



Education & Careers Edition 2022

Special coverage inside



PO QR code

The Portland Observer

Volume LII • Number 12



'City
of
Roses'

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Committed to Cultural Diversity

Trades Lift Minority Groups



Sonda Brown, a first-term apprentice electrician, found her way to the construction industry unexpectedly after working a desk job in an office. "After a few years, I grew tired of the monotonous job duties and wanted something different," she said.

Apprenticeships empower women, people of color

Construction is the third fastest growing industry in Oregon and a new study shows that union-led apprenticeship programs are finding success in the ability to empower women and people of color to build skill sets to join the industry.

Career training programs backed by local labor groups like the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) are leading in diversity and showing higher success rates all around compared to nonunion programs, according to the research conducted through the University of Oregon's Labor Education and Research Center.

Women and people of color were significantly more likely to complete their programs in a union apprenticeship compared

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Creating Pathways for Success

Annual UNCF drive propels Black students

By BEVERLY CORBELL
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A dedicated group from the Black community is once again raising scholarships this summer to help local high school students of color get the financial assistance they need to go on to higher education, while also providing them valued mentorships that can create pathways for college and obtaining new life skills.

The annual "Each One Teach One Jazz in the Garden" fundraising luncheon on Sunday, July 17 at the Portland Hilton, downtown, will join community members with area business, civil, and educa-



Michelle M. Harper

tion leaders to support the United Negro College Fund and create a college ready culture that gives students the support they need for success. For tickets, and

more information about making a donation and sponsorship opportunities, visit UNCF.org/EOTO or email Linda-Thompson-Black@uncf.org.

Sponsored by the UNCF Leadership Council, a Portland area group that gives their time and resources to help propel Black youth, the event raises money for scholarships for students attending any college or university of their choice while also supporting the UNCF's Pacific Northwest Portfolio Project which guides high school students through scholarship application processes and helps them to have the skills they need for success in college.

Michelle M. Harper, board chair of the Leadership Council, will be honored as Individual of the Year at the upcoming event. Harper told the Portland Observer she appreciates the recognition but didn't expect it.

"I'm a person behind the scenes and very humble about those types of things,"

she said. "I come from a family with a legacy of giving back and it was the foundation of how we were raised."

The luncheon will also honor six newly appointed African American college presidents in the Portland metro area, Harper said.

This year marks the fifth UNCF scholarship event, which was started by Harper and former Leadership Council board member Clarence Nesbitt, a Black corporate attorney who worked for Nike at the time.

"He talked about the need to bring the community together, letting students know they have a collective that cares about them and is concerned that they be on a pathway to success," Harper said.

The council's Portfolio Project, for example, is a college preparatory program

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

Summer for All at Portland Parks



Portland Parks & Recreation presents 'Summer Free for All,' a special summer calendar of free events and free lunches to help kids stay active this summer.

Free events and meals help kids stay active

The long-anticipated Summer Free For All is back, bringing a revitalized, revamped and an amazing series of free events geared to kids and families this summer to Portland area parks thanks to Portland Parks & Recreation.

This year kicks off with Free Lunch + Play events on Tuesday, June 21 at 15 parks contained within the boundaries for Portland Public Schools, and on Monday, June 27, for other school district sites.

Dozens of amazing outdoor citywide events will follow all

summer long.

Everyone is also invited to a Summer Free For All Kickoff Celebration at lunchtime on Tuesday, June 28, at K'unamokwst Park, located at Northeast 52nd and Alberta. Free Lunch + Play meals, arts, and sports activities are planned from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Summer Free For All is a community-building, annual program consisting of free cultural events and free meals and activities for kids. This year's program has 42 events scheduled, including festivals, movies in the park, concerts in the park, and other special events across the city.

For a complete schedule of the summer activities planned, visit online at portland.gov/parks/sffa.

The Week in Review



Duo Fault in Man's Death

A Multnomah County jury ruled Friday that a man found dead inside a rhino habitat under construction at the Oregon Zoo in 2019 was jointly negligent in his own death. Carl Stanley Ross Sr.'s alcoholism had more to do with his death than negligence at the construction site or lack of investigation by Zoo officials when Ross went missing, the jury ruled in a case brought by the victim's family.

Shooting Stirs Panic at Club

A drive by shooting in Old Town that sent one juvenile to the hospital created panic just before 2 a.m. Sunday at the CC Slaughters Nightclub where people were celebrating LGBTQ+ Pride month. People ducked for cover fearing the club was the target, but thankfully that did not appear to be the case, authorities said.

Monkey pox in Oregon

Oregon health officials Thursday reported the first probable case of monkey pox in the state. The patient was an adult male who had travelled to a community with confirmed cases. Monkey pox is endemic in parts of Africa, where people have been infected through bites from rodents or small animals. It does not usually spread easily among people.

COVID Vaccine Safe for Kids

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and Centers for Disease Control approved the use of COVID-19 vaccines for children as young as six months old over the weekend. The benefits of completing either vaccine series substantially outweigh any known or likely risks, officials said.



Man Dies in Police Pursuit

Authorities say a person is dead following a police pursuit and shooting in Milwaukie that followed an attempted traffic stop

early Saturday. The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office said it happened shortly before 1 a.m. and that sheriff's deputies and Oregon State Police troopers were involved.

Wife Guilty in Chef's Murder

Nancy Crampton Brophy, the wife of culinary arts instructor Daniel Brophy, was sentenced last week to life in prison after being found guilty of his 2018 murder in a jury trial. The woman, a romance novelist, once wrote a blog titled, "How to Murder Your Husband."



Mass Shooting Threat Charge

A federal grand jury in Portland returned an indictment Friday charging a Tigard man with threatening a mass shooting at an elementary school in Sherwood. Brandon Richard Riess, 26, admitted to sending the threatening messages and owning a pistol that was taken away several years earlier by his parents, authorities said.



