



New Shelters Approved

Budget in place to make sites for the homeless

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Measure 114 Paused

New setbacks postpone gun control law

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The Portland Observer

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'City of Roses'

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Committed to Cultural Diversity



Julia Mines executive director of The Miracles Club (photo by Mark Washington)

Miracle Club's Galato Resumes After 2-Year Covid Delay

Director shares her own recovery story

By BEVERLY CORBELL

At the lowest point of her life, Julia Mines was sent to prison for drug use. But then she got out, went through years of recovery programs, got sober, earned two masters degrees, and now runs the agency that helped her on that path.

Mines is executive director of the Miracles Club, a job she has held for three years after getting sober and going to school and getting a masters degree in management and leadership, and later on another masters in social work.

"Miracles is where I had to come to be in a clean and sober place so I wouldn't venture down the old streets that I used to venture down," she said.

Thousands of people have been helped in the Miracles Club 25-plus years of existence, and to celebrate rebuilding many lives, restoring families and renewing their communities, on Dec. 10 the non-profit will hold its annual Magic of Miracles fundraiser at Crowne Plaza Portland, 1441 NE Second St. from 7 p.m. to midnight. Tickets are available at the Miracles Club website, [miraclesclub.org](https://www.miraclesclub.org).

The event, originally planned for 2019, was to be a 25th anniversary celebration for Miracle's Club, but was delayed for two years because of the pandemic.

So this year's gala will celebrate a "25-year-plus" anniversary for the Miracles Club, Mines said, and she invites everyone to "come dressed to slay and ready to play as we celebrate recovery in PDX."

The gala will include a raffle, plated

dinner and dancing to DJ Surrender and more, Mines said.

"It's just for us to get together and show all the magic that has happened here in the last 27 years," she said. "A lot of people got clean here and I don't have the exact number, but I'd say it's in the thousands."

Tickets for the fundraiser are \$100 for a single seat or \$3,000 for a table for eight that includes "front row seating, a 'shout-out' at the event, their logo on the program and website, and a gift bag and a raffle ticket." The single ticket includes dinner and a raffle ticket.

Miracles Club offers a wide spectrum of services for those trying to escape from drug addiction, with a mission to

2 Brothers Charged with Murder of Local Teen



17 year old Sergio Hunt (photo provided by family)

Men face multiple charges for 2021 hit-and-run

Two brothers have been charged in connection with a shooting and hit-and-run that left 17-year-old Sergio Hunt dead May of last year according to the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office.

Keyshawn Pervish, 21, and Omarian Pervish, 18, were arraigned on second-degree murder, unauthorized use of a vehicle, first-degree robbery and possession of a stolen vehicle. Omarian was also arraigned on a charge of unlawful use of a weapon. According to the attorney's office, the brothers and people they knew were in possession of a stolen Audi. The victim was driving the vehicle when Omarian al-

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Boys & Girls Clubs Celebrate \$20,000 Donation from Safeway Albertsons & Mission Foods

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland Metropolitan Area celebrated the presentation of two \$10,000 checks from Safeway Albertsons and Mission Foods at the Wattles Club on Tuesday, November 15th.

The \$20,000 donation came from a partnership between Safeway Albertsons and Mission Foods. Mission Foods recently introduced a new product, Guerrero Nutri-Ricas Carb Watch Tortillas, to give shoppers a healthy and authentic Mexican tortilla. As the product hit store shelves during National Hispanic Heritage Month in September, Safeway Albertsons and Mission collaborated to help the Boys & Girls Clubs.

For every Mission Foods item purchased in September at a Safeway or Albertsons in the Portland metro area, plus Southwest Washington, Safeway Albertsons and Mission Foods made a donation to Boys & Girls Clubs, resulting in the \$20,000 donation.

"We are overwhelmed by their generosity," explained Natalie Carlberg, Vice President Marketing & Development at Boys & Girls Clubs. "We always appreciate the help of incredible community partners like Safeway Albertsons and Mission Foods, and this donation exceeded our expectations! We can do so much good for our community with these dollars and look forward to putting them to work."

"Mission Foods is proud to support The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Portland



Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland Metropolitan Area celebrate a \$10,000 donation from Safeway Albertsons on November 15, 2022 at the Wattles Club. (Pictured L-R: Jill McGinnis, Safeway Albertsons Director of Communications & Public Affairs; Natalie Carlberg, Vice President Marketing & Development, Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland Metropolitan Area; LeeTonio Parks, Club Director, Wattles Club; Alaralaine Holveck, Program Manager, Wattles Club.) Photo by Tom Boehme

Metropolitan Area in their mission to empower all young people, especially those who need them most, to discover their full potential as caring, engaged, responsible community members," added Dean Clark, Director of Sales – NW Region for Mission Foods.

