



Charles Washington  
Publisher and Editor-in-Chief  
1951-2012



Joyce Washington  
Publisher, Founder  
1937-1996

# 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE

Established in 1970

## SPECIAL EDITION



PO QR code

# The Portland Observer



'City of Roses'

www.portlandobserver.com  
Wednesday • November 18, 2020

Volume XLVIV • Number 25

Committed to Cultural Diversity



## 50 years of focus on Black, diverse communities

The Portland Observer is celebrating its 50th anniversary with this special commemorative issue. Since its founding in 1970, the Portland Observer has reported on the Black experience in Portland and communities of color in the state of Oregon and across the nation, inspired by local reporting, photography, columns and articles. We invite you to enjoy looking through the pages of this special publication that showcases our work. As the state's oldest Black-owned newspaper, the Portland Observer plans to carry on its proud tradition and make positive differences for our diverse communities for many years to come. (See descriptions for photos above on page 14)

# Portland Observer's 50 Years

## Anniversary renews focus on Black, diverse communities

BY BEVERLY CORBELL  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

For 50 years, the Portland Observer has endeavored to inform and uplift the African American and other communities of color. With informed local reporting, photography, columns and articles dedicated to diversity and the Black experience, the

publication is celebrating the past with a pledge to continue delivering solid news to our readers and viewers in the future. As the state's oldest Black-owned newspaper, the Portland Observer plans to carry on that proud tradition for many years to come.

Like other Black-owned businesses, 2020 has been a rough year. Because of the restric-

tions imposed by the coronavirus, a stay-at-home order, and managing a fall from revenues, Portland Observer Publisher Mark Washington needed to take steps to reduce costs. He moved the publication to every other week and cut staff hours, but now says support is picking up and he expects to survive this crisis.

The Portland Observer as a current, on-going publication was started in 1970 by Rev. Alfred L. Henderson of Portland's Bethel AME Church, and was taken over by Washington's mother, the late Joyce Washington in the 1980s.

Joyce worked for Henderson in those early years as a successful saleswoman, but when he couldn't afford to pay her commission, she came up with a novel scheme to take over the paper herself and keep it going.

"She was a salesperson but he couldn't afford to pay her and fell behind on his taxes," Washington said. "So she made a deal to pay off the taxes and take over ownership."

Before coming to the Portland Observer, Joyce had been deeply involved in social services, holding a high level position with Adult Family Services, Washington said, and she brought that philosophy of helping others to her leadership of the paper.

"She had a vision of wanting to help

the community since she had been doing so much with social services and welfare," he said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19



The Portland Observer, born in 1970, traces its beginnings to a need to cover issues from the African American community's perspective when previous Black publications ceased to exist. The photo above is an example of the turmoil the community was facing at the time, as two young African American men get arrested by white police officers while surrounded by a crowd. (Oregon Historical Society photo)



Portland had its own civil rights movement when the Portland Observer came into publication 50 years ago. Portland's Black Panther Party, for example, started as a group of young African Americans who read Malcolm X and Mao Tse-tung. A photo from Feb. 14, 1970 shows Sandra Ford picketing in support of repressed peoples at the U.S. Courthouse, downtown. (Oregon Historical Society photo)

Powering cultural diversity

Congratulations to The Portland Observer for 50 years of celebrating cultural diversity within our community and bringing important news and local insight to our area.

All of us at Pacific Power are inspired by the Observer's connection and commitment to the community and look forward to their next 50 years. We carry their spirit of inclusion as we serve our customers and communities of color and work to deliver the safest, most sustainable, affordable and reliable power possible. Find out more at [pacificpower.net](http://pacificpower.net).

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## Portland Observer



The Portland Observer has been faithful in sharing the news, stories and promotion of our community for 50yrs. Without question your dedication has set a standard of what community truly looks like. The gratitude and respect is abundant. Thank you for always supporting my family and our business ventures since day one! Congratulations!

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The Portland Observer, on their first 50 years.**

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# The Week in Review

## COVID-19 Restrictions Return

Gov. Kate Brown announced new limits on person to person contacts Friday because the coronavirus is surging statewide and medical facilities are expected to soon be filled to capacity. Social get-togethers both indoors and outdoors were limited to no more than six people, restaurants and bars were again limited to take-out only and gyms and fitness organizations were closed to keep the virus at bay.



## History is Made!

Democrat Joe Biden defeated President Donald Trump in the November General Election and will become the 46th president of the United States on Jan. 20. Kamala Harris also made history as the first Black woman to be-

come vice president, an achievement that comes as the U.S. faces a reckoning on racial justice.



## Mapps Beats Eudaly; Wheeler Re-elected

Mingus Mapps captured a seat on the Portland City Council after voting tabulations on Nov. 3, which will make him the third person of color, a new majority on the five-member panel, when he takes office in January, joining current Commissioner JoAnn Hardesty and incoming Commissioner Carmon Rubio, the executive director of the Latino Network. City voters also re-elected Mayor Ted Wheeler in a close contest against Portland activist Sarah Iannarone.

## Black Man Dies in Police Action

Investigators last week contradicted what Clark County police first said af-

ter the Oct. 29 shooting of a Black man on Highway 99 in Hazel Dell, saying they have not found any evidence Kevin Peterson Jr. fired a handgun before deputies shot and killed him during a drug sting operation. The 21-year-old did have a handgun and pointed it at deputies at times, but that it does not appear Peterson fired the gun, authorities said.

## In Gresham, First Black mayor Wins



In Gresham, Travis Stovall, won the Nov. 3 election for Mayor, the first African American mayor of any municipality in the Portland area. A long-time resident, small business owner and community leader, Stovall captured 16,218 votes to 16,145 votes for second place finisher Gresham City Councilor Eddy Morales, a difference of just 145 votes.

## Police Bureau Cuts Rejected

Portland City commissioners rejected a budget amendment on Nov. 12 that would have slashed another \$18 million from the Portland Police Bureau amid months of racial justice protests and shifted the money to the city's pan-

demie response. The amendment was proposed by Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty, but drew opposition from the mayor because it was not vetted for the police layoffs it would cause.



## Blazers Hire Kent for TV

The Portland Trail Blazers named Jordan Kent as its new television play-by-play broadcaster last week, the fourth person of color to hold an NBA play-by-play job. Kent previously hosted the Blazers Toyota Pregame Show and called games during the team's recent playoff run. He graduated from the University of Oregon where lettered in three sports: basketball, football and track and field.

## Icons Named to Music Hall

The late music icons Whitney Houston and the Notorious B.I.G. were among the artists inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame this year during a HBO special that aired Nov. 7. Alicia Keys shared a speech for Houston in which she spoke about her dear friend. The Notorious B.I.G. was the only rapper to be inducted at this year's virtual ceremony.

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**OREGON  
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**NBA Moms in Portland, Feb. 18, 1998** – *The Portland Observer* reported on three current NBA moms in Portland and how they supported the professional careers of their sons, with Leola Green (mother of A.C. Green), Charlotte Brandon (mother of Terrell Brandon) and Liz Washington (mother of Damon Stoudamire).



**Promoting High Tech, March 4, 1998** – Students at Jefferson High School learn about high tech careers as Intel, the world's largest chipmaker, hosts a National Engineers Week event at the north Portland school, the *Portland Observer* reported.