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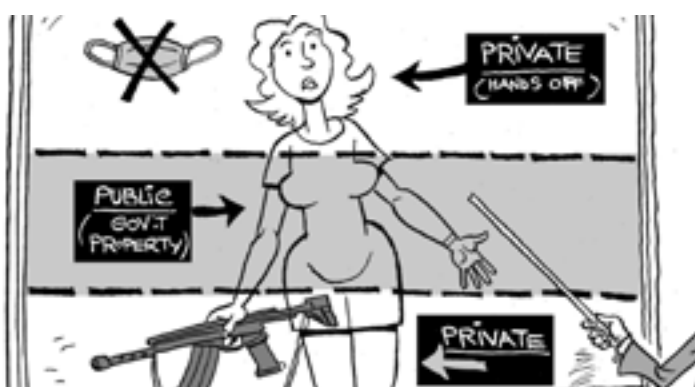
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Volunteers from Pacific Power pitch in to pick up litter at an earlier city-wide cleanup event sponsored by SOLVE. The group is inviting people to join them for another cleanup for Portland this weekend, June 24 and 25.

Pick It Up, Portland!

SOLVE is gearing up for its 6th annual Pick It Up, Portland!, happening on Friday and Saturday, June 24 & 25.

Volunteers are encouraged to join the cleanup effort by registering at solveoregon.org. Last year, more than 1,500 Portlanders came together to show pride for their city through the simple act of cleaning up and we expect a large turnout this year.

Families, coworkers, and community groups are encouraged to join the effort. The volunteers will receive free litter cleanup

supplies and safety instructions at the project site they choose.

After the event, volunteers will simply leave their collected items with the event leader for disposal. Each piece of litter collected not only beautifies the neighborhood but also helps to keep Portland's water supply clean and free of toxic litter.

For 52 years, the nonprofit SOLVE has provided Oregonians with the resources and tools needed to give back to their community through volunteerism. Recently, SOLVE has

grown its focus on the Portland metro area after seeing a rise in litter and, tangentially, a rise in Portlanders who want to be a part of the solution.

"Pacific Power is proud to partner with SOLVE in its latest city-wide cleanup efforts," said Alisa Dunlap, Regional Business Manager. "Now, more than ever, we are committed to protecting our waterways and keeping Portland clean and beautiful. We celebrate hands-on environmentalism whose impact is immediate and long-lasting."

Portland Schools Ban Guns

Measure targets concealed weapons

The Portland School Board has expanded a weapons ban to restrict anyone with a concealed firearms license from carrying a gun on PPS property.

The action taken in a vote last week follows a recent bill passed in the Oregon Legislature that gives schools the ability to prohibit concealed carry weapons on school property.

Comments from members of the Portland Public Schools community and the superintendent showed strong support for the resolution.

In a June 10 memo to the board, Supt. Guadalupe Guer-

rero mentioned the elementary school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, as an event that has elevated safety concerns.

"We should remain focused on making our schools more safe by taking a more holistic approach that focuses on addressing antecedents, behavioral and mental health supports for students, continuing to make specific physical safety and security upgrades to schools, and being effectively prepared for potential crises," according to the memo.

The staff memo outlined the district's current safety efforts, and shared research to support a staff point that "the presence of guns in schools do not make teachers, students, and staff safer."



Superintendent Guadalupe Guerrero

Training Workers for Aviation

Portland Community College is leading the way

According to a report by Boeing, in the next two decades the aviation industry will face a dire shortage of skilled workers to maintain the North American fleet as demand for aviation technicians will be estimated to be at roughly 192,000 and pilots at approximately 208,000. Nationwide, that's a huge hole to fill.

In Oregon, Portland Community College is leading the way on several aviation training fronts. In 2020, the college created the dual-credit Oregon Aerospace Careers for Everyone (O-ACE) Program for high school students interested in careers as aviation maintenance technicians, avionics technicians or professional pilots.

This academic year, PCC's Aviation Maintenance Technol-



Portland Community College instructor Tom Laxson (center) shows student Kayler Randall (right) one of the jet engines in the college's Aviation Maintenance Technology Program. Assisting is Archie Vega of Horizon Air Industries.

ogy Program (AMT) entered into a partnership with Horizon Air Industries called the Horizon Technician Development Program. The new effort provides

students with industry-relevant training and employment opportunities. And, in turn, provides Horizon with a source of highly qualified applicants for their air-

craft mechanic positions.

"The partnership between PCC and Horizon Air is extremely significant," said Tom Laxson, AMT faculty chair.

"Horizon's influence and expertise elevates our entire program. The fact of the matter is that the technology and equipment of commercial aviation is financially exclusive. The importance of this relationship cannot be overstated."

The Horizon program focuses on student recruitment and scholarship opportunities (up to \$12,200 per student) to offset the costs of earning the two-year AMT degree. In addition, the partnership allows the college's faculty to access Horizon's technical training. Horizon also routinely donates used equipment and tooling to the PCC program.

Industry officials say the instruction offered by schools like PCC are the primary means by which the aviation industry gains new workers.

"It's exceptionally vital that we continue to matriculate new technicians, and through the partnership with Horizon, we can continue to lead nationally, as has been the case for some time," Laxson said.

For more information about PCC's aviation training programs, call 971-722-7256, or visit pcc.edu/programs/aviation-maintenance/.

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Bringing Opera to Community Spaces



PHOTO BY MIKE DREWRY, COURTESY HOYT ARBORETUM

Opera a la Cart, a mobile performance venue brings live opera directly into community spaces where people gather, like Hoyt Arboretum next door to the Oregon Zoo.

Inspired by Portland's food cart culture, Opera a la Cart is a mobile performance venue that brings live opera performance directly into the community spaces where people gather.

Productions are beginning for summer with performances planned through September at farmers markets, city parks, neigh-

borhood festivals, street fairs, wineries and other public events.