"The Safeway Foundation was proud to partner with Mission Foods this year

for Hispanic Heritage Month," Safeway Albertsons Director of Communications and Public Affairs Jill McGinnis said. "This partnership has allowed us to give back to the Portland Metro Boys & Girls Club in the amount of \$10,000. Working with our local partners to support special local organizations like this one means so much to us."

To make a donation to Boys & Girls Clubs, visit bgeportland.org/give. To find Mission Foods Guerrero Nutri-Ricas Carb Watch Tortillas in a Safeway or Albertsons near you, visit MissionFoodstortillas.com/store-locator. To learn more about Safeway Albertsons' efforts to help communities across the country, visit safewayfoundation.org

Visit: oregonlottery.org/holiday to learn more

Lottery games are based on chance and should be played for entertainment only, not investment purposes. Odds and payout vary by game.

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LOCAL NEWS

New Gun Law Faces Challenges

DOJ asks federal judge to postpone part of Measure 114

Measure 114 will be put on ice after Oregon police chiefs and sheriffs have submitted statements to a federal judge, stating their agencies are not staffed or funded to support a permitting program for prospective gun buyers as required under Measure 114. They are working diligently on a system but do not see any way to have it fully operational before the law's enactment date which was scheduled to go into law December 8th.

Measure 114 expands background checks, requires gun owners to take a training course for a permit before they can even buy a gun, ban magazine clips that have more than 10 rounds, and registers all gun owners in a database run by Oregon State Police. The biggest legal flash point is a ban on magazines over 10 rounds unless they are owned by law enforcement or a military



Firearms are displayed at a gun shop in Salem, Oregon, last year. Photo by (Andrew Selsky / The Associated Press)

member or were owned before the measure's passage.

As of last week, Oregon State Police had more than 35,000 pending background check transactions for gun purchases and was averaging 3,000 requests a day compared to less than 900 a day the week before Measure 114 passed, according to agency data.

Those who already own high-capacity magazines can only possess them in their homes or use them at a firing range, in shooting competitions or for hunting as allowed by state law after the measure takes effect.

In a letter to U.S. District Judge

Karin Immergut, who is hearing the lawsuits seeking to block 114 from becoming law, Attorney General Rosenblum said that the state will seek a postponement of the permit requirement to give law enforcement officers more time to implement the new law.

"Postponing the permit requirement by approximately two months should give Oregon law enforcement time to have a fully functional permitting system in place. If Judge Immergut agrees to the postponement, then starting in February anyone who purchases a gun in Oregon will be required to have a permit," Rosenblum said.

Providing Quality Wastewater Services



Renewable Natural Gas Team

Renewable Energy Project leads to multiple awards

The Eugene-Springfield regional wastewater treatment plant has received regional and national awards for the renewable natural gas system it launched this year. The Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission (MWMC) will be honored with the National Environmental Achievement Award in Resource Recovery from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies. In September, it also received an award for Excellence in Resource Recovery

from the Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association, and employee Spencer Goodro was recognized as the Oregon Operator of the Year. The honors are for a Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) project which Goodro helped put into effect.

The MWMC's RNG system collects excess methane gas from the byproducts of wastewater, then cleans it and injects it into NW Natural Gas' system to be reused as fuel. Startup began in November 2021, with the system fully online this past April. The MWMC was the first public agency in the state to meet vendor standards and supply RNG, which offers both environmental and energy cost benefits. "We are proud

to receive these awards, but we're even more proud of how the RNG project came together and what it means to our customers and our region," said MWMC Executive Officer Matt Stouder. "We're also incredibly grateful for Spencer and the entire team's contributions to the success of the project." The MWMC wastewater treatment plant also received the Platinum Peak Performance Award for 100% compliance with industry standards. This is the 15th year in a row it has received the honor from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies. The MWMC will accept the National Environmental Achievement Award in February 2023.

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Drug Sales Get Trippy



Sign on Shroom House Shop

Magic mushroom shop opens in Portland

The country's first over-the-counter magic mushroom shop is open in Portland. Tons of residents took the whimsical store. The Shroom House which is referred to as a wellness shop by the owner is located on West Burnside and is getting attention around the country. With its arrival sparking fears that Portland's record-murder rate and soaring violent crime problems will spike further. The Shroom

House is selling psychedelic fungi with catchy names ranging from \$70 to \$95 per 7-gram baggie. Customers have to be at least 21, provide two forms of identification, and fill out a questionnaire that asks about depression and anxiety, among other things.

Before purchasing from the Shroom shop customers must fill out paperwork to become a member of the "Shroom House Society." The application states the businesses' board "will consider your application at which time it will be rejected or accepted."

Oregon passed measure 109 in November 2020. The law forbids the drug from being sold at retail

shops and says it must be taken on-premises at the state-approved centers under the guidance of a worker trained in a program approved by the Oregon Health Authority. However, Oregon will start accepting applications for permits to sell psilocybin products from January 2, 2023.

