



Established in 1970

## Murals Showcase Black History

*Shining light on injustices and community action*

See story, page 2



## Women's Football Charts Return

*Diverse team holds tryouts; plans season after COVID*

See Metro, page 6



PO QR code

# The Portland Observer

Volume XLVIV • Number 24



'City of Roses'

www.portlandobserver.com  
Wednesday • November 4, 2020

Committed to Cultural Diversity



The Kinney family is pictured outside the home they were evicted from this summer on North Mississippi Avenue. The family is appealing to get the home back, claiming a sophisticated mortgage scam and foreclosure was triggered by fraud and deceit.

# Lost by Fraud and Deceit

## Family fights to win back their historic home

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON  
PORTLAND OBSERVER EDITOR

An African American family with indigenous roots is locked in a dramatic struggle for the right to return to their historic home in

one of Portland's most gentrified neighborhoods, a battle blamed on a sophisticated mortgage scam, an alleged fraud and deceit case that has captured the hearts and minds of a growing community of allies pursuing racial and economic justice.

"It's a David and Goliath fight," said William Nietzsche, about the battle to win back the old Kinney family home, a red house on North

Mississippi Avenue, just down from the intersection of North Skidmore Street, and now next door to where tents have been set up by allies of the family wanting to help them and others trying to survive houselessness or similar plights.

The community of supporters gather under a banner that says "Domicile the Land," and where they accept donations of meals,

clothes, blankets and heaters to distribute to others in need, Nietzsche said. The picture of collective community action is a stirring contrast to the new multi-million dollar condominium properties rising on all sides of the street and for several blocks.

Included as part of Albina in early Portland, the Mississippi neighborhood was a redlined area back in the early to mid 20th

Century where African Americans were allowed to reside in Portland at a time when real estate covenants restricted Black residents from living in other areas of the city. But over the past few decades, Urban renewal and rezoning for commercial and multi-family developments has changed the landscape and led

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4





PHOTOS BY RONNIE MANUS

Community organizer Jackie Strong (from left), artist Daren Todd, and homeowners Collin McFadyen and Jeana Frazzini introduce Todd's new Haight Avenue Mural, a panel of five images depicting Portland Black History. The artwork along a fence line was revealed during a community dedication on Thursday at North Haight Avenue and the Going Street walkway.

# Murals Showcase Black History

## Shining light on injustices and community action

A panel of five murals depicting Black History in the Albina and Humboldt neighborhoods of north and northeast Portland was introduced along a residential

fence line Thursday.

Black artist and musician Daren Todd created the murals this past summer and early fall, working with the homeowners, Collin McFadyen and Jeana Frazzini, to pay tribute to the Black communi-

ty while also honoring past generations of Black Portlanders.

Neighbor Jackie Strong helped dedicate the murals during their unveiling and celebration cere-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



One of five panels from a new community mural by Black artist and musician Daren Todd recreates a scene in 1961, when Mrs. Opal Strong organized a neighborhood improvement committee and secured a large government grant to beautify and revitalize Black neighborhoods in Portland. Over 500 trees were planted, including several cherry trees that Dodd depicted in the mural.

## Governor Activates Command for Election

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown on Monday put the National Guard on standby for a 48-hour period around Election Day and used her executive authority to activate a

unified command of state troopers, sheriff's deputies and Portland police to handle any protests.

"We've seen firsthand what happens when free expression is

fueled by hate," the Democratic governor said. "We know that there are some people who might

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



The INSIDE



METRO

page 6



Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

page 8



page 9

OPINION

CLASSIFIED/BIDS

pages 10

LOCAL NEWS



Mourners pause to remember Kevin Peterson Jr., the 21-year-old Black man who was fatally shot Thursday in the Hazel Dell community of Vancouver by Clark County law enforcement. The candlelight vigil was outside of the Hazel Dell branch of U.S. Bank where the shooting took place. (AP photo)

Tensions Boil into Unrest  
Vancouver reeling after deputies kill man

Tensions boiled over into unrest in Vancouver over the weekend after a young Black man was shot and killed by Clark County sheriff's deputies.

When hundreds of Black Lives Matter mourners gathered Friday night for a candlelight vigil in Hazel Dell, an unincorporated area north of Vancouver, they were confronted by right-wing protesters supporting police.

Video recorded by journalists of a parking lot where family and friends say Peterson was shot Thursday night, showed two groups of people shouting at each other. Also, some armed demonstrators were gathered near a building that they told reporters they were protecting.

The crowds ultimately fizzled out near the vigil but a group of hundreds of protesters later



A family photo shows Kevin Peterson Jr., the man killed Thursday in a confrontation with Clark County Sheriff's deputies.

marched through downtown Vancouver. Windows were shattered, flags were burned and federal

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Violent Protest Turns on PSU

Comes week after chief renews pledge to disarm

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON  
PORTLAND OBSERVER EDITOR

Protesters shattered windows at downtown Starbucks and at Portland State University Monday in a protest billed as a "direct action" march in the name of a Black man who was shot and killed by campus police two years ago. The violence came despite

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

A shattered window at the Starbucks on Southwest Montgomery Street near Portland State University was one of several targets of protesters Monday.



