

MBE 2012

Minority Business
Enterprise Special
Edition Inside

Housing Help for Seniors

Foreclosure prevention, home repairs and more

Lisa Loving
Of *The Skanner News*

Seniors facing home foreclosure can keep relying on the Minority Homeowners Assistance Collaborative (MHAC) for another year for free assistance in keeping their homes.

The Portland Housing Bureau has again handed out grant funding for the program, which includes Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives, Inc. (PCRI), the African American Alliance for Homeownership (AAAH), Hacienda CDC and NAYA Youth and Family Center.

“Some of the challenges that our elders of color are facing are in not having access or knowing what programs are out there – but also the challenge of budget shortfalls that are out there,” said Shalonda Menefee of PCRI, pictured at left.

This past year an array of housing support organizations faced defunding through City of Portland budget cuts. However Commissioner Nick Fish, who oversees housing, found ways to keep most funding for the “housing safety net” a term coined by housing advocates seeking to unify their nonprofit groups and programs into a continuum of services from shelters to home ownership.

Housing advocates say the MHAC has served over 200 clients living in the City of Portland over the past two years. The service specifically helps connect seniors to organizations that offer free services to help seniors stay in their homes, including: free home repair, free foreclosure prevention services, and free one-on-one counseling.

The Free Homeownership Retention Program is for seniors ages 55 or older who live in the City of Portland, own their own home and need supportive services or referrals to prevent foreclosure to maintain homeownership.

If you are a senior homeowner over the

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WORLD PREMIER

The performing arts nonprofit White Bird launches its gala 15th anniversary season with the biggest public dance event ever attempted in Pioneer Courthouse Square, on Sunday, Sept. 30, at 2 and 4 p.m. Some 150 Portlanders from all walks of life will perform the West Coast premiere of a line dance ‘infused with contemporary movement that incorporates the rhythms of country, techno, cumbia, waltzes, and R&B.’ The performance is choreographed by Montreal’s Sylvain Emard. Here, JaVonda Dillon rehearses for the big event, which the dancers have been working on since July. Find more info at www.whitebird.org.



PHOTO BY CAROLYN CAMPBELL

Emanuel Reconciliation Project

Medical Center seeks to right historic wrong on 100th anniversary

Lisa Loving
Of *the Skanner News*

As part of the ongoing commemoration of its 100th year in operation, Legacy Emanuel Medical Center has launched a reconciliation project aimed at rebuilding its ties to the inner Northeast African American community, scattered through urban renewal development decades ago.

The project was kicked off Friday morning at a Black leadership breakfast event where

local consultant and businesswoman Jeana Woolley presented the fruits of a year-long research effort she conducted on the history of the Emanuel Hospital expansion in the 1960s and 1970s.

The results, along with additional research done about the history of the Eliot neighborhood, will be turned into a permanent exhibit to be unveiled at the Emanuel Medical Center 100th Anniversary Party and Community Celebration, Saturday, Oct. 6, from 1-4

p.m. at the facility’s Atrium.

“As we start our next century of service, Legacy Emanuel would like to strengthen our relationship with the local community, its leaders, institutions and organizations,” Dr. Lori Morgan, Chief Administrative Officer of Legacy Emanuel, said in its invitation to the event sent to local leaders. “It’s our desire to build a stronger, healthier and more collaborative alliance moving forward.”

Woolley’s detailed historical research was complimented by

the testimony and participation of a panel of displaced former residents, now quite elderly, who were also invited to the breakfast and repeatedly honored.

The discussion about “next steps” after Woolley’s presentation was quite frank, with several community leaders taking Emanuel to task for not offering some substantive remuneration or “restitution” to the survivors of displaced families.

Dr. George Brown, Legacy

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Carolyn Leonard Reflects on Career

Longtime administrator considers a bid for school board in 2013

By Helen Silvis
Of *The Skanner News*

Educator Carolyn Leonard retired from Portland Public Schools this year. But she’s showing no signs of stopping work.

An internationally recognized scholar in multicultural education and civil rights, she has too many awards and accomplishments

to name. Leonard’s philosophy?

“Everyone has a responsibility to make things better.”

She certainly does her part. Nationally, she has served on the Executive Committee of the National Council for Black Studies. Closer to home, she has been chair of both the Metropolitan Human Rights Commission and the Oregon Commission for Black Affairs, as well as president of the library’s

Black Resource Center, based at the North Portland branch.

She’s also made history, as chair of the committee that fought successfully to rename Union Avenue as Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

Leonard’s commitment to public education has deep roots.

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COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

Operation Overcoat Seeks Winter Supplies for Homeless

Union Gospel Mission seeks donations of blankets, coats, warm clothing and socks for Operation Overcoat, an annual clothing giveaway and street fair for the homeless and people in need. Operation Overcoat takes place this Saturday, September 29 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Union Gospel Mission will be closing off NW Third Avenue in front of the Mission between Burnside and Couch streets and part of Couch Street between Third and Fourth Avenues to stage the event. Thousands of articles of clothing will be given away, a free barbeque meal will be provided, and free dental care. This event is free and open to anyone in need.

Donations of blankets, socks and other clothing items may be dropped off at Union Gospel Mission at 3 NW Third Avenue (corner of Third and Burnside) in Portland. For more information call 503-274-4483, or make a financial donation online at www.ugmportland.org

Prescription Drug Turn In Event

The Office of Neighborhood Involvement Crime Prevention Program and the Portland Police Bureau will hold a Prescription Drug Turn In event on Saturday, Sept. 29, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Fred Meyer-Gateway 1111 NE 102nd Avenue.

The mobile precinct will be on site. Portland Police Officers and Crime Prevention staff will be on site for the anonymous turn in of unused or expired prescription medications, to share information about the dangers of prescription drug abuse and to answer community and media questions regarding this issue.

For questions contact: Jenni Bernheisel Crime Prevention Coordinator 503-823-4257
jenni.bernheisel@portlandoregon.gov

Diabetes Walkathon Raises More than \$140,000

More than 1,300 walkers took to the streets of Portland this morning and participated in the annual Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes event raising more than \$140,000 for diabetes education, research and advocacy. Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes is an event organized by the American Diabetes Association.

There's still time to join the Stop Diabetes movement by walking in the Clark County Step Out: Walk to

Stop Diabetes on Saturday, Sept. 29 beginning at the Vancouver Landing. To register go to www.diabetes.org/clarkcountysteput.

St. Johns Octoberfest Oct. 6

The second annual St. Johns Oktoberfest is Saturday, Oct. 6, from noon to 8 p.m., at the corner of N. Ivanhoe Street and N. Charleston Avenue in the parking lot of McMenamins St. Johns Theater and Pub, 8203 N. Ivanhoe. This event is co-sponsored by the St. Johns Boosters (the local business association) and McMenamins.

A benefit to light up the St. Johns business district street trees for the holiday season, this family-friendly event will include free music and fun. Food and beverages for sale include sausage plates and kids' hot dog plates, roasted corn, hot cider, beer and soda. Local businesses have provided raffle prizes and local crafters and artists will have booths along N. Charleston Avenue, which will be closed to traffic. The Boosters have organized games for the adults, and Coffee Kids will provide activities for children in a reserved area.

All proceeds will help Light Up Lombard in St. Johns. For more information go to www.stjohnsboosters.net

Dance Classes



Kemba Shannon Dance Center has opened on N. Kilpatrick street in the Kenton neighborhood. Along with offering dance training in Hip Hop, Jazz, Ballet, Tap, African, and several other dance forms, the Center's founder says her goal is taking the extra step and "bringing all people together through dance." The Center is open Monday through Saturday, with workshops and special projects on Sundays. Classes are available for all ages, from toddlers to adults. Specialty classes such as belly dancing, African dance and praise dance are all available. For more information visit www.kembashannon.com, call 1-855-NOW-DANCE or visit the Kemba Shannon Dance Studio at 2017 N. Kilpatrick Ave, Portland, OR.

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C O M M U N I T Y C A L E N D A R

PORTLAND 2012

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If you have an event you want to share with the community, email it two weeks in advance to *The Skanner* at info@theskanner.com

Friday September 28

CALLING ALL JEFFERSON HIGH ALUMNI, SUPPORTERS & COMMUNITY. Join us for the Jefferson Alumni Associations Annual Tailgater. Renew friendships and swap favorite memories of your times at Jefferson and in its community. Prior to the football game, the annual Tailgating Party starts at 3 p.m. Football game starts at 7 p.m. Tailgating is on the Kerby Street side.

Saturday September 29

DARIGOLD FARMALICIOUS FUN FRIDGE. Darigold will be at the Square giving away samples of chocolate milk and ice cream sandwiches. Noon - 4 p.m. Pioneer Courthouse Square.

STRU YOUR MUTT PORTLAND. Leisurely one-mile group dog walk followed by a doggie themed celebration festival that includes Crunch Fitness, Dog Yoga, Sit, Stay, Fit and much more. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. Walk begins at 9 a.m. Festival ends at noon. Laurelhurst Park, 3756 SE Oak St.

LAST SATURDAY FESTIVAL. Go Dog of North Station, presents live music from 1 - 5 p.m. featuring local Portland Artists with Jewelry, art, paintings and much more. North Station Food Cart Court, 2730 N. Killingsworth.

Tuesday October 2

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY INVITES THE PUBLIC TO ATTEND AN EFFECTIVE BIBLICAL RESPONSE TO IMMIGRATION. This is a special panel discussion on immigration reform to be held in Concordia's Hagen Campus Center. 6 p.m. 2811 NE Holman St.

Friday October 5

ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS: HOMECOMING CELEBRATION AND OUR NEW NIKE TRACK DEDICATION. Car show, live band, free BBQ, family activities and much more. Fun starts at 5 p.m. and goes until the end of the football game. Roosevelt High School, 6941 N. Central. Footballs game tickets - Adults \$6, Students with ID \$4 - Students without ID \$6.00, kids \$2.

Saturday October 6

PORTLAND PET EXPO. From 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. the expo will be packed with more than 200 local and nationally-recognized veterinarians, groomers, trainers and much more. Portland Expo Center. Free for all to enjoy.

URBAN WAXX IS HOSTING SA 24-HOUR WAA-A-YHON CHAIRTY EVENT. The event starts at 9 a.m. Saturday and runs until 9 a.m. Sunday. Benefitting two deserving charities Friends of Trees and The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. Walk in welcome. There will be food and beverages and a lot of fun. 1086 NW 18th Ave. For more info call 503-219-9299.

Housing

continued from page 1

age of 55 years of age or know senior homeowners that need support and resources to maintain homeownership, this is the resource for you.

Menefee works with the MHAC program hands-on, and says it's a lifeline for elders who are themselves especially vulnerable to

'We take a holistic approach. This is a place where they can come and feel supported'

foreclosure prevention scams as well as just plain confusion when faced with the crisis of potentially losing their home. Menefee says the typical client often first calls looking for someone who can advocate for them with a bank or other large institutions around foreclosure prevention and

home repair.