**Thanksgiving, Nov. 25, 1992** – *Portland Observer* reported on Thanksgiving in the African American community with a special focus on a sixth annual dinner for the elderly, homeless and anyone in need, an event sponsored by Rosie A. Dean and of Doris' Café.



**Kids Helping Kids – Dec. 10, 1997** – More than 200 Portland school children swarm the opening of "Our Children's Store" at the Galleria, downtown, the *Portland Observer* reported about the "Kids Helping Kids" program and efforts to raise money for local charities.



**Senator Stays True to Roots, Dec. 10, 1997** – As U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden climbs the ladder in Washington, D.C., he stays in touch with local constituents with discussions on the issues facing our community, including hearing from Tony Washington and Chuck Washington of the *Portland Observer* during a visit to the newspaper offices.

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From all of us at Legacy Emanuel Medical Center

## Congratulations to The Portland Observer for 50 years of community service!

As an independent, family-run, African-American owned publication, you have left an indelible imprint on North and Northeast Portland. Your stories about health, education, politics, and social justice have helped inform and shape our community. And you've been an essential voice, connector, and advocate for us all.

We applaud your commitment to community and grass roots empowerment. We're thankful for the opportunity to work by your side in support of the North and Northeast Portland community. And we look forward to another half-century of The Portland Observer.

Sincerely,

Your friends at Legacy Emanuel



*"Congratulations to The Portland Observer for 50 years of serving Portland as a vital news source, a business and an employer. As our neighbor, we recognize you as an essential partner in serving the residents of our beloved N/NE community."*

Gretchen Nichols  
President, Legacy Emanuel



*"In my younger years, I can remember how I glowed when I saw The Portland Observer paper around the NE Portland community. It made me feel proud because I could get the real news."*

Simone Carter  
Trauma Education Coordinator



*"Congratulations to the Washington family for keeping N/NE Portland connected. Even with the gentrification of the Black community, this publication is imperative and needed to keep us together. Thank you for serving us for 50 years."*

Vicki Guinn  
Public Relations Strategist



*"I grew up reading The Portland Observer newspaper, especially while in the beauty shop. It was one of the main reading materials. It was valuable reading about Black people and their accomplishments and upcoming events in the community."*

Melody Jackson  
Finance Manager



*"I have always looked forward to the weekly newspaper delivery. The Portland Observer has kept me informed on what's happening in the inner N/NE Portland."*

Tressa Graham  
Food Service Manager



*"For 50 years, the Portland Observer has dedicated itself to serving and reporting the news of about our diverse communities all over the metro area. We at Legacy Emanuel are grateful to have such a fantastic partner like the Observer to help us keep our communities healthy! Cheers!"*

Darren Burch  
Physician Outreach Liaison





**Congratulations to The Portland Observer for 50 years of editorial excellence and community service!**

Your voice is vital, and all benefit from your focus on education, health, politics, and law and justice.





**Black Women Leaders** – Circa 1989 – Joyce Washington (left), the late former Portland Observer publisher, and Gary Ann Taylor, the late former Portland Observer circulation director and business manager, were essential to the success of the newspaper's early years.



The People's Observer was an African American publication in Portland in 1944, led by William H. McClendon, a prominent member of Portland's civil rights community. Although McClendon was not involved, the Portland Observer today traces its roots to McClendon's original publication.

## The Portland Observer: Did you Know?

BY FELECIA SLIDER  
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

*The Portland Observer is Oregon's oldest continuous black publication.*

- The Portland Observer was started in 1970 by Rev. Alfred Lee Henderson of Portland's Bethel AME Church.
- In 1989, it was purchased by Joyce Washington. Under her watch, the Portland Observer staff grew from four to 11 employees, and circulation grew from about 1,500 copies in 1970 to more than 20,000 in 1995.

- Joyce Washington was a child when her family moved to Vanport, the community built to house shipbuilding workers on the Columbia River during World War II. She studied sociology at Portland Community College and Portland State University.
- After she took over the weekly, Washington had to run the paper out of her home for a while.
- The paper's corporate name at the time,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

## Portland Observer Staff through the Years

- Alfred Henderson, 1970s; Founder
- Joyce Washington, 1980s-1990s; Publisher
- Charles Washington, 1990s-2000s; Publisher
- Mark Washington, 1980s-2020; Publisher
- Cory Washington, 1990s; Promotions
- Gary Washington, 1990s; Technical Assistant
- Leonard Latin, 2000s-2020; Ad Representative
- Michael Leighton, 2001-2020; Editor
- Gary Ann Taylor, 1990s-2000s; Office Manager
- Lucinda Baldwin, 2000s-2020; Office Manager
- Dean Babbs, 1990s; Graphic Design/Layout
- Paul A. Neufeldt, 1990s-2020; Creative Director
- Pamela Jordan, 1990s; Reporter/Writer
- Neil Heilpern, 1997; Reporter/Writer
- Lee Perlman, 1997-2008; Reporter/Writer
- Wynde Dyer, 2000s; Reporter/Writer
- Jayne R. Cuti, 2000s; Reporter/Writer
- Katherine Kovacich, 2000s; Reporter/Writer
- Nicole Hooper, 2000s; Reporter/Writer
- Katherine Blackmore, 2000s; Reporter/Writer
- Sarah Blount, 2000s; Reporter/Writer
- Isaiah Bouie, 2000s; Photographer
- Raymond Rendleman, 2000s; Reporter
- Jake Thomas, 2000s; Reporter
- Cari Hachmann, 2010s; Reporter
- Donovan M. Smith, 2012-2020; Reporter
- Danny Peterson, 2010s; Reporter
- Beverly Corbell, 2020; Reporter

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[Celeste.King@homeforward.org](mailto:Celeste.King@homeforward.org)

**Peter Garcia**  
Senior Procurement Coordinator  
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## Carter lobbies for Oregon in D.C.

BY NEIL HOLLERS

State Representative Margaret Carter headed to Washington, D.C. last weekend for President Bill Clinton's inauguration ceremonies, lots of parties and a round of lobbying for Oregon issues.

"I'll be able to catch ground with Americans from all across the land," she told The Observer before leaving Friday.

"This is a celebration, so it will obviously be a lot of fun," she said. "With my broken foot, I can't dance like I usually do, but I will still enjoy the pomp and circumstance."

During Clinton's first inauguration in 1993, "even people I didn't know came up and hugged me."

Carter said she would be attending at least two inaugural parties, including the Western Region Party and another with "a lot of Hollywood glitz."

She reaffirmed Clinton's "political ideals which I so firmly believe in" and noted it had been many years since a democratic president got a second term.

Carter called the president a "good boy."



**Clinton Inauguration, Jan. 22, 1992** — *The Portland Observer* reported on the priorities and issues of Portland's diverse communities as the three African-American members of the Oregon Legislature from Portland, Rep. Margaret Carter, Sen. Avel Gordly and Rep. JoAnn Bowman (now Hardesty) lobby for local issues during a visit to Washington, D.C. for the inauguration of President Bill Clinton.

## Power Of Knowledge Emphasis At Blacks In Government Conference

BY PAMELA JOHNSON

Four dozen or so people sat in a dark room last Thursday, staring at a computer screen projected on the front wall.

An instructor casually, informally pulled up web pages, discussed browsers, servers and other information. Suddenly the interest became less mysterious, less threatening and a more accessible resource.

