuals who had to sign off on the financing for this hotel and we got 16 out of 17 votes," he said.

Hughes also gave credit for the hotel's completion to two former Portland mayors, Sam Adams and Charlie Hales, who kept interest

The Hortland Observer

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Advertising Manager: Leonard Latin Office Manager/Classifieds:

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> OFFICE ASSISTANT/SALES: Shawntell Washington

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Convention Hotel Opens

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

in the project alive, even though at times it was on life support.

"Without Sam, we wouldn't have this facility, and Mayor Hales took a real personal interest in it," he said. "This project is exciting for a number of reasons, and the folks here on the staircase (Hyatt employees) are the main reason. We wanted this hotel and we wanted it here because we wanted to contribute directly to the economy of Portland."

The 600 guest rooms at the hotel include 16 suites and the hotel features 20 venues among its 39,000 square feet of meeting and ballroom space.

Portland Metro reports that during the construction of the hotel, Mortenson and Metro worked to improve access for minorityand women-owned contracting businesses as well as helping ease the pathways for minorities and women looking to enter the trades

as a career. Overall workforce reached 28 percent people of color and nearly 8 percent women, according to a Metro press release.

In addition, according to Metro, the project led to the creation of Metro's Construction Careers Pathways Project, which aims to remove the barriers that keep women and people of color out of the trades.

Metro and the Oregon Convention Center also invested \$150,000 to start a Community Construction Training Program to which Mortenson contributed \$300,000. The program exceeded pre-apprenticeship training goals, investing in 112 pre-apprentices to help generate well-paying careers for those who are underrepresented in the trades, according to Metro. The program grantees included Constructing Hope, Portland Opportunity Industrialization Center. Portland YouthBuilders, Oregon Tradeswomen Inc. and Pacific Northwest Carpenters Institute.



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Po'Shines Café De La Soul, 8139 N. Denver Ave., will host its 13th annual chitlin festival on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 3-4 in the heart of the Kenton neighborhood.

Po'Shines Hosts Chitlin Festival

Po'Shines Cafe De La Soul, and more. The southern cuisine service mission since it opened Portland's premiere soul food is also called chitterlings or "The in 2006. In addition to its soul restaurant at 8130 N. Denver Ave. Calamari of the Ghetto"! in the Kenton neighborhood will festival on Friday and Saturday, both days.

both seasoned and curious eaters to try will be served, including fried chitlins, chitlin mac & cheese, traditional stewed chitlins,

be hosting its 13th annual chitling ten in Portland, let alone in the and young adults with an oppornorthwest. However the staff at tunity to get job training and ex-Jan. 3-4 from 12 p.m. until 10 p.m. Po'Shines wasn't surprised by last perience in the culinary world. year's chitlin festival turnout and A variety of chitlin dishes for the request for chitlins throughout idea what we were in for," statthe year. In addition to plenty of ed Po'Shines Executive Chef good food, the two day festival James Bradley. will also feature local musicians.

Po'Shines has served a public Po'Shines at 503-978-9000.

food and great customer service, Chitlins are not seen of the restaurant provides youth

"When we started, we had no

For more information, call



рното ву Міснаец **DURHAM, COURTESY** OF THE OREGON ZOO. Oregon silverspot butterflies successfully bred in the Oregon Zoo's conservation lab for the first time ever last year.

Hope Rises to Save Oregon Butterfly

Oregon Zoo's butterfly conser- in the hopes they would successvation lab has 269 reasons to celebrate the New Year. That's how many Oregon silverspot caterpillars are waiting to become butterflies thanks to the first-ever breeding of this endangered species in a captive-rearing setting.

"This is a really exciting breakthrough," said Tia Perry, a keeper in the butterfly conservation lab.

At the request of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Perry and her colleagues held back 22 pupae from last year's butterfly release,

fully breed in the lab. Nearly all the butterflies that emerged were female, but a wild male successfully mated with one of them, resulting in 269 tiny caterpillars.

Listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act, the Oregon silverspot was once common in coastal grasslands from Northern California up into British Columbia. Today, due to habitat loss and the disappearance of its host plant, just five isolated populations remain.





