



Back to School

special edition



The Portland Observer

Volume XLVV • Number 16



'City
of
Roses'

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Wednesday • September 8, 2021

Committed to Cultural Diversity



Portland attorney Ernie Warren will review wrongful convictions and prison sentences as head of a new Justice Integrity Unit in the Multnomah County District Attorney's office.

Warren Hired for Justice Integrity

DA creates unit to review past convictions

A long time criminal defense attorney and racial justice advocate from Portland's Black community will review wrongful convictions and review prison sentences as head of a new Justice Integrity Unit in the Multnomah County District Attorney's office.

District Attorney Mike Schmidt last week announced his hiring of Ernest "Ernie" Warren, founder of first Black-owned defense law firm in Oregon and a passionate civil and criminal defense attorney of more than 30 years.

Warren, a seasoned and passionate civil rights leader, who ran unsuccessfully for Multnomah County Circuit Judge in 2020, will now lead a newly funded program similar to integrity units being formed by progressive prosecutors across the county, Schmidt said.

The new unit comes after Schmidt successfully lobbied the Legislature to pass Senate Bill 819, which allows a district attorney and a person convicted of



PHOTO BY CLIFF PFENNING/FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Long-time winning football coach and youth leader Anthony Stoudamire (center) is back as coach of the Jefferson High School football team, flanked by two of the team's pivotal players awaiting Friday's home opener, Demos quarterback Dondrae Fair (left) and senior defensive safety Trejon Williams.

Jefferson Football Back to Business

Title-winning coach returns to program

BY CLIFF PFENNING
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

As the joys of unmasked athletics began for high school students across Oregon in mid-August, Jefferson senior Dondrae Fair looked forward to the fall season for all the normal reasons team sports are important to young adults.

"We're going to be a good team because we've got a great bond amongst the players," Fair said. "There's a good group of seniors on the team. We've all grown up in the program together and been able to hang out during the summer. That's really going to help us play better as a team."

"I'm really excited about playing again."

Fair, like all other high school athletes in Oregon, endured a year of hybrid education, and the constant possibility of not being able to play at all until several months into the school year. The five-week-long football season started in mid-February with only two weeks to prepare for the first game. Ev-

eryone needed to wear a mask, even on the field during games. There were no playoffs.

"We had a season, but we didn't have much time to prepare and it was tough with not being around each others during the day because we weren't in school," Fair said. "It really wasn't much of a season, so it feels like we've had two years off."

Fair, who plays quarterback, is in his third year with the varsity team - with a new head coach each year. The Demos' coach this fall, though, is Anthony Stoudamire, who led the program from 2006-11 and to the state title game in 2009. He's been working as offensive coordinator at Roosevelt the past four years.

"He's brought exactly what the program needed - discipline," Fair said. "He's holding everyone accountable for what they need to do to be a better player, and that's really helpful for us being a good team."

"It's not like we didn't have discipline last season," said senior Trejon Williams,

who leads the defense at safety. "But there wasn't much chance to get things together once there was a season, and it was heavy on us to be a team."

Jefferson finished 2-3 with all of its games being played during what is traditionally basketball season, and under a first-year coach.

"It was a good season, but it was weird," Williams said.

Jefferson plays its home opener Friday at 7 p.m. against Lakeridge.

Stoudamire returned to the Jefferson campus in July after Houston Lillard, older brother of Trail Blazers star Damian, resigned and returned to self-employment in Oakland, Calif., with Team Lillard Football/HL5 Sports.

A graduate of Washington High in 1972, Stoudamire played at Portland State in '73-'75, and found his way to the Jefferson program in 1978. He served as an assistant for 19 years, and also started a youth program in

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Portland Public Schools celebrates the reopening of Leodis McDaniel High School, a fully modernized 21-century learning environment for the former Madison High School campus in northeast Portland.

Madison Reopens as McDaniel High School

A fully modernized McDaniel High School reopened at the former Madison High School campus in northeast Portland Thursday.

A special grand opening ceremony took place as classes began on the first day of school, ushering in a new 21st-century learning environment for a very diverse student population, with new facilities, programs and opportunities for success.

The fully remodeled 296,000 square foot campus features over 170,000 square feet of new con-

struction, including two theatres, two gyms, and a student commons that serves as the heart of the new school.

McDaniel High was designed through a multi-year planning and design effort that gathered the ideas of hundreds of staff, students, and community stakeholders.

Students in the newly modernized McDaniel can access specialty labs for digital design,



Leodis McDaniel

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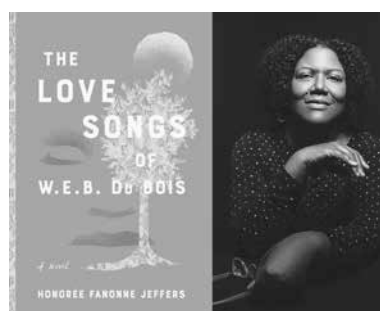
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The Portland Observer

Established 1970 USPS 959 680
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LOCAL NEWS



The Albina Library has moved back to its historic home at 216 N.E. Knott St.