"I've worked with computers on my job for years, but recently we've started using the internet to review the resumes of potential job applicants from around the world," said Denise Freeman, personnel manager with the City of Seattle. "It's now critical that I know how to best utilize it."

Knowledge is why Freeman and about 800 other African Americans from four states attended the Blacks In Government Regional Training Conference in Portland May 29-31. In all, 16 workshops ranging from management and leadership to computer technology and economics were offered at the three-day event. Most of the trainers, including the



**Power of Knowledge, June 5, 1996** — *Portland Black leaders* host a Blacks in Government conference and the front page *Portland Observer* story features State Rep. Avel Gordly; Tony Hopson of Self-Enhancement, Inc. and Metro councilor Ed Washington in a discussion of the issues.

*Congratulations to  
The Portland Observer for 50  
years of serving the community.*



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# Obama Wins!

## First black president elected



(AP) — Barack Obama was elected the nation's first black president Tuesday night in a historic triumph that overcame racial barriers as old as America itself. The son of a black father from Kenya and a white mother from Kansas, the Democratic senator from Illinois sealed his victory by defeating Republican Sen. John McCain in a contest of two hard-fought battleground states — Ohio, Florida, Virginia and Iowa. A sagacious in Clinton Park in Chicago erupted in jubilation at the news of Obama's victory. Obama says.

McCain called to concede defeat — and the end of Obama's 18-year quest for the White House. Obama and his running mate, Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware, will take their oaths of office as president and vice president on Jan. 20, 2009.

As the 44th president, Obama will move into the Oval Office as leader of a country that is almost equally in recession, and fighting two long wars, one in Iraq, the other in Afghanistan. The popular vote was close, but not the case in the Electoral College, where it mattered most. Then, Obama's underdog decision to accept McCain's offer to make that hadn't gone Democratic in several past elections. Obama has said his first order of presidential business will be to tackle the economy. He has also pledged to withdraw most U.S. combat troops from Iraq within 18 months.

Follow Democrats made his campaign to larger objectives in both houses of Congress. They defeated incumbent Republicans and won open seats by tens.

The 47-year-old Illinois senator was little known just four years ago. A widely praised speech at the Democratic National Convention, delivered when he was merely a candidate for the Senate, changed that.

Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., was elected president Tuesday, becoming the first African American or any person of color to win the nation's highest office.

continued on page A2

**Obama Wins! Nov. 5, 2008** – Portland Observer cover issue reports on the election of Barack Obama as first Black President of the United States, a historic triumph that overcame racial barriers as old as America itself.



PHOTO BY TRACY SASSONE/UNDERSTANDING PHOTOGRAPHY

Reflecting on its diversity mission by paying tribute to community leaders, the Portland Observer Foundation held its first annual service awards dinner on Friday. Pictured (from left) are Rakwana Washington, Mary Murphy, Sarahine Dixon, Chuck Washington, Raymi Elser, Andrea Brown, Clarina Boston and Katarja Crews.

# Community Service Awards

Foundation dinner promotes diversity

BY CARL HADENCOX  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Congratulatory from The Light Band poured into the room as more than 200 community supporters settled into their seats at the Portland Observer Foundation's first Community Services Award Dinner inside the Double Tree Hotel in southeast Portland on Friday.

Warm mingling and chatter came to a halt as KOIN 6 Anchor and Master of Ceremonies



**Community Service Awards, Nov. 14, 2012** – The Portland Observer hosts more than 200 community members for its First Community Services Award Dinner. Special recognition was made to Ron Herndon of Albina Head Start, John Jackley of the Portland Development Commission, Charlene Williams of Portland Public Schools, former Sen. Avel Gordly, TriMet's Mary Fetsch and Bruce Watts, Corliss McKeever of the African American Health Coalition, and Cinna'mon Williams of Home Forward. Six Portland area students were awarded scholarships for their work as outstanding contributors to their schools and community.



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**Dear Portland Observer,**

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## Charles Washington Remembered



### Portland Observer publisher dies at age 60

Portland Observer Publisher and Editor-in-Chief Charles H. Washington died Saturday. He was 60 years old.

Washington led the newspaper, the oldest African-American publication in the state, since 1993 when he took over the company from his mother, Joyce Washington.

He joined the Portland Observer in 1990 as public relations director and assistant editor after a 15 year entrepreneurial stint in small business ownership and property management.

He developed a new marketing strategy, restructured operations, and was instrumental in propelling the paper into the mainstream publication and influential community voice that it is today.

He was a strong advocate for local schools and improving the economic base of Portland's minority communities.

Last month, when the Portland Observer Foundation sponsored a community banquet to award scholarships for young people and recognize leaders from the community, who are advocates for disadvantaged and minority communities, the event showcased the publication's mission.

Washington's goal as publisher was to create a media outlet that was dedicated to diversity, the African-American community, but also the Latino, immigrant and newly gentrified communities. As Portland grew in diversity, the Portland Observer grew.

With the help of his brothers and wife, Elizabeth, Washington worked hard to ensure that his mother's legacy as a tireless advocate for the community continued.

He established in 1996 the Joyce Washington Memorial Scholarship Fund for graduates.

*continued on page 4*

Portland Observer Publisher and Editor-in-Chief Charles Washington

**Charles Washington Remembered, Dec. 12, 2012 --** *Portland Observer Publisher and Editor-in-Chief is remembered after his death at the age of 60. Charles Washington's goal as publisher was to create a media outlet that was dedicated to diversity, the African-American community, but also the Latino, immigrant and newly gentrified communities. As Portland grew in diversity, the Portland Observer grew.*

## 50th Anniversary Cover Page

*Photo descriptions from our 50th Anniversary front page cover:*

- 1) Kobe Bryant's death stuns the world;
- 2) Derrick Foxworth named Portland Police Chief and meets with former Chief Charles Moose at the Portland Observer;
- 3) Gov. Kate Brown declares public health emergency because of the coronavirus;
- 4) Portland Observer Publisher Charles Washington with guests of honor Mayor Vera Katz and Oregonian Editor William Hilliard at the newspaper's 25th anniversary celebration;
- 5) Barack and Michelle Obama on Inauguration Day ;
- 6) Rev. Dr. T. Allen Bethel, Bishop Grace Osborne, Bishop A.A. Wells and Rev. Dr. LeRoy Haynes share their views in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday;
- 7) Portland Observer Office Manager Lucinda Baldwin;
- 8) Portland Observer Publisher Joyce Washington;
- 9) Mayor Ted Wheeler meets with Mark Washington and Portland Observer Editor Michael Leighton;
- 10) Portland Trail Blazer Damian Lillard takes ownership of a metro area Toyota dealership;
- 11) Members of the Albina Ministerial Alliance allege bias in a grand jury's decision supporting police in the fatal shooting of a Black man;
- 12) Esteemed Portland Police Officer Harry Jackson promotes peace in the community.

## Self Enhancement, Inc. congratulates The Portland Observer on its 50th Anniversary!



As the largest black owned business in the state, we recognize just how important it is to have a consistent Black voice in the media.

We have traveled a difficult road but we are no ways tired. Together we continue to show up and if need be show out.

Thank you for 50 years of dedication and service to the Portland Community.

In honor and memory of my classmate Chucky Washington.