On Sunday, June 26, the Opera a la Cart season begins with performances during Sunday Parkways in the Northeast Cully Neighborhood.

Designed and built by architecture students at Portland State University, the Opera a la

Cart features a fold-out stage and a "menu" of operatic specials of the day to be sung by local artists.

You can visit portlandopera.org for the most up-to-date schedule. Most Opera a la Cart events are free and open to the public, although there are a few ticketed events as well.



Multnomah County's Summer Reading program includes an array of fun, free online events for children, teens and families.

Library Games Make Summer Reading Fun

Multnomah County Library's free 2022 Summer Reading Program has begun! Kids can play online using Beanstack or with a paper gameboard available at any neighborhood library.

The Summer Reading program includes an array of fun, free online events for children of all ages, teens and families. Summer Reading gameboards are available in English and Spanish, and participants can earn books, coupons and other prizes.

Youth can check out com-

ics, digital books, games, listen to music, or watch shows and documentaries. There are many ways to participate other than checking out books. The library encourages students to participate in developing games together, journaling and writing short stories, listening to audiobooks and more.

The Centennial, David Douglas, Gresham-Barlow, Parkrose, Portland and Reynolds School Districts are co-sponsors of the Summer Reading Program.

Catherine Gallardo

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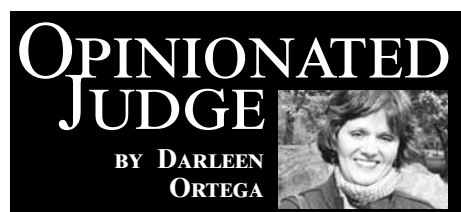
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Portland Center Stage presents "Rent," the iconic musical about love in various configurations set among artists ravaged by addiction, AIDS and homelessness. Now playing through July 10 on the U.S. Bank Main Stage at the Armory.

Powerful Musical 'Rent' Takes Stage



Portland ensemble shows love for iconic play

For some audience members, a revival of "Rent" sells itself—the iconic musical is a cultural phenomenon, and its many ardent fans will jump at the opportunity to see it where it belongs, live on stage. No cast recording can offer the experience of seeing a group of performers sing and dance their hearts out in this musical about idealism, and for all the flaws in the material, there aren't many shows that reward open-hearted performance like this one does.

Fans of the show will no doubt love Portland Center Stage's production, which benefits from direction and choreography by Chip Miller and the work of

a solid cast whose members clearly relish the opportunity to bring it their all. They hew to the energy of creator Jonathan Larson's original material, with nary a wink or ironic glance. But for those who aren't already bought in or who brace a little at the clumsiness of the show's plotting and resolutions, a little background may enhance enjoyment of the experience.

It's the work of a budding playwright, Jonathan Larson, who had been striving toward a break as a musical theater artist when he created "Rent" and who died tragically just as the show was about to open. Taking the opera *La Bohème* as its inspiration, the musical is set in the Lower East Side of Manhattan in the late 1990s when AIDS and homelessness was ravaging the city, and follows the travails of a group of artists ravaged by poverty, addiction, and illness and fighting to hold on to love in various configurations. (The documentary "No Day But Today: The Story of 'Rent,'" available on YouTube, offers excellent background on how the musical came to be and its cultural significance.)

I'll confess that I've never been quite won over by this show—my own unpopular (though by no means unique) opinion is

that Larson had some maturing to do as a writer. I've struggled a bit with the thinness of the two male characters at the center of the action—Mark (Jeremiah Alsop), who is Larson's stand-in and functions as a sort of guide through the story, doesn't contribute much, and I don't think the show justifies the attention it gives to Mark's friend Roger, a struggling musician who has a mercurial relationship with the much more compelling Mimi, a dancer whose attraction to Roger never makes sense to me. This production didn't solve that dilemma, in my mind; Nyla Sostre is impressive and quite compelling as Mimi, but Johnny Newcomb as Roger isn't a match for her in charisma.

The real standouts in the cast are Will Wilhelm as Angel and Delphon "DJ" Curtis, Jr. (who recently wowed Portland audiences in "Hedwig and the Angry Inch") as Tom Collins. Wilhelm brings an acrobatic joy to the aptly-named Angel—she is the character most adept at eliciting joy and in bringing out the best in the members of this community of artists, and Curtis's Tom Collins exudes the single-mindedness of someone who knows he has encountered a celestial being no matter whether anyone else realizes it with him. Kailey Rhodes,

too, dazzles as Maureen—she never stops performing, almost seems drunk on it, which may not make her a reliable romantic partner but keeps your attention fixed on her.

The power of "Rent," though, is in the ensemble, and this ensemble exudes its love for the material and for each other. Director Miller was drawn to resonances in our current cultural circumstances; those certainly exist, though I don't find "Rent" to be the satisfying salve that others do. That said, it has its moments, and they are mostly when the ensemble summons all their collective joy and idealism to sing and move in harmony. In a story about young people scrambling to stay alive and sheltered and to hold on to love, this cast makes the most of what Larson gives them: an opportunity to embody hope and love in the midst of messiness. And 25 years after its debut, that holds up well.

Darleen Ortega is a judge on the Oregon Court of Appeals and the first woman of color to serve in that capacity. Her movie and theater review column Opinionated Judge appears regularly in The Portland Observer. Find her review blog at opinionatedjudge.blogspot.com.

A vibrant purple poster for the East Portland Summer Arts Festival. The background features a collage of black and white photos: a man with dreadlocks playing a drum, a woman singing into a microphone, and a woman painting. The text is arranged in various colored boxes and banners. At the top left is a stylized leaf logo. At the top right is the 'Summer FREE FOR ALL' logo. The main title 'EAST PORTLAND SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL' is prominently displayed in the center. Below this, the dates 'SATURDAY, JULY 9th' and 'SUNDAY, JULY 10th' are listed, followed by the featured acts: 'REGGAE FUSION AND LIVE PAINTING PERFORMANCE WITH AARON NIGEL SMITH & I WORLD CHORUS + SORA SHODO' and 'esperanza spalding in concert'. A banner at the bottom describes the day activities. Social media handles for Portland Parks and Recreation are listed at the very bottom.