Back to its Roots

Albina Library moves to historic home

BY BEVERLY CORBELL
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

After being moved repeatedly, then shut down for several years, the Albina Library has moved back to its historic home at 216 N.E. Knott St. and is open for business.

Eduardo “Eddie” Arizaga, administrator of the Albina Library, said the library — the smallest in Multnomah County at 3,500 square feet — will eventually be expanded and redeveloped to 25,000 square feet. Now that all county libraries have reopened after being closed for more than a year because of the coronavirus pandemic, Arizaga hopes to see a lot more foot traffic at its “new” location.

Because it moved and had to upgrade computer equipment, the Albina Library was the last county library to reopen after shutting down on March 13, he said, but he hopes that word is getting out that the library welcomes patrons.

“We’ve been getting some foot traffic and the Dishman Community Center just reopened,” he said. “We’re looking to add extra signage and want to let people know they can walk in.”

The library was moved from its location at NE 15th Ave. and NE Fremont, Arizaga said, into the NE Knott Street building, which housed the Title Wave Used Bookstore for about 30 years. The Knott Street building was constructed in 1912, one of more than

1,600 in the U.S. underwritten by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.

Arizaga said that while the Knott Street location is somewhat larger, it is still a relatively small current footprint, but has been reconfigured to make it more suitable for a community library. The old location didn’t have a community meeting room or even a place for story time.

“What a bookstore presents is different from a library,” he said. “We’ve provided more seating and lower shelving to bring in natural light. It had some really large shelving that was not flexible, so we made it into a really large workroom, and we want children’s books in a 6-foot space.”

The future renovations involve

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Back to School Health, Safety Tips

The Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Health Authority are offering five health and safety tips to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in schools.

“I know many parents are anxious about the (coronavirus) Delta variant’s impact on schools, and at the same time excited for kids to return to the classroom. My goal for this school year has been to keep students learning in the classroom, with minimal disruptions,” Gov. Kate Brown said. “The more we do to protect our families at home, the more we help our students succeed at school.”

Families are urged to vaccinate all eligible household members. Wear face coverings or masks in public and in carpools. Face cov-



Gov. Kate Brown

erings are effective at preventing the spread of COVID-19 and can reduce the need to be quarantined and miss in-person learning. Limit gatherings with other

households for now — including big events for kids, like birthday parties. If your kids have an early fall birthday, celebrate with just your household. You might consider postponing larger celebrations until the Delta variant’s rapid spread has subsided (plan a half-birthday bash!).

Move social activities outdoors. To help minimize kids’ exposure to COVID-19, try to plan outdoor activities when possible — especially when with other households.

Make a plan in case your child needs to miss school. Being prepared can make this difficult time easier and will help your child tran-

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Jefferson Football Back to Business

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

the 1980s. After a stint away from the school, he returned as head coach and led the Demos to a 44-27 record in his six seasons.

The move from Roosevelt was one Stoudamire didn't look for, but didn't resist when the opportunity arose.

"I had a great group of players at Roosevelt, and a great group of coaches so it was a tough decision," he said. "But, I told them this is where my coaching career started, this is the community where I live, and it's got a special place in my heart. The lure of coming back was just a little too much."

Stoudamire said he's seen the program advance in its team unity quickly after his return became public knowledge July 28. His hiring came in a summer when the school replaced its athletic director as well. Falisha Wright moved into that position at the same time Stoudamire returned.

Once hired, Stoudamire found a core of assistant coaches that includes DeAngelo Bell, who played under him through 2010 before a college career at Montana Tech. His other assistants are Alexander Johnson, DeAngelo Edwards, Jon Simpson, Tony Van Zant, and the school's wrestling coach Montral

Brazile.

"There were a lot of kids who were kind of down because they didn't know who their coach was going to be," Stoudamire said. "But things are going well, and the vibe here gets better every day."

"I'm trying to make things fun, too, so it's not just focused on practicing hard for two, three, four hours. We put things in the middle of practices to be fun. We keep things moving, so there's not a lot of standing around."

The Demos reached the Class 5A playoffs in all six seasons under Stoudamire, and won at least one playoff game in the first five seasons. In 2012, Stoudamire left to run the team at Benson, but low player numbers caused that program to struggle and he resigned after having won just one game in three seasons.

Continual low numbers have caused Benson to eliminate football altogether.

Low numbers caused Cleveland to move to just a junior varsity schedule this fall, leaving the PIL with seven varsity teams.

Jefferson has not had a problem attracting players, especially freshmen. Coaches were expecting as many as 50 players to be on the sideline for either a varsity or junior varsity game.

"We probably have enough kids for just a freshman team," Stoudamire said, "but that's a hard thing to schedule these days."