"Retail sales of psilocybin are not legal under Oregon law," said Sam Chapman, executive director of the Healing Advocacy Fund, who advocated for Measure 109, which legalized magic mushrooms in Oregon. "Nothing in Measure 109 or any other law allows the sale of psilocybin mushrooms today or in the future," he stated.

The store also sells non-psychedelic products such as teas and "elixirs" made with a vitamin-rich mushroom with purported brain benefits.

The Oregon Health Authority doesn't have any licensed psilocybin dispensaries at this time, and OHA says it does not deal with enforcement or regulation and that would be up to the police. Portland police say they are aware the store is open and selling mushrooms but won't give details on the activity of the bureau's Narcotics and Organized Crime unit.



Photo Courtesy of the OLCC website

Mandatory Cannabis Recall Issued

OLCC issues mandatory recall for marijuana extract products; investigation to determine cause

The Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) have issued a mandatory recall for several marijuana products due to the potential presence of pesticides. The possible marijuana product contamination is a result of failure to follow OLCC and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) rules for tracking and isolating marijuana products where the presence of pesticides has been detected.

This recall has been issued for 9,300 units that were still on the market and affects 13,600 units that were sold to consumers. The recall is being issued to ensure that licensees do not sell, and customers do not consume the effected products, because OLCC investigators cannot determine if the potential contamination is isolated or is widespread through the product lines.

These products were manufactured under the trade names Bobsled and Quantum Alchemy. A list of these products can be found on the OLCC website product recall page. The OLCC has notified cannabis retailers about the recall, advising that these products are under a mandatory recall with instructions on how the products must be destroyed or returned to a licensed supplier for destruction. The state's Cannabis Tracking System to detected potential-

ly tainted products, contact the licensees that produced the impacted brands and locate all the questionable items distributed and sold through Oregon's regulated market.

Inspectors will follow up with licensees in possession of the affected products to ensure they are removed from sale, isolated from other inventory, and then ultimately destroyed according to OLCC rules. Customers who have purchased this product can either return it to the licensed retailer they purchased it from or destroy the product.

The OLCC has not identified any fault by the laboratory that conducted the pesticide analysis. The items identified as subject to the mandatory recall are related to batches that originally failed testing for pesticides. Under OHA rules, manufacturers must follow certain procedures to retest any failed batches, and may only remediate the suspect product under certain circumstances. The manufacturers of the products identified did not follow proper procedures in tracking, retesting, and isolating the affected marijuana products.

An investigation started on November 29, 2022. The companies that produce Bobsled products (Bobsled, LLC) and Quantum Alchemy products (Happy Hollow Farms, Inc.) are cooperating with OLCC in the isolation and destruction of the affected items. Although the discovery of these incidents occurred simultaneously, OLCC is investigating them as separate incidents.

Consumers with health-related concerns about a recalled product should contact the Oregon Poison Center at 800-222-1222, or their medical provider.



homeforward

2022 Subsidized Housing Waiting List Opening Studio, 1, 2, 3, and 4- Bedroom Apartments Wednesday November 30 – Wednesday December 14

Home Forward is excited to announce that 33 communities with subsidized housing assistance will be opening the waiting lists for studio, one, two, three, and four-bedroom units from November 30 – December 14, 2022. Applicants must meet income and eligibility guidelines. Please visit www.homeforward.org for more information.

Applications will be accepted online from any internet capable device at www.homeforward.org beginning November 30 at 9:00 am. If you do not have internet service, please call us at 503-419-8050 for assistance. Phone assistance will be available Monday through Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

Phone assistance will not be available on Saturday or Sunday



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Building a Better City



Carlos, a homeless man stands in front of his tent in Portland, Ore., June 4, 2021. City Council members in Portland have voted to allocate \$27 million of the city's budget to build a network of designated camping areas for homeless people. (AP Photo/Paula Bronstein, File)

\$27 Million approved for new homeless camps

(AP) — City Council members in Portland, Oregon, have voted to allocate \$27 million of the city's budget to build a network of designated camping areas for homeless people, approving a fiercely disputed budget measure as the city tries to address its homelessness crisis.

The money will help finance a measure passed by the City Council earlier this month that banned street camping and approved the creation of six outdoor sites where homeless people will be allowed to camp. Under the measure, a ban on street camping will phase in over the next year and a half as the sites are completed.

Before Wednesday's vote, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler acknowledged the measure was controversial but that he nonetheless believes in it "very, very deeply." Wheeler and other supporters of the measure contend it will make streets safer and connect homeless people with social services.