**EAST PORTLAND
SUMMER ARTS
FESTIVAL**

SATURDAY, JULY 9th

REGGAE FUSION AND LIVE
PAINTING PERFORMANCE WITH
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CHORUS + SORA SHODO

SUNDAY, JULY 10th

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Kotek Faults Opponents on Gun Safety



Tina Kotek, the former Oregon Speaker of the House and State Representative from north Portland is the Democratic Party nominee for governor in the November General Election.

Challenge for forum went unanswered

A call for a gun violence forum between the candidates running for Oregon governor has gone unanswered by Tina Kotek's opponents in the November General Election, Kotek, the Democratic Party nominee and long time representative from north Portland reported Tuesday.

Last week, the Tina for Oregon campaign said they challenged Republican candidate Christine Drazan and conservative candidate Betsy Johnson to

agree to an issue-specific forum on gun violence prevention policy. To date, neither Johnson nor Drazan has responded to the proposal, Kotek said.

In the aftermath of 19 children dying at an elementary school in Texas and 10 people dying at a grocery store in New York, the Kotek campaign alleges that the former Republican Leader Drazan has repeatedly dodged press inquiries around gun violence prevention.

Meanwhile, former State Sen. Betsy Johnson has unsuccessfully attempted to walk back her substantial record of voting

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Emmanuel Aquino (second from right) of Beaumont Middle School in northeast Portland is named Educator of the Year for grades 6-8 in the 2022 OnPoint Community Credit Union Prize for Excellence in Education awards. Also pictured are Jennifer Krebs, OnPoint's K-5 Educator of the Year honoree; Rob Stuart, the credit union's president and CEO; and Jesse Bolt, OnPoint's 9-12 Educator of the Year.

Educators Making a Difference

OnPoint Community Credit Union has announced the three winners of its 2022 OnPoint Prize for Excellence in Education Educator of the Year awards: Jennifer Krebs, a kindergarten teacher at Marcola Elementary School; Emmanuel Aquino, an 8th grade English - Spanish immersion teacher at Beaumont Middle School; And Jesse Bolt, a 9-12th grade English, reading intervention and braille teacher at the Washington State School for the Blind.

The three Educators of the Year will have their mortgage or rent paid for one full year and receive \$2,500 for each of their schools. In addition, the three runners-up will receive \$5,000 for themselves and \$1,500 for each of their schools.

"Education has the power to

change the trajectory of a student's life, equipping them with knowledge and skills to create a better future for themselves and generations to come," said Rob Stuart, President and Chief Executive Officer, OnPoint Community Credit Union. "This year's Educators of the Year embody this idea. Their dedication has made an enduring difference in the lives of their students and school communities. We are honored to recognize their many accomplishments and look forward to their continued impact."

Since the OnPoint Prize for Excellence in Education began in 2010, OnPoint has awarded more than \$650,000 in prizes to 313 local educators and schools. This year's contest awarded \$88,510 to deserving public and private K-12 teachers and schools.

Creating Pathways for Success

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

where students learn what's required for college admission. For the beginning of the upcoming school year, outreach events are scheduled Sept. 24 at both Warner Pacific College in Portland and Clark College in Vancouver.

The students will be provided with computers at these events, and paired with designated mentors to help them prepare their high school graduation portfolios and help them set the stage to follow-up support and guidance for their entire college careers, Harper said.

Community partners providing major financial help to these local efforts, include US Bank, Meyer Memorial Trust, Nike,

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Adidas, Anderson Construction, and Alaska Airlines.

"Alaska supports us by getting the students to their first college visits as well as getting them home through different college breaks, and their partnership is huge," Harper said.

Many other partners expose the students to different careers and support them in a variety of ways.

The Leadership Council operates under the auspices of the UNCF Pacific Northwest, which has a small staff based in Seattle that covers Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Alaska, and hosts a huge fundraising gala each year. The Each One Teach One event is the main fundraiser for UNCF efforts in the Portland

Metro area, and the council also sponsors a Walk for Education in September. The Leadership Council supports more than 400 programs, including support for HBCUs.

This will be the first in-person event for the UNCF Leadership Council since the easing of coronavirus pandemic restrictions on public gatherings.