Stoudamire isn't just bringing decades of experience coaching high school players, but also a year of coaching women's players, too. He started the Oregon Ravens women's team this year, leading a team of 32 players to a 1-5 record in the 20-team Women's National Football Conference.

"Anyone who writes a story about me needs to promote my women's team," he said proudly.

The league schedule ran from May through June, and included road games for the Ravens at Seattle and San Diego.

Williams said he's looking forward to not only playing, but playing against Roosevelt, Oct. 7.

"That's the one game I really remember from last season," he said of the Demos' 32-14 win. "It was a crazy game on the field, and then we had all that rain."

Fair said having his senior season return to the normal schedule is a big lift. And, he's ready for crowd noise.

"It's going to be great to get on the field again," Fair said, "and show everyone what we can do; what Jefferson football is all about."

Get the care you need

It's flu season — get your flu shot today

The past year has been hard on all of us, as we put on masks and spent more time alone. But now it's time to get the care you and your family need. COVID-19 is still spreading among people who have not been vaccinated. Keep yourself and your loved ones healthier during coronavirus and flu season. While the flu shot can't prevent COVID-19, it can help keep you from getting the flu.

And flu shots are free to Health Share/CareOregon members.



Flu season lasts from September through May

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Caring for Someone with Dementia

Black families offer lessons in support

About 70,000 Oregonians have dementia, a type of brain disease that affects thinking, decision making, and daily function. The most common type of dementia is Alzheimer's disease. While there are many types of dementias, there are commonalities between them.

For example, most dementias affect people age 65 and older. The other common factor is that most people with dementia will, at some point in their lives, need help with their daily activities, such as cooking meals, bathing, toileting and medication management.

Caring for someone with dementia is a complex experience. Many caregivers find this work rewarding and feel as though they are giving back to their families.

If you or a loved one has recently been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, it can seem overwhelming. The first step is to learn more about the condition so you can be prepared. Photo courtesy OHSU website:

Caregivers also experience stress. And because many people live with dementia for years, the stress is ongoing and can affect caregivers' physical, mental, and financial health. For example, we know that caregivers for people with dementia are more likely to have high blood pressure, depression, and anxiety.

Research indicates that caring for a family member with dementia can lead to feelings of fatigue, depression and worry, yet this understanding of the caregiving experience is framed mostly by research with white families. This trend is changing, however, and we are learning that Black

families offer lessons in how to manage the burden that comes with caregiving.

For example, some studies suggest that Black family caregivers focus more on what is "still here" in their family members, rather than grieving what has been lost. Further, Black family caregivers tend to "hang on" to a family member with dementia, placing value on longevity, rather than magnifying dementia-related changes.

In a survey by the National Alliance for Caregiving, (NAC) 59% of Black caregivers reported that caregiving gave them a sense of purpose (compared to 46% of the

white caregivers). Nonetheless, the NAC study found that 29% of Black caregivers experienced emotional strain.

Taken together, we know that Black caregivers tend to fare better emotionally than white caregivers, but there is still much we don't know about the Black caregiving experience—more work is needed.

For all caregivers, we know that to thrive, caregivers need to care for themselves as much as they do for their family member with dementia. It can help to

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Participants gather for the first annual H.O.O.D Classic (Helping Others Obtain Dreams), a basketball tournament fundraiser to support Black youth. Photo courtesy Dr. Audry Terrell Institute.

Supporting Our Black Youth

Thanks go out to all participants, sponsors

Organizers of a new basketball tournament fundraiser to support Black Youth are reporting success.

Portland's Dr. Audry Terrell Institute and Seattle's MOCHA program presented the first annual I-5 H.O.O.D. Classic Celebrity Basketball Event at Gresham High School on Aug. 28. HOOD means Helping Others Obtain Dreams.

A very special thanks went out to Principal Drake Shelton and his staff for opening their doors for this momentous event. Also very special thanks to the many sponsors IBEW, Pro Builder General, Brian Grant, Bob Rossi, Portland Trailblazers, for their

support for Black youth attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other colleges, universities, trade schools, and professional training schools.

The winner of this year's event was Washington State. Organizers also thanked all the players and coaches both of Washington and Oregon. Special recognition went out to WNBA star Alex Montgomery, Washington State Champion Poppy Justice and other highly recruited athletes Caydan McDaniels and others. Players participated from every level.

Tame Time Sports was thanked for providing the game uniforms. Other thanks

and appreciation to local businesses Sharis, Elmers, Denny's, Stanford's, B.J.'s, Cracker Barrel's, Fred Meyers, Safeway's and others that gave their support to making this event a success. The event was honored to have the support and presence of Bishop Lawrence White who donated over 200 food boxes, backpacks and school supplies for giveaways.

Memorials were given to the late Shai India Harris, EJ, Holifield, and the DATI founder Alice Scott Clay. Scholarships will be given in their honor. The event was hosted by Adrian Adey McCovy of Los Angeles that brought a special humor and enjoyment to the entire event. Entertainment was presented by K2iccy from Los

Angeles, Renee Robinson cheer squad from Seattle, and our local entertainers Kirk Greene and Auzzie and Kenny OG.