The Portland Observer

Established 1970    USPS 959 680

4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.,  
Portland, OR 97211

The Portland Observer welcomes freelance submissions. Manuscripts and photographs should be clearly labeled and will be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed envelope. All created design display ads become the sole property of the newspaper and cannot be used in other publications or personal usage without the written consent of the general manager, unless the client has purchased the composition of such ad. © 2008 THE PORTLAND OBSERVER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED. The Portland Observer--Oregon's Oldest Multicultural Publication--is a member of the National Newspaper Association--Founded in 1885, and The National Advertising Representative Amalgamated Publishers, Inc. New York, NY, and The West Coast Black Publishers Association

CALL 503-288-0033 • FAX 503-288-0015 • [news@portlandobserver.com](mailto:news@portlandobserver.com)  
[ads@portlandobserver.com](mailto:ads@portlandobserver.com) • [subscription@portlandobserver.com](mailto:subscription@portlandobserver.com)

Postmaster: Send address changes to Portland Observer, PO Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208

PO QR code

PUBLISHER: Mark Washington, Sr.

EDITOR: Michael Leighton

Office Mngtr/Clasfds: Lucinda Baldwin

CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Paul Neufeldt

OFFICE/ASST/SALES: Shawntell Washington





## Avalon Flowers

520 SW 3rd Ave., Portland,  
OR 97204 • 503-796-9250

*A full service flower experience*

- Birthdays • Anniversaries
- Funerals • Weddings

**Open: Mon.-Fri. 7:30am til 5:30pm**  
**Saturday 9am til 2pm.**

Website: [avalonflowerspdx.com](http://avalonflowerspdx.com)  
email: [avalonflowers@msn.com](mailto:avalonflowers@msn.com)  
We Offer Wire Services

## HARRIS VIDEO & PHOTOGRAPHY



**503-730-1156**

**Funeral and  
Memorial  
Coverage**

*Capturing the Services  
For You, For Others  
Forever!*



**Beef - \$5.29 per lb**

**Pork Chops - \$4.09 per lb**

**Stew Meat - \$5.09 per lb**

**Ground Beef - \$4.99 per lb**

**Beef Tenderloin - \$4.00 off**

**Whole Frozen Chicken -**  
#1.99 per lb

**Baby Back Ribs - \$2.99 per lb**



**Theotis Cason**

**503-287-0855**

5015 NE MLK Blvd.  
Portland, OR 97211

**Catering Available**



**Martin Cleaning Service**

**MCS Residential & Commercial Business**

**Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning • Minimum Service CHG.**  
\$50.00 (A small distance/travel charge may be applied)

*Ask about all our other special services available*  
**CARPET • UPHOLSTERY • AREA/ORIENTAL RUG • VEHICLES**  
**AUTO/BOAT/RV ODOR TREATMENT • SPOT & STAIN REMOVAL**  
Call for Appointment (503) 281-3949

# Lost by Fraud and Deceit

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

to an economic displacement of Black residents.

The Kinneys were one of the few African American and Native American families still remaining in the once majority-Black neighborhood when sheriff's deputies came armed with guns this summer to enforce an eviction order in their mortgage dispute, forcibly removing the elderly William Kinney Jr., his wife Julie Metcalf and their two adult sons.

The family traces ownership of the home to 1955 when it was purchased by William Kinney Sr., Nietzsche's grandfather who moved to Portland from the South. The house was passed to William Kinney Jr., his father, in the early 1990s.

Currently the family is working on two pending appeals to get the property returned to them. One is before the federal Ninth Circuit and the other is before the Oregon Supreme Court.

Earlier court decisions in the cases were "riddled with errors," Nietzsche said, facts the younger family member learned by researching and acting as his own attorney.

"I've had to develop a legal mind," Nietzsche told the Portland Observer, calling it "A nitty, gritty" experience that he compared to going to law school.

He said the family's foreclosure and eviction dispute goes back to

the predatory subprime loans the banking mortgage industry made in minority communities and that were tied to the 2008 financial crisis.

He said his family had a relatively small second mortgage and it was not in default, paying faithful payments for 14 years when a second mortgage that the Kinneys did not sign off on or authorize in the refinance process triggered a default claim.

The case led to the family's claims against the Freedom Home Mortgage Corporation, and the Mortgage Electronic Registration System or MERS, a creation of some of the biggest lenders in the banking mortgage industry to avoid having to record property deeds and titles when a loan is bought and sold.

MERS was called a racket that made it difficult for people facing problems with their mortgages to know whom to deal. Multnomah County and the state of Oregon sued MERS for not following Oregon law which requires the recording of trust deeds.

The county won a \$40 million settlement against MERS in 2016 to recover lost revenue from fees that would have been paid for recording property transactions, but under terms of a settlement, MERS was exempted from facing any new lawsuits, including from the Kinneys, Nietzsche said.

The family also laments the fact it is not benefitting from cur-

rent moratoriums on evictions imposed this year during the coronavirus pandemic by both Multnomah County and the state of Oregon. Although local law requires multiple forms of notification prior to evictions, the Kinneys said they received no notice before the sheriff patrol came to forcefully evict them in September.

Nietzsche said he has contacted county officials and his State Representative Tawna Sanchez for help, but has found that "No one knows how to enforce the moratoriums."