A phone conversation may be followed up by a home visit and a referral to a local group or agency that can help with home improvements or troubleshooting with banks.

"We take a holistic approach," she says. "This is a place where they can come to be heard and feel supported."

The African American Alliance for Homeownership and Hacienda CDC both provide free counseling and support services, and both take all comers regardless of race.

"A lot of our seniors have been in their home for a long time and need a roof on or repairs done," Menefee says.

"They leave relieved knowing they have an advocate and some support, knowing they have someone on their behalf." Find more information at www.mhacportland.org or contact Menefee or Andrea Irby at 503-288-2923 or by email at Shalonda@pcrhome.org

Emanuel

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100TH ANNIVERSARY

Saturday, Oct. 6 is Legacy Emanuel Medical Center's 100th Anniversary Community Celebration in and around the atrium from 1 to 4 p.m.

There will be hands on demonstrations including the virtual reality pain management system used in the Legacy Oregon Burn Center, and the da Vinci surgical robotic system used in the operating room; free cupcakes and entertainment; and a discount bike/skate helmet sale.

There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive and Bone Marrow Donor Registry Drive. For more information go to www.legacyhealth.org/emanuel100

Health's President and Chief Executive Officer, closed out the discussion with an impromptu presentation of his own.

Citing a recent trip to Cuba as well as his recent reading of Isabel Wilkerson's book,

"The Warmth of Other Suns," he spoke about the Black diaspora that has seen African descendants forced out of the home continent, and away from deeply-rooted communities in the United States.

He also mentioned what Legacy Emanuel currently does to bolster its surrounding neighborhood as well as communities of color and minority-run institutions — including providing more charity care to local residents than any other hospital in the state.

"Yes, we do have to atone for our sins," Dr. Brown said. "We're not perfect but we do have an enduring commitment and part of that commitment is to communicate with you in the community to see what it is we can do together to make a better community — and to try to make this community again the epicenter of African American culture."

Woolley commented in her presentation that the historical memory of the Emanuel relocation displacing families without compensating them for their property — is not entirely accurate, and that the details of how that collective memory has formed are important for policymakers and local families alike.

In an interview Monday afternoon, Wool-

ley said that her research, conducted in the City of Portland Archives, showed that the City of Portland and the Portland Development Commission essentially offered Emanuel an opportunity to expand their campus with the use of urban renewal, and that Emanuel saw this offer as a way to grow their institution in its existing location for the future.

When it was instituted in the late 1960s, the federal Model Cities Program — run by former City Commissioner Charles Jordan, his reason for moving to Portland in the first place — helped provide local groups with a voice in the process, because community involvement was required by federal law for all activities in a Model Cities area.

Each homeowner was paid a fixed price for their property by the Portland Development Commission — but because federal law required them to be relocated into a replacement home comparable to what they lost, each homeowner also received a supplemental payment, called a Replacement Housing Payment, to make up the difference needed to pay for their new home.

"Every homeowner who owned their property was made whole financially — not

necessarily emotionally or spiritually — because many became the only Black homeowners in white neighborhoods," she said Monday.

Woolley located the individual relocation files in the City archives, listing each family by name, their old home address, the total compensation they were paid for their relocation, and their new address.

"There is so much confusion about what happened because so much of the information people got was through rumors or hearsay—it wasn't from anything official they got in their hands," Woolley said this week.

Local residents have passed decades feeling rage against Emanuel as the driver of the gentrification process.

"But you really have to bring the City and the PDC to the table as co-partners in this event — they shouldn't be out of the picture and never mentioned when you talk about this history," Woolley says. "It isn't fair to Emanuel when in fact this was an event that the other partners really drove."

Read the rest of this story online at www.theskanner.com



Anti Bullying Pledge

Bullying took center stage at Grant High School on Sep. 19 in its "Just Delete It" assembly. Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith welcomed the students to a panel discussion featuring Grant staff, students and a representative from the Q Center.

KGW's Laural Porter moderated the discussion, which sought to define bullying, its origins and how it affects people. The ceremony closed with Smith and a number of Grant students signing an anti-bullying pledge. As students dispersed for lunch, there were some who were visibly emotional from the stories shared on the panel.



PHOTO BY BRUCE POINSETTE

Leonard

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"I grew up in Southeast Portland, and my family has been attending Portland schools for five generations," she says.

"My father was a math major and my mother went to college for two years, so that love of learning was part of my household.

"I have great grandsons who are in the school system right now. The schools are in desperate need of people who understand and care about public education."

Leonard is considering a run for school board, but she says board seats won't open up until either 2013 or 2015. So that's still just a possibility, she says. She also would be willing to offer support to another candidate who will go to bat for all students.

"They have really difficult challenges," she says of the school board. "Sometimes it seems that the district is driving the board rather than the other way around. I don't see the courage that needs to be there. The district's decision to shut down The Harriet

Tubman Leadership Academy for Young Women is a good example. How do you make an announcement that you are closing a school before the board has voted?

"Martin Gonzalez was the only board

'I have great grandsons who are in the school system right now. The schools are in desperate need of people who understand and care about public education'

—Carolyn Leonard

member who even asked questions," Leonard says.

For 30 years, Leonard worked to improve our schools, as a teacher, supervisor and consultant.

For about seven years, in the late 1970s-1980s, Leonard ran a summer school

through the Urban League. Fifty high school student tutors and 10 staff worked with 150 elementary students in a program that combined academics, culture and career skills.

through the Urban League. Fifty high school student tutors and 10 staff worked with 150 elementary students in a program that combined academics, culture and career skills.

"Kids learn best from those just ahead of them," Leonard says, adding that some of those students are now doing great work.

"I believe Karanja Crews was one of our tutors," she says. "And Pastor Mark Strong was a team leader. And Lorraine Graham, who started the Voices in Praise

ministry, was a tutor."

This summer, Leonard helped create the three-week "Girls Lead Summer Camp" for former students of the Harriet Tubman Leadership Academy for Young Women. The school district closed Tubman as part of budget cutbacks, officials said, despite anguished protests from hundreds of students, their parents and supporters.

"We need this generation of children to see that math and science and media are important," she says. "So we had a three-week program focused on math, media, leadership and public speaking with the help of a volunteer from Toastmasters. We hope they will go on to be leaders who show that girls can do math and science."

Read the rest of this story online at www.theskanner.com





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Don't Play Politics With Our Lives

The police union and the arbitrator can't ignore the public

Portland had barely begun to digest the 42-page Department of Justice report on police misuse of force, before justice itself took another blow. The state's Employment Relations Board, wearing blinders, upheld an arbitrator's decision that the City of Portland can't fire a police officer.

Officer Ron Frashour shot and killed Aaron Campbell, an unarmed man grieving the death of his brother that same day. An investigation showed Frashour shot Campbell in the back as he fled after being shot by a beanbag gun. The fatal shot came less than one minute after he emerged from an apartment with his hands behind his head.

Police Chief Mike Reese fired Frashour after the killing.

"You were not reasonable in concluding that Campbell posed a threat at the level required to use deadly force," he said in the termination letter.

It wasn't the first incident where Frashour had used excessive force. In 2006, he used a taser against Keith Waterhouse, when Waterhouse was filming police activities. That cost the city \$55,000 in damages.

No matter. The police contract gives the final say to an arbitrator and a state employment board that have shown them-

EDITORIAL

Bernie Foster

selves to be heavily weighted in favor of fired officers – and against the public interest. Not one single firing has been upheld.

Arbitrator Jane Wilkinson, swayed by testimony from police trainers, decided that the shooting was "within policy." Those are the very same trainers who came under fire in the DOJ report for teaching officers that Officer Christopher Humphreys' tasing of a 12-year-old girl was a good example of correct taser use. The DOJ called that, "callous."

Wilkinson, like the three-person board, ignored the city's argument that reinstating Frashour would violate long-standing public policy against unreasonable use of force. City attorneys say that is enshrined in the U.S. Constitution, the state constitution and the city's charter.

Something is terribly wrong with a system that makes it impossible for the city to fire an employee. No arbitrator should be able to overrule the decision of the police chief and our elected officials. From our city leaders to the cops on the street, all are accountable to the citizens they are supposed

to serve.

This might be the city that works; but police officers jobs are not an entitlement. Police officers are hired to serve the public. And if they can't do that, they should find another job.

We've been told that Portland's police chief can't fire an officer, who has lost all trust of the community he swore to protect and serve.

In fact, the City has been ordered to reinstate Frashour with back pay and benefits, and put him back on the streets. To do what?

No other agency is giving the responsibility of taking a human life in a split second. We're not talking about some traffic stop or fender bender. We can't play politics with the lives of Portland citizens.

We call on the Department of Justice to ensure that its final settlement with the City – due Oct. 12 – includes language that will make a repeat of the Frashour fiasco impossible.

Thankfully, Mayor Adams

says he wants the City Council to take this case to the highest authority: the Oregon Court of Appeals.

Adams says he promised in April to push this case to the limit. "What we're investing in here is to have more local control of our very own police bureau," he said yesterday. "It is totally worth it, and Portlanders want us to do this."

Mr. Mayor, you are absolutely right. This is a test of who runs the police bureau. Is it the police chief and the city commissioners? Or is it the police union and its friends on the Board of Employment Relations.

Mayor Adams, we are behind you. And we encourage the City Council and the citizens of Portland to support you to the hilt. Without public trust and confidence, without overall accountability to the police chief, the mayor and our elected officials, the Portland Police Bureau might as well be an occupying army.

What do you think?

Leave your comments here:

Post your comment on articles in *The Skanner News* at www.theskanner.com

Companies Continue to Insult Black Consumers

When I was in the process of reading and writing about Nielsen and the National Newspaper Publishers Association's report on African-American buying power for this week's Black newspapers, I was reminded of how many top companies continue to take advantage of Black consumers while providing little, if anything, in return.

They are not the only ones at fault – so are we. People treat you the way you allow them to treat you. The same can be said of corporations, though they are not, as Mitt Romney contends, people. The Nielsen report notes that Black spending power, which totals \$695 billion a year, is expected to soar to \$1.1 trillion by 2015. And very few of those dollars are reinvested by advertising in the Black media.

It's a matter of respect. As Black publishers point out, if a company advertises in the Washington Post or the New York Times, it could be speaking to anyone. However, when it advertises in the Black media, we know they are speaking directly to our audience and are taking us seriously as valued consumers.

For the most part, that's not happening.

When Nielsen lists the top companies advertising with Black media, some familiar names are nowhere to be found. Eight of the top U.S. 10 banks are not on the list of top 10 financial/insurance



THE CURRY REPORT

George E. Curry

companies advertising in the Black media.

JP Morgan Chase has overtaken Bank of America as the top bank in the U.S., with assets of \$2.2 trillion. Don't shed any tears for second-place Bank of America, which has assets of \$2.13 trillion,

Let the "banksters" know how you feel about their actions

or CitiGroup with \$1.8 trillion. Neither of them is among the top 10 entities advertising with the Black media.