In addition, special thanks was given to the Portland Observer and Straighttalk TV's Tony Brown for their media coverage.

Currently, there are plans for the Second Annual Celebrity Game. The goal is to add Southern California and Northern Washington to future sites.

If you choose to be apart of this great effort to support Black youth, contact Dr. Audrey Terrell (DATI President and CEO) at datinstitute2016@gmail.com or Michael Hankins (MOCHA President and CEO) mhankins.mocha@yahoo.com.

Author's Debut Novel Lauded

Now an Oprah Winfrey book club pick

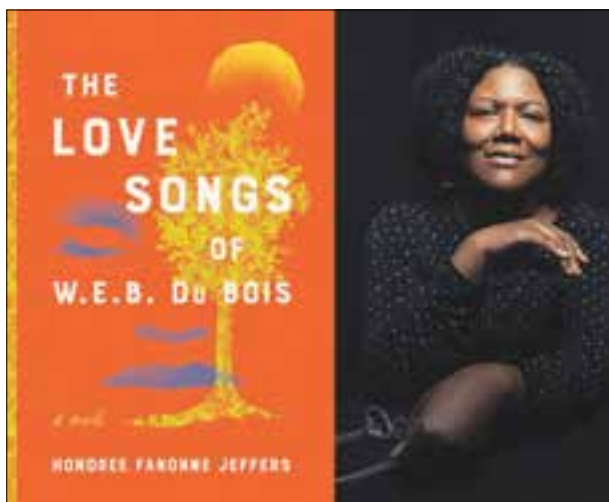
One of the year's most anticipated debut novels, Honorée Fanonne Jeffers' "The Love Songs of W.E.B. Du Bois," is now an Oprah Winfrey book club pick.

Published this month, Jeffers' novel traces centuries of Black history through a family in the American South and its contemporary narrator, young Ailey Paul Garfield. "The Love Songs of W.E.B. Du Bois,"

is named for the canonical Black scholar and activist.

"I was so enraptured by the story of this modern Black family, and how author Honorée Fanonne Jeffers wove the larger fabric of historical trauma through the family's silence through generations," Winfrey said in a statement. "It's a combination of historical and modern and it consumed me. I look forward to discussing with our community of readers and speaking with Honorée herself to discuss the themes that run throughout this special novel."

Jeffers, 54, is already an acclaimed poet whose "The Age of Phillis" was on the long list in 2020 for a National Book Award. A professor of English at the University of



Honorée Fanonne Jeffers and the cover for her debut novel "The Love Songs of W.E.B. Du Bois," an Oprah Winfrey book club pick.

Oklahoma, she has championed the stories and achievements of Black women, including Winfrey.

"I first encountered the beauty, brilliance, and empathy of Ms. Oprah Winfrey from afar, by watching her talk show on my television in the 1980's," Jeffers said in a statement. "She made me believe that so many great things were possible for a young, African American woman like me. That I could do anything if I just set my hands, mind, and spirit to the task. As a creative writer, it was my secret dream that I would one day write a book that this 'phenomenal woman' — to quote from the great poet, Dr. Maya Angelou — would read, enjoy, and present to the members of her book club."

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Openness and Advocacy Lauded

Rapper's message resonates with youth

(AP) — Lil Nas X has been awarded the inaugural Suicide Prevention Advocate of the Year Award from the advocacy group The Trevor Project, a nonprofit dedicated to suicide prevention and crisis intervention for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning young people.

The group cited Lil Nas X's "openness about struggling with his sexuality and suicidal ideation, his continued advocacy around mental health issues, and his unapologetic celebration of his queer identity."

"He has done it in a way that has resonated and impacted communities where these conversations are often taboo, but where they are so needed," said Amit Paley, Trevor Project executive director. "The fact that he has been so open, so vulnerable about his mental health journey, his thoughts of suicide, he is really helping to destigmatize conversations that are too often shrouded in shame."

In February, Lil Nas X shared a series of intimate TikTok videos documenting his life story, including his battle with depression, anxiety and suicidal ideation during



Rapper Lil Nas X

his rise to fame. In May, he released a music video which depicts Lil Nas X uplifting a younger version of himself in high school when he was contemplating suicide and struggling to come to terms with his sexuality.

"It's particularly inspiring to see someone who is Black and LGBTQ and proud and unapologetic," said Paley. "And to see someone talk about their experiences with depression and anxiety and suicidal ideation and to talk about those as part of their art and part of their platform to make other people comfortable talking about the challenges that they are going through."

THIS YEAR, A LITTLE NERVOUS IS NORMAL.



After so long away, bells, hallways, clubs and quizzes aren't second nature anymore. That's why Oregon schools are kicking off with a focus on restoring the care, connection and community that come with in-person learning. Visit Oregon.gov/readyschools to learn more.