**Tony Hopson, Sr.**  
and the Self Enhancement, Inc. family

**SELF ENHANCEMENT, INC.**  
[www.selfenhancement.org](http://www.selfenhancement.org)



Wayne Cannon (right) introduces chef Brian Ratliff (left) and Steve Wade (center) the new owner and manager of his former Cannon's Rib Express, a favorite for hickory smoked dishes and friendly service in the Piedmont Station Food Carts, 625 N.E. Killingsworth St. Cannon has decided to retire after 25 years.

## Rib Express Gets New Life

Cannon's Rib Express, a Portland institution for award-winning hickory-smoked dishes, friendly atmosphere and excellent customer service has a new owner taking over from Wayne Cannon, who has decided to retire after 25 years.

Now located at the Piedmont Station Food Carts, 625 N.E. Killingsworth St., (phone 503-919-6921), Cannon's is a long-time African-American owned business which traces its roots to Charles Edward Hinton, when it was called Chuck Hinton's Rib Express. Hinton was a Portland entrepreneur who was born in Birmingham, Ala. in 1930 and died in 2017. Cannon took over the establishment in 1995.

The new owner, Steven Wade is also a resident of Portland. He was born in Selma, Ala., and is looking forward to continuing to serve the community.



**Constructing Hope congratulates The Portland Observer on being one of the oldest African-American newspapers in Oregon as they Celebrate their 50th Anniversary!**

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## Obituary



## In Loving Memory

**Dr. Thomas Mason Boothe  
June 1, 1938 - Nov 1, 2020**

Dr. Thomas Mason Boothe was very active in the Portland community for many years. He never met a person he didn't like. You may have known him from The House of Exodus, Stay Clean, American State Bank or in later years just having coffee at Reflections Coffee shop.

Thomas passed away Sunday, Nov. 1, 2020 in his home with family at his side. There will not be a service to honor his life as Covid19 restrictions have limited such celebrations. Please keep the family in prayer.



**Healing Healthcare, April 3, 2013 --** Blues legend Norman Sylvester joined members of Portland's musical community to raise money to help pay for the medical expenses of local musicians in need and promote a system of universal healthcare.

**50 Years Later, Aug. 21, 2013 --** On the 50th anniversary of Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., local leaders told the Portland Observer there's still work to do for civil rights.



**Decorated Veteran, Nov. 13, 2013 --** The Portland Observer reported on former Portland resident Michelle Watson, one of the first African American women to graduate from the Coast Guard Academy, after finishing a year in which she was promoted to a command position and met Barack and Michelle Obama.



**Halloween Fun, Oct. 23, 2013 --** The Portland Observer provided a guide to Halloween fun, like a visit to the Pumpkin Patch on Sauvie Island where families get into the season with several attractions, including hay rides and a cornfield maze.





**Washington Classic, May 13, 2015 --** Jordan Reynolds coaches a high school girls team at the annual Joyce Washington All Star Basketball tournament.

**Converting Pain into Purpose, May 13, 2015 --** Portland Observer reported on efforts of local Black families who have lost loved ones to gun violence as they support other youth to help them stay out of trouble.



**Lessons in Conflict, Feb. 4, 2015 --** Principal Kevin Bacon's skills as a Portland education leader and peace-maker are tested when a small group of girls from war-torn Somalia are dropped into his life. The Portland Observer reported on 'Lessons of Basketball and War' one of 34 films featured in the Cascade Festival of African Films.



**Jeff Wins 5A Title, March 13, 2013 --** Jefferson High School players, Coach Pat Strickland and other members of the coaching staff celebrate after winning the State 5A Basketball Championship in Eugene, the Portland Observer reported.





# Thank you for making a difference.

Since 1970, the Portland Observer has been a voice of truth and integrity in our community. Providence and our caregivers are proud to honor the role the paper has played in supporting local news and cultural diversity.

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# Portland Observer's 50 Years

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

But it wasn't easy taking over the paper, he said, and for years, Joyce published from her home's basement on a shoestring, but everyone helped out and the paper was — and is — a family affair.

"Our family has been involved starting when I was 8 or 9 years old and I used to go the stores with my uncle to sell the paper," Washington said.

More than anything, Joyce Washington wanted to help her community, Washington said, and that tradition carries on to this day, as the paper strives to represent the African American community and other communities of color in Portland.

"She wanted to promote families, to promote the African American family," he said. "She would rather see an uplifting story on a local family than a politician. She was big on grassroots and I think we continue that legacy today. We have been able to make it a success but keep the value as an asset for the community, to keep it alive. She died fairly young, but then my brother Chuck took it over."

Charles "Chuck" Washington joined the paper in 1990 as public relations director and assistant editor and took over as publisher when his mother passed away in 1996. He developed a new marketing strategy, restructured operations and was instrumental in propelling the paper into the mainstream publications and influential community voice that is it today.

Speaking about his father's legacy when he died in 2012, Ra-keem Washington said the newspaper's role in highlighting issues and "spreading a sense of inclusiveness and diversity that he so longed for in his everyday life, just meant the world to him."

Ethan Johnson, chair of Black Studies at Portland State University, said the Portland Observer's

role in Portland's African American community has been extremely important over the years and relevant for serving people who need a voice.

"It's important to have a paper that focuses on Black people locally and in the state and nation," Johnson said.

He said the Portland Observer serves an important purpose, where people can go for information, news and other issues, but "It's also a pleasure to read."

"I enjoy reading the paper and can always find stuff about entertainment, sports and life that's related to Black people. I think that's so important," he said.

"I can open the Willamette Week or the Oregonian, but to me, I've always felt like they are racist papers," he added. "They don't say it, but they don't focus on Black lives and don't report in real ways about Black people. It's also an opportunity for Black writers to be able to speak to the communities they belong to."

Mark Washington, carrying on the traditions started by his mother and brother, said the Portland Observer will carry on, although the future will be challenging.

"Even though we are in struggling times, the Portland Observer is celebrating the fact that we have unfailingly served the African American community in Portland in good faith and service," he said.

Washington gives thanks to his late brother Chuck and sister-in-law Elizabeth for all the work they did in keeping the Portland Observer a success over the years and also for the entire Portland Observer staff.

"To my employees, without them I would not have been able to continue the legacy of my Mother. Thank you Michael Leighton, Paul Neufeldt, Lucinda Baldwin, Leonard Latin, Marco Washington, J. Markiw, Beverly Corbell, Shawn-tell Washington, Quayuana Washington and Felicia Slider."

## Observer: Did you Know?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Cory Publishing, commemorated her son, Cory Washington's contributions to the paper. Cory was one of the first, and most involved staff members of the paper. He was shot to death following a basketball-game dispute in Peninsula Park in 1991, at 27 years old.

- In an interview with The Oregonian in December 1995, Joyce Washington said, "We try very hard to include everybody in our paper. This is a diverse community, it's not comprised of just black people. White people make the news also, so they go on our front page too."
- Another of Joyce Washington's

sons, the late Charles H. Washington, was the Portland Observer's previous editor-in-chief and publisher.

"My mother was very proud of having never missed a (publication) date; we never failed to publish an edition," Washington told The Oregonian in March 1996, when his mother died.

- Upon her death, Washington's son Charles "Chuck" Washington, a Portland native and a graduate of Jefferson High School, took over as publisher until his death in December 2012
- The paper was then passed on to Mark Washington who controls the paper today.