Oregon, like many states, also offers a "right of redemption" which allows people whose homes have been foreclosed on to buy them back. But the Kinneys also discovered the right did not apply in their case because the eviction was from a non-judicial proceeding.

The Kinneys are currently seeking pro bono legal support, intervention from Gov. Kate Brown or help from others who could potentially reverse the foreclosure and return a home that is rightfully theirs. Any qualified attorneys who are open to providing consultation and other legal assistance are encouraged to contact the family via their website [redhouseonmississippi.com](http://redhouseonmississippi.com) or via Instagram @redhouseonmississippi.

A Go Fund Me page has also been set up at [gofundme.com/f/save-the-kinney-family-home](http://gofundme.com/f/save-the-kinney-family-home).

## Murals Showcase Black History

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

mony. His mother, the late Opal Strong is depicted in one of the panels, a moment from 1961, when Mrs. Strong organized a neighborhood improvement committee and secured a large government grant to beatify and revitalize Black Portland neighborhoods. They planted over 500 trees including several cherry trees that Todd depicted in the mural.

Todd's other panels depict the displacement of Black residents

by urban renewal and Emanuel Hospital expansion in the 1970s; the fight to open Harriet Tubman School to specifically serve the Black community in 1982; and powerful images of resistance to racial injustices in policing. The mural ends with hope for the future by depicting two intersecting streets named Peace and Justice.

Fadyen and Frazzini enlisted Todd to create the murals along their back fence, which runs along the Haight Avenue and the Going Street walkway. The couple had

been impressed by a Black Lives Matter mural Todd had recently created along another fence on Kerby Avenue in the same neighborhood.

Todd said the first mural was finished in June to honor the many people who have died at the hands of police.

It was "In all the chaos of these times," Todd said that he decided he needed to follow his dream to make art a full time career, launching his own art business called "Art is Larger Than Me."

## Governor Activates Command for Election

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

want to use peaceful election night protests to promote violence and property destruction."

"I want to be very, very clear that voter intimidation and politi-

cal violence will not be tolerated. Not from the left, not from the right and not from the center. Not this week, not any week in Oregon," Brown said.

State police and the Multnomah County sheriff's office

will oversee the unified force. That allows its members to use tear gas if needed. Portland police are prohibited from using tear gas after an order by Mayor Ted Wheeler, who is also police commissioner.

Advertise with diversity in The Portland Observer

Call 503-288-0033 or email [ads@portlandobserver.com](mailto:ads@portlandobserver.com)



# 'Finding Your Roots' Host to Speak

## OSU lecture to feature Henry Louis Gates Jr.

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. an esteemed Black Harvard University professor and host of a groundbreaking PBS genealogy series, will give a virtual

Reconstruction and the roots of white supremacy speak in profound ways to our present moment. He will offer much needed perspective as part of

War," winner of the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award, and two books released in conjunction with the series: "Dark Sky Rising: Reconstruction and the Dawn of Jim Crow," with Tonya Bolden, and "Stony the Road: Reconstruction, White Supremacy, and the Rise of Jim Crow," a New York Times Notable Book of 2019.

The recipient of 55 honorary

degrees and numerous prizes, Gates was a member of the first class awarded "genius grants" by the MacArthur Foundation in 1981, and in 1998 he became the first African American scholar to be awarded the National Humanities Medal.

The Provost's Lecture Series is a partnership of the Office of the Provost and the OSU Foundation to bring renowned thinkers, artists, designers and leaders to OSU to engage the

community on topics of global significance.

The lecture series will continue Feb. 4 with a talk from Mae C. Jemison, the first woman of color in the world to go into space. She served six years as a NASA astronaut. She now leads 100 Year Starship (100YSS), a bold, far-reaching nonprofit initiative to assure the capabilities exist for human travel beyond our solar system to another star within the next 100 years.



Henry Louis Gates Jr., Harvard University professor and host of the PBS genealogy series "Finding Your Roots" will give a virtual lecture on Monday, Nov. 9 at Oregon State University.

talk Nov. 9 as part of Oregon State University's Provost Lecture Series.

Gates is in the sixth season of hosting "Finding Your Roots." He is an Emmy Award-winning filmmaker, literary scholar, journalist and cultural critic who has authored or co-authored 24 books and created 21 documentary films.

"We are thrilled to be hosting Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. as one of our speakers this year," said Edward Feser, provost and executive vice president at Oregon State. "Dr. Gates' literary criticism, scholarly and popular writing, and teaching – the latter via the classroom as well as television and film – has contributed immensely to the recognition and understanding of African American literature, history and culture. His insights on the collapse of

our ongoing OSU community conversation and commitment to advancing racial equity and justice."

The free lecture, "The Collapse of Reconstruction and the Roots of White Supremacy," will take place from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and requires advance registration. To sign up visit: [beav.es/provost-lecture](https://beav.es/provost-lecture).

Gates's six-part PBS documentary series, "The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross," which he wrote, executive produced and hosted, earned the Emmy Award for Outstanding Historical Program—Long Form, as well as the Peabody Award, Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award and NAACP Image Award.

His latest projects are the history series, "Reconstruction: America after the Civil

**Choose your Medicare coverage for 2021!**  
**October 15 - December 7**

**Health Net<sup>®</sup>**  
MEDICARE PROGRAMS

Dental
 Vision
 Hearing
 Prescription Drugs
 24/7 Nurse Connect
 Virtual Visits

Benefit offerings may vary by plan.