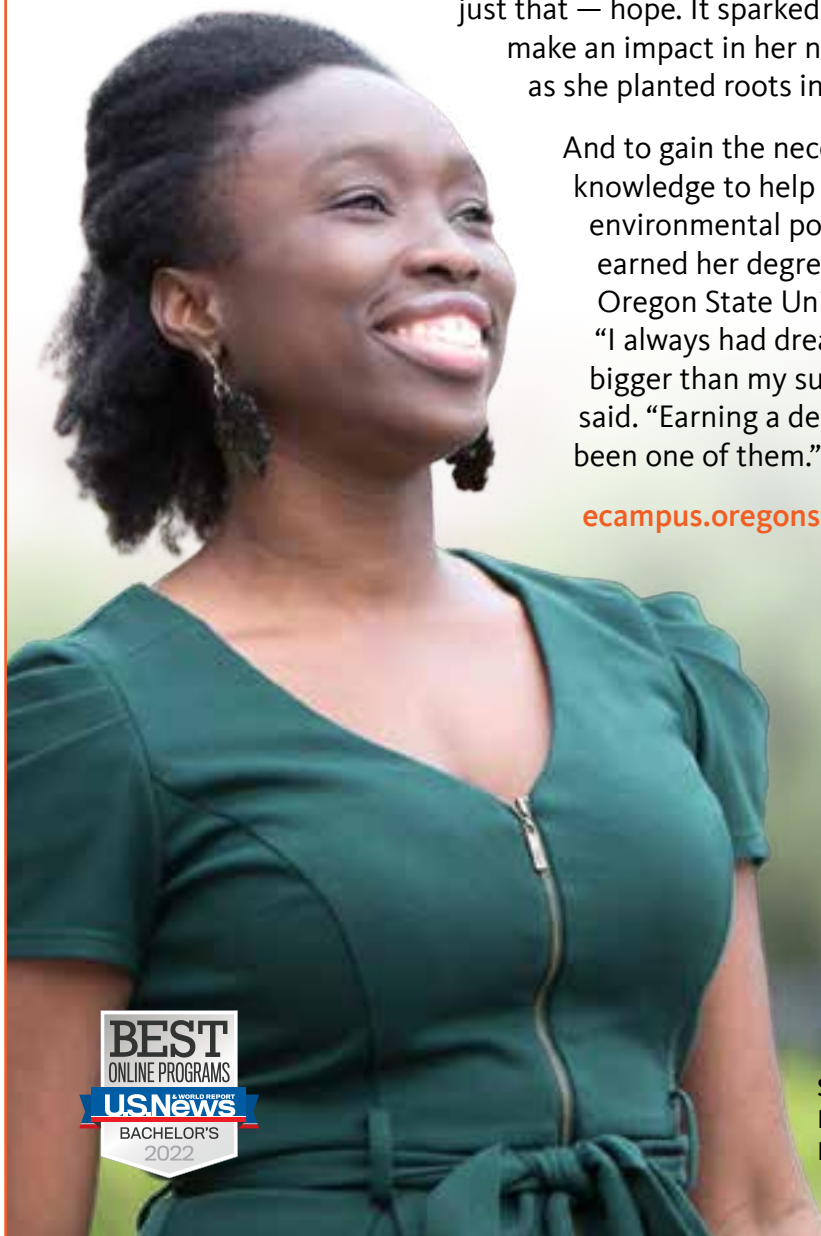
"It's a wonderful way to come together, a way to see getting involved, whether as a mentor or a speaker, helping to raise money for scholarships, resources of respective companies, educating them and exposing them to the different options for them," Harper said. "We see ourselves as being able to be that bridge for them to cross."

GO ONLINE. THEN GO ANYWHERE.

Growing up in the West Indies in a small village called Hopetown, Secota Douglas lived a life filled with just that — hope. It sparked an ambition to make an impact in her native home even as she planted roots in the U.S.

And to gain the necessary knowledge to help shape environmental policy, Secota earned her degree online from Oregon State University Ecampus. "I always had dreams that were bigger than my surroundings," she said. "Earning a degree has always been one of them."

ecampus.oregonstate.edu/secota



Secota Douglas, '17
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Pandemic Proof Careers



Ellissa Stevenson plans to enter the civil engineering field, first by earning an associate degree in Civil and Construction Engineering Technology from Portland Community College.



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PCC offers pathway for engineering students

Ellissa Stevenson had reached a point where she was ready to start her college career. She spent days going over degree offerings at Portland Community College to see what fit her goals and interests. As it turns out, she didn't have to look far.

"When I read the 'Civil and Construction Engineering Technician' description, I was instantly intrigued," Stevenson said. "I did more research on it and after a few days decided it was the path that I wanted to take."

Today, Stevenson is in the progress of earning an associate degree in Civil and Construction Engineering Technology. Once she graduates, she plans to directly enter the civil engineering field as a technician, but eventually she wants to use the credits she has built up to transfer to a four-year university and earn a bache-

lor's degree in civil engineering.

"So far, I have learned so much about the civil engineering world," said the Tigard High School graduate. "We have learned a lot about concrete, infrastructure, water systems and how these designs are essential to a working world. I think that has been huge in learning the foundation of everything so far."

The field of civil engineering has been pandemic proof and able to grow its business despite other industries being hampered by the impacts of the virus. As a result, jobs in this field continue to grow and the need for trained workers is increasing.

In response, PCC created the Civil and Construction Engineering Technology Program, which is based at the Sylvania Campus in Southwest Portland. It offers a two-year associate degree – 10th highest paying career with a two-year degree— that provides technician training for employment within the public and private infrastructure construction and maintenance fields. The curriculum incorporates hands-on training with the latest

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Free Preschool!
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SPORTS



Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry holds up the Bill Russell Trophy for most valuable player after the Warriors defeated the Boston Celtics Thursday, June 16 in Game 6 to win basketball's NBA Finals championship.

NBA Champs Already Looking Ahead

'We ain't done' — Warriors say

The goal was enormous: Return to the NBA's mountaintop. And now with that monumental task complete, the NBA champion Golden State Warriors already have a new target: staying up there for a while.

After the title-clinching win in Boston Thursday, the last celebratory bottles of Moët & Chandon hadn't been emptied, and the topic — can the Warriors win it again next season? — was already coming up. They have been installed by FanDuel Sportsbook as the favorites for the 2023 NBA title, and with Finals MVP Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson and Draymond Green all back it would be foolish to think that their chance at a fifth championship in nine years isn't very real.

"It still has not been proven, that when we're whole, that anybody can stop it," Green said.

That's true, and that's why it makes sense for the Warriors to carry the burden of being favorites into next season. They know what it takes; they have as many championships in the last eight seasons — four — as the rest of the league combined. The last run that was better than this was put together by Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls, winning six in an eight-year span of the 1990's.

Warriors coach Steve Kerr — now a nine-time champion — played for the Bulls for some of that run, and has led Golden State to all four of these titles.

"They are all unique. They are all special," Kerr said. "I think this one may have been the most unlikely just from the standpoint of where we've been the last couple years. A lot of unknowns."

Indeed, there were questions.

The Warriors answered them all. No, the core wasn't too old. Yes, Thompson would come back from more than 900 days on the

sidelines with injuries. And absolutely, Curry can still be unstoppable in the biggest moments.