But African-Americans hold checking or savings accounts at all three banks. Let's put them on notice by sending them a copy of this column and my story, which is carried in this week's NNPA papers and is posted on BlackPressUSA.com. Tell them that by the time the next Nielsen report comes

out a year from now if they are not on that list, they will be added to one of our lists, not the one people brag about.

If banks can disregard us, we can disregard them by closing our accounts and moving them to a bank that shows its appreciation. If you have accounts at either JP Morgan Chase, Bank of America, CitiBank (CitiGroup), Bank of New York Mellon, PNC Financial Services, State Street Corp., Capital One or SunTrust Banks, put them on notice today that they will lose a valuable customer if they continue along this path.

In terms of a national campaign, I suggest first focusing on the three largest banks. Here's contact information for their top official:

Mr. James Dimon
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
JP Morgan Chase
270 Park Avenue, 39th Floor
New York, NY 10017
Phone: 212-270-1111
Fax: 212-270-1121
Email Address:
jamie.dimon@jpmchase.com

Mr. Brian T. Moynihan
Chief Executive Officer
Bank of America Corporation
100 N. Tryon St.
Charlotte, N.C. 28255
Phone: 704-386-5681
Email:
Brian.T.Moynihan@bankofamerica.com

Mr. Vikram Pandit
CEO
CitiBank
399 Park Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022
Phone 212/793-1201 or 212/559-1000
Email: vikram.pandit@citi.com

Let the "banksters" know how you feel about their actions.

To add insult to injury, \$182.5 billion of our tax dollars went to bail out American International Group – or Notorious AIG, as comedian Bill Maher calls them – but they have not reciprocated with the Black media. AIG, the largest insurance company in the world, is MIA.

You can't turn on the television without seeing one of those horrendous man/ape commercials about GEICO. Yet, GEICO is monkeying around with us by also being absent from the list of top advertisers.

African-Americans over index on mobile phones. Verizon is a top advertiser with the Black media but not AT&T, Sprint or T-Mobile. If they haven't joined the list by next year, we should pull the plug on them.

Read the rest online at www.theskanner.com



Beware of Mortgage Scams Targeting Elders

The economy has had a detrimental effect on homeownership. Unemployment and underemployment have made it tough for many homeowners to maintain current mortgage payments. In attempts to get assistance and avoid foreclosure, vulnerable homeowners become prime targets for scam artists who are taking advantage of people through a wide array of mortgage scams. For homeowners in need of assistance, now is the time to be more vigilant than ever.

Through December 31, 2011, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) had more than 2,500 pending investigations into mortgage fraud around the country. Although the scope of losses for homeowners, legitimate businesses and to the economy caused by mortgage fraud are difficult to calculate, CoreLogic, a research and analytics company, has estimated that losses due to mortgage fraud in 2011 were \$7.4 billion.

Scams from All Sides

There are many variations of mortgage scams, but the goal is

MORTGAGE SERVICING

Marie Day

the same: take money and even property from unaware homeowners. Some scammers guarantee

future. Still others may claim that they could help expedite short sales.

Some swindlers have even used direct mail with prominent use of the lender's name to gain the trust of customers and trick them into believing an offer for assistance is

Homeowners looking for help to avoid foreclosure are primary targets

that they can negotiate a loan modification with your lender for an up-front fee. Others claim they are affiliated with government agencies and the new loan modification programs. Some fraudsters say they can conduct forensic loan audits to determine whether loans were made in accordance with federal and state mortgage lending laws. Other schemers convince homeowners to surrender the title or deed of their homes in exchange for a new "rescue" loan, or as part of a deal that would let the homeowners rent the home for a few years and then have the ability to repurchase the home in the

from their lender. Since homeowner names, addresses, lender names and original mortgage loan amounts are available to anyone

File complaints with the Federal Trade Commission at www.ftc.gov/complaint or call them at 877-FTC-HELP

through public real estate records, con artists use this information to create direct mail pieces that confuse potential victims into thinking that they are dealing with their lender.

Protect Yourself and Get Assistance

In order to protect yourself from scammers, always be on the lookout for key warning signs. Fraudsters might:

Request payment or charge fees in advance.

Guarantee results.

Direct homeowners to stop making mortgage payments and instead make a payment to a third-party organization.

Tell homeowners that they cannot deal with their lender directly.

Request that a homeowner sign over the deed or other papers.

If you are having financial difficulties in paying your mortgage, you should contact your lender and a housing counselor approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD-approved counselors can provide assistance free of charge, or for a nominal fee. A list of counseling agencies near you can be found at www.hud.gov. If you have doubts whether direct mail that claims to be from your lender is legitimate, call your lender directly and confirm it. And finally, if you think you have been scammed, you should file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission online at www.ftc.gov/complaint or call them at 877-FTC-HELP. Scammers are working hard to take advantage of people in distress. It's imperative that you get informed and take precautions to not become their next victim.

By Marie Day, Residential Mortgage Default Servicing and Community Outreach Executive, Wells Fargo

Ask for personal information over the phone or email.

Pressure the customer to perform a specific action.

National Urban League to Nike: Just Don't Do It



TO BE EQUAL

Marc Morial

promotion of misdirected priorities to our children, and the potential and sometimes real violence associated with this type of marketing campaign. Following is a copy of that letter.

August 24, 2012

Mark Parker
President & Chief Executive Officer
Philip H. Knight
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Nike, Inc.
One Bowerman Drive
Beaverton, OR 97005-6453

Mr. Parker and Mr. Knight:

In light of the recent news that Nike plans to release a \$315 basketball shoe, I ask that you pause to reflect on the implications of your decision during this fragile economic recovery.

It's no accident that Nike is a coveted brand among the nation's urban youth. It's no secret that the frenzy surrounding Nike product launches repeatedly results in eruptions of violence. Obsession with the Nike brand in poverty-stricken communities, according to published reports has led to muggings, beatings, and worse.

With unemployment and its attendant hopelessness and desperation at historic highs in the very communities targeted by Nike's aggressive marketing, now is the time to step back and consider the true impact of this kind of campaign. To release such an outrageously overpriced product, designed to appeal to a young, urban demographic, while the nation is struggling to overcome an unemployment crisis is insensitive at best.

Nike may well assure itself that it is not responsible for the priorities and values of its customers, but it can choose to address the negative consequences of its own marketing. In recent years, Nike's award-winning advertising has promoted a message of personal achievement and self-esteem. That message is undermined by Nike's appeal to shallow materialism.

As you are aware, in our public statement earlier this week, we called upon parents to resist the pressure to purchase expensive

sneakers when those dollars would best be spent on school supplies, books or computers. They ultimately are responsible for the choices they make for their children, and for the values they instill in them. But good corporate citizens and responsible community members should help, not hinder parents in their efforts.

Please reconsider your plans for the

LeBron X Nike Plus, and join the National Urban League in our efforts to empower young people to value their own talents – athletic and otherwise – above empty status symbols, and work together for broader access to the economic mainstream.

Sincerely yours,
Marc H. Morial

“The economy continues to fall apart, unemployment rates are through the roof and Nike knows that the kids are strung out. So they just keep mass marketing high-priced cool to those who can't afford it.”

- Stephen A. Crockett, Jr., Washington Post

In recent weeks, on behalf of the National Urban League, I have been urging Nike to

That message is undermined by Nike's appeal to shallow materialism

reconsider its plans to market a new basketball shoe targeted to urban youth that will be priced in the neighborhood of \$300. We understand that adolescence is a time dominated by peer pressure, the emulation of celebrities and the need to fit. This often leads to equating self-esteem with material status symbols, including high-priced sneakers. Aside from the misplaced values this represents, it can have devastating consequences for low income urban families. All of us – from parents and children to corporations – have a responsibility to recognize this problem and do something about it. On August 24th, I sent a letter to Nike company officials outlining our opposition to the upcoming release of their latest overpriced basketball shoe. Our objections include the economic exploitation of low-income youth and their families, the

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Roach Gigz Q&A

Up and coming Bay Area artist touched down in Portland this past week

Bruce Poinsette
Of *The Skanner News*

Roach Gigz brought his “Bugged Out” tour to Portland on Sep. 24 with a show at The Backspace. The up and coming Bay Area artist has released a series of successful mixtapes and was recently featured on MTV2’s Sucker Free. He sat down with *The Skanner News* before the show to discuss the new tour and his love for hip-hop.

The Skanner News: How long have you been doing music?

Roach Gigz: I’ve been in love with hip-hop, been doing talent shows since the third grade. As early as that, I performed Snoop Dogg songs in the talent show. I never really took the idea of a career seriously until the end of 2006 when I was in high school and me and a friend of mine made a song that was really popular. It ended up on the radio.

Tsk: What song was that?

RG: It was called “Get It” with Lil 4 Tay. Once I heard myself on the radio I was like “F that, I can make it happen”.

Tsk: Why did you fall in love with hip-hop so early?

RG: I can’t really explain it. The radio station of choice was 106 KMEL. We

always used to listen to it driving to school. It just happened. One of my first favorite songs was “Summertime in the LBC” by Dove Shack and I can’t explain it. It just happened. Ever since then I’ve had posters on my wall and the whole thing.

Tsk: Would you say growing up in the Bay Area helped shape your music in any way?

RG: Completely. In the Bay Area we’re on a whole other wave length. We have a different type of sound, different type of dance, different type of feel to the way we do things. It probably has to do with how culturally diverse it is and the amount of things going on in such a small place but we’re definitely a little bit different.

Tsk: What were some of your favorite artists growing up?

RG: Early on my all-time favorite was Tupac. As I got a little bit older, in middle school, I started listening to Mac Dre, who is also from the Bay Area. And he is, to me, my idol. He’s one of the main reasons that I do rap as a career and probably my biggest influence musically.

Tsk: Can you describe yourself as an artist?

RG: I would say that I’m on a, I look at things in a unique perspective. I don’t try to follow trends. I don’t try to do what’s popu-



Roach Gigz

lar. I just do what I feel like doing, what sounds good to me. I’m really heavily Bay Area influenced. I can make up-tempo party stuff. I can make serious stuff. I’m really versatile in that type of way. As long as I can make my lyrics on point I can make music for all occasions.

Tsk: Can you talk about the Bugged Out tour?

RG: It’s like a West Coast tour. We’re going all up and down California. Obviously we’re going to Portland, Eugene and Ashland and Seattle and Spokane. It’s my second headlining tour of this year, as kind of a promotional push for my album, which dropped on Sep. 4. It’s my first official album. We’re just going to these different cities rocking out.

Tsk: What’s the album called?

RG: The album is called “Bugged Out”. It’s the first piece of music I’ve actually had for sale in my life. It did pretty well. It started on the national hip-hop charts.

Tsk: You performed up in the NW that much?

RG: No, the only time I’ve been up there

was earlier this year. We went for the first tour. It’s the second time we’ve been up there.

Tsk: Was Portland one of those cities?

RG: Yes it was. I forgot where we performed at. It wasn’t the Roseland, it was somewhere else. It was cool. It was a Wednesday so it was cool. Portland definitely showed me some love. I’m definitely looking forward to coming back.