## Obituary

### In Loving Memory

#### Bernice Gibson Branch

The Branch family would like to thank all of you who have expressed your love, prayers and condolences towards the passing of our beloved Bernice Gibson Branch. As much as we would love to provide friends, extended family and loved ones with the opportunity to attend a final going home celebration, unfortunately the current Covid 19 restrictions make it impossible to safely do so.

Out of respect for her faith and



final wishes, the Branch family has decided to conduct a time sensitive viewing for our immediate family which will be held at Terry Family Funeral Home on Friday, Nov. 20, between 4 and 6 p.m. Please visit the funeral home website to RSVP to schedule your viewing.

In order to allow all other friends, extended family and love ones the

opportunity to participate in a more traditional farewell observance, we have decided to conduct a later memorial celebration during the month of April 2020. It is our hope that the Covid 19 restrictions will have been lifted by then thereby allowing for a larger gathering where you will have the opportunity to view a chronicled presentation of her life as well as express your own personal sentiments.

The exact date, time and location will be announced through public media outlets, including the local newspapers, local radio stations and other public media outlets. We thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation and look forward to your attendance in April.

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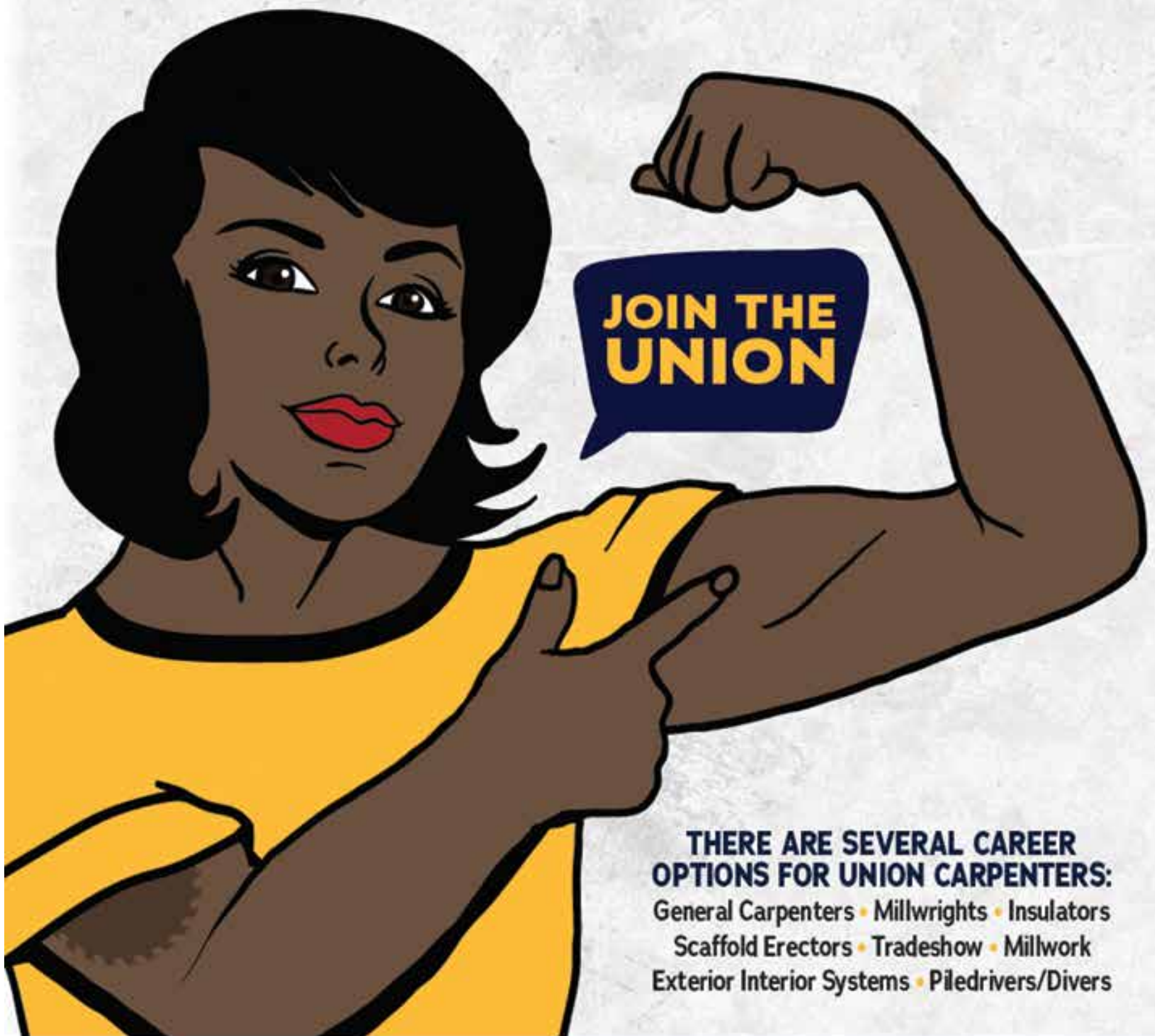
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Retired NBA Star Celebrates,  
Oct. 1, 2004 -- A staple of  
the Portland African American  
community, former NBA Star  
Terrell Brandon was celebrating  
20 years as a local business  
owner when he talked with the  
Portland Observer about his  
goals for the future.





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**New Visions for the Techmen**

New Visions at Benson, Oct. 30, 2013 -- The Portland  
Observer's Donavan Smith interviewed Benson High School's  
Curtis Wilson Jr. as the new principal moved to shore up  
signature programs and return 'vigor and excellence' to the  
school's technical education programs.



**From MLK to Today**

From MLK to Today, Jan. 13, 2016 -- The Portland Observer  
reported on new voices that have emerged in Portland in the struggle  
against discrimination and other injustices, actions that follow the path of  
Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

The

50TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

**Ancestry in Motion, Jan.  
16, 2016 -- Connecting the  
past to the present, the Portland  
Observer reported on Rejoice!  
Diaspora Dance Theater's  
captivating weekend of African  
dance, connecting the past to the  
present by exploring the African  
roots of modern vernacular  
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**Knott Street Boxers, April 23, 2003 – The Portland Observer featured a story about former boxers from Portland's African American community who made their names in the 1960s and 1970s by earning prestigious national titles while training at the Knott Street Boxing Club.**



Roz Babener started the Community Warehouse, a local resource of donated household amenities for families down on their luck.

### Warehouse follows the King's Dream

Helping the poor get by through hard economic times

head in chair, tables, mattresses and a number of other goods. Although the scene looks like it could be any commercial storage facility, it isn't. The Community Warehouse provides household necessities so basic that they can easily be taken for granted by most. But for many families and individuals it can make a house a home.

Community Warehouse serves about 65 households every week by providing requested household items like furniture, sheets, and silverware, and other basic household goods according to Roz Babener, a volunteer and founder of the facility. The facility is located on North Interstate Avenue, the facility sees a

*I just want to do God's will. And he's allowed me to go to the mountain. And I've looked over, and I've seen the promised land! I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the promised land.*

— Martin Luther King Jr.



Singer James Brown (left) walks with his agent, the Rev. Al Sharpton, from the White House in Washington on Jan. 15, 1982. They met with U.S. President Ronald Reagan to advocate making Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday a

**Following King's Path, Jan. 14, 2009**

-- Roz Babener talked to the Portland Observer about the Community Warehouse, a local resource that follows the path of Dr. Martin Luther King by helping families down on their luck. Community Warehouse donations are essential for furnishing apartments and other homes for low-income families recovering from crisis.