"We must end self-directed, unsanctioned camping in the city of Portland," he said. "We deal with mental health issues. We deal with substance abuse issues. We deal with human feces. We deal with naked people running down the street, people who are unable to even acknowledge who or where they are, because their afflictions are that serious. It is beneath us as a moral and ethical society to have that happening in our community. And therefore we need to do something differently."

The \$27 million will help launch the first three campsites, with nearly half going toward their operational costs for the remainder of the fiscal year. About \$4 million of it will be

directed to the sites' preparation and construction.

Wednesday's measure amended the city's budget for the current fiscal year to include the new projections.

Public opposition to the measure and the money that will fund it has been heated, with critics saying it will criminalize homelessness and fail to address its root causes.

The initial vote on the budget measure was postponed after a raucous City Council meeting during which some who opposed the plan interrupted council members and had their microphones cut after refusing to abide by time limits in emotionally charged testimony. The commotion prompted members to leave the chambers and conduct the rest of the meeting online.

During that meeting, resident Shannon Kearns said in testimony that the plan amounted to "putting money into internment camps under the guise of support for our most marginalized community members."

The six designated campsites will initially serve up to 150 people, with 24-hour management and access to services such as food, hygiene, litter collection and treatment for mental health and substance abuse.

The location of the sites and the exact details of how they will work have yet to be confirmed, but Wheeler's office has unveiled a potential roadmap in recent Zoom calls with community stakeholders.

So far, the city has envisioned camps that would not allow walk-ins; people would have to be referred by outreach workers. Alcohol and drugs would be banned in common areas. Sites would only have one entrance and exit, and weapons checks would be conducted there.

Service providers running the sites would be responsible for se-

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Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

The Jantzen Beach Carousel Rides Again

New Exhibition at the Oregon Historical Society

When the Jantzen Beach Amusement Park opened on Hayden Island on May 26, 1928, it was termed the “Coney Island of the West.” At 123 acres, “Portland’s Million-Dollar Playground” was the largest amusement park in the United States at the time. The opening weekend of the park drew 40,000 people who enjoyed a variety of rides and attractions, including a roller coaster and four swimming pools.

However, perhaps the most iconic feature of the park was the Jantzen Beach Carousel. Added to the park in July of that year, this impressive four-abreast carousel built by C. W. Parker was originally designed for the J. A. Ellis Amusement Company for installation on the pier in Venice, California. Measuring more than 66 feet in diameter and standing nearly three stories high, the carousel featured 72 beautifully hand-carved horses. Today, it is the last Parker Superior Park Model carousel known to exist.



PHOTO BY EVAN KIERSTEAD

One of the beautiful galloping horses from the Jantzen Beach Carousel

When the amusement park was demolished in 1970 to make way for a shopping center, the carousel became the centerpiece of the mall, drawing delighted children and adults for the next 40 years. However, as the character of the shopping center changed to make room for more “big box” stores, the pavilion that sheltered the car-

ousel was torn down and its fate seemed uncertain. While it might have been sold off piecemeal, fortune shined on the carousel’s future when the owners of the Jantzen Beach Center donated the carousel to Restore Oregon, a statewide, nonprofit historic preservation organization, where it has been carefully stored since 2017.

OHS, in partnership with Restore Oregon, is now very proud to present a vibrant multimedia exhibition curated by Barnett & Solomon. The Odyssey of the Historic Jantzen Beach Carousel, on view now

through April 30, 2023, shares the fascinating history of the park and features four of the carousel’s beautiful horses — two of them fully restored and on display for the first time in over a decade. Visitors will also enjoy historical photographs, objects, videos, and a gallery of stunning hand-printed silver gelatin photographs by architect and heritage documentarian, Harley Cowan.

“Restore Oregon is delighted to have participated in the creation of this exhibition over the past two years, and to have loaned many of the historic photographs and objects that help tell the 100-year story of the Jantzen Beach Carousel,” said Stephanie Brown, Jantzen Beach Carousel Project Manager at Restore Oregon. “We are equally thrilled to share a behind-the-scenes look at the historic preservation process, and to celebrate the work of our talented team of artisans. Our hope is that all who visit this exhibition, whether they already love the Jantzen Beach Carousel or are discovering it for the first time, will enjoy this chance to learn about its history, craftsmanship, and the special place it holds in the hearts of generations of Pacific Northwesterners.”

The Oregon Historical Society’s museum is open seven days a week, Monday–Saturday 10am–5pm and Sunday 12pm–5pm. Admission is \$10, with discounts for students, seniors, teachers, and youth. Admission is free every day for OHS members and Multnomah County residents.

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Fan buying iconic 'Goonies' house in Astoria

Home listed for \$1.7 Million

(AP) -The listing agent for the Victorian home featured in the "The Goonies" film in Astoria, Oregon, said this week the likely new owner is a fan of the classic coming-of-age movie about friendships and treasure hunting, and he promises to preserve and protect the landmark.