Tsk: Have you got any upcoming projects in the works?

RG: Right now everything is focused on the album I just dropped. I’m trying to just push that. I’m also working on a couple of EPs with different producers. I’m in the process of collecting beats and starting to get back into recording for these next projects I’m creating. But there’s no name or none of that yet.

Tsk: Lastly, is there anything else for Portland fans to know?

RG: I mean, I’m bugged out. I’m coming to Portland and the Bay Area is going to be in the building.

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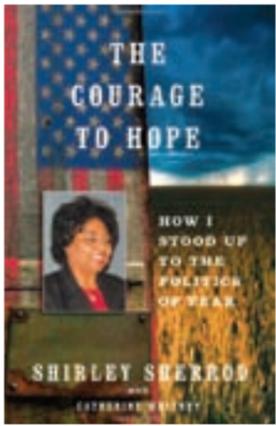
How I Stood Up to the Politics of Fear

By Kam Williams
Special To *The Skanner News*

“In the summer of 2010, Shirley Sherrod was catapulted into a media storm that blew apart her life... A right-wing blogger disseminated a video clip of a speech she had given to the Georgia NAACP...

The media ramped up the outrage and, before Sherrod had a chance to defend herself, the Obama administration demanded her resignation. Then, after hearing... the entire speech, public officials and media professionals admitted to being duped and apologized for their rush to judgment...

The *Courage to Hope* addresses this regrettable episode but also tells Sherrod's own story of growing



her heartfelt remarks in that speech delivered to the NAACP were exactly the opposite. In the address, she spoke about how she had overcome the bitterness she'd felt about the South (including the murder of her own father by a white man never brought to justice) to the point that she became willing to help poor folks of any color.

Furthermore, she was summarily fired on the spot by her boss without being given an opportunity to defend herself. In the end, the truth did come out, affording the country a very-valuable teachable moment about innocence until proven guilty when the unfairly accused was ultimately exonerated.

Sherrod finally gets to set the record straight in *The Courage to Hope*, a poignant half-autobiography/half-tale of redemption. Not only does the moving memoir address the infamous incident which thrust the author into the limelight but, perhaps more importantly, it recounts a life story which reveals her to be a real role model well worthy of admiration and emulation.

'Master Harold...'



JAMIE BOSWORTH PHOTOGRAPHER

Profile Theatre opens its 16th season with Athol Fugard's "Master Harold...and the Boys," running Oct. 3 – 28. The three-man tour-de-force features the talents of Garfield Wedderburn, Sam Benedict and Bobby Bermea (above, from left), and is directed by Jane Unger. Profile Theater, located at 3430 SE Belmont St., is dedicating its entire season to Fugard, a native of South Africa and one of the most respected living playwrights.

In the end, the truth did come out, affording the country a very-valuable teachable moment about innocence until proven guilty when the unfairly accused was ultimately exonerated.

up in Georgia during the violent years of Jim Crow when her father was murdered by a white neighbor who was never brought to justice.”

— Excerpted from the *Inside Book Jacket*.

A couple of years ago, arch-conservative Andrew Breitbart (since deceased) launched a character assassination on Shirley Sherrod which almost cost the then U.S.D.A. State Director her career while temporarily ruining her reputation. For, he had posted on his website a video edited to make Ms. Sherrod appear to be an unrepentant bigot against Caucasians.

Truth be told, the tenor of

However, Breitbart's misleading video quoted Ms. Sherrod out of context, making no mention of her having made an emotional breakthrough. Instead, it was deliberately designed to leave viewers with the impression that she was an inveterate racist.

Sadly, the clip went viral and soon not only right-wing pundits but even presumably sympathetic colleagues ranging from NAACP President Ben Jealous to officials in the Obama administration began calling for the poor woman's head.

Sherrod was publicly humiliated in the national press as if the poster child for racial intolerance.



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Remembrance

Pee-Wee Cowboy Woods

Earl Douglas Woods was born Dec. 27, 1936, and passed away on Sept. 23, 2012.

Earl was a jack of all trades. He loved the outdoors especially fishing. He is survived by his sister evangelist Grace E. Goodacre of Arlington, Texas; his



children Earlene Woods-Lopez; Earl D. Woods Jr; Glynnis Woods; Latrell Woods; Sharmella Woods; seven grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

Memorial services will be held at the family's house in Portland. Call 206-661-9681 for location information.

Services for Richard Carley, 81

Mr. Richard Eddie Carley, the husband of Mrs. Alice Stein (King) Carley and father of Ms. Constance Carley, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 20, in Seattle, Wash. He was born on the 26th of November, 1930 in Tampa, Fla. He served over 20 years in the United States Coast Guard from which he retired in February 1968.

A viewing will take place from 3 until 7 p.m. on Thursday the 27th of September in Columbia



Funeral Home's Fire-side Room.

Mr. Carley's remains will be interred at 10:30 a.m. on Friday the 28th of September at Tahoma National Cemetery located in Kent, Wash. A memorial service will then take place at Grace United Methodist Church located in Seattle, Washington at 1 p.m. followed by a repast.

Seeking Memories for Vanport History Project

To keep the stories of Vanport alive for future generations, the North Portland Multimedia Training Center is offering a free intensive workshop on Saturday, Sept. 29 from 9 A.M. – 5 P.M. open to the general public 18 years and older. The workshop blends teaching the mechanics of HD camera operation and the art of producing oral history in a one-day 8-hour workshop. The first topic for the project-based training is "Life in Vanport." NPMTTC is looking for stories that are not just about the flood, but reveal what life was like for people living in Vanport before the flood. Workshop students will produce 3-5 minute videos to share with the community. For more information or to register for the class, go to www.npmttc.com.

A vanishing city with a rich heritage, Vanport Oregon was a community of several thousand-shipyard workers and their families from a variety of back-



OSC Vanport bldgs planting ca 1948-1953

grounds and ethnicity living in one of the rare integrated housing complexes in the United States during World War II. The community began to establish a life beginning in 1938 working, attending school, playing, raising families, practicing personal beliefs, and becoming a community with commonality in spite

view and film them. Some workshop students are seeking individuals to interview and NPMTTC will match producers with interviewees. The workshop would also like to offer students a variety of photographs or other memorabilia from the Vanport era to include in their productions. If you are interested in either being

Vanport Oral History Project Seeks Memorabilia and Individuals to Interview

of the vast differences in heritage between groups. Ten years later, in May 1948, a wall of water from the Columbia River engulfed Vanport washing it away and sending its residents inland.

Did you live in Vanport or know someone who did? You may have stories to share, but no one to inter-

interviewed or if you have Vanport related photos or items NPMTTC could duplicate, please call NPMTTC at 503-285-5555, ext. 521 or email npmttc@comcast.net.

"Life in Vanport" is sponsored by *The Skanner Foundation* and a matching grant from Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission.

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Movies/Bids/Classifieds

Movies Opening This Week — Sept. 26

By Kam Williams
Special to *The Skanner News*

Won't Back Down (PG for mature themes and mild epithets) Fact-based, female empowerment saga, set in Pittsburgh, about a jaded teacher (Viola Davis) and a frustrated single-mom (Maggie Gyllenhaal) who join forces to turn around an underperforming public school. A-list cast includes Ving Rhames, Academy Award-winner Holly Hunter (for *The Piano*), and Oscar-nominees Rosie Perez (for *Fearless*) and Marianne Jean-Baptiste (for *Secrets & Lies*).

Hotel Transylvania (PG for action, rude humor and scary images) Animated romantic comedy about the Dracula's daughter (Selena Gomez) who, over the objections of her father (Adam Sandler), falls in love with a mere mortal (Andy Samberg). Voice cast includes Kevin James, Ceelo Green, Steve Buscemi and Jon Lovitz.

Looper (R for profanity, sexuality, nudity, drug use and graphic violence) Sci-fi thriller, set in 2042, about a mob hit man (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) who has no qualms about time-travelling to carry out contracts until he is ordered to assassinate his future self (Bruce Willis). With Emily Blunt, Paul Dano, Jeff Daniels and Piper Perabo.



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9-26-12



Come Out for Our Families!

We believe all our families have so much in common: we struggle to access healthy food, quality education, affordable healthcare, and housing. Our families also face discrimination that prevents us from thriving in our workplaces and our neighborhoods. As families of color, we experience unique challenges as we work to keep our homes, our jobs, and our health.

These struggles affect Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) families of color in very unique ways. LGBT families of color are part of the fabric of our community and members of our own families. Unfortunately, some of our LGBT family members do not feel our community's full support.

So, in honor of National Coming Out Day, we are coming out as friends, family and public allies of LGBT families of color.

We believe our communities are strongest when all families – extended families, multi-generational families, single-parent families and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender families - have the resources, respect and love they need to thrive.

We believe it's time to come out in support of all our families. Join us!



- Alliance of Minority Chambers
- Cause Oregon
- Farmerworker Housing Development Corporation
- Latino Network
- Lewis & Clark Law School
- Native American Youth and Family Center
- Northwest Health Foundation
- Oregon Action
- Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN)
- Oregon's Farmworker Union
- Portland African American Leadership Forum
- Portland Japanese American Citizens League
- Portland State University
- (All other organizations listed for affiliation purposes only.)
- Donny Adair, President, Donny Adair Consulting
- Tina Adair, Membership Services Representative, Kaiser Permanente
- David Barrios, Native Community Member
- Andree L. Brown, Associate Professor, Lewis & Clark College
- Cyrene Boston Ashby, Portland African American Leadership Forum
- Ja Ann (Bowman) Hardesty
- Karel Collymore
- Gerald Delaney
- Se-ah-Jam Edma, Tribal & Diversity Outreach, Lewis & Clark College
- Antoinette Edwards, Director, City of Portland's Office of Youth Violence Prevention, Co-Founder of PFLAG Portland Black Chapter
- Keith Edwards, International Business Representative, IBEW
- Marlette Gary-Smith, Health Educator, Multnomah County Health Department
- Sharon J. Gary-Smith, Executive Director, McKenzie River Gathering Foundation
- Avel Louise Gendly
- Lisa Reed Guarners
- Emi Hanawa, School Psychologist, Portland Public Schools
- Levi Herrera-Lopez, Executive Director, Mana a Mana Family Center
- Linda Hornbuckle, Community Health Specialist, Multnomah County Health Department