# CLASSIFIED/BIDS

## SUB-BIDS REQUESTED

### DEMO & FIRE SUPPRESSION

#### Portland Community College – Sylvania Campus ST Biology Renovation

**Early Work Bids Due: December 2nd, 2020 at 2:00pm**

The scope of work for the ST Biology Renovation includes a 20,500 SF renovation of classroom and office spaces into (7) biology labs and associated collaboration spaces. Scope of work will also include a full mechanical upgrade for the building. The project is tracking to begin January 2021 with a completion date in August 2021. The main scope of work will bid early December 2020.

Starting on 11/18/20, we will be soliciting bids for the early work package, which includes MEPF safe-off and demolition.

Bid documents will be available for review on Wednesday, November 18th, 2020 via BuildingConnected. It will also be available at the following plan centers: DJC Plan Center, Contractor Plan Center & Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs.

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### Prosper Portland (On-Call) Economic Development, Real Estate, & Policy Analysis Services

**Proposals due December 11, 2020 by 2:00 pm (PT)**

Prosper Portland is seeking competitive proposals from qualified firms to provide On-Call Economic Development, Real Estate, & Policy Analysis Services, as outlined in RFQ #20-05. The full RFQ may be obtained from the Prosper Portland website, <http://www.prosperportland.us/bids> (under "Open Public Bid Opportunities"). No pre-proposal meeting is scheduled. Proposals must be received via email no later than the proposal due date and time listed. Direct any questions regarding this RFQ to solicitation coordinator Breanna Rodriguez at 503.823.3199 (office) or [rodriguez@prosperportland.us](mailto:rodriguez@prosperportland.us) (email). Prosper Portland encourages participation of D/M/W/ESB firms in this and all other contract opportunities.

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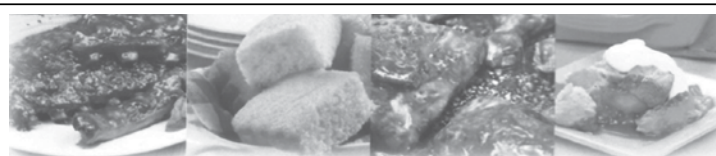
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## Another Great Year!

**Another Great Year! June 19, 2019** – Congratulations were made to the Portland Observer Softball Team! The 11-12 year old girls just completed another great season in the majors division at the Beaumont Little League.



## Stepping Up for Kids

Rockwood Boys & Girls Club's first summer

**Stepping Up for Kids, May 30, 2018** -- Imani Muhammad of the Rockwood Boys & Girls Club oversees a basketball clinic held in partnership with the Portland Trail Blazers. The Nike-sponsored gym is one of many amenities available to youth over the summer, the Portland Observer reported.



**Advocates Fight New Rule, June 27, 2018** – The Portland Observer reported on how young people in communities of color may suffer more unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases because of the Trump Administration's new policy requiring abstinence as the only option for discussion in birth control and STD prevention programs receiving federal Title X grants.

**Leader Accepts the Challenge, Sept. 12, 2018** -- Dr. Danny Jacobs, esteemed medical researcher, doctor, teacher and administrator talked with the Portland Observer on the challenges of education, patient care and research after being named 5th president of Oregon Health and Sciences University and the first African American OHSU leader.



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**Arson Fire Hits Black Restaurant, Nov. 28, 2012 --** James 'Mack' McClendon and William 'Dub' Travis III are visibly bummed, but told the Portland Observer they planned to rebuild after a suspected arsonist lit fire to their Mack and Dub's Excellent Chicken and Waffles restaurant at 3601 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.



**School Doors Reopen, Dec. 26, 2012 -** Marysville students and staff were on hand for the first day of public tours for their newly reconstructed school, the Portland Observer reported. A massive fire three years earlier destroyed Marysville, a southeast Portland school serving a culturally diverse population of children and their families.

### The Dream, Jan. 16, 2013

-- On the 2013 Martin Luther King Jr. Special Edition "The Dream" is a bronze sculpture dedicated to Rev. Martin Luther King, created by Portland artist Michael F. Dente. The statue is next to the Oregon Convention Center on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Photo is by Mark Washington/ The Portland Observer.



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**Iraq Body Count, March 12, 2008 --** Mel Gurto, Portland State University political science professor, surveys the thousands of flags on campus for the Iraq Body Count Exhibit. As the Portland Observer reported, a resurgence of local energy reflected on five years of war in Iraq.



**Salute to Black Cosmetologists, April 1990 --** This insert was included in an April, 1990 issue of The Portland Observer. The businesses have changed but the industry continues with black-owned enterprises.



**Obama's Team, Dec. 3, 2008 --** President-elect Barack Obama nominates members for his incoming cabinet, including U.S. Sen. Hillary Clinton as his choice for U.S. Secretary of State and Susan Rice as Ambassador to the United Nations.



**Cold Case Turns Seven, June 27, 2018 --** The Portland Observer reported on a cold case that turned seven years old and on the Good in the Hood celebration.

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**Supporting Schools, Feb. 18, 2004** – Former Urban League of Portland President and CEO Vanessa Gaston served as “Principal for a Day” at Gregory Heights Middle School in northeast Portland, inspiring partnerships to increase community involvement and resources in low-income neighborhoods.

### Welcomed Home, April 28, 2010

-- Members of the Oregon National Guard were warmly welcomed home after serving a tour of duty in Iraq. A ceremony honoring the 200 Oregon soldiers who came home on April 21 was held at the Chiles Center at the University of Portland.



**Troops Welcomed Home from Iraq**



### Grant and Jefferson Sweep, March 19, 2008

– In separate weekend tournaments, Grant High School boys celebrated a 6A state basketball championship and the young men from Jefferson High School captured the 5A basketball trophy, the Portland Observer reports.



**A New Direction for Sex Ed, Oct. 13, 2010** – Ten years ago, the Portland Observer reported teen pregnancy prevention programs in the Portland area would see a major boost in funding and direction thanks to a departure from the former Bush administration's abstinence-only directives.



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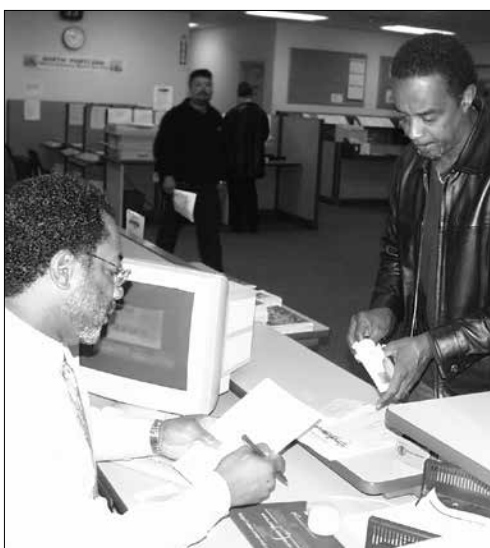
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**Shooting Called Unjust – March 13, 2002** – *Members of the Albina Ministerial Alliance hold a news conference to allege bias in a grand jury's decision supporting police in their fatal shooting of Byron Hammick Jr., a 26-year-old Black man killed during an assault against a child at a Motel 6.*