The 1896 home with sweeping views of the Columbia River flowing into the Pacific Ocean was listed in November with an asking price of nearly \$1.7 million.

Jordan Miller of John L. Scott Real Estate said the sale is expected to close in mid January, The Oregonian/Oregon Live reported. The new owner, a self-described serial entrepreneur, will make his name known at that time, Miller said.

Since the movie came to theaters in 1985, fans have flocked



Undated photo provided by RETO Media is the house featured in the Steven Spielberg film "The Goonies" in Astoria, Ore. (RETO Media via AP, File)

to the home in northwestern Oregon's historic port of Astoria. The city celebrates Goonies Day on June 7, the film's release date, and welcomes thousands

of people for the event.

An offer was accepted six days after the house was listed, according to public record.

"After the word spread that

the property was for sale, we received multiple offers, at asking price and higher, and we have a full backup offer," Miller said.

Seller Sandi Preston is pass-

ing along movie memorabilia she has collected or has been given, and some of the furniture in the home, restored to its original 1896 style, may also be sold to the buyer, according to Miller.

Preston was known to be largely welcoming to visitors. But she lived in the house and the constant crowds were a strain that prompted her at times to close it to foot traffic.

After the film's 30th anniversary drew about 1,500 daily visitors in 2015, Preston posted "no trespassing" signs prohibiting tourists from walking up to the property. She reopened it to the public in August.

Based on a story by Steven Spielberg, the film features a group of friends fighting to protect their homes from an expanding country club and threats of foreclosure. In the process, they discover an old treasure map that leads them on an adventure and allows them to save their "Goon Docks" neighborhood.

Kirstie Alley Dead at 71



Kirstie Alley, the star of Cheers and Drop Dead Gorgeous

Actress battled with Cancer

AP-Kirstie Alley, a two-time Emmy winner whose roles on the TV megahit "Cheers" and in the "Look Who's Talking" films made her one of the biggest stars in American comedy in the late 1980s and early 1990s, died Monday. She was 71.

Alley died of cancer that was only recently discovered, her children True and Lillie Parker said in a post on Twitter. Alley's manager Donovan Daughtry confirmed the death in an email to The Associated Press. "As iconic as she was on screen,

she was an even more amazing mother and grandmother," her children's statement said.

She starred opposite Ted Danson as Rebecca Howe on "Cheers," the beloved NBC sitcom about a Boston bar, from 1987 to 1993. She joined the show at the height of its popularity after the departure of original star Shelley Long. Alley would win an Emmy for best lead actress in a comedy series for the role in 1991.

"I only thank God I didn't have to wait as long as Ted," Alley said in her acceptance, gently ribbing Danson, who had finally won an Emmy for his "Cheers" role as Sam Malone in his eighth nomination the previous year.

Black & Gold New Year's Eve 2022 Celebration

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SPORTS

PDX Lands First-Ever NCAA Women's Basketball Final Four

Moda Center will serve as epicenter of 2030 event

Portland has been announced as the official host city for the 2030 Division I NCAA Women's Basketball Final Four, per official NCAA statement. It will be Portland's first time hosting this world-class event, and the bid process has been driven collaboratively by Sport Oregon, Travel Portland, the Rose Quarter/ Portland Trail Blazers, and the University of Portland Pilots.

"To say we are excited is a massive understatement – this is a huge win for our community and our bid partners," said Sport Oregon CEO Jim Etzel. "It is a testament to the culture and passion of women's basketball fans in Oregon. We are deeply appreciative of the Women's Basketball Committee and the NCAA for choosing Portland, and we can't wait to show everyone what we already



Photo Courtesy Sport Oregon

know, that this is the best place in the world for women's athletics."

Portland was a finalist for the 2025 and 2026 Women's Final Fours back in 2020, but ultimately fell short in securing either of those events. In 2019, Portland hosted one of the most successful Women's Basketball Regionals in history, and were set to do the same in 2020 before the cancel-

lation of the NCAA Tournament. The University of Portland will act as the host school for the Portland Women's Final Four.

"It is a tremendous honor to serve as the institutional host on this successful bid to bring the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Final Four to Portland," University of Portland Vice President for Athletics Scott Leykam

said. "The University of Portland is home to women's athletic programs that were at the forefront of the growth of women's sports in our great city and state and this is a great way for us to continue that legacy."

The bidding group has worked for the bulk of this year on making their pitch to the NCAA. Representatives from the NCAA and Women's Basketball Committee were in Portland in September for the official site tour, and had a chance to analyze critical venues, and meet several stakeholders in the community. The bidding group's final presentation to the NCAA was held November 16th in Dallas.

Now, Moda Center and the Rose Quarter will serve as the epicenter of women's basketball in 2030.