ONLINE SPORTS BETTING

2019 Year in Review

A look back at some of our top stories

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

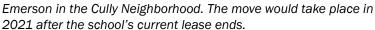


'It Looked Like a River

March 20 – A major supply water main break sent a geyser of water gushing into the middle of Northeast Skidmore Street, inundating several blocks and flooding nearly a dozen residential basements. "It looked like the Deschutes River right here," said Kevin Hendrickson, a neighbor.



April 3 – St. Charles
Parish Priest Elwin
Schwab outlines plans
to allow De La Salle
North Catholic High
School to relocate
permanently from the
Kenton neighborhood to
the former St. Charles
Elementary building at
Northeast 42nd and





Crowned Champions

March 13 – The Benson High School girls basketball team and coach Eric Knox celebrate the program's first state championship after dethroning two-time defending champion Southridge, 66-42 in the state 6A tournament.



April 17 – Civil rights organizers Hector Hinojosa and Lynn Marzette were on a quest to improve police transparency and ensure unbiased law enforcement after an unusually high number of officer-involved shootings involving people of color in Vancouver and Clark County over the past few months.



Opportunity to Serve

May 8 – Michelle DePass (left) and Shanice Clarke, two well-qualified candidates from the African American community, speak out on the issues as they vie for a seat on the Portland School Board. DePass went on to win the May primary and became the first black member in a decade on the sevenmember governing panel.



Apology for Noose

May 29 – Natural Grocers apologized after a miniature noose was found hanging from a car's rear view mirror in the parking lot of the store on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Neighbors traced the image to an employee at the store and posted it online.

Parkrose Coach a True Hero

May 22 – Parkrose Football Coach Keanon Lowe is hailed as a hero for taking the gun from an armed student at the northeast Portland school, preventing what could have been a tragic school shooting. The former college football star at the University of Oregon received nationwide praise for his actions.





Hail Queen Mya!

June 12 – Mya Brazile of St. Mary's Academy is crowned 2019 Portland Rose Festival Queen, an amazing accomplishment for the 18-year-old senior and the fulfillment of a childhood dream. Her selection was announced just ahead of the Rose Festival's Grand Floral Parade.

Highest Academic Honor

June 12 - Madison High School graduate Taj Ali (left) is congratulated by long time educator and mentor Michael



"Chappie" Grice for becoming Valedictorian of his Class of 2019, the highest-scoring senior academically, and one of the few male black students to achieve this honor in the history of Portland Public Schools.



Safe, Clean and Sober Leader Dies

June 26 - Michael Booker, 64, a beloved and longtime advocate of the African American community in Portland, dies after an unexpected liver cancer diagnosis just three weeks prior. Booker most recently helmed the executive director position at the Miracles Club, a nonprofit for recovering addicts.



New Roots on MLK

July 24 – Business owners celebrate the replanting of roots in the historic heart of Portland's black community during a grand opening celebration for Alberta Commons. Three person-of-color owned businesses, Cason's Fine Meats, Champions Barbershop and greenHAUS Galley + Boutique have opened in the redeveloped block at Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Alberta Street.

Program Fills Hunger Gap

Aug. 21 - Shannon Long, Multnomah County Library programming assistant, welcomes kids for free lunches as part of a summertime Meals 4 Kids program to stave off food insecurity for families that would normally receive free or reduced fare lunches for their kids during the school year.



Campus Police to Keep Guns

Oct. 16 - Portland State University alumna and graduate student Olivia Pace and others addresss the PSU Board of Trustees to strongly criticize the university's decision to continue arming campus police with guns. The decision

followed the first ever PSU officer-involved shooting that killed a black man braking up a fight outside a bar near campus in 2018.

Tornado Hit

July 3 – A rare EF-0 tornado touched down in northeast Portland causing widespread damage in a mile long path, including these two trees which toppled over against a single home at Northeast 16th and Going Street. Amazingly, no injuries were reported.



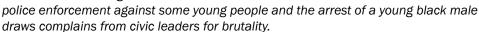


Open for Summer

July 10 – A new outdoor pool at north Portland's Peninsula Park opens, replacing an outdated facility and expanding capacity for a resource that has a rich history of serving a multicultural community.