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Despite chronic health issues, he started a photography business in Portland, then landed an internship and a job at Nike. Soon he'll finish his business administration degree online through Oregon State Ecampus. And he's ready for whatever comes next.

ecampus.oregonstate.edu/josh



TOP-RANKED DEGREES ONLINE



Oregon State University

Back to its Roots

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utilizing two adjacent properties the library system already owns, and just what will be included will be up to the public, Arizaga said, and plans are still being formulated.

"I don't know the format for community engagement and we're exploring virtual or outdoor gatherings," he said. "We know libraries but the community knows what they need and what they want. That will guide our team of architects and are currently working with an architecture firm that is working it out, but COVID is making it harder."

The history of the Albina Library began in 1906 according to the county's library website at multolib.org, with Mrs. P.P. Leche serving as its first librarian in a small reading room, location unknown, with about 100 books.

In September of 1907, the library moved to a larger space on Williams Avenue, which was a big success:

"The eagerness with which the people of Albina, young and old, have taken advantage of this library has been a surprise even to those who believed most thoroughly in it," the website states. "It has been almost impossible to keep the shelves supplied with books."

The use of the library continued to grow and in 1909 moved to larger quarters on Russell Street. By the end of the year there were 2,149 volumes in its collection and circulation had increased to 26,800 items.

But usage declined, according to a June 2020 article in the Oregonian, and in 1960 the library was closed down.

In 1967 a new Albina Library was opened at the corner of Vancouver Avenue and Beech Street. But usage continued to decline, and in 1977 the Library Associ-

ation of Portland Board voted to move the library to its sixth home at 15th and Fremont.

Some say that all that moving around was a disservice to the predominantly African American community of Northeast Portland.

Now by moving the library from the Sabin neighborhood to the Eliot neighborhood it will tie into the library system's goal of focusing on equity for marginalized communities.

The Eliot neighborhood is reported to have a higher proportion of people in poverty, people of color, people who speak a language other than English at home, households relying on food benefits, households with limited/no internet, higher unemployment and lower median income.

Connection to the community is vital, Arizaga said, because a library is so much more than just books.

"The library serves another space — not home, work or school — that is a functional part of their lives," he said. "So we are looking at flexibility, modularity, shifting areas and means so we can continue to adapt to the community."

An after hours gathering space and constantly evolving technology are two areas being considered, he said.

"We are trying to think of ways to bring in programs and what they need," he said. "That means more technology and preparing for the next wave of technology and workforce technology training. There's also a lot of knowledge out in the community, and we could be bringing those experts to the library."

Libraries everywhere have gone through big changes in the last 10 or 15 years, Arizaga said, becoming "extremely creative" with ideas such as teen spaces and maker spaces.

But above all, he said, one thing is true, that "Libraries are for people."

Dementia

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

learn about the disease, get support from friends and family, and take frequent breaks when possible. Exercising, eating healthy foods, and spending time with friends can help caregivers stay healthy.

Support is available from the Multnomah County Caregiver Support Program (503-988-3646), the Alzheimer's Association (1-800-272-3900) and Oregon Care Partners (oregoncarepartners.com) which offers free online classes.

At the Layton Aging and Alzheimer's Disease Center, we encourage Black families to engage

in our research programs, such as the African American Dementia and Aging Project (AADAPt) and our caregiver studies.

For more information about these offerings, please call 503-494-7647. Caring for a family member with dementia is challenging but important work. Caregivers deserve the support of families, communities and the state and the nation.

If you care for someone with dementia, thank you for all you do.

Allison Lindauer, PhD, APRN, Associate Professor and Outreach, Recruitment and Education Leader for the Layton Aging and Alzheimer's Disease Center at Oregon Health and Science University, provided this important information.

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.

OPINION

In This Movement, At This Moment

By E. D. MONDAINÉ JR.



As I consider the evolution of Black Lives Matter, it reminds me of the Civil Rights movement of the 1950s and 60s. Given work left undone after the assassination of so many leaders, it seemed inevitable justice would return to bend the arc of history once again. For a time, I was deeply encouraged because it seemed like we would finish what we started over 70 years ago. And in many ways, I am still motivated. But I do have profound concerns and believe it is essential with all that is going on in our world right now that we ask ourselves an important question: Where are we in this movement, at this moment?

I pose this question in the context of this movement because I am concerned that we are losing focus. It is understandable in the face of pressing global issues like the COVID pandemic and the rising threat of climate change. But if we allow ourselves to be displaced, I fear that we will once again find ourselves relegated to the back of the bus. We cannot, and must not, allow this to happen again. So, I hope that the observations I put forth here will help us see our fight more clearly. To be dragged under the wheels of the

same systems of oppression that have bedeviled America's Black communities for centuries is not an option.