"We are thrilled to have the opportunity to hold the NCAA Women's Final Four in Portland at the Rose Quarter in 2030," said Chris Oxley, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs & Strategic Initiatives, Portland Trail Blazers and Rose Quarter. "The success of the women's regional in 2019 held at Moda Center, last year's men's tournament, and the continued success of other collegiate basketball events on our campus is a testament to the passionate

basketball fans that make up our community. We're thrilled to continue bringing high level women's basketball to Portland.

A Women's Final Four will be an economic boon for the Portland hospitality community, as the WBCA Coaches Convention will also make Portland its home over the same weekend. Between the WBCA and the Women's Final Four, an estimated 11,000 hotel rooms will be utilized for the overall event between downtown and the Lloyd District.

"It is with immense pleasure and pride that Travel Portland celebrates the NCAA's Women's Final Four coming to Portland," said Jeff Miller, President & CEO of Travel Portland. "With over 50 years of supporting women's athletics, there is not another city in the country that will embrace this event and what it stands for more than Portland. Travel Portland - along with our partners - enthusiastically looks forward to welcoming the world of women's basketball to our inclusive, diverse and women's-sports-loving city."

The Oregon Convention Center will host the WBCA Coaches Convention, along with Tourney Town, a free public fan festival for basketball fans. Several other events will be held around Final Four weekend throughout the city, along with legacy-building community opportunities in the years prior. An official Local Organizing Committee will also be developed, inclusive of the bidding organizations. Portland was among seven finalist cities for the five open years of hosting.

"We've put in a lot of work to get to this day, and this is certainly a great feeling," said Etzel. "But the work we have ahead of us is even more substantial. Our bidding partners are aligned, our community is hungry, and Portland is ready to host a Women's Final Four."

Outside of Portland, the other winning host cities were Columbus, OH (2027); Indianapolis, IN (2028); San Antonio, TX (2029); and Dallas, TX (2031).

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OPINION

How We Can Influence the Courts that Influence Our Lives?

As I write this, the final few races are being called in the midterm elections that were held weeks ago. It's clear that the House will be closely divided, with Republicans holding a very small majority. History shows that in midterm elections, the party that doesn't hold the presidency typically gains a lot of seats in Congress – oftentimes in a wipeout of the party in power. Republicans' gains were comparatively tiny this year – but they probably should have been even tinier.

The reason is the far-right Supreme Court, and two rulings that hurt Black voters this cycle.

Two Deep South states, Alabama and Louisiana, redrew congressional maps months before the midterms. Incredibly, given the high proportion of Black voters in those states, the maps allowed for only one majority-Black congressional district in each state. That is almost certainly a violation of the Voting Rights Act, which prohibits states from packing minority voters into fewer districts in a way that reduces their power. And you don't have to take my word for it; federal courts said the same thing and ordered both states to redraw their maps.

But state officials opposed to Black voting power fought back. And in both instances, the Supreme Court allowed them to go ahead with this year's midterm elections with maps that just happened to pre-



Ben Jealous

serve "safe" Republican seats.

It's infuriating. And those are only two of the infuriating decisions that have come out of this Court since Donald Trump and Mitch McConnell succeeded in stacking it with enough ultraconservative justices to make a supermajority.

I know that the inner workings of the courts, especially the Supreme Court, can seem really remote in our day-to-day lives. Most people don't know any judges, and if they meet one in court it's probably happening on a very unpleasant day. In fact,

my guess is that a lot of people would rather not think much about the courts at all. But we have to.

We need to pay attention to who sits on our courts and how they get there, because there is such an enormous impact on our lives whether we realize it or not. The Supreme Court's impact on the House majority is just one example. Those actions by the Court will affect what business gets done in Congress and what laws get passed – or not passed – that impact how we live and what rights we have.

Judges get their seats in different ways, especially at the state level. If you live in a place where state-level judges are elected, it's critically important to get informed and vote in those judicial elections. When it comes to federal judges, the Senate decides who will be confirmed. So every time you cast a vote for a senator, it should be for the candidate who will vote to confirm fair-minded judges with a commitment to civil rights. The Biden administration has been doing a very good job nominating diverse, highly qualified judges who have this commitment. I believe in supporting senators who have voted to confirm these judges and withholding support from those who haven't.

The same goes for the presidential election, which we will face again in less than two years. In 2016, Donald Trump ran on a platform to name far-right judges to

the Supreme Court who would ultimately overturn *Roe v. Wade*. That's exactly what happened when he won, and now the Court is moving on to do other damage, too – like denying Black voters fair representation in Congress.

So what do we do? We get informed, we organize, and we vote in the next election – the same thing we do to confront so many issues this country faces. Next election seems too far away? There is something you can do in the meantime. Call your senators and tell them to confirm the federal judicial nominees that are still waiting for a Senate vote between now and the end of the year. There are literally dozens of nominees picked by President Biden, including many people of color and nominees with strong civil rights backgrounds, just waiting for Senate action to take their seats on the courts. We can show we care by calling our senators and telling them to confirm these nominees now.