- Miki Hunnicut
- Rich Iwasaki, Portland Japanese American Citizens League
- Kayse Jama, Executive Director, Center for Intercultural Organizing
- Dante James, Director, City of Portland Office of Equity and Human Rights
- Annabelle Jaramilla, Commissioner, Benton County
- Roy Jay, Executive Director, Alliance of Minority Chambers
- Roberto Jimenez, Executive Director, Farmerworker Housing Development Corporation
- J.B. Kim, Assistant Dean, Diversity and Academic Resources, Lewis & Clark Law School
- Larry Kleinman, Secretary-Treasurer, Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN) Oregon's Farmworker Union
- Paul Knuts, Community Leader
- Susan Leedham, Co-president, Portland Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)
- Thomas Le Ngo, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO)
- Francisco Lopez, Executive Director, Cause Oregon
- Lorena Manzo, Lead Organizer, Cause Oregon
- Nichole J. Maher, Northwest Health Foundation
- Jason Mak
- Donna Maxey, Commissioner, City of Portland Human Rights
- Joe McFerrin II, President/CEO, Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center (POIC)
- Jilma Meneses, Chief Diversity Officer, Portland State University
- Captain Kevin Medina, Portland Police Bureau, Youth Services Division
- Alberto Moreno, Executive Director, Oregon Latino Health Coalition
- Matt Morlan, Executive Director, Native American Youth and Family Center
- Thach Nguyen, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO)
- Melisse "Mimi" Nollado, Chairperson, Eugene/Springfield Asian Council
- Pam Phan, Member, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO)

- Lorenzo T. Poe, Jr. Chief Equity and Diversity Officer, Portland Public Schools
- Vera Paole, Multnomah County Sheriff
- Midge Percell, Director of Advocacy and Public Policy, Urban League of Portland
- Guadalupe Quinn, Program Coordinator, Immigrant Rights Advocacy Program (Amigos)
- Gauri Rajbaidya, Presidente, Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN) Oregon's Farmworker Union
- Liani Reeves, General Counsel, Office of the Governor
- Suk Rhee, Vice President, Planning & Operations, Northwest Health Foundation
- Larry Roper, Vice Provost for Student Affairs, Oregon State University
- Carmen Rubio, Executive Director, Latino Network
- Diana Ruiz
- Roy Hunter Sampsel, Executive Director, Institute for Tribal Government, PSU
- Jane Arima Schumann, Board co-chair, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO)
- Ty Schwaefferman, Health Equity Organizer, Urban League of Portland
- Sha Shigeoka
- Rev. William Sinkford, Senior Minister, First Unitarian Church
- Commissioner Loretta Smith, District 2, Multnomah County
- Channbunmarl (Cham) Sou, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO)
- Lamar Tillman, Outreach Coordinator, Planned Parenthood Columbia Willamette
- Tricia Tillman, Administrator, Office of Equity and Inclusion
- Shella Warren, President, Portland Parent Union
- Myrna-Yvonne Williams, African American AIDS Awareness Action Alliance (A4)
- Ron Williams, Executive Director, Oregon Action
- Jean Yamamoto, Co-president, Portland Japanese American Citizens League
- Anita Yap

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Advertisement for: Oregon Zoo – New Elephant Habitat – Early Work Bid Package

Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC, serving as the Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC) for Metro– Oregon Zoo is soliciting bids for the construction of the Asian Elephants new Elephant Habitat in Portland, Oregon. Terms and conditions of the bid are outlined in Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC (CM/GC) "Invitation to Bid" dated September 24, 2012, attached to and made a part of the Contract Documents.

Bids will be received at the offices of Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC, (CM/GC), 550 SW 12th Avenue –3rd Floor, Portland, Oregon 97205, until 2:00 P.M. PST, October 12, 2012 at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Proposals shall be clearly marked "Oregon Zoo Elephant Habitat Bid Package No. 1"

The total construction cost for Oregon Zoo New Elephant Habitat Early Work Package is projected to be approximately \$7,600,000.

This Bid Package includes the following scopes of work only.

- Wild Life Live Building Addition and Renovation
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- Construction of New Train Building
- Construction of a new Perimeter Service Road & Utilities

All remaining scopes of work to be included in future Bid Packages.

A MANDATORY pre-bid conference for bidders bidding specific Bid Package #1.1 – Earthwork, Civil, Service Road, Utilities, Retaining Walls and Tie Backs will be held at the Project Site, in the Skyline Conference Room (Basement of Cascade Grill) located at 4001 SW Canyon Rd, Portland, OR on September 28, 2012, at 9:00 A.M, local time.

Pre-Bid conference is non; mandatory for subcontractors bidding all other packages.

It is the intention of Lease Crutcher Lewis, LCC (CM/GC) to submit a bid for Bid Package 1.2 –Concrete Structure.

Contract Documents and the Invitation to Bid may be reviewed at the following locations: Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC (CM/GC)/Portland, OR; Precision Images, ARC; Oregon, and Oregon Contractor.

Contract Documents may be purchased (non-refundable) in its entirety or in part from Precision Images, (503) 274;2030.

All proposers must comply with the following requirements: Prevailing Wage Law, ORS 279C.800; 279C.870, Licensed with Construction Contractors Board ORS 671.530. Bidder shall indicate Resident Status per ORS 279A.120. If Required, Bidders must obtain business licenses to perform work in the City of Portland prior to mobilizing on jobsite.

Bids will not be considered unless RECEIVED by 2:00 P.M. PST on October 12, 2012, and fully completed in the manner provided by the "Instructions to Bidders"

"NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION TO ENSURE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (Executive order 11246):"

Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC (CM/GC) is committed to taking affirmative action to encourage and facilitate the participation of minority, women-owned, and emerging small business enterprises (M/W/ESBE) in State and Metro projects and encourage Subcontractors to provide similar opportunities for their subcontractors / vendors.

9-26-12

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Separate sealed bids for the 32nd and Addy Street Pedestrian Improvements project consisting of:

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at the office of: CITY HALL, 1701 'C' STREET, WASHOUGAL, WASHINGTON

until **2:00 P.M. on October 9th, 2012**, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.

CONTRACT PROVISIONS, PLANS, AND BID PROPOSAL forms may be obtained by going to the City's online plan center at (<http://plancenter.swca.org/site/washougal>). This online plan center provides Bidders with free of charge access to these documents with the ability to email, download, and view full/partial plan sets and any addenda. If a Bidder has not previously done so, the Bidder will need to create a free user account.

Information copies of the contract provisions, plans, and bid proposal are also on file for inspection at the City of Washougal, City Hall, 1701 'C' Street, Washougal, WA 98671.

This project will require enrollment and participation in the "E-Verify" program through the Department of Homeland Security. "E-Verify" enrollment will apply to both the successful contractor and their respective subcontractors.

All bid proposals shall be accompanied by a bid proposal deposit in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or surety bond in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of such bid proposal. Should the successful bidder fail to enter into such contract and furnish satisfactory performance bond within the time stated in the specifications, the bid proposal deposit shall be forfeited to the City of Washougal. No bid will be considered unless fully completed in the manner provided in the "Instruction to Bidders" upon the bid form provided by the Engineer.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive all informalities. No bidder may withdraw or modify his bid after the hour set for the opening and thereafter until the lapse of thirty (30) days from the bid opening.

Attention is called to the minimum wages as set forth in the contract documents.

42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

9-26-12

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Inquiries regarding compliance with this policy may be directed to the Executive Director

P.O. Box 33350, Portland, Oregon 97292-3350

Telephone number: 503.761.7139.

9-26-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLANS THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR RFP 13-2205

The Human Resources Department of Metro, a metropolitan service district organized under the laws of the State of Oregon and the Metro Charter, located at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-2736, is hereby requesting sealed proposals for defined contribution plans third party administrator.

Sealed proposals are due no later than close of business November 2, 2012, in Metro's business offices at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-2736, Attention: Sharon Stiffler, Procurement Analyst, RFP 13-2205.

Metro is soliciting responses from qualified firms to provide sole provider administration, record keeping, education, participant investment advice and investment management services for its current 401(k) Tax-Deferred Savings Plan and its 457 (b) Deferred Compensation Plan.

Proposals can be viewed and downloaded at Metro's website <http://www.oregonmetro.gov>, click on "Doing Business With", then "Requests for Bids and Proposal".

Metro may accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, or waive irregularities not affecting substantial rights if such action is deemed in the public interest.

Metro extends equal opportunity to all persons and specifically encourages minority, women-owned and emerging small businesses to access and participate in this and all Metro projects, programs and services

Metro and its contractors will not discriminate against any person(s), employee or applicant for employment based on race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, physical handicap, political affiliation or marital status. Metro fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, see www.oregonmetro.gov.

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INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Vancouver Housing Authority will receive bids for project **201212 - VAN VISTA ADDITION** until **2:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 23, 2012** at Vancouver Housing Authority, 2500 Main St., Vancouver, Washington 98660 at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. A **MANDATORY Pre-Bid meeting and walkthrough** will be held on **Tuesday, October 9 at 2:00 p.m.** at Van Vista Plaza, 410 W. 13 St., Vancouver, WA 98660. Bidders will be let in through the front door.

Work includes a one story kitchen/dining addition, renovation to 1st and 10th floors, life safety and HVAC addition to units, new emergency generator and parking lot addition. Copies of the documents will be available at J-2 Blueprint, 8100 NE St. Johns Rd in Vancouver (website j2b.com - Phone 360-696-1861) and local plan centers.

Attention is called to the provisions for equal employment opportunity, economic opportunities for low and very low income persons (Section 3), and payment of not less than the minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the specifications. Award will be made to lowest responsive and responsible bidder that meets solicitation requirements.

9-26-12



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This Week's Edition

A life-changing adventure. An incredible recovery.

When a boulder cascading down Mt. Adams struck Jamie Hunter and knocked her 80 feet down the mountain, it took a heroic rescue and amazing medical support to keep her alive. After 70 surgeries in 82 days at Legacy Emanuel Medical Center, Jamie emerged healthy, thankful and with a sense of purpose.

Nine years later, she is following her dream of helping people with disabilities enjoy outdoor activities. Jamie's story is one of countless amazing tales that have happened at Legacy Emanuel. As part of our 100th anniversary, we are honoring the stories that have built Emanuel's legacy.

Our legacy is yours.

Join the celebration

Bring your family and friends to celebrate our 100th anniversary. Music, entertainment, bike helmet clinic, real-life "@ Legacy Emanuel" stories and more. **Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012, 1-4 p.m.** Details at www.legacyhealth/emanuel100.