**It's time to find the right Medicare plan.**  
**Health Net can help.**

Now more than ever, it's important to choose the coverage that's best for you. We have Medicare Advantage experts in your neighborhood who can answer all your questions about Medicare Advantage.

**Get your Medicare questions answered**

- Join a local or virtual event to speak with a Medicare Advantage expert. Find an event in your neighborhood at [OR.HealthNet-Medicare.com/JoinUs](https://OR.HealthNet-Medicare.com/JoinUs)
- If you are unable to attend an event, we are happy to answer your questions over the phone. Call 1-866-212-9797 (TTY: 711)
- You can also compare plans and enroll online. Visit [OR.HealthNet-Medicare.com](https://OR.HealthNet-Medicare.com)

**Call today to reserve your space.**  
**1-866-212-9797 (TTY: 711)**  
8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week\*

**Or RSVP for an upcoming event at**  
**[OR.HealthNet-Medicare.com/JoinUs](https://OR.HealthNet-Medicare.com/JoinUs)**

**Health Net<sup>®</sup>**  
MEDICARE PROGRAMS

\*From October 1 to March 31, you can call us 7 days a week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. From April 1 to September 30, you can call us Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. A messaging system is used after hours, weekends, and on federal holidays. Health Net is contracted with Medicare for HMO, HMO SNP and PPO plans, and with some state Medicaid programs. Enrollment in Health Net depends on contract renewal. A salesperson will be present with information and applications. For accommodations of persons with special needs at meetings call 1-866-212-9797 (TTY: 711). Health Net complies with applicable federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-888-445-8913 (TTY: 711). CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-888-445-8913 (TTY: 711).

**Coverage for every stage of life™**

Y0020\_21\_20945PRAD\_M\_21650\_FINAL\_Accepted\_09072020





Mississippi  
Alberta  
North Portland

Vancouver  
East County  
Beaverton



PHOTO BY SCOTT LARSON/COURTESY PORTLAND FIGHTING SHOCKWAVE

Women's tackle football, a diverse team of players and coaches based in Portland, has been playing since 2002. Called the Portland Fighting Shockwave, they play in the Women's Football Alliance, the largest women football league in the world. Practices are at the Moore Street Salvation Army field in north Portland.

# Women's Football Charts Return

## Diverse team holds tryouts; plans season after COVID

Yes, Portland has an all-women tackle football team, and they are called the Portland Fighting Shockwave. The diverse team of players and coaches was formed back in 2002, and they play in the Women Football Alliance, which is the largest women's football league in the world, with over 60 teams through-out the USA and Canada.

The players are all 18 or older and also have day jobs. They do not get paid; instead they play football for the passion and being part of a team. And no, they do not play in lingerie; they play in full uniforms

and pads just like the men do.

Same as everyone else, the Fighting Shockwave were hit hard by COVID-19. They had to cancel their entire 2020 season due to the pandemic. Thus, they did not have any income from ticket sales or fundraisers and missed the opportunity to get their name out to the public and continue to build their brand.

The Fighting Shockwave were working with the media months before the pandemic hit to build their brand, but the health crisis really put a damper on all their efforts, really hurting a team that already lacks resources and name recognition.

The Fighting Shockwave don't have the deep pockets and name recognition such as the Trail Blazers. They have to rely on volunteers and constantly hitting the pavement on their own to get their name

out there.

The biggest disappointment, for the players, however, wasn't the lost efforts of their media work but, as owner Rebecca Brisson said, "That they could not play together as a team and missed out on the game-day experiences a season brings. These ladies were practicing three times a week. Then had it all taken away from them. It was really heartbreaking. Especially for the rookies that were so excited to take the field for the first time."

Now the team is hoping the pandemic comes under control in the coming months to make way for a 2021 season.

As part of the WFA's National Tryout Day, presented by one of the league's biggest sponsors, Xenith, the Portland Fighting Shockwave will be having tryouts on Saturday, Nov. 7 at The Salvation Army

Moore Street Chiang Memorial Field at 5325 N. Williams Ave.

Each participant will receive a free Xenith gym sack. The players must be females 18 or older, are encouraged to wear masks and should have football passion. Upon arrival, they need to sign a COVID waiver, and undergo a non-contact temperature check. For more information about the tryout and how to pre-register, visit [portland-fightingshockwave.com/](http://portland-fightingshockwave.com/).

Team officials say you do not need any previous experiences, just a readiness to learn, a willingness to work hard, and a desire to be part of a team. Any woman is welcome no matter their race, religion, nationality, sexual orientation or sexual identity. Also, feel free to check out the team's Facebook page at [facebook.com/Portland-FightingShockwave](https://facebook.com/Portland-FightingShockwave).



# Second Wave of COVID-19 Declared

## Governor extends state of emergency until Jan. 2

(AP) — Gov. Kate Brown has extended Oregon's declaration of a state of emergency until Jan. 2 as COVID-19 cases in the state continue to rise.

On Monday, The Oregon Health Authority updated the state's death toll to 701 and total number of cases to 46,460 after 495 new confirmed/presumptive cases were reported.