**Joblessness Soars – March 13, 2002** – *As Oregon recorded the highest unemployment rate in the nation, the Portland Observer reported from the Employment Division on North Webster Street where local residents were finding it difficult to find a new job.*

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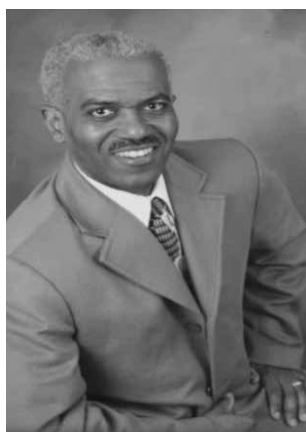
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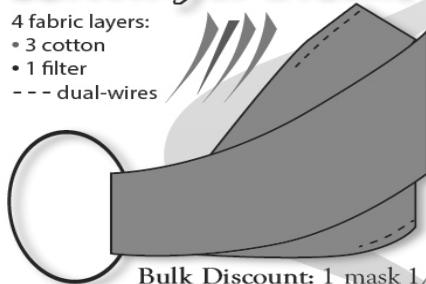
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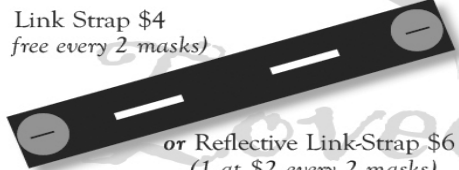
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**Inspired Past Meets Present, Dec. 3, 2001 --** Troy Berry takes the reigns as coach of the Benson Tech basketball team, returning to the northeast Portland school where he was part of a state championship team as a student in 1981.

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**A Champion's Formula, Feb. 18, 2004**  
 – Portland Observer reports on championship Jefferson High School Coach and Athletic Director Marshall Haskins and how he prefers to focus his success on giving his players a good education and opportunities on careers after sports.



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### Joyce Washington All-Star Classic – May 23, 2007

-- Celebrating the life of former Portland Observer Publisher Joyce Washington and supporting the Black community, former Trail Blazers Michael Harper and Michael Holton get ready to coach all-star basketball players from Portland area high schools participating in annual charity tournament.



**A Perfect Season, March 12, 2008 --** Jefferson High School's Lady Demos and their coaching staff celebrate a 5A State Basketball Championship and perfect 27-0 season, the Portland Observer reported.

### Vanport Square Completion, Jan. 30, 2008

-- Carl Talton (from left) Jeana Woolley and Ray Leary, minority-led developers of Vanport Square, an owner-occupied office and retail complex on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr., celebrated its grand opening in the heart of Portland's historic African American community.

**Race in the Media, Jan. 30, 2008 --** Sensationalist reporting and editorials by other publications may have contributed to Black Police Chief Derrick Foxworth's firing two years earlier when an employee accused him of sexual harassment, PSU Black Studies professor Ethan Johnson tells the Portland Observer. "The Skanner and the Observer told a more complex story consistently, where the mainstream papers focused primarily on the sex of the thing," Johnson said.

### Cascade Festival of African Films, Jan. 30, 2008 --

The 18th edition of Portland Community College's Cascade Festival of African Films commences with a Cannes Film Festival award-winning picture and a visit by one of Cameroon's most influential filmmakers.

### Vanport Square Success

A grand opening celebration last Thursday marked a successful completion of Vanport Square, an owner-occupied office and retail complex on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. in the heart of Portland's historic African American community. The development was led by Ray Leary and Jeana Woolley, minority-led developers of Vanport Square, an owner-occupied office and retail complex on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. in the heart of Portland's historic African American community. The development was led by Ray Leary and Jeana Woolley, minority-led developers of Vanport Square, an owner-occupied office and retail complex on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. in the heart of Portland's historic African American community.



### Race in the Media

Forum to spotlight Foxworth case  
Portland's history will have a much more complex story when it comes to the firing of Black Police Chief Derrick Foxworth. The Skanner and the Observer told a more complex story consistently, where the mainstream papers focused primarily on the sex of the thing, Johnson said.

### Cascade Festival of African Films



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## Justice Spoken Here

**Rosa Parks Way to intersect with Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard**

by Susan Russo  
The Portland Observer

Portland Boulevard will become Rosa Parks Way in tribute to the woman who refused to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Alabama in 1955 and became known as the mother of the modern Civil Rights Movement.

A unanimous Portland City Council vote was the final step for the street-naming reform which was pushed by local African American church leaders and endorsed by City Commissioner Dan Saltzman.

Rosa Parks Way will stretch along the former Portland Boulevard from North Williams Boulevard to North and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, creating a symbolic connection between the civil rights hero and business. A celebration to mark this event will soon be planned.

The street before names a year after the death of Parks, who sparked a peaceful bus boycott in Montgomery, Ala. when she refused to give up her seat at the front of the bus to a white man.

## Old Murder Case Gets New Look

**Reward grows to \$10,000**

Portland Police, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, is asking for the public's help in solving an 18-year-old murder.

On Sept. 27, 1988, 30-year-old Loretha Williams was found murdered in her home at 1100 N.E. Sunset St.

The Medical Examiner determined that Williams suffered multiple stab wounds and died from her injuries. She was found in the bedroom of her nine-year-old daughter, who was with relatives at the time of the homicide.

Police say evidence indicates that Williams struggled with the killer as he broke into her home. Detectives are looking for any signs of blood entry into the home.

At the time, Williams was employed as a supervisor at the Chase Bag Co., located at 2156 N.W. Industrial St.

Although new technology in forensic science may assist in solving this cold case investigation, detectives are still asking for assistance.

A reward has grown to \$10,000 for information leading to an arrest in the murder of Loretha Williams (1988) who was shot 18 years ago in northeast Portland.

**Justice Spoken Here, Nov. 1, 2006** – In honor of the late civil rights heroine Rosa Parks, Portland Boulevard is renamed Rosa Parks Way, drawing a tribute from Pastor B.E. Johnson, (from left) Dr. Rev. T. Allen Bethel, City Commissioner Dan Saltzman, Pastor W.G. Hardy and Bishop Harry Daniels, the Portland Observer reported. This cover also includes a cold case reopened for Loretha Williams, killed in 1988.

## Driving While Black

**No relief from racial profiling**

Driving While Black is a much charged topic for people of color due to the likelihood of being involved in a traffic stop.

New perception of unfair law enforcement has just been reinforced by a Portland Police Bureau report that

**Driving While Black, May 24, 2006** -- Acting Police Chief Rosie Sizer releases report on the likelihood of being involved in a traffic stop if you are Black. Data shows Black and Latino drivers are pulled over 2.4 times more than white drivers, strongly suggesting a racial disparity.

### Divided Race Heads Here, Feb. 6, 2008

– The 2008 election year shaped up to be the most suspenseful in decades as voters in Vancouver joined their counterparts across the state to participate in Democratic and Republican caucuses. As the Portland Observer reported, the primary contests were between Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama and Mitt Romney and John McCain.

## Picking a President

### Washington Caucus Saturday

As this election year shapes up to be the most suspenseful in decades, voters in Vancouver will join their counterparts across Washington on Saturday to participate in the Democratic and Republican caucuses to choose a president.

Barring an unlikely sweep of most of the 22 states voting in elections and caucuses on Tuesday, Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama will have picked up a mix of wins and losses. Each will accumulate delegates to the Democratic National Convention this summer, but neither will have enough to secure the nomination.