They took that core and fortified it with a new group of talent. Among those on that list: 27-year-old Andrew Wiggins, the 2014 No. 1 pick who has come into his own and was nothing less than a star in the NBA Finals; Jordan Poole, who turns 23 this weekend and will celebrate as a champion who has blossomed after facing off against Curry in practice all the time; and Jonathan Kuminga, the 19-year-old who got into 86 games and is raved about by teammates.

"And we ain't done," Thompson said early Friday while appearing on Green's podcast, The Draymond Green Show. "That's the beautiful thing about it. We got these young bucks behind us and we got the same squad coming back? That's scary for the NBA."

Green concurred. "It is very scary," he said.

Former Blazer Dies at 25



Caleb Swanigan

Former Portland Trail Blazer, Caleb Swanigan, has died at age 25. The Allen County coroner's office in Fort Wayne, Indiana confirmed the death from natural causes on Tuesday.

The 6-foot-9 center was from Fort Wayne played college basketball for Purdue University, where he averaged

more than 14 points and 10 rebounds. He was selected as The Associated Press player of the year in the Big Ten Conference in 2017 when he averaged more than 18 points.

Swanigan was a first-round draft pick in 2017 by the Portland Trail Blazers. He also played for the Sacramento Kings.



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CLASSIFIEDS/BIDS

REQUEST FOR BIDS

2022-52

Invitation to Bid for Modular Switch for C-TRAN Bus Rapid Transit Lines

Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Area (dba C-TRAN) has issued an Invitation to Bid (ITB) for Modular Switch for C-TRAN Bus Rapid Transit Lines.

This ITB may be found at <https://www.c-tran.com/about-c-tran/business/procurement/bid-and-proposal-opportunities>.

Bids will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on Friday, July 8, 2022.

REQUEST FOR BIDS

2022-53 Invitation to Bid for Hardware-Virtual Host/ Archiver for C-TRAN Bus Rapid Transit Lines

Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Area (dba C-TRAN) has issued an Invitation to Bid (ITB) for Hardware-Virtual Host/Archiver for C-TRAN Bus Rapid Transit Lines.

This ITB may be found at <https://www.c-tran.com/about-c-tran/business/procurement/bid-and-proposal-opportunities>. Bids will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on Monday, July 11, 2022.

Work for Children's Institute!

We're hiring a Continuous Improvement Specialist who is committed to advancing racial and economic justice. This position supports CI's program implementation efforts through facilitating improvement, co-developing, and designing shared learning opportunities with our school district partners to better align preschool with the early elementary grades. Persons of color and members of other underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

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OPINION

'The Kitchen Don't Lie'

Embracing ourselves and our people

By OSCAR H. BLAYTON

"The kitchen don't lie" was a saying I heard often during my childhood.

In the 1950s in my part of Virginia, Saturday evenings saw a lot of African American sisters finish washing the dinner dishes and place a hot comb on top of the stove and begin to "do hair," getting ready for Sunday service.

This weekly ritual gave rise to the term "the kitchen" when referring to those hairs at the nape of the neck that were too short to straighten with a hot comb. This label also was used in the practice of gauging the natural texture of a Black woman's hair by looking at her "kitchen."

The tendency of African Americans to straighten their hair was not only a trace contaminant from the overall racist culture of America, but also a symptom of intra-racism within the Black community. Whether it was an act of assimilation or submission, straightening Black folks' hair in 1950s America was undeniably an attempt to make it look more like white folks' hair.

Centuries of indoctrination had ingrained into the minds of white and Black Americans that any aspect of Africanness was negative. Skin color, hair texture and phenotypes of noses and lips of the sons and daughters of Africa were coded into the American psyche as evidence of inferiority. But this dogma is based upon lies formulated with a mixture of European xenophobia, ignorance and a need to place a veneer of civilization over the barbaric practice of chattel slavery. It was not until the 1960s that Black folks began to fully embrace who we are as an African



Oscar blayton

people. This awareness began to manifest itself in the Black-sounding names of the newborn, the arrival of the dashiki as a fashion statement and the Afro hairstyle in all its kinky glory.

It was with difficulty, however, that Americans of all races were able to see through the veil of prejudice created over the span of generations. Some Black folks never were able to completely free themselves from the socialized burden of self-denigration. My own mother, who was extremely proud of the assertiveness of the Black Panthers, viewed their appearance as a shortcoming and wished "they would do something about their hair."

Through hundreds of years of social engineering, white supremacy has convinced western civilization that there is merit to whiteness. As people today continue to struggle with white supremacy, there needs to be a realization that the mindset that underpins it is the belief that physical appearance is indicative of a person's ability and value as a human. One clear example of this type of social engineering is the way ancient Egyptians are presented, both by many Europeans and by some Egyptians themselves.

Two decades ago, I visited the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities in Cairo with

a study group led by the late Dr. Asa G. Hilliard III, a professor of educational psychology. Prior to our museum tour, Professor Hilliard, who was also a respected authority on Eurocentric perspectives on the study of ancient Egypt, suggested that we view the mummy of Queen Tiye while there.

Queen Tiye lived more than 3,000 years ago and was the mother of the famous pharaoh Akhenaten and the grandmother of the even more famous pharaoh Tutankhamun. But the point that Dr. Hilliard wanted to make was that Queen Tiye was undeniably African. "Look at her kitchen," he instructed us. "The kitchen doesn't lie."

As one writer has put it, "Hair that takes root and grows in our kitchens is the nappiest, curliest, kinkiest and the most resistant to change.

"... The kitchen was permanent, irredeemable, invincible kink. Unassimilably African. No matter what you did, no matter how hard you tried, nothing could de-kink a person's kitchen."

Following Professor Hilliard's advice, we all made our way to Queen Tiye's mummy as we roamed the museum. And to the surprise of none, at the nape of her neck were tight, "invincible" kinks of hair.