Police Action at March Criticized

Sept. 25 – A youthled climate strike draws thousands downtown to peacefully protest, but one incident involving





In the Middle of a Fight

Oct. 9 – A proposed change to city code by City Commissioner Chloe Eudaly to lessen the power of neighborhood associations to better serve diverse and underserved populations becomes contentious. One of Eudaly's chief critics is her former employee, public policy consultant Mingus Mapps, who plans to run for her seat.

PSU Black Studies at Risk, Professor says

Nov. 20 - Professor Ethan Johnson, who heads up the Black Studies Department at Portland State University, says he doesn't feel like celebrating the department's 50th anniversary because PSU is failing to support the department and even more is failing to listen to the concerns of minority students and teachers.







PHOTO COURTESY WARNER BROS.

Michael B. Jordan (left) and Jamie Foxx in a scene from "Just Mercy," a new historical drama about a young black lawyer, Bryan Stevenson (Jordan), and his history-making battle for justice.

Just Mercy

BY DWIGHT BROWN

A powerful and thought-provoking true story about justice and redemption and the young black lawyer who pursued the case opened in movie theaters across America on Christmas with a full nationwide release coming Jan.

The film tells the story of young Harvard-educated lawyer, Bryan Stevenson (Michael B. Jordan), who could have his pick of law firms. Instead, he heads to rural row sentences for wrongfully convicted prisoners and partners with local advocate Eva Ansley (Brie Larson).

The two find many on death row are in need, but Walter McMillian (Jamie Foxx), who was convicted of killing an 18-year-old white woman, becomes a prime client.

McMillian says, "I didn't do it" and there's enough evidence to question his arrest, trial, convic-

Historical drama draws on real life hero for justice tion and sentence. But where he from the heroes and martyrs he new or unique. But his guidance

lives, in 1988, no one has enough power or know-how to fight the judicial system. He needs a cru- mance since Ray. Every action, Lanham use the real lawyer Ste-Alabama to set up a small prac- sader and Stevenson answers the facial expression and ounce of di- venson's award-winning non-fictice. In the deep south, with all its call: "Your life is still meaningful, alogue is channeled through him tion book Just Mercy: A Story of on history, racism and activism confines he seeks to reverse death and I'm going to do everything I with a conviction that he rarely Justice and Redemption as source can to keep them from taking it,"

To get a feel for Jordan's interpretation of the role, close your eves and imagine a young Sidney Poitier. That's the way Jordan plays the character. Not like a fiery, agitated Denzel Washington. Or a gritty, emotionally raw Jeffrey Wright. Jordan's Stevenson has a slow, steady and academic manner. It's a refreshing change

often plays.

Foxx gives his best perforcharacter too. Rob Morgan, Tim Blake Nelson, Rafe Spall, O'Shea Jackson Jr. and Karan Kendrick as Walter's wife form the rest of the very earnest ensemble cast.

Director Destin Daniel Cretton's approach to the crime/courtroom/drama genre is near formulaic. Nothing on view-from style, to production elements, to substance—seems particularly

gets the job done.

Cretton and co-writer Andrew shows. Larson finds the core of her material. The script they've created is clear, has distinctive characters, evolves competently and heads to an ending that is bigger than its building blocks. Yet, something is missing. Something big. Something that would make this an extraordinary tale about injustice.

As the story unfolds, images of the south, prison environs and rural black neighborhoods are created and visualized by production design (Sharon Seymour), editing (Nat Sanders), costume design (Francine Jamison-Tanchuck), music (Joel P. West) and cinematography (Brett Pawlak) that are solid.

Adult and urban viewers should find the film's depiction of poor black men being railroaded into death sentences-well into the late '80s-alarming and enlightening. Whether they view Just Mercy in a theater or on a streaming service, its details should be quite affecting.

On a far more personal level, watching a very northern and stiff African American lawyer awkwardly adapt to a friendly rural southern black community is compelling. It's a fascinating juxtaposition. A contrast in cultures that elevates a true story.

Dwight Brown is a film critic for the National Newspaper Publishers Association, a professional group known as the Black Press.

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.