"Extending the COVID-19 state of emergency is not some-

thing I do lightly, but we know all too well that not taking action would mean an even greater loss of life," Brown said. "The second wave of COVID-19 has arrived in the United States, and this time it is hitting all of our communities."

The latest declaration made last week is the legal underpinning for the executive orders the governor has issued, including her orders surrounding reopening Oregon, childcare, schools

and higher education operations. Extending the state of emergency declaration allows those orders to stay in effect.

The governor reviews and re-evaluates each of her emergency orders every 60 days, to determine whether those orders should be continued, modified, or rescinded.

"My goal is to keep Oregon

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 12**



Gov. Kate Brown has extended Oregon's declaration of a state of emergency until Jan. 2 as COVID-19 cases in the state continue to rise.

An Important Message from Medicare

# Getting your flu shot is more important than ever.

**Flu shots are covered by Medicare.**

The flu can have serious complications, especially for people with diabetes, heart disease, and other medical conditions. Getting your shot can help you stay healthy, protect others, and stop the spread.



Paid for by the U.S. Department  
of Health & Human Services



**GET YOUR SHOT NOW.**

See your doctor, pharmacy, or other local providers.





## Birthday Wishes

Happy Birthday to Betty Ivory who will be 85 on Sunday, Nov. 8, 2020.

## Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Jamie Dornan and Anthony Mackie star as New Orleans paramedics who are ripped apart after encountering a series of horrific deaths linked to a designer drug with bizarre, otherworldly effects.

## Sci-fi Thriller Misses its Mark

### Medics chase down time travel drug in 'Synchronic'

BY DWIGHT BROWN

Should partygoers put down their Molly and try a tab of Synchronic? This cautionary sci-fi/fantasy/thriller suggests not.

Synchronic is a drug that hurls its users back in time. Time travel with a seven-minute limit. That's the concept created by co-directors Justin Benson and Aaron

Moorhead in "Synchronic." The film opened in some theaters and drive-ins last week, with a wider release in coming weeks.

Steve (Anthony Mackie) and Dennis (Jamie Dornan, 50 Shades of Gray) are buddies first and co-workers second. They're EMT paramedics, riding around New Orleans in an ambulance and sav-

ing people's lives. But something new is happening. The guys are encountering twentysomethings high as kites, mangled bodies at the bottom of elevator shafts, burned corpses and other bleak oddities.

Word on the street is that kids

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

**RESTORATION OUTREACH COMMUNITY CENTER**

**Thanksgiving Day Community Fellowship Dinner**

November 26, 2020  
11:00am – 1:00pm

**Free to All! Grab and Go!**

**8333 N. Ivanhoe St**  
Portland, OR 97203

**Social Distancing** **Mask Required**

For more info:  
Contact Arnesia @ 503-853-2925

*Thankful. Grateful. Blessed!*

Lead Pastor Gloria F Stidum  
restorationoutreachpdx@outlook.com



## Thank You Volunteers



We salute long-time volunteer Harvey Rice and all of our volunteers in Oregon who help AARP Oregon with advocacy, outreach and service. We invite

you to volunteer with us and help make Oregon a great place for people of all ages, races and abilities to live, work and play.

Learn more at [aarp.org/OR](http://aarp.org/OR).

[/AARPOregon](https://www.facebook.com/AARPOregon) [@aarpor](https://twitter.com/aarpor)





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](mailto:news@portlandobserver.com).

# OPINION



## A Hard Lesson in Democracy

Turning the court into a weapon against social gains

BY BEN JEALOUS

Republicans in the U.S. Senate just gave us some clarity about where their party wants to take this country. It's not pretty, and it's not popular, which is why they've put so much effort into taking over the federal courts.



Republican senators refused for the last year of Barack Obama's presidency to consider his nomination to fill a Supreme Court vacancy. This year, just a week before the election, they rushed an unpopular president's third Supreme Court nominee through a bogus confirmation process. They put her on the court just in time to create a solid right-wing majority to deal with cases that come up around the elec-

tion.

To be honest, things were bad enough at the Supreme Court before Amy Coney Barrett's confirmation. The other Republican justices have already been interfering with state efforts to make it easier for people to vote during the pandemic.

Sadly, that's not surprising. Three of the current justices, including Barrett, were part of the Republican legal team that stopped vote counting in Florida in 2000 to give the election to George W. Bush.

The court's ultra conservatives gutted the Voting Rights Act in 2013, making it easier for states to make it harder for people—especially Black people—to vote.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell hasn't found time to provide relief to hurting families because his top priority has been packing the courts with Trump's judges—no matter how extreme or unqualified.

Why is this such a high priority? Because the right-wing legal movement has spent decades building their power on the courts to impose an agenda that the American people would never allow their elected

representatives to support.

Trump wanted Barrett on the court to vote against a case being heard a week after the election to dismantle Obamacare and throw millions of people off health insurance. They are out to gut nondiscrimination laws and make abortion a crime.

And that is just the start. They want to use the courts to shred the social safety net that millions of families rely on.

How could they do that? A rich and powerful right-wing legal movement has spent years creating the groundwork to reverse much of the social justice gains of the 20th Century.

They use terms like "originalism" and "textualism" to put an intellectual face on a reactionary political project. They want to declare much of what the federal government does—including programs like Social Security and Medicare—unconstitutional. That would take us back to an interpretation of the Constitution that elevates "states' rights" and weakens the federal government's ability to regulate corporate wrongdoing and protect the safety

and health of workers and communities.