Courts are going to keep showing us how much of an impact they have on our lives. We need to exercise every option we have to impact who sits on them.

Ben Jealous serves as president of *People For the American Way* and Professor of the Practice at the University of Pennsylvania. A *New York Times* best-selling author, his next book *"Never Forget Our People Were Always Free"* will be published by Harper Collins in January 2023.

\$250,000 Awarded to Protesters

(AP) — The city of Portland, Oregon, has reached a \$250,000 settlement to a federal lawsuit over its police bureau's use of tear gas and other crowd control devices during the racial justice protests that rocked its streets in 2020, court documents show.

Under the settlement filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Portland, the city agreed to pay the \$250,000 to five demonstrators who alleged they were subject to tear gas while protesting lawfully.

The city also agreed to stop using rubber ball distraction devices, commonly known as flash-bang grenades, and to dismantle its remaining stock under an injunction that will last 14 months. While the plaintiffs' ability to enforce the injunction will lapse after that time period, one of their attorneys, Juan Chavez, said he would be "perplexed" if the city reintroduced the devices.

The injunction additionally requires police to restrict their use of tear gas, pepper spray, less-lethal launchers and long-range acoustic devices in accordance with bureau policy and state law.

The lawsuit was originally filed by the nonprofit Don't Shoot Portland in June 2020 as protests following the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis erupted nightly on Portland's streets, at times prompting violent clashes between police and demonstrators.



A protester faces police officers in downtown in Portland, Oregon (Dave Killen/The Oregonian via AP)

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Building a Better City

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curity inside and within a 1,000-foot perimeter of the camps. But the budget allocates \$750,000 to help neighborhood groups hire private security for areas around the first three sites.

The location and security of the sites is already shaping up to be a contentious issue. Some neighborhoods, including those that are lower-income and those already struggling to address homeless encampments, are worried the sites won't be spaced out equitably across the city.

A group of residents and property owners from downtown, where many homeless services are located, testified before Wednesday's vote. One of them, Kat Ulrich, shared pictures of the aftermath of a violent confrontation she and her husband had with a homeless person experi-

encing a mental health crisis.

"He punched me in the face. I went down, came up with blood on my hands and my face, and my nose was broken. Him and my husband were rolling on the ground," she said. "Somebody eventually came out with some mace and sprayed the man, and he ran off."

Homeless advocates say that more affordable housing is needed to truly tackle the issue. While mental health treatment services are essential, they point out that not all homeless people have mental health or substance abuse issues.

As the sites are built and the street camping ban phases in, outreach workers will be tasked with directing people living on the street to the designated camping areas. Those who refuse to leave their encampment could be cited, but the citations could be

waived if the person takes part in a diversion program that would require mental health or substance abuse treatment in lieu of jail time.

To develop the diversion program, the new budget transfers \$250,000 from the police bureau to the Street Services Coordination Center, which provides homeless outreach.

Mayor Wheeler has previously said he thinks the \$27 million would cover about half the costs of creating the sanctioned campsites. The mayor's office has urged the state to declare a homelessness emergency, and to support a request from the Oregon Mayor's Association for a budget package totaling \$123 million during the next legislative session, which starts in January. The package would provide direct allocations to cities for homelessness services.

CLASSIFIEDS/BIDS

INVITATION TO BID

2023-06 Invitation to Bid for C-TRAN Underground Storage Tank Project

Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Area (dba C-TRAN) has issued an Invitation to Bid (ITB) for the C-TRAN Underground Storage Tank Project. 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, January 13, 2023.

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Miracle Club's Galato Resumes After 2-Year Covid Delay

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

"provide a safe, clean, and sober environment for individuals seeking a lifestyle free from alcohol and drugs."

Many families have been impacted by drug addiction, Mines said, and the Miracles Club can help.

"We've got clean and sober housing, permanent housing, and transitional housing," she said. "We have 82 units for permanent or transitional housing if you just need a stepping stone, or if you want to live here permanently. We have a clean and sober transitional house for African American men and on Dec. 1, we will open a transitional house for women."

"They're both in northeast Portland in gentrification areas," Mines said, "so we're trying to bring folks back to the communities that they grew up in."

In addition, Miracles Club offers certified recovery mentors through its Peer Services to provide "nonjudgmental emotional support and guidance for individuals seeking help with their recovery," states the website.

Peer Services can connect clients with resources for housing transportation, education, employment, medical and dental care as well as referrals to other services. Peer Services is oriented to a community-based recover for clients, as well as providing advocates for the criminal justice system, child welfare or other institutions.

Although Miracles Club's focus is the perennially underserved African American community, no one is turned away, and anyone from 18 to 100-plus is welcome, she said.