Anger and Forgiveness in Our Politics

We can work together for the betterment of all



BY LESLIE D. GREGORY AND TOM H. HASTINGS

Forgiveness is a popular topic. Forgive your cheating spouse and put it behind you. Forgiveness is move on. Forgive your lying boss your toxic workplace stress unless you just let it go?

"Forgiveness is for you, not for the perpetrator." That is the comcan do more harm to the vessel in which it is stored than to anything on which it is poured."—words attributed to both Seneca the Younger and Mark Twain. The assump-

in many cases?

decided to risk her well being, her to build up? freedom, her employment, possibly ger at what violent racists had done aline Overload and our national

to Emmet Till, the young black boy heart is at risk. from Chicago who was accused of he was visiting family in Missistortured, disfigured, and tied to a weight in the river.

Rosa did great work and lived vidual bodies. long. She sparked one of the greatthe history of the US.

King Jr. wrote frequently about to our polity, some bits of apology, anger and its value in the freedom and liberation struggles they led. Gandhi, who was born and raised ness, and some long term deeper help measurably. how you achieve closure and can in the Steam Age, had the best metaphor, noting that anger is much each other. or co-worker--how can you reduce like steam; you can let it build up until you explode destructively or to seek health care coverage and you can harness it to do great and access for all, by whichever path a difficult tasks.

mon refrain. And it has precedence did not start with Trump, though it Every Patriot" and Democrats can our democracy and for the human in philosophy: "Anger: an acid that worsened badly beginning with his campaign and has carried on into difference in the anger expressed in bigoted terms is significant and one wonders how Latinx voters can more than in any country on Earth, tor of PeaceVoice. tion is, if you want anger gone--and set aside the anger in being called you should--you must forgive. animals by Trump? One wonders That will calm your heart, ease how the tiki torch-wielding white your mind, and soothe your spirit. nationalists can draw down their But what if anger is a good thing rage against people of color? We have to ask where we are headed Rosa Parks was asked why she if this full head of steam continues

Clinically, equanimity might even her life by refusing to obey a be a factor in reducing hypercorcommand in December 1955 by an tisolism, a condition produced Alabama white bus driver to give by overproduction of cortisol by her bus seat to a white man and the adrenal glands in response to move to the back of the bus? She threat. Perhaps we are indeed now said that she was propelled by an- the Not-So-United States of Adren-

Achieving equity in our society whistling at a white woman while may be one of the best ways to find social, collective equanimity and sippi. His body was found lynched, thus help heal our body politic as surely as finding our inner calm and balance can help heal our indi-

If so, investigating processes est upheavals of nonviolent citizen of restoring civil discourse and redemands for basic civil rights in affirming common decency might involve some admixture of ac-Both Gandhi and Martin Luther knowledgement of hurt and harm elements of graciousness however grudging, a smattering of forgivework on our history of traumas to

A great starting point would be bipartisan coalition might choose. The rise of anger in our politics Republicans can call it "VA for continue to use Medicare for All (while maintaining private insur-"public option). Everyone wins.

Health care in America costs

but VA for Every Patriot would radically reduce costs while greatly improving access, attenuating over time the horrific health care outcome disparities such as black mothers of every income class dying in childbirth at rates that skyrocket by an order of magnitude more than white women's.

If Democrats believe racism is a threat to public health, Medicare for All is the single fastest and most realistic way to begin to mitigate that threat. If the Republicans want to stand up for their base of poor whites, VA for Every Patriot will

Then, we pray, everyone can calm down a bit and continue to work together for the benefit of all, slowly forgiving themselves and others for this time of acrimony and chaos

Without this work, we fear for and civil rights of all of us.

ecutive director of Right to Health. Tom Hastings of Portland is direc-

Leslie Gregory is a certified his time in the White House. The ance for those who prefer it, so a physician assistant and is the ex-

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The Portland Observer

50th Anniversary Celebration Friday, Oct. 23rd 2020



Dr. Billy R. Flowers

Chief Outlaw Leaving; Deputy Promoted

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

advocate for police reforms, said Outlaw came to Portland as a visionary leader and wished her well in her next role.