We are getting a hard lesson in the ways that elections matter.

Trump taking the White House in 2016 and Republicans strengthening their Senate majority in 2018 made it possible for Trump and McConnell to turn the federal courts and the Supreme Court into a weapon that will be turned against our families and our communities.

As I write this, we don't know how the 2020 elections are going to turn out. I'm doing everything I can to help voters send Trump and Republican senators packing. But even if we're successful, we have a longer and broader struggle ahead to deal with our corrupted courts and build toward the day when we can once again count on the courts to defend our rights.

Let us never fail to pay attention or forget to stay active in every election.

*Ben Jealous, former president and chief executive officer of the NAACP, serves as president of People For the American Way and People For the American Way Foundation.*



# CLASSIFIED/BIDS

## Subscribe!

503-288-0033

Fill Out & Send To:

**The Portland Observer**

Attn: Subscriptions,  
PO Box 3137, Portland OR 97208  
\$45.00 for 3 months;  
\$80.00 for 6 mo.; \$125.00 for 1 year  
(please include check with this  
subscription form)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

or email subscriptions@  
portlandobserver.com

## LEGAL NOTICES



Need to publish a court document or notice? Need an affidavit of publication quickly and efficiently? Please fax or e-mail your notice for a free price quote!

Fax: 503-288-0015

e-mail:

classifieds@portlandobserver.com  
The Portland Observer

Advertise with diversity

in

**The Portland Observer**

Call 503-288-0033

or email

ads@portlandobserver.com

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL



#### RFP# 47-20 THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA EQUIPMENT

**Bid Time: November 25, 2020 at 3:00 p.m., Pacific Local Time**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Vancouver, Washington, will receive sealed proposals up to the hour of **3:00 p.m., Pacific Local Time, November 25, 2020**, for the following:

The City of Vancouver is seeking proposals from highly qualified firms to provide Thermal Imaging Camera (TIC) equipment and accessories to replace the existing equipment and accessories.

The City of Vancouver in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises, as defined in 49 CFR part 26, will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin or sex in consideration for an award.

The City of Vancouver is committed to providing equal opportunities to State of Washington certified Minority, Disadvantaged and Women's Business Enterprises in contracting activities. (Section 4 of Chapter 56, Laws of 1975, 1st Ex. Sess., State of Washington).

RFP documents may be examined in Owner's office, Vancouver City Hall, 415 W 6th St, Vancouver Washington. RFP documents may be obtained from the City of Vancouver Procurement Services website at: <https://vancouver.procurement.com/Bids>. These are available for viewing, downloading and printing on your own equipment, free of charge.

### SUB-BIDS REQUESTED

#### Susan Emmons – Soil Improvements Scope Only

**Bids Due: 11/11/20 at 2pm**

**\*\*Micropiles and CDSM Piling are the ONLY scopes of work bidding at this time. All other scopes will be bid at a later date.\*\***

**Bremik Construction has been contracted to construct the Susan Emmons project in Portland, OR. The project is a three structures - two new and one adaptive re-use historic upgrade, including:**

- 6 story (5 over 1) housing (North Building),
- 4 story housing (South Building), and
- 3 story adaptive re-use (South Building)

#### Project Requirements:

**Goal of 30% COBID Certified Utilization | Subgoal of 14% DMWBE certified firms | Workforce Training | Earth Advantage**

**BOLI Commercial Prevailing and Commercial Davis Bacon wage rates are applicable to this project (whichever wage rate is greater).**

**Job Walk: 11/03/20 at 2:00 PM**

**Questions are due: 11/04/20 at 2:00 PM**

**Estimated Construction Schedule: May 2021 to September 2022**

Please email your questions and bids to [Bids@Bremik.com](mailto:Bids@Bremik.com).

**BREMIK**  
CONSTRUCTION  
1026 SE Stark St., Portland, Or 97214  
PH: 503.688.1000 | FAX 503.688.1005

*Bremik Construction, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer & requests sub-bids from all interested firms including Minority & Women Owned, Emerging Small Business & Disadvantaged enterprises.*

CCB #160383

### SUB-BIDS REQUESTED

#### Medical Imaging Renovation Portland Community College Sylvania Campus Portland, OR

**Bids Due: November 10th, 2020 at 2:00 PM PST**

Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC, serving as the General Contractor for the new PCC Sylvania Medical Imaging Renovation, is soliciting proposals from qualified bidders.

The project is a renovation within the existing Health Technology (HT) building on the PCC Sylvania campus. The project includes interior demolition and renovation of a portion of the basement level. The renovation will contain classrooms, office space, storage, restrooms and lab areas consisting of energized and non-energized medical imaging equipment.

Contract Documents and the Invitation to Bid may be reviewed at the following locations:

#### Online

The entire Bid Package (including all project documents attached as exhibits) can be viewed via Lewis' website at: [www.lewisbuilds.com](http://www.lewisbuilds.com). Click "Contact" and then "Bid Opportunities" under Portland.