At press time on Tuesday, the Republican contest had narrowed between former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and Sen. John McCain.



Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama marked a turning point in the Democratic presidential contest on Tuesday, but facing an unlikely sweep of most of the 22 states voting, neither will have enough delegates to secure the nomination.



Mitt Romney

## Good in the Neighborhood

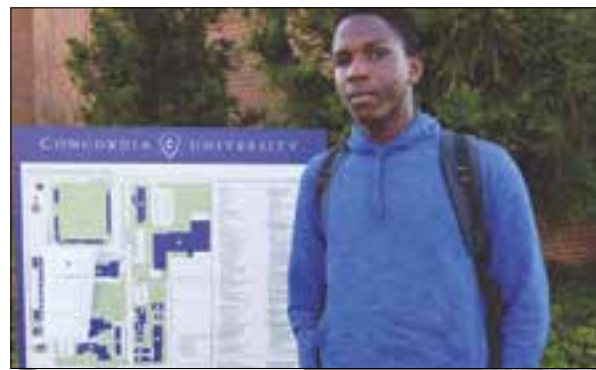
25th annual event brings community unity

**Good in the Neighborhood 25th Annual Event brings Community Unity, July 28, 2017** – Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith (left picture at bottom of page) greets Good in the Hood Parade participants Ariana Jenkins (from left) Alayah Ta, Jayden Ta, and Kayden Taylor.



### College Community Stunned, Feb. 12, 2020

– The Portland Observer talks with Goodness Adefope, who came to Portland from Nigeria to attend Concordia University, and other students who are looking for another school, now that Concordia is closing its doors.



Goodness Adefope, who came to Portland from Nigeria to attend Concordia University, is looking for another school now that Concordia is closing its doors.

## Concordia to Shut Down

## Building Community Ties

New Portland Police Chief Danielle Outlaw (left) gets an introduction to members of the local African American community, including Portland Observer Publisher Mark Washington and Portland Community College Cascade Campus President Karin Edwards, during a Women of Faith luncheon Edwards hosted.

**Building Community Ties, November 29, 2017** -- New Portland Police Chief Danielle Outlaw (left) gets an introduction to members of the local African American community, including Portland Observer Publisher Mark Washington and Portland Community College Cascade Campus President Karin Edwards, during a Women of Faith luncheon Edwards hosted.

**2017 Washington Classic, July 14, 2017** – Portland Observer Ballers, 4th and 5th grade boys with coaches Mark Washington and Jeff Ta (left photo, second from top) at the 2017 Washington Classic at SEI.



**Week in the Review**  
**Assisted Suicide Challenge**  
 The Supreme Court said Tuesday it will hear a case that could end Oregon's assisted suicide law.

**Pauline Bradford: Albina Pioneer**  
 Observer interviews Pauline Bradford from her home in the Eliot neighborhood, providing a walking, breathing history of Portland's Black community. Like many African Americans from across the country, Bradford was lured to Portland in the 1940s by the promise of a high-paying wartime job in the Kaiser shipyards.

**Keeps sense of past with look to future**  
 Pauline Bradford from her home in the Eliot neighborhood is doing Portland's Black history.

**Black History Maker, Feb. 23, 2005 – Portland**  
 Observer interviews Pauline Bradford from her home in the Eliot neighborhood, providing a walking, breathing history of Portland's Black community. Like many African Americans from across the country, Bradford was lured to Portland in the 1940s by the promise of a high-paying wartime job in the Kaiser shipyards.

**Week in the Review**  
**3 Deaths Killed in 2 Days**  
 A deadly outbreak of E. coli in Washington state has killed three people and sickened more than 100 others.

**Hennessee to be Installed Church Pastor**  
 Coretta Scott King to participate in ceremonies

**A Civil Rights Legend by her Own Right**  
 Coretta Scott King, the widow of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., is being honored for her role in the civil rights movement.

**Pastor Installed, May 25, 2005 – Rev. Matt Hennessee's installment as pastor of Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church draws special guest Coretta Scott King, the widow of the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Hennessee met the King family 15 years earlier when he was assistant city manager in Saginaw, Mich. and Mrs. King took him under her wing like a son, the Portland Observer reports.**

**First Black Judge, Oct. 12, 2005 -- Mercedes Frances Deiz, Oregon's first African-American judge left a legacy for future generations upon her death at the age of 87. The Portland Observer reported on her many accomplishments and the qualities that made her a good lawyer for the community at large.**

**Local Leaders Leave Legacies**  
**Oregon's First Black Judge**  
 Deiz was mentor, pioneer

**Champion In and Outside Ring**  
 Community advocate remembered

**Champion In and Outside of Ring, Oct. 12, 2005 – Jimmy "Bang Bang" Walker, one of Oregon's boxing legends, was remembered for both his prizefighting career and his civil rights advocacy on behalf of other African Americans, the Portland Observer reported.**

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**TV Networks Take Asia Bell Case**  
**Heartbroken family asks witnesses to speak up**

**Heartbroken Family, Oct. 19, 2005 -- After nearly three years, the mystery of who killed 23-year-old Asia Bell-James in a walk by shooting in front of her north Portland home is finally attracting some national attention, both on America's Most Wanted and the Maury Povich Show. The Portland Observer reported on the family's hope to find justice.**

## Marchers Support New Christian Center



Hundreds gathered for the Miracle March in north Portland last Saturday morning to help raise money for the completion of the Life Change Christian Center that's located at 106 N. Beach St. One million dollars is needed for the first phase of the renovation plan. Many got a chance to see the work that's already completed on the new facility.

Since 1996, the center has provided food and clothing for the needy. It will continue to be a place for anyone in the community seeking spiritual direction and support.

**Pastor Mark Strong leads the way in the Miracle March for the creation of the new Life Change Christian Center to benefit north Portland.**

**PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON THE PORTLAND OBSERVER**

**Marcher Support New Christian Center, April 3, 2002 -- Pastor Mark Strong leads the way in the Miracle March for the creation of the new Life Change Christian Center to benefit north Portland.**

**First Preference Housing, Nov. 14, 2018 – Housing advocates and construction company officials from Portland's African American community made the opening of the Beatrice Morrow apartments possible. Pictured for the official grand opening were (from left) Aneshka Colas-Dickson, Colas Construction founder Hermann Colas, Portland Community Reinvestment Initiative, Inc. (PCRI) Executive Director Maxine Fitzpatrick, and Colas Construction President and Chief Executive Officer Andrew Colas.**

**First Preference Housing**  
 Beatrice Morrow first to open under new policy

**First Preference Housing**  
 Beatrice Morrow first to open under new policy

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**Kathleen Huff,**  
Love Always,  
your family



**Happy 60th Birthday**  
**Mike Mangun**  
60th bash will be in 2021  
due to COVID



**Church Cries Foul, Jan. 24, 2001** – *Portland Observer* reported on Portland Community College plans to expand its north Portland footprint with the demolition of a church property adjacent to the campus at 4422 N. Albina Ave., which drew objections from the pastor, Bishop Samuel M. Irving of the Albina Christian Life Center.

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**Police Shooting, May 2, 2001** – A grand jury's decision clearing police of wrongdoing in the shooting death of Jose Santo Victor Mejia Poot, a Mexican immigrant suffering from mental health issues, ignites a strong protest, the *Portland Observer* reported.

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