The most glaring example of where we need to place our effort and attention urgently is the voter suppression laws sweeping through our nation unapologetically. We must see this for exactly what it is - the resurrection of Jim Crow. I know many in both the Black and white communities understand what they see. I watch them talk about it nightly on news broadcasts, I read what they write in newspaper editorials, and I cannot avoid the never-ending glut of social media posts. And yet, I feel all of this will, in the end, avail us nothing. The only way to beat back the resurrected Dracula of Jim Crow is to organize. And so, in this movement, at this moment, with the 2022 and 2024 elections looming, I ask us all: are we ready?

Not unrelated to the attempt to erase black citizenship is the 2020 Census. In 2019, Governor Brown appointed me to serve on the statewide Oregon Complete Count Committee (Oregon's official 2020 Census advisory body). I continually cautioned the commission that the 2020 census could rival and even exceed the shocking failings

of the Census of 2010, which failed to count approximately 2.1 percent of Black Americans and 1.5 percent of Hispanics. Combined, the undercounting represented about 1.5 million citizens. The assuredness that launching an aggressive advertising and minority outreach effort would be made, just as there had been in 2010. However, those efforts failed again, just as they had in 2010, simultaneously pushing the total census costs to an unprecedented \$20 billion.

The reason for this tragic failure primarily flies under the radar for most Americans. As a standard practice, the Census places Black communities named "hard-to-count groups." The result is a consistent undercounting of Black communities who will remain underfunded for vital social services. Based on Census data, federal dollars allocated to districts across the country represent better than \$600 billion or as much as \$1.5 trillion for 10 years. Given these kinds of numbers, the long-term impact of undercounted African American communities will not just be unfair; it will be devastating.

We should also be aware that the

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Portland Public Schools (PPS) is actively seeking an educational leader to join the Superintendent's Leadership Team and provide leadership, guidance, and support to tackle the traditional challenges faced by large urban school districts and take necessary action to ensure equitable outcomes for all students. With the District's focus on eliminating systemic racism and its adverse impact on student learning, we seek to hire individuals who bring to our district a deep commitment to racial equity and social justice.

The Chief of System Performance will expertly lead the Research, Assessment, & Accountability department in the school district and report directly to the Superintendent. The Chief of System Performance will play a vital function in PPS by providing data to help inform improvements for students, developing systems and tools to track progress towards district goals, and providing analysis to district leaders to challenge current assumptions, spur reflective dialogue, and prompt innovative thinking to effectively move efforts forward. Duties include meeting with district-level and school-level administrators on accountability, accreditation, school improvement planning, and data reporting issues.

Minimum Requirements:

- A Master Degree in Education Research, Assessment Measurement, Curriculum Evaluation, Statistics & Measurement, Public Administration, or a related field. (PhD in Education Research, Assessment and Accountability, or related field is preferred.)
- A minimum of 10 years as a school system leader, at the senior district level and/or school level. At least 4 of these years must have been in a leadership capacity overseeing research projects, data analysis and policy development, operations, functions, and staff.
- Experience in statistics, data analysis, data collection, data reporting, policy analysis, and development in a K-12 public school district or a full-service municipal, state, or federal public agency.

In This Movement, At This Moment

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

U.S. Census gives life to the political power structure. Miscounting makes way for redistricting (the process of setting up district lines after reapportionment) to become gerrymandering (drawing district boundaries to give one party an advantage). Gerrymandering enables politicians to pick their voters rather than allowing voters to elect their representatives, creating the conditions for the boldest attack on black voters since Jim Crow made his first appearance. Once again, I must ask us to see with eyes wide open the presence of our enemy who was, for decades, forced to prey in the dark. Given the current climate of racist permissiveness, Jim is free to attack us in the light of day openly.

There has been much talk of reparations allotted to Black Americans. I have heard the voices of some in our community speak strongly against the idea. Some echo that reparations are hapless and merely another request for a handout. However, I think that this mindset misses the point. There is no "ask" in reparations; there is only demand. We are still waiting for that 40 acres and that mule and

will not surrender our claim until we have been made whole for the devastating crimes done against our humanity and community. We are not demanding their money. We are demanding our money as restitution from a nation with unprecedented wealth built on the broken backs of our stolen ancestors.

What puzzles me is why Black Americans do not meet the same considerations given to the restitution for 9/11 victims, reparations to Japanese Americans, and the continual support for Holocaust survivors in the U.S.? How are the crimes done against any of those communities any less heinous than those perpetrated against us? Additionally, research indicates that the overwhelming wealth gap between white and Black Americans has not moved in recent decades. Black Americans account for approximately 13 percent of America's population; however, we hold only 4 percent of the country's wealth. Unless there is immediate action to provide pipelines to adequate education, equal employment opportunity for Black communities, fixed housing disparities, and access to capital for black folks in this country, America will remain broken.