"While I appreciate the work done by Chief Outlaw, the fact remains that chiefs will come and go, but it is the culture they leave behind that matters most to our community. There is still much work to be done to make the Porttion we need it to be, and I look forward to working with Chief Resch as she takes on this charge."

Wheeler said the new incoming chief meets or exceeds all of the police bureau's current leadership needs, citing her 20 years of experience with the Portland Police Bureau coming up the ranks, and being highly engaged within the community, citing her service as an active member of Police Bu-

land Police Bureau the organiza- reau's Muslim Council, Slavic Advisory Council and Refugee Integration Program, for examples.

> "I have complete confidence that Chief Resch will excel as our next police chief. She has my complete trust and a thorough understanding of my agenda. She is the right person at the right time for the job," Wheeler said.

> Resch will be the fourth woman to oversee the Portland Police Bureau in city history.

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Fiddler on the Roof Revival



Broadway in Portland presents the Tony Award-nominated **Broadway revival of Fiddler on** the Roof at Keller Auditorium, Tuesday, Jan. 7 through Sunday, Jan.12. The beloved theatrical classic is the heartwarming story of fathers and daughters, husbands and wives, and life, love and laughter. Rich with musical hits, including "To Life (L'Chaim!)," "If I Were A Rich Man," "Sunrise Sunset," "Matchmaker, Matchmaker," and "Tradition." Tickets at BroadwayInPortland. com, the box office or call 1-800-273-1530.

Matilda Sparks a Revolt - Matilda revels in the anarchy of childhood,



power the imagination and a girl who won't let being 'little' stop her from putting unjust world right. 'Matilda the Musi-

cal' is now showing through Jan. 5 on the NW Children's Theater stage at 1819 N.W. Everett St. For tickets, call 503-222-2190 or visit nwcts.org.



All Things Being Equal - A thought-provoking look at how art can show how modern culture perpetuates discrimination, titled "All Things Being Equal" by African American artist Hank Willis Thomas, runs through Jan. 12 at the Portland Art Museum. Features more than 90 works, including sculptures based on archival photographs, quilts constructed from sports jerseys and prison uniforms, video installations, and



ZooLights - The Oregon Zoo's walk-through winter wonderland of more than 1.5 million colored lights is open for the holiday season through Sunday, Jan. 5. Enjoy the forests of lighted trees, life-size illuminated animal silhouettes and take rides on the light-bedecked zoo trains. For online tickets and more information,

visit oregonzoo.org/zoolights.

Black Experience on Canvas

Portland artist Arvie Smith. renowned painter of black



experience, will showcase some of his new work in a solo exhibit '2 Up and 2 Back,' now showing through Feb. 2 at the Disjecta Contemporary Arts Center, 8371 N. Interstate Ave.

Fighting for the Right to Fight: African American Experiences in World War II - On loan from the National WWII Museum through Jan. 12, The Oregon Historical Society, downtown, presents exhibit on the African American experience in World War II and in the Civil Rights era following the war.

Norman Sylvester Band - "Boogie Cat" Norman Sylvester and his band plays Saturday, Jan. 4 at Catfish Lou's; and Friday Jan. 10 at the Spareroom.

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 brining a photo ID and documentation showing they participate in low income service, like the Oregon Trial Card, Medicaid, Section 8, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and Head Start.

Discount Tickets - Low income families and individuals can purchase \$5 tickets to classical musical performances in Portland as part of a unique program called Music for All. Participating organizations include the Oregon Symphony, Portland Opera, Oregon Ballet Theater, Chamber Music Northwest, Portland Youth

ENTERTAINMENT 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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2019 Year in Review

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7



Big Dreams for Young Ballerina

Dec. 4 – Aanaiyah Jones, age 10, the first young dancer from the African American community to star in the leading role for the holiday production of the "Nutrcracker" by Portland's Classical Ballet Academy is a serious ballerina student, planning for a future as a professional dancer.



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Gun Control Petition Recharged

Dec. 11 – Faith leaders gather in northeast Portland to support a new effort to reduce gun violence by circulating a new voters initiative petition calling for a November 2020 vote to ban the sale of semi-automatic guns and large capacity ammunition magazines in Oregon.