"We cater to the African American recovering community but we're not limited to that and we don't turn anybody away," she said.

"But we came about because there was always some sort of problem in the white recovery clubs," she said.

The agency has touched many recovering addicts and their families over the years. "Ask anybody in recovery and they will tell you they've come here," she said.

Mines' own journey didn't start with Miracle's Club, and it seems a miracle that she's overcome so much in her own life, now leading an agency that helped her along the way.

"I didn't get involved right away," she said. "I had just got out of prison, and I had a journey."

She started out at Stay Clean, "an African American inner city spiritual program for the late stage addict," she said, and later was a client of Central City Concern for over 11 years, was involved in Self Enhancement Inc. for about two years and also found other helpful resources, including the Empowerment Clinic, Volunteers of America and the I Am Academy.

But once she got sober, she found her path.

"To be where I wanted to be I couldn't be stagnant," she said. "I had to get an education, I had to get certification and so I took my time and I was watching other folks go to school, so I said, 'Well, why can't I go to school?'"

In 2008 Mines started college and 10 years later had a masters degrees in management and leadership. She later received her masters in social work. She then went on to become a certified mentor supervisor and a qualified mental health professional.

"So all by the grace of the Creator and ancestors and recovery, I've been able to stand on my own feet...trying to fly as high as I can," she said. "So this is where I landed — the place that helped me spread those wings."



The Miracles Club Crew

2 Brothers Charged with Murder of Local Teen

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

legedly shot him and then dumped the dying 17-year-old onto Northeast Milton Street in Portland near 143rd Avenue. Keyshawn then took possession of the driver's seat and is accused of striking the victim with the Audi.

Neighbors found Hunt lying in a pool of blood, wearing barely any clothes, his shorts pulled down, with no shoes on his feet, The Oregon Live reported at the time. The Audi also struck another vehicle in the area where the victim was found, which caused small parts including the emblem of the Audi to dislodge, which led investigators to identify the make

of the vehicle. The brothers then fled the scene in the Audi.

Hunt lived in Vancouver and had attended Fort Vancouver High School Center for International Studies his freshman and part of his sophomore year. He played basketball for the high school his freshman year but withdrew from Vancouver Public Schools during his sophomore year, when he transferred to Evergreen School District, according to Patricia Nuzzo, a Vancouver Public Schools spokeswoman. In a previous interview his mother Andrea Warren said "My baby had a big personality, a contagious smile and was a phenomenal basketball player."



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Creating Creative Spaces



Cyrus Coleman and Adewale Agboola Co-founders of Creative Homies (credit Dustin Thomas)

Portland first creative center for BIPOC Community

Adewale Agboola and Cyrus Coleman are the co-founders of Creative Homies. Creative Homies is the fusion of Cyrus and Wale's professional pursuits and shared journey of finding a creative studio space in Portland. Adewale and Cyrus are the visionaries behind the company's first project, the Horizon Enterprise Building. The Horizon Enterprise building is Portland first creative center for BIPOC Community.

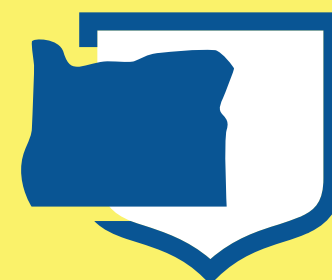
The building will offer a fully sustainable resource for creative's, artists, designers, painters, multimedia artists,

musicians, DJs, photographers, directors and podcasters- all under one roof. Each floor of the four stories will be built to work independently of, but in service to the others. It will provide a multilayer creative space to connect inspire and empower. Level 0— a sleek, full service underground jazz bar that pays homage to Cyrus' musical family roots with a truly immersive experience. Level 1 — a spacious gallery and event space exclusively featuring BIPOC artists, presented with modern warmth and graceful precision for all to enjoy. Level 2 — an exclusive makerspace for creators to work, connect and amplify the artistic innovations within our community. Level 3 — a space devoted to a full scale production studio with the option of equipment rentals, as well as artist-in-residence quarters.

The vision for the Horizon Enterprise Building is based on the power of human con-

nection. They believe that creativity has the power to shape culture, and this building will become the epicenter and incubator for BIPOC creativity in Portland. Individual membership options ranges from a day pass (\$35/day), which provides one-day pass to work at Theory Makerspace and in common areas, to standard membership (\$95/month), with four day passes per month for Theory Makerspace and common areas use, to elite membership (\$295/monthly), with unlimited access (7am-10pm) to the Theory Makerspace and common areas.

Students and recent college graduates (within the last two years) are eligible for a free membership by showing their portfolio, resume, goals for their future and how they see themselves adding value to the community. More information can be found on creative-homies.com. Operations will be in full stride spring of 2023.



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