Unfortunately, this truth about the Africanness of Queen Tiye does not fit the narrative of world history that white supremacy wants to advance. The preferred narrative of white supremacists was evidenced by the way many artifacts were displayed in the museum. Representations of individuals with the lightest skin were placed in the high-traffic areas, even if they were merely servants or scribes. On the other hand, representations of Black pharaohs, regardless of how important and powerful they were, were located far from the most popular and most visited areas of the museum.

Members of our group questioned the guides about the arrangement that centered servants with light skin while Black pha-

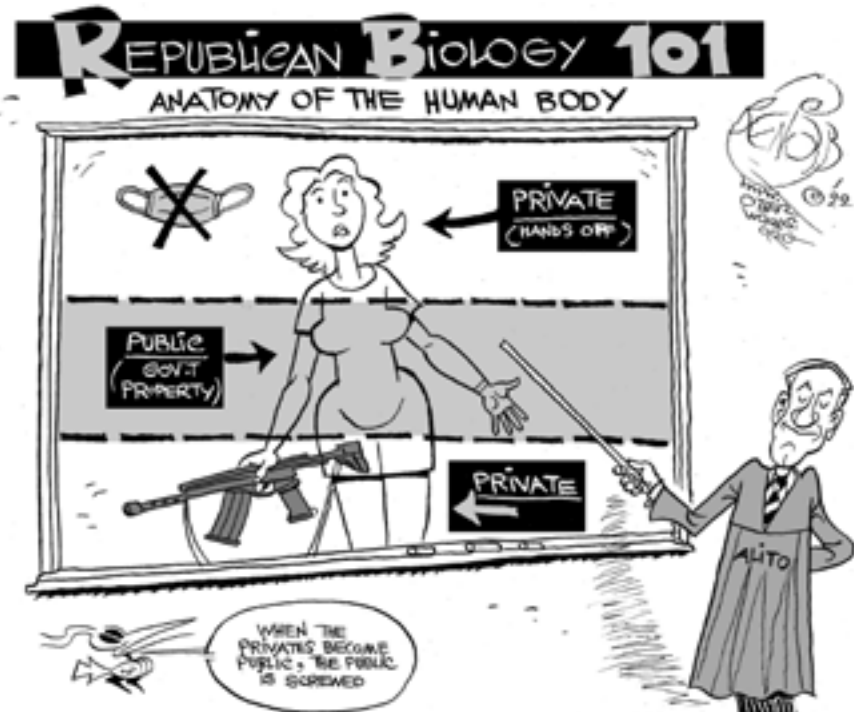
raohs were almost hidden away. Their answer was telling. The guides informed us that most visitors to the museum were Europeans and they were interested in seeing people who looked like them. It was feared that prominently displaying dark people of power in Ancient Egypt would discourage Europeans from visiting. And fewer European visitors meant less revenue for the museum, they said.

In April 2021, Egypt moved 22 mummies, including that of Queen Tiye, from the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities to the new National Museum of Egyptian Civilization. These mummies were paraded in specially built vehicles through the streets of Cairo in a grand procession with great fanfare enroute to their new home. One of the most odd and interesting aspects of this parade was the attention given to and written about Queen Tiye's hair. But instead of describing the Africanness of her hair that I had witnessed, more than one writer described it quite differently. Egypt Today magazine even described it as "her luscious curly locks."

White supremacy is a toxic virus that has been spread globally and maintained by a network of untruths about the rest of humanity. There are as many instances of the propagation of these untruths as there are moments in history. The appropriation of the achievements of other cultures and the erasure of their attainments has led to the intentional obscuring of historical facts in order to rewrite history to support the notion of white supremacy.

White supremacists do not want the world to know that Black people ruled in royal palaces and made great contributions to the advancements of civilization. But we must always push back hard against these attempts to denigrate people of the African Diaspora because "The Kitchen Don't Lie."

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



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Trades Lift Minority Groups



Becoming a union electrician has opened doors for Peter Chimuku and his family.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

to a nonunion apprenticeship, and they were more than twice as likely to enter a high-wage trade if they go through a union apprenticeship program, the study finds.

More specifically, 46% of women in union programs gain employment in the trades with an average hourly wage of \$40 or higher, compared to nonunion programs in which employed just 19% of female workers that reached that wage.

Sonda Brown, a member of the Black community, became a first-term apprentice in IBEW Local 48's Inside Commercial and Industrial Program, unexpectedly, after working a desk job in an office.

"Before joining the apprenticeship program, I worked in an office setting as a project manager," Brown said. "After a few years, I grew tired of the monotonous job duties and wanted something different."

After considering her mechanical skills and researching alternative career options, Brown decided to pursue a career path as an electrician, but first needed to learn the trade at an affordable price. That's

when she found NECA-IBEW, its electrical training center in northeast Portland, and union-led apprenticeship program.

"I was most intrigued that our union and training center share similar values as I do," Brown said. "It has a reputation for integrity and fostering unity and diversity in the electrical industry while emphasizing productivity to meet our customers' needs."

Brown is involved in the union's Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC), a group known for fostering equity and diversity in the program and community.

"As a woman of color, the EWMC has been instrumental in providing support throughout my apprenticeship by allowing me to network with other minorities and receive mentorship from those who have traveled similar paths as I currently am," Brown said. "We also participate in outreach events to advance the mission of inclusion and equal opportunity for those in underrepresented areas in our communities."

It's clear that having initiatives like EWMC, and a history of higher success rates, attracts minority groups to the union apprenticeships, even making

them preferential.

Peter Chimuku will graduate this summer from a five-year electrical apprentice program. He is grateful for the support and opportunities offered.