#### Plan Centers

DJC Plan Center  
Contractor Plan Center  
Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs

**LEASE CRUTCHER**  
**LEWIS**

550 SW 12th Ave, Portland, OR 97205  
[chris.kline@lewisbuilds.com](mailto:chris.kline@lewisbuilds.com)

*Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC is committed to taking affirmative action to encourage and facilitate the participation of minority, women and emerging small business enterprises (M/W/ESBE) and encourages subcontractors to provide similar opportunities to their subcontractors/vendors.*

### SUB BIDS/SUPPLIER QUOTES REQUESTED

#### Dahlke Manor Renovation 915 NE Schuyler Street, Portland, OR 97205

**Bids Due: Nov 17, 2020 @ 2:00 PM**

Dahlke is a 9 story building built in 1970, owned by Home Forward. The renovation includes upgrade of finishes in the units and corridors. The 1st floor community and service spaces including a small addition will be re-programmed to better serve Home Forward. Roofs will be upgraded, the site will be re-imagined, and some minor exterior façade improvements will take place. The bulk of the unit and common area work will take place when units are unoccupied and Walsh has possession of the floor for construction.

#### Trades Included:

All Trades EXCEPT: Elevators, Fire Protection, Plumbing, Mechanical, Electrical, Low Voltage, Commercial Kitchen Equipment.

#### Plans are currently available at:

Walsh Construction Co., [contractorplancenter.com](http://contractorplancenter.com), iSqFt.com, mcip-pdx.org, oame.org, and pbdgweb.com.

Special Notes: Davis Bacon Prevailing Wages; Certified Payroll; COBID Goals – Certified businesses are encouraged to bid.



2905 SW First Ave • Portland, OR 97201  
(503) 222-4375 FAX (866) 446-0681  
Contact: Brandi Pine  
ORCCB # 147267/WALSHCC962LD

**Walsh Construction Co. is an equal opportunity employer and requests sub-bids from Minority, women, disadvantaged and emerging small business enterprises.**



# Sci-fi Thriller Misses its Mark

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

are taking a new designer drug, Synchronic. It's either a hallucinogen that makes you think you can go back in time or a magical pill that actually does the deed. Steve has a unique interest in the drug and downs a pill. Then Dennis' teen daughter Brianna (Ally Ioannides, TV's Parenthood) goes missing. The last time anyone saw her she was high on the stuff. Steve tries to find her, and his experiment with the drug starts him on that journey.

Initial scenes are a huge disappointment. Sequences fit together decently, however, what's on view is a miss for showcasing supernatural or technological wonders.

The basic story could take audiences places—physically, spiritually, emotionally—but it doesn't.

The friendship between the two men is more interesting than the main event. Mackie and Dornan create a convincing brotherhood, not a shallow alliance. It feels like Steve genuinely loves his friend's daughter and that Dennis is completely concerned about his buddy's welfare. It's a nice bromance.

The drug itself does have some allure. Drop it and it affects the pineal gland, a small endocrine gland in the center of the brain, sometimes referred to as the "third eye," due to its sensitivity to light. The gland receives data from the environment regarding the light

outside, affecting the flow of melatonin, which modulates sleep patterns.

This biological part of the setup is kind of fascinating. Though audiences aren't looking for a science lesson, exploring the data behind the drug might have added some depth to a very thin script.

Mackie is respectable in a mediocre movie. He's been more compelling (The Hurt Locker), magnetic (Captain America: Civil War) and edgy (The Hate U Give) in other films. Dornan may never escape the smarmy shadow of the 50 Shades... franchise.

*Dwight Brown is the film critic for the National Newspaper Publishers Association, the Black Press.*

## Tensions Boil into Unrest

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

agents clothed in riot gear surrounded a building — warning people that trespassing on federal property would be subject to arrest.

Authorities declared an unlawful assembly and ordered protesters to disperse. At least one person appeared to have been detained.

Family and friends had described Peterson as a former high school football player and the proud father of an infant daughter.

In a statement, Clark County Sheriff Chuck Atkins said a joint city-county narcotics task force was conducting an investigation when they confronted a man who was suspected of selling illegal drugs in a motel parking lot. The person produced a handgun and the officers backed off, investigators said. A short time later, three Clark County deputies fired their pistols at the man. They did not say if the suspect fired a handgun that was found at the scene, making it unclear what happened just before the shooting.

Mac Smiff, an organizer of

Black Lives Matter protests in Portland, said he knows Peterson's sister and spent more than five hours at the scene.

"There was a ton of grief, a ton of grief. He's 21 and has a baby, an infant," Smiff said. "They're not sure what happened, why the encounter took place. Everyone was extremely disheveled and confused."

Jake Thompson, a high school acquaintance of Peterson, said

he took photos at the wedding of Peterson's parents in Portland in 2018. On Friday, he posted a black-and-white photo of Peterson in a suit and bow tie as he flashed a big grin.

"I didn't sleep much last night," he said Friday.

Peterson played football at Union High School in Vancouver, loved sports of any kind and was a big personality who was known and liked by everyone at school, Thompson said.