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Challenging People to Shape a Better Future Now

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE



Angela Watkins
see page 2



Greg Wooley
see page 4



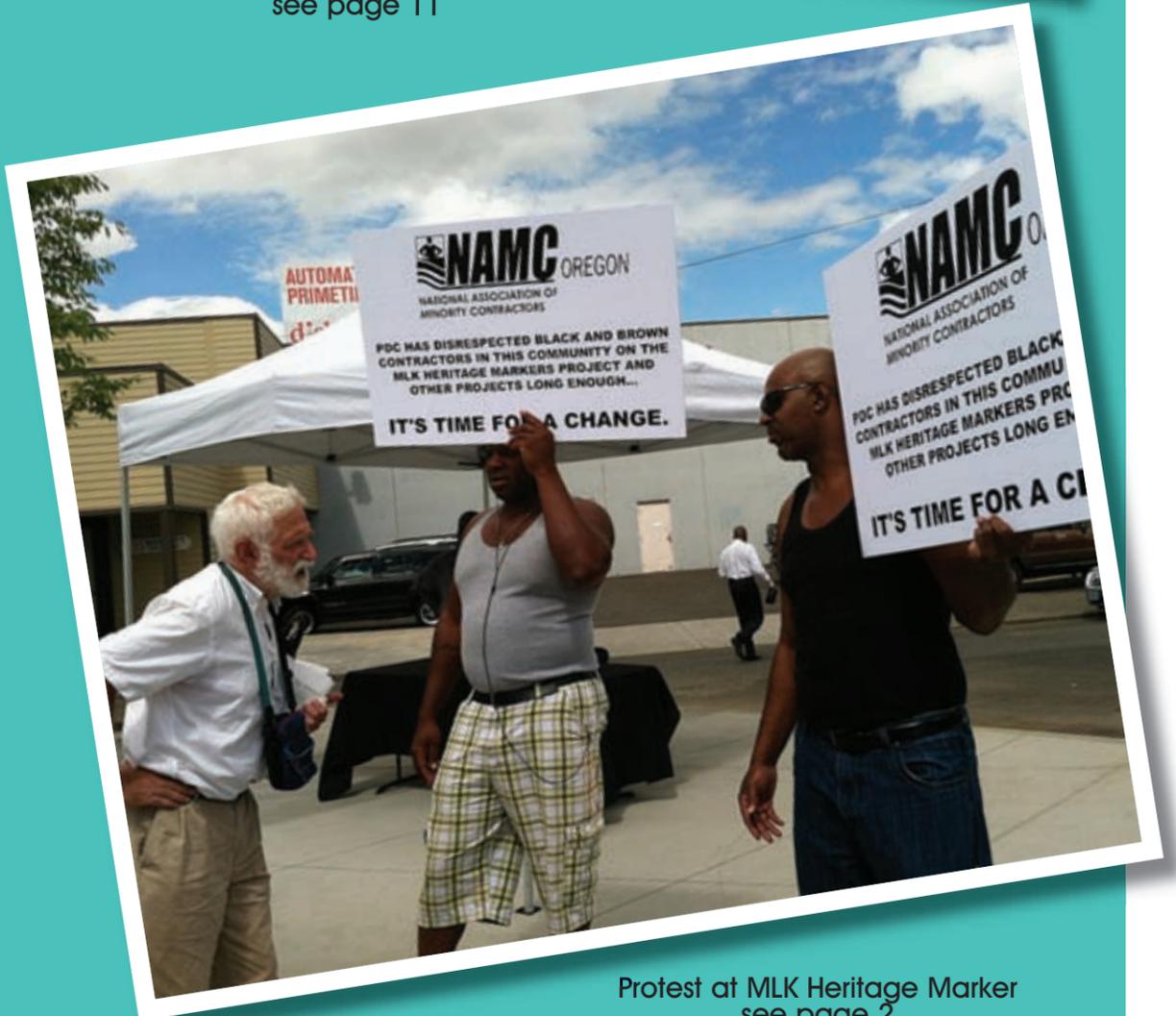
Cinnamon Williams
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Multnomah County Contracting
see page 11



Protest at MLK Heritage Marker
see page 2

2012—The Year of Equity?

Every year *The Skanner News* publishes a special edition devoted to Minority Business Enterprise.

This year, however, there's something different: Equity is breaking out.

After years of advocacy, a string of significant milestones – from audits and investigations to new contracting policies and procedures – may have an impact on an industry that has been resistant to change.

In these pages you will find short profiles of some dynamic individuals in our region who are now the gatekeepers for construction contracting and procurement by government agencies – and we think you will be impressed by what they bring to their jobs.

We are also throwing into the mix some business program tips and information that can help you take your business to the next level.

Whatever your business is – or your dream business – we wish you the best of luck in entrepreneurship. And for all our readers who are looking for goods and services, we want to encourage you to spend your dollars wisely, spend them in our own community, and thank the small business owners who hold up so much of our local economy.

The Skanner News Team



Last month, two protesters from NAMC-O picketed the grand opening of the Martin Luther King Jr. Heritage Marker project at the edge of the Boise Eliot neighborhood, trying to draw attention to what NAMC-O says were missteps in the bidding process for construction companies. Members of the group criticized the Portland Development Commission's contract award process which, they say, did not result in significant investment in the local Black community's businesses despite the fact that the Heritage Marker was designed to honor the Black community (many of NAMC-O's issues with the Heritage Marker echo those in two recent developments in the industry locally, see 'ODOT Ruling' on page 3 of this issue). PDC Business and Social Equity Director John Jackley says the Heritage Marker contracting process was a model of MWESB participation, with 75 percent of work done by Asian, Native American and Black family-owned companies. NAMC-O members say that only one Black-owned company, O'Neill Electric, got any part of the work, and that was \$68,000 worth out of nearly \$650,000 spent. The curving, rusted-metal signage on the spot reads: "They will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." A reporter for *The Skanner News* who watched part of the sign's installation says it appeared the crew that erected it was comprised only of white workers.

Port of Portland Small Business Development Program: Looking to Build Success



By Bruce Poinsette
Of *The Skanner News*

Angela Watkins, MCA, manages the Port of Portland Small Business Development Program (SBDP). The SBDP consists of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program, The Mentor Protégé Program, and the Small Business Participation Initiative. Watkins is also responsible for MWESB/DBE outreach, oversight of all small business goals in contracting, purchasing, and airport concessions.

She says she works to build small businesses in the metro region through education, mentoring, and training.

"My vision for this position is to be the premier pro-

Watkins works to build small businesses in the metro region through education, mentoring, and training

gram preparing certified firms to compete in any economic market and understand what truly will make their business successful – understanding all aspects of your business," says Watkins.

When awarding contracts, she says she is looking for contractors/consultants that have knowledge of the Portland Airport project and have an idea of the security policies of the airport. In general, she looks for small businesses to have knowledge of their industry and have their "business financials in order".

"Bottom line, our goal in this program is to increase access and ensure small businesses are included and they are ready, willing and able to participate on any public improvement project," says Watkins. "The Mentor Protégé Program is a good way to build relationships with decision-makers and gain access to projects from public/private partners."

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Federal Government Slaps ODOT on Highway 217 Job

Fake minority companies identified in rare victory for construction contracting watchdogs

Lisa Loving
Of *The Skanner News*

The Oregon Department of Transportation has been stung by a landmark ruling by the Federal Highway Administration Office of Civil Rights that found cheating on minority contracting numbers at a Highway 217 construction project last year.

The three-part ruling, dated Aug. 29, says that Salt & Pepper Construction Company, Inc., is not really a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) company despite the fact that it was certified as one by the state Office of Minority, Women and Emerging Small Business; that Salt & Pepper colluded with the project's prime contractor,

DBE accounting to "reflect the Salt & Pepper's performance as a DBE on the project and in the overall program;" ODOT must require the OMWESB office to remove Salt & Pepper from its rolls of certified DBE companies; and finally, ODOT must submit its findings to further review by the FHA.

"It's a milestone," said the National Association for Minority Contracting - Oregon Executive Director Melvin Oden-Orr. "The milestone we hope it is, is one that says to ODOT that compliance is important or fraud will run rampant."

ODOT Spokesman Patrick Cooney says that the bureau plans to follow through with the FHA's findings and intends to take steps to correct the problem.

"This is not how this program's supposed to go," Cooney said. "We are in the process of examining step-by-step what happened and why it happened."

He said he couldn't speak to specifics because ODOT itself does not yet have all the information gathered by the federal administrators. "But we have until the end of October," Cooney said.

A spokesman for the FHA declined to name any penalties that might be levied against ODOT because, he said, every case is different, and, "We have no reason to believe that ODOT does not plan to follow through" with the findings, he said.

However he did say that, in general, any agency that fails to follow through with FHA findings faces financial penalties.

Oden-Orr says the penalties are enshrined in federal contracting regulations, and include loss of federal funds.

"Federal Highway should and could pull all the money they have given them - including the money spent on that project,"

Oden-Orr said.

Over the past decade consistent criticisms of ODOT's DBE operations led to a Disparity Study published in 2007, which found that specifically Black and Asian-American-owned firms were "substantially underutilized."

In response to its own study, ODOT established "Hard goals" for Black and Asian participation in its DBE programs; its 2011 update on the Disparity Study made three conclusions:

- 1) Re-instating selective hard goals helped increase construction work awarded to Asian Pacific American-owned businesses.
- 2) There is still substantial disparity in awarding construction work to African American- and Sub-continent Asian American-owned businesses.
- 3) There is substantial disparity in awarding A&E/professional services work for most groups: African American-, Hispanic American-, Sub-continent Asian American-, Native American-, and nonminority women-owned businesses.

"Overall, the findings show support for ODOT to use race conscious DBE goals in specific areas," the study said.

The issue of fraud in DBE certification is a bitter one for local minority contracting companies, who have fought city and state agencies for decades over what they say is the lack of real contract opportunities in public works projects because of open fraud by companies faking minority status.

What makes the FHA finding against ODOT even more interesting is that one of the fraudulently-accredited contractors revealed himself and his illegal activities



Melvin Oden Orr of NAMC- O

during testimony at a Portland City Council meeting.

The company singled out by the FHA, Salt & Pepper Trucking, is this year celebrating its 40th year in business.

According to their website, Salt & Pepper is African American owned and a member of the Oregon Association on Minority Entrepreneurs.

Part of the complaint sent by NAMC-O to the FHA included video of a City Council meeting June 22, 2011, when the Council heard testimony on its Disparity Study.

The first testimony was by a man named

'It's a milestone'

--NAMC-O Executive Director Melvin Oden-Orr

Emery & Sons, and a non-DBE company called Bud Construction LLC to fake minority participation in the highway project; and that ODOT "failed to exercise effective DBE program oversight" in allowing the companies to profit from federal dollars intended for disadvantaged businesses.

The FHA is demanding that ODOT evaluate the implementation of its DBE program and submit a plan of corrective action by Oct. 31 of this year; also ODOT must adjust

See ODOT on page 10

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City of Portland Professional Services Marketing and Outreach: Building a More Level Playing Field

By Bruce Poinsette
Of *The Skanner News*

Greg Wolley works for the City of Portland in the Professional Services Marketing and Outreach Program. His job is a subset of the overall work that's going on with the City and minority owned, women owned and emerging small businesses. He works with businesses in various areas, including in the technical field, business services and creative services. Wolley has served on numerous boards and commissions in Portland over the past 24 years, including work with the TriMet Interstate MAX project and the River Renaissance Committee.

He says his vision is to create an equitable playing field for small businesses, including minority-owned companies.

"Obviously a company that has been in business longer and has done more similar projects has often gotten the nod from our project managers because they have made a bigger impression," says Wolley. "Our goal is to promote the smaller company."

According to Wolley, the City provides support services and technical



The City has worked to restructure how it does procurement for projects to help MWESBs become more competitive

assistance, such as tuition assistance for classes at PCC's Small Business Development Center. All outreach programs for small businesses are supervised by Loretta Young.

The City has also worked to restructure how it does procurement for projects to help MWESBs become more competitive. It is

developing procurement policies that will allow small Oregon certified MWESB firms to compete only with each other for projects up to \$100,000.