"I'm an African American male who has a criminal history, and walking in that building I didn't feel like I stuck out like a sore thumb," Chimuku said. "I was welcomed, and everybody encouraged me and helped me throughout the whole program. They constantly helped me with schooling, filling out forms, everything since the beginning, and I'm very appreciative of it."

Becoming a union electrician has opened doors for Chimuku and his family.

"It has allowed me to be able to provide for my family and be able to give them health care," Chimuku said. "There's so much I can thank the union for, for giving me this opportunity."

According to Larissa Petrucci, one of the study's lead researchers, "unions play an important role in reducing gender and race discrimination," and without them, women and BIPOC workers will continue to face persistent barriers in the industry.

Additional investment in union apprenticeship programs support the construction industry's stated goal of making positive strides towards greater equity and inclusion.

Petrucci says there has never been a better time to prepare for a career in trades that are financially rewarding and personally satisfying.

At the nationally acclaimed NECA/IBEW Local 48 Electrical Apprenticeship Training Program, apprentices learn from the most respected and experienced instructors and in the nation's most technologically advanced facility.

Learn more about the apprenticeship program at nietc.org.

(Editor's note: Thanks to NECA/IBEW Local 48 for contributing to our special education and careers issue.)

Pandemic Proof



Portland Community College student Ellissa Stevenson receives the training necessary to begin a career in civil engineering.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

in technology. CCET emphasizes materials testing, inspection, plan reading, surveying, project management, civil computer-aided drafting (CAD) and Building Information Modeling (BIM).

Faculty are training qualified workers for jobs in local municipalities like the City of Portland, City of McMinnville, Washington County, as well as private companies like Westlake Consultants and Black & Veatch.

"This is a new program that was created using industry input," said Tara Nelson, faculty chair of the program. "It offers a blend of remote learning, online and hybrid courses. Program faculty and staff are supportive and responsive and will create opportunities to learn in a mixture of both online and face-to-face. This is a program for students who want to make a difference in their community."

For Stevenson, who works full-time as an e-commerce manager at a local grocery chain, it's a pathway to a new career. Since she was 17, she's always been working to help her mother pay bills and just get by.

"That really became a hurdle for me because once I graduated high school I needed to keep working," said Stevenson, a mother herself of two small children. "I put my education in the background and focused on work until I felt comfortable enough, and well off enough, to jump back into education and figure out what degree I wanted to get. This made me stronger."

Stevenson has been well supported by her instructors with her training and finding

internships for the summer. She has been able to pursue options with many different companies and experience various career paths within the civil engineering field. This has helped her to see a lot of different options that can come out of her CCET degree. As a result, Stevenson recently accepted a summer internship with Stacy & Witbeck.

"The value of going to PCC is that the staff are really caring and want you to succeed," she added. "I think anyone who wants to succeed here can, and it's a great welcoming, inclusive environment. The CCET program is so great and has been preparing me for my future career."

For more information about the Civil and Construction Engineering Technology Program, visit pcc.edu/ccet/, or PCC's admissions website at www.pcc.edu/enroll/.

About Portland Community College: Portland Community College is the largest post-secondary institution in Oregon and provides training, degree and certificate completion, and lifelong learning to more than 50,000 full- and part-time students in Multnomah, Washington, Yamhill, Clackamas, and Columbia counties. PCC has four comprehensive campuses, 10 education centers or areas served, and approximately 200 community locations in the Portland metropolitan area. The PCC district encompasses a 1,500-square-mile area in northwest Oregon and offers two-year degrees, one-year certificate programs, short-term training, alternative education, pre-college courses and life-long learning.



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Kotek Faults Opponents

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

against, and obstructing the passage of, common-sense policies to prevent gun violence, in addition to numerous occasions in which Johnson has made callous comments about gun violence, the Kotek campaign said.

Katie Wertheimer, Communications Director for Tina for Oregon, blasted the non response by Johnson and Drazen to participate in a forum on this critical topic.

“Senator Johnson and Representative Drazen have both voted against common-sense measures to make our communities

safer and get guns out of dangerous hands, earning both of them a perfect rating from the National Rifle Association.

“We have two candidates for governor who have proven to voters that they would rather side with the gun lobby than take real action to save lives. Their votes against common-sense policies are deeply out of touch with Oregon voters, and their silence is deafening now as they refuse to even talk about preventing gun violence in our communities. In the face of senseless violence like we saw in Uvalde, voters are looking for leadership.”



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Education Pays

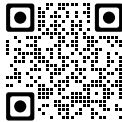


According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the number of jobs available to workers with an Associate Degree was 34% higher than ones who had not achieved higher than a high school diploma.

Wages go up 18.9% for Associate Degree holders over workers who had not achieved higher than a high school diploma.

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PORTLAND GETAWAY AND RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

Don't call it a road trip! A scenic wonderland might be closer to most metro-area dwellers than a trip to the supermarket. A treasure trove of overlooked, outdoor gems canvas Portland's backyard, and Milo McIver State Park is one of them.

You might have heard of Milo McIver. In the summer of 1970, this charming little park on the Clackamas River was the site of a state-sponsored sequel to Woodstock. Governor Tom McCall selected the site for Vortex 1, a rock festival designed to distract young anti-Vietnam war protestors during a presidential visit from Nixon. Long story short: Nixon never came, and the festival was a hit.

History aside, Milo McIver holds its own when it comes to outdoor attractions, boasting a 27-hole disc golf course, extensive equestrian facilities, seasonal camping and easy access to the Clackamas River. It's also one of a growing number of Oregon parks that are increasingly inclusive, offering an accessible kayak launch for those with mobility issues.

Did we mention it's a short drive from downtown Portland? We all know there's no better state than Oregon for a summertime excursion. Don't miss your chance this year to get outdoors for a little adventure close to home.

Did you know Oregon has over 250 state parks? Oregon Lottery funds help improve and maintain Milo McIver and all the other parks across the state.

When you play Lottery games, you help support Oregon's State Parks. Learn more at:

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