I am also troubled that in this movement, at this moment, there is a scarcity of Black voices. I understand why some might hesitate to speak out. It is a difficult time for heroes. But the truth is, it always has been. It takes great courage to stand in the public square and lift the problematic woes of inequality and non-inclusiveness. And yet, without them, we risk becoming a voiceless movement in a moment when we must make ourselves heard about the noise of a world in more chaos than ever before. It means that in this movement, at this moment, we must dig deep and take comfort and inspiration from those who came before us and risked so much. Harriet Tubman, W. E. B. Du Bois, Sojourner Truth, Medgar Evers, Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, and Malcolm X are not only our guides. They are also our angels encourag-

ing us never to surrender the sanctified ground of equality and freedom as our birthright and dignified members of the human race.

And lastly, to our white allies, I say, join us. But remember that however helpful, it is not enough to post signs in yards, house windows, or on fences and billboards that say, Black Lives Matter, however this outpouring of support is greatly appreciated. Black people did not create America's problem of inequity and most assuredly will not be eradicated at the solitary sound of Black voices. However, in this movement, at this moment, that we must lead our white brothers and sisters in making Black Lives Matter by taking Black action and center their attention on the Black Voices that cry out from the city square and in the hallowed halls of Justice.

In this movement, we must use the pain of our past to catapult us onward to finish the work started over 70 years ago. In this movement, at this moment, we must be steadfast, unmovable, and abounding in the work laid before us. We must realize that so long as we remain engaged, we will make it through any fire, survive any storm, correct dysfunction, and deliver every grievance.

And if I may be a preacher for a moment, I want to remind us that in this fight, we can solicit the common help given us by our higher power to birth philanthropy and goodwill. So let us lay hold to the contagiousness of preeminence and jubilation. It's time to press forward on the Great Pilgrimage to make earth as it is in heaven. And on that day, we will sing the autocratic songs of Justice and release the bowels of freedom to stand in the presence of Peace, knowing with pride and celebration in our hearts that together, we became the unsettling force.

If we do all of this, in this movement, at this moment, there is an assured victory.

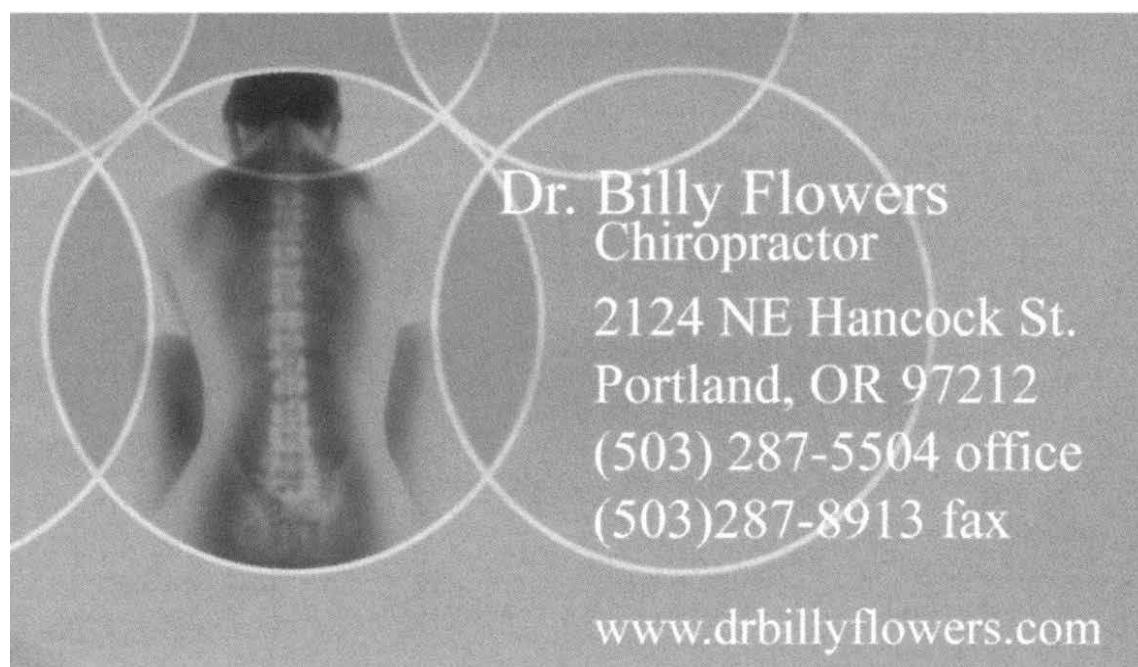
E. D. Mondainé Jr. is the founder of Celebration Tabernacle Church in north Portland, and is longtime entrepreneur and civil rights activist.

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Warren Hired for Justice Integrity

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

a crime to ask a judge to revisit a conviction or reduce prison time.

Schmidt said the work will include reviewing requests from people convicted years ago of crimes such as drug dealing who have stayed out of trouble and want to have felony convictions reduced to misdemeanors so they can seek housing and employment.

"They haven't had any crimes in over a decade and yet they are stuck with these marks they can't remove," he said.