"They (large firms) have marketing staff so they can just whip out these proposals very easily and quickly without much effort," says Wolley.

"For a small company, that's a much bigger decision and so proportionately, much more costly. And it takes much more time for them to submit a proposal than a big company. This way, we expect we'll get more proposals and more participation."

When it comes to awarding contracts, Wolley says he is looking for companies that can perform the work well and establish themselves as reliable to the City. Ultimately, it's the surrounding community that benefits, he says.

"I see that as a way for us to contribute to the local economy because small businesses are such a large part of economy here in Portland," says Wolley. "If we can get more money into the pockets of these small businesses, including the MBEs, we're doing our part to help the city's economy."

Bonamici to Join Main Street Alliance to Discuss Oregon Small Business Outlook, Sept. 28

Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici (OR-01) will meet with local members of the Main Street Alliance on Friday, Sept. 28, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. to discuss the impact of federal policies on small businesses in Oregon. The Main Street Alliance is a coalition of small business owners dedicated to working with government officials on issues related to their companies and the greater economy.

"Small business success is both an indicator and a driver of economic prosperity in our state and country," said Bonamici. "I am eager to hear directly from business owners about how Congress can support them as they work to create jobs and help rebuild our national economy."

At the event, the coalition will introduce its latest report, Taking the Pulse of Small Business. The report includes new findings about the economy, access to credit, the housing market, taxes, campaign finance reform, and workplace benefits and administration.

Main Street Alliance members represent a variety of industries across the state including retail, food service, real estate, law, and other services. Roundtable attendees will describe how major federal legislation—including tax cut extenders, banking regulations, and health care reform—impacts their businesses and employees.

Media is invited to attend the roundtable discussion. Please RSVP to Leah Nelson at 202-225-0855 or leah.nelson@mail.house.gov.

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Please contact Lee Fleming at (503) 916-3113, or email at lflemin1@pps.net for additional information about bidding opportunities within the District, or visit our website at:

<http://www.pps.k12.or.us/departments/purchasing-contracting/index.htm>

Elaine Holt
Program Director, Purchasing and Contracting
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Cheating: The Back End of D.C. Minority 'Fronting'

By Harry C. Alford
NNPA Columnist



CHAMBER
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Sometimes the best intentions can be shattered by unforeseen consequences. Such is the case with the Washington, D.C.'s Department of Small and Local Business Development. One of its missions is to increase the participation of D.C.-based business, particularly small and minority-owned firms. It has become popular for this department to encourage minority/majority joint venture construction contracts. This sounds noble but it often becomes a disaster when all of the parties are not genuine and noble in their motivation.

Each joint venture must be screened and certified by the Certified Business Enterprise Office (CBE). To qualify, the minority portion has to have at least 51 percent ownership in the joint venture and also must reside within the District. The outside partner must have less than 50 percent of the joint venture and does not have to reside within the District. The two companies come together under the formal incorporation application to the D.C. government. Bylaws governing the joint venture explain how they are going to work on a particular bid, providing they win that bid. They present their application for CBE Certification. The CBE office reviews all of their papers and makes a decision. Those with CBE certification will get a gift of 12 percent "preference points." This gives them an advantage over other bidders. They can even bid higher than a noncertified company as long as they land within the 12 percent gift margin.

This process is enticing to those White owned firms living outside the District and wishing to get some of those plum D.C. projects. So, they begin breaking the rules. They contact the Department of Small and Local Business Development to get a recommended list of potential minority contractors. To some of these evil prime contractors,

ing the bonding information, which is required within the bid, the authorities can easily give an after bid interview with each party separately and verify that this is a real deal. No out of town majority firm should participate at all!

Today, there are more than a few very large White owned construction companies living outside of the District who are having a field day running this fronting scheme. I know of one minority firm that has done

three different joint venture agreements, worth more than \$130 million, with the same predatory firm (one for each of three different bids). He does about \$2 million per year and the out of town majority firm averages \$500 million. It is just impossible for this to really happen and someone within these District government offices should figure it out or confess to the shams. Better yet, end them now!

Harry Alford is the co-founder, president/CEO of the National Black Chamber of Commerce.

This process is enticing to those White owned firms living outside the District and wishing to get some of those plum D.C. projects. So, they begin breaking the rules

this becomes a "sucker list." They begin surveying the contractors on the list and may end up with the most naive business person they can find. Together, they work on the joint venture agreement and execute all of the requisite paper work, including signature cards for the joint venture bank account. The minority/local owner will usually declare 51 percent ownership. The out of town majority owner will declare the remaining 49 percent. They get certified and go after a certain bid.

If they win, then all hell will break loose. Quickly the White out of town firm will sit its joint venture "partner" down and start dictating how things are going to be on the project. The minority partner's signature card at the bank has disappeared. Instead, of 51 percent local minority and 49 percent out of town majority, it becomes around 10 percent minority and 90 percent out of town majority. If the minority starts to protest, he or she will be threatened with firing. Firing? Yes, it is like he has suddenly become an employee. Thus, the promising joint venture has become more like "front and flunky." The bylaws are mysteriously amended and the whole agreement is breached.

Since the bond is in the White company's name, it has the real power in the "partnership." The minority firm has very little bonding capacity and could not have done the project on his own. Thus, the front controls the whole project. He will assign most of this work to himself, which makes it very profitable. Plus, he probably overbid the project, collecting even more profit (at the expense of the District).

The frustrated minority may be tempted to go to District officials, but that has too many risks. Officials really don't want to hear about anything that might decrease the listed minority participation. Plus, there is too much dirty business to clean up such as fraud and a cancellation of a much needed project. If the minority firm files a lawsuit, the big, bad majority firm will laugh, kick him all the way off the project and order his lawyers to let the case languish in court for years.

Regardless of how you look at it, this is not business development. It is predatory, deceptive and both misleading and costly to the public. District officials are not powerless when it comes to ending this fraud. Besides check-

fronting scheme. I know of one minority firm that has done



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Portland Public Schools Equity in Public Purchasing and Contracting: Changing the History

By Bruce Poinsette
Of *The Skanner News*

Lee Fleming has been with Portland Public Schools (PPS) since May 2011. Prior to that, he spent three years as an analyst for the State Procurement Office. During his time there he dealt with MWESB concerns as part of a mandate from the Governor's office. One aspect of that was reporting to the Governor's advocate on MWESB information. Fleming says being involved in the statutes and rules pertaining to public purchasing policy prepared him for what he's doing today.

PPS introduced its Equity in Public Purchasing and Contracting Policy in July. Fleming says the district-wide vision is to be more purposeful about inclusion.

He says PPS wants to ensure it's reaching out to local communities. "Minority-owned firms,



Although the policy is in its early stages, Fleming is excited for the possibilities of what the district can do

women-owned firms, emerging small businesses. Everyone has equal access, equal opportunity to compete for work and opportunities in the district," Fleming says.

Fleming says the goal is to improve the district's history, which he says in the past has admittedly been poor in terms of deal-

ing with minority and small business firms; in fact the new purchasing policy is part of the district's rollout of a larger Racial Equity in Education policy.

At this time, Fleming says it's still in "extreme draft mode" so specific target percentages and goals for minority business inclusion are to be determined. However, when awarding contracts, he says the district provides solicitation documents so there is no guesswork involved for inquiring firms.

Although the policy is in its early stages, Fleming is excited for the possibilities of what the district can do.

"For me, to be part of this work is very rewarding," he says. "I'm exposed to a lot of information that's going to benefit the district as a whole but more importantly our students, who are our future."

Free Workshop to Help Small Businesses Understand, Achieve Bond Requirements, Oct. 4

Small businesses often face the daunting task of being "bondable." When it comes to working on government contracts in the transportation industry, being bonded is often a requirement. Now, a free six-week workshop will help small business owners in Oregon and southwest Washington find out just what it takes to become bonded and how to expand their existing bonding capacity. The free, 3-hour evening courses begin Oct. 4 at the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs Center, 4134 N. Vancouver Ave. in Portland.

The Oregon Department of Transportation requested the workshop after learning of its successful pilot in Chicago, Dallas and Atlanta in 2010. The Bonding Education Program (BEP), a partnership between the U.S. Department of Transportation/Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, the Surety & Fidelity Association of America, and a host of local stakeholders, consists of educational workshops and bond readiness sessions.

The educational component

offers an introductory session and five comprehensive workshops, each providing information related to improving a small contractor's operations – with a goal of making it easier to be bonded or to increase bonding capacity. A final workshop focuses on networking and next steps.

The bond readiness component consists of one-on-one interactions with surety bond producers, underwriters and other professionals who work with the contractors on a case-by-case basis in assembling the materials necessary for a complete bond application and in addressing any omissions and/or deficiencies that might deter the successful underwriting of a bond.

The classes qualify for Construction Contractors Board license continuing education for Commercial and Residential contractors under the "elective" category. See the Construction Contractors Board Education page for additional information.

For questions, contact Lily Keeffe, U.S. DOT/Northwest Small Business Transportation Resource Center, 425-248-4222 or lkeefe@snoedc.org.

Leslie, daughter of Dianne,
Anheuser-Busch employee

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Mentor-Protégé Program participants: Vijay Doodhar, 3D Infusion; Alando Simpson, City of Roses Disposal and Recycling Inc.; Tayna Wylder, Star Construction Services, LLC.

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Blacks Lose Hair Business to Koreans



by Ashley N. Johnson
Special to the NNPA from
the New Pittsburgh Courier

Whether it is fried, dyed and laid or laid to the side; braided or loose; kinky, curly or straight; and even glued, sewn or bobby pinned, one's hair is essential to every look. According to the Black Owned Beauty Supply Association, the Black hair care & cosmetic industry is a \$9 billion industry and it serves millions of African-Americans.

But while African-Americans are spending most of the money in the industry, especially in regards to extensions, they are profiting the least. Most of the money being made in the industry is going to other ethnicities, the Koreans mainly.

"It is very hard breaking into the (hair) industry, being a Black owned business," said Nora Johnson, an owner of Sisters Beauty Supply, downtown. "They (Koreans) own it because they have the money. It takes a lot of money and a customer base to keep it going."

In the Pittsburgh and surrounding area there are approximately four Black owned beauty supply stores, such as Sisters Beauty Supply, Quik-It Beauty Supply Outlet, Nebby Beauty Supply and newly, Annette's Beauty Supply, but almost twice as many are owned by Koreans, the largest being Hair Day in South Side, Two Cousins in the Hill District and Hair Masters in East Liberty.

While they all sell hair care products and accessories, it is the hair (wigs, weaves, etc.) that are the moneymakers.

Bernard White, owner of Nebby Beauty Supply in Oakland, said, "Most products are able to be ordered easily, but there is not a large profit margin to be made. Hair is where the margin is. You can make \$3,000-\$5,000 a day on hair sales alone." He added, "It is not really a hard industry to get into, it is getting hair that is the problem. It is a cold business in terms of the hair game. The Koreans have this industry on lock."