--Associated Press contributed to this story



### RIB EXPRESS

625 NE Killingsworth,  
Portland, OR 97211  
Call to Order: 503-919-6921  
*Rib Express, tasty food  
and friendly neighborhood  
atmosphere.*  
**Open (hours)**  
Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat and Sun:  
1pm- 9pm  
Closed Tuesday and Wednesday





5010 NE 9th Ave  
Portland, Or 97211  
Phone: 503 284-2989

*We specialize in a variety of cuts for men and women, hot towel razor shaves, braiding, hair extension, Shampoo, blow dryer and Platinum fade.*  
**Call Today or Walk in !!!**



## \$5.00 TEES

CLUBS  
FAMILY REUNIONS  
SCHOOL CLUBS  
BUSINESSES  
SCREEN PRINTING

**971-570-8214**

## sunlan LIGHTING, INC.

**We are Open!**



**For your light bulbs  
& parts to repair or  
make fixtures**

503.281.0453  
Fax 503.281.3408

3901 N. Mississippi Ave, Portland, OR 97227  
Web: [www.sunlanlighting.com](http://www.sunlanlighting.com) • E-mail: [kay@sunlanlighting.com](mailto:kay@sunlanlighting.com)



**Dr. Billy Flowers**  
Chiropractor  
2124 NE Hancock St.  
Portland, OR 97212  
(503) 287-5504 office  
(503) 287-8913 fax  
[www.drwillflowers.com](http://www.drwillflowers.com)

Providing Insurance and Financial Services  
Home Office, Bloomington, Illinois 61710

**Ernest J. Hill, Jr.** Agent

311 NE Killingsworth St,  
Portland, OR 97211  
503 286 1103 Fax 503 286 1146  
[ernie.hill.h5mb@statefarm.com](mailto:ernie.hill.h5mb@statefarm.com)  
24 Hour Good Neighbor Service®






**Par 3 Lawn Service LLC**  
Call Rich

**971-276-8674**

Cut, trim, edge,  
power washing,  
hauling, leaf removal,  
cleanup, anything!

**FREE ESTIMATES**  
**FAIR PRICING**

# Violent Protest Turns on PSU

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

the renewal of a pledge last week from PSU officials to disarm campus police.

About 100 demonstrators gathered at Director's Park around 9 p.m. Monday and then marched to the PSU campus nearby while chanting Jason Washington, the name of the Portland father, U.S.

postal worker and Navy veteran who was killed by PSU police while attempting to break up a fight outside a campus area bar in 2018.

PSU announced last Tuesday that it would not meet its fall goal of transitioning to unarmed sworn officers on campus because of the retirements of two officers and the resignation of a



Portland Public Safety Chief Willie Halliburton.

third, but still planned on taking the action without setting a new deadline. The killing of Washington had renewed calls to take guns away from campus safety.

Willie Halliburton, PSU's Black public safety chief is committed to the change, saying he wants to de-escalate situations where police fight aggression with aggression, pledging to lead the nation in a new successful model of campus policing without being armed.

Police said two arrests were made during Monday's protest in which windows were broken at the PSU Campus Safety office and university's Cramer Hall and Smith Memorial Student Union.

Two nights earlier, on Hal-

loween, windows were also broken by protesters at several businesses and a bank branch along Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in the Irvington and the Lloyd districts. It happened after about 150 people gathered at nearby Irving Park for a march with a tagline of "Capitalism is Scary," police said.

Under the plans to revamp public safety at PSU, unarmed campus officers will remain certified as police officers as long as they keep their training up to date, but they will no longer respond to any calls on campus that involve weapons. Portland police would respond to those calls instead.

## Second Wave of COVID-19 Declared

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

on track to open more schools for in-person instruction for our students — and to continue to reopen, and keep open, our businesses, communities, and economies," Brown said. "Oregon is not an island. Without safety precautions in place, we could quickly see our case counts spike as well."

During October, Oregon has reached grim COVID-19 milestones including surpassing 600 deaths and reaching 40,000 confirmed cases.

The health authority reported a new daily average of over 500 new confirmed COVID-19 cases, the state's largest daily total since the start of the pandemic.

Health officials called the number of cases "troubling" and said based on current COVID-19 modeling, if Oregon remains on

the path it is now, the state could reach capacity in its hospitals by mid-December.

Health officials are already urging people to avoid family celebrations and rethink their plans for Thanksgiving.

As cases continued to climb during October, the health authority again expanded face covering requirements to include all private and public workplaces, including classrooms, offices, meeting rooms, work spaces, outdoor markets, street fairs, private career schools and public and private colleges and universities.

"We must continue to work together and follow the simple steps that have kept us safe throughout this pandemic," Brown said. "Washing our hands, wearing face coverings, watching our physical distance, staying home when sick, and avoiding social get-togethers, especially indoors."

**DID YOU KNOW**

**RAYMOND HARRIS?**

**DID YOU WORK AT**

**PORTLAND, OR AREA SHIPYARDS**

**IN THE 1960s?**

**OR**

**LEBARRE MACHINE WORKS**

**AS A HEAT TREATER**

**IN THE 1970s-1985?**

The law firm of Schroeter Goldmark & Bender is seeking information on behalf of the family of **Raymond Harris**.

Please call us toll-free at:

**1-800-809-2234**

**SGR**  
SCHROETER  
GOLDMARK  
BENDER

(206) 622-8000 | 800-809-2234 | [sgb-law.com](http://sgb-law.com)

Advertise with diversity in

The Portland Observer

Call 503-288-0033

or email [ads@portlandobserver.com](mailto:ads@portlandobserver.com)