The unit also could include looking at juveniles serving time under Oregon's mandatory minimum sentencing law that applies to the most serious violent crimes. In 2019, the Legislature changed the law in an effort to keep young people out of adult court and its related harsher sentences.

"We are going to have to figure out with the resources we have how many cases we can take on," Schmidt said, adding that he had spoken with the top prosecutor in Washington's King County who said a similar unit handled about 30 cases in its first year.

The District Attorney's Office has had a conviction integrity unit in the past, but Schmidt said the

work was previously bare bones.

Warren has been vocal about holding the District Attorney's office accountable to carrying out justice fairly and equitably as well as the deep racial disparities in our criminal justice system throughout his career.

In a prepared statement, he said working for the top prosecutor in the county and running the Justice Integrity Unit would not be a departure from his zealous advocacy for accountability and fairness in the criminal justice system.

"Instead, this role is an inflection point in a career devoted to seeking justice, where I can do the most possible good for the greatest number of people impacted by the criminal justice system," Warren said.

Born and raised in Portland, Warren attended Willamette University earning a Bachelor's degree in economics, followed by the Atkinson's School of Management before pursuing a law degree at Arizona State University. A veteran mentor to clients, gang-impacted youth, students, new attorneys and more, he has dedicated himself to service well beyond his law practice.

Schmidt said Warren has the background and experience to ensure that the new Justice Integrity

Unit is carried out with fairness and equity as a north star.

"Justice doesn't stop at the conclusion of a trial, it includes critically evaluating past convictions, ensuring current reliance on forensic evidence is well placed, re-examining old sentences that may no longer be necessary for the safety of the community, and giving people who have served their time a chance to move on with their lives by expunging past convictions and eliminating fines and fees that can keep people in downward debt spirals," Schmidt said.

Multnomah County joins a half-dozen other large city prosecutors' offices in creating a sentencing review unit and another 90 that have conviction integrity units, said Aliza Kaplan, a professor at Lewis & Clark Law School and a criminal justice reform advocate who advised Schmidt on the plan.

Kaplan said it's unusual for a DA's office to combine those efforts and to ensure they are robust.

She said analyzing wrongful convictions goes beyond DNA exonerations. The work requires "a real investigation and a deep dive into what happened years and years ago."

-Associated Press contributed to this story.

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Madison Reopens as McDaniel High School

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

engineering, robotics, digital art, biomedical, sculpture, construction, and sustainable agriculture, in addition to a brand-new maker space. Plus, the school has dedicated facilities for the community including a child care center, public health clinic, and community food pantry.

Madison was one of two Portland high schools to go through a re-naming process in response to student and community concerns about the racist beliefs and actions of the U.S. presidents

they were named for. The effort was started by Madison students who wanted a school name that reflected the values of their community.

The Madison Renaming Committee engaged the school and larger communities through robust outreach efforts, gathering nearly 2,500 comments. After careful consideration, Leodis V. McDaniel was selected as the new name.

McDaniel was a greatly respected, and well-loved Portland community leader who gained an impeccable reputation as an

administrator at Madison High School in the 1970s and 1980s.

He was one of only a handful of Black High school principals in Oregon in the 1980s and was tasked with leading Madison through desegregation and busing. McDaniel embraced these challenges as he did all of his work with the singular purpose of fairness to all.

McDaniel was wildly popular with students and staff while earning numerous awards and accolades from the many community organizations to which he contributed.

Health, Safety Tips

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

sition to and from the classroom.

"Back-to-school is my favorite time of the year," Oregon PTA President Kristi Dille shared.

"We've heard from many parents and families who have mixed emotions about sending their children to school. These five tips make it easy for everyone to do their part in reducing the spread of COVID-19 in Oregon communities."



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Obituary

Celebration of Life

Velma Jean Redeau

On Aug. 25, 2021, Velma Jean Redeau passed away peacefully at 92 years old at Legacy Emanuel Hospital.

She was born to C G and Celista Watkins on Jan. 26, 1928 in Enid, Okla. and moved to Omaha, Neb. and eventually to Portland. She was the proud mother of 10 children. Her greatest love was her family, which she always provided support and love, and all her children were proud to call her momma.

Mrs. Redeau was a beloved member of Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church in Portland. She enjoyed being a Brownie leader and her house was always a place where kids gathered. She was a Head Start teacher's aide where she shared her passion for learning with many children over the years. She retired from the Portland Public Schools district.

Velma was predeceased by her parents; her brother Clarence Gene Walker, her daughter Andrea Cochran Phillips and her granddaughter Lalista Cochran.

She is survived by her brother Harold "Kip" Watkins; nine children; Preston Cochran, Elijah Cochran, Cora Cochran, Albert Redeau, Philmore Redeau, Charles Redeau, Rita Redeau, Wilma Redeau and Terry Redeau; 19 grandchildren; and a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Homegoing services were held Thursday, Sept. 2, at Berean Baptist Church.



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