Both Johnson and White agreed that getting hair is a huge hurdle, because the distributors are Korean and most times they will only sell to other Koreans.

White said, "I have to buy hair through exchange. It is rough, but if I don't increase my hair game, I won't be in business next year. It is a cold business in terms of the hair game."

Johnson said that some Korean distributors say they will not sell to stores within so many miles from their other clients, but when she tried to have hair sent to her Aliquippa location, which has no other beauty supply stores, they still would not let her purchase it. She said one distributor also told her the hair she wanted was no longer being sold, but when she

went to a local Korean beauty supply store, that same hair was there. When she inquired about it she was told that a local store had told the distributor that if he sold to her, he would no longer buy from him.

She said she agrees with location rules, "but there needs to be regulations. One Korean store should not be able to dictate the entire industry in one area." In order for Johnson to get hair for her shops, she explained that she has to have it delivered to other cities and then have it shipped here.

Every year there are several major hair shows and conferences all over the country, such as the Bronner Bros. Beauty Show, the International Hair & Nail Show and more, that cater to the African-American consumer. Johnson said she has attended several national conferences in regards to the Black hair industry and Koreans run a majority of them and the workshops are conducted in the Korean language, even the ones on how to sell to the Black consumer.

HAIR page 10

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WHAT MAKES THIS PLACE GREAT

Inside the Industry: Turner Construction School for Construction Management

Ruby Jones began her career at Turner Construction for 14 years ago at the CenturyLink Stadium project in Seattle. Ruby developed and managed a comprehensive outreach program to the minority business community that resulted in utilizing 115 MWDBE subcontractors on that project alone. Ruby developed initiatives on the CenturyLink Field project that have been standardized on all subsequent Turner projects.

“What I’ve found over the years is that most small business owners, know the field side,” she says. “It’s the business side that they lack and it’s very competi-

tive out there.” Jones says she has a personal mission to help remove barriers to minority employment in the construction trades; in this she is inspired by

When awarding contracts, Jones says her company is looking for performance, above all else

memories of her great uncle,— a general contractor in 1960s Waco, Texas — experience social inequities in the construction industry because he was an African-American.



Jones’ vision for local subcontractors is that “second tier” companies will be able to move up to the “first tier.” In other words, she wants to help provide small contractors with the tools to negotiate and contract directly with companies like Turner.

Turner has a national goal of subcontracting 20 percent of all subcontracted work to minority and women owned businesses. When negotiating contracts, Jones says her company is looking for performance, above all else.

“We’re looking for capacity and whether they’ve done this type of project before,” she said.

“We need to reflect the community where these projects are built — our clients believe it, we believe it, and to me, it’s a no-brainer.”

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PDC Establishes East Portland Enterprise Zone

The state of Oregon has approved PDC's application to establish an Enterprise Zone (E-Zone) focused predominantly on geography east of Cesar Chavez Boulevard.

The application was supported by numerous public and private entities, including Multnomah County, the Technology Association of Oregon, Greater Portland Inc., Columbia Corridor Association, the Port of Portland and the Portland City Council.

The E-Zone is a state economic development program proven to support business growth, job creation and community benefits from companies which make capital investments in their operations. In return, eligible companies receive a five-year property tax abatement on the value of their new investment.

The E-Zone program presents one of Portland's strongest economic development tools for retaining and attracting jobs and employment. Since 1996, with more than 50 companies participating and 30 firms currently active, the City's E-Zone program in North/Northeast Portland has leveraged more than \$1 billion in private investments and has created and retained more than 5,000 full-time, quality jobs. In 2009 alone, E-Zone companies purchased \$60 million in materials, supplies and services from other companies in Portland.

The new E-Zone will exist between Northeast Airport Way and Milwaukie and between Southeast Cesar Chavez Boulevard and Gresham. East Portland has both a growing population and increased diversity, but job and economic growth have not kept up at the same pace.

"We've seen the E-zone bring considerable benefits to the businesses and residents in North and Northeast Portland over the last 15 years," PDC Executive Director Patrick Quinton said.

For more info go to www.pdc.us.

Home Forward Contracting and Equity Assistant Director Focuses on Mentoring

By Bruce Poinsette
Of The Skanner News

Cinna'Mon Williams has worked in government procurement for over 15 years. She is currently the assistant director for Contracting and Equity at Home Forward. She is responsible for oversight of all aspects of the agency's professional services, construction, social service and maintenance related contractual agreements. In addition, she acts as the agency's representative for economic equity and manages the procurement card program. Prior, Williams worked in a variety of Procurement positions at Metro Regional Government for ten years.

She is a long term active member of the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs (OAME) and the past chair of the OAME Advisory Board, a member of the executive board of the Business Diversity Institute (BDI), a board member of the local chapter of the National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA), actively



of the Columbia Chapter of the National Institute of NIGP.

"It is my goal to coach and mentor young professionals of color interested in government procurement," says Williams.

She believes diversity in the local procurement arena should include the individuals working on the procurement team, as well as the vendors and contractors getting the work. Her vision includes consistent inclusion of people of color and women on Home Forward projects in both direct contracts and on the sub-tier level. She wants to ensure that Home Forward residents have access to meaningful employment and workforce opportunities.

Williams says she looks for a number of factors when awarding contracts to MWESBs, the primary one being that they work to increase their capacity.

"In the end, we want to see the MWESB's that have worked on Home Forward projects move on to larger projects and to reach back and mentor up and coming MWESB businesses," she says.

Williams believes diversity in the local procurement arena should include the individuals working on the procurement team, as well as the vendors and contractors getting the work

involved in the American Contract Compliance Association (ACCA), an active participant of the Oregon Public Purchasing Association (OPPA) and past board member

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Project Clean Slate operates in tandem with Multnomah County District Attorney's Office and in cooperation with Multnomah County Circuit Court. It is a program of Independent Development Enterprise Alliance, a nonprofit organization.

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ODOT

continued from page 3

Roy Weedman, owner of Bud Construction –not a certified DBE company — who describes how, as a white man, he has no access to contracts because he is “not Black or Asian.”

Weedman goes on to describe how he has essentially done a significant amount of Salt & Pepper’s work, including managing and supervising the trucking subcontract, as well as leasing his own trucks to Salt & Pepper to do the work.

Weedman talks about how contractors “have found a loophole” to falsely inflate their minority participation percentages specifically in trucking and flagging operations.

In its findings, the FHA said Salt & Pepper “did not manage and supervise the trucking operation for which it was responsible; did not provide at least one of its own trucks on the contract; and used a non-DBE to manage the entire trucking operation.”

But the FHA also sketches out deliberately illegal behavior involving two other companies as well.

“Further, the facts support a finding that Emery & Sons, Bud Construction and Salt & Pepper contrived a relationship for the

purpose of meeting the contract goal,” the findings say. “As a result, ODOT inappropriately counted the value of the trucking services provided by DBE Salt & Pepper toward the DBE contract goal.”

Documents show Salt & Pepper has for years been counted as a DBE in contracts with ODOT, the City of Portland, METRO, and TriMet.

It is the second time in recent weeks that NAMC-O has seen some response for official complaints it has filed.

Two weeks ago, the Oregon Secretary of State’s Office released an audit of the OMWESB certification process that found the small staff overburdened, with inadequate resources and poor organization that has caused a backlog of DBE requests – even as Gov. John Kitzhaber has called for more companies to apply for certification.

The audit stopped well short of what NAMC-O called for in its request for the investigation, focusing not on DBE compliance issues, but rather on how certifications are handed out.

In one section of the audit, called

“Process Needed to Ensure Completeness and Accuracy,” what appears to be a significant oversight appears.

“For example, we found that one business certified as an ESB was later found ineligible,” the audit says. However, the certification was kept open for several years prior to

concerns about fraud in the system, the state OMWESB is doing a good job.

“They went and did some double-checking of work of the certification process, and it was their findings that the office of OMWESB did do appropriate double check or verification processes,” she said. “This office is not just rubber-stamping. They are verifying the applications’ eligibility.”

While Brown said the audit’s recommendations for way to tighten up their operations are only voluntary, she described a three-point plan her office has put in place to encourage compliance, including: follow-up audits; and meetings with bureau and agency heads as well as meetings with the Joint Committee on Legislative Audits and Information Management & Technology.

“I have no hammer – the only hammer I have is my bully pulpit,” she said. “We really think that these three things with the joint legislative audits committee, meeting with agency directors or division heads, and the follow-up audits, that we are seeing greater compliance in terms of recommendations.”

Documents show Salt & Pepper has for years been counted as a DBE in contracts with ODOT, the City of Portland, METRO, and TriMet

final closure without any explanation in the application file.”

Salt & Pepper Trucking was one of 14 companies specifically named as potentially defrauding the certification process.

Secretary of State Kate Brown told *The Skanner News* that, despite NAMC-O’s

Hair

continued from page 7

Well what resources are there out there for Black owned beauty suppliers, one may ask? Well, the Black Owned Beauty Supply Association, which is supposed to be one of the resources for Black owned beauty suppliers, advertises that it’s a premier national organization that provides African-Americans the platform to demonstrate

competitive leadership in the \$9 billion Black hair care and cosmetic industry nationwide and nationally. However when trying to contact them to find out what help they give suppliers, the website advertised a number that was disconnected and they never returned emails. When asked about the association, White said, “it is a joke”

and Johnson said she has never contacted them, but heard they were not a reliable resource.

Johnson said that not only is hair hard to get, but so are certain hair product lines that cater to women with natural hair or chemically treated hair. She said she has been trying to get a certain brand in her store for years, but they refuse to let her carry it.

White said the same thing, he said he has tried to get certain popular Black hair care lines but they will not let him carry it either because he is too close to one of their major distributors or they want him to buy thousands of dollars in product, which is unrealistic for his store’s size.

Some of the top Black owned hair care companies are Dudley Beauty Corp., Carol’s Daughter, Luster Inc., and Kimba Hair Care.

Jada Robinson, said she spends more than \$100 a month on hair and said she prefers to get her hair products at the salon because, “I feel that there is a large mark up on products

at the hair places that are not owned by Black people. Since there is a huge demand and Black people will always care about their appearance and getting their ‘Hair Did,’ they can continue to charge a lot.”

While many would prefer to shop at beauty supply stores, some feel that they only

Not only is hair hard to get, but so are certain hair product lines that cater to women with natural hair or chemically treated hair

cater to their customers buying hair and not maintaining their own. “Beauty supply stores certainly don’t cater to them. But, there’s no need to because natural hair, by

See HAIR on page 11

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Hair

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definition, should require very few products to take care of it," said Dana Gary Pathare. "What I would like to see is for Black owned beauty supply stores or beauty supply stores in general, to focus on healthy hair care products and practices. Instead of pushing weave and wigs on every customer." She added that she would like to see more demonstrations for natural hair and that she would always prefer to support a Black business.

When it comes to having experts in their store, Johnson said she has one and White said one of his goals is to hire a natural hair expert for his store, someone who can give tips and recommendations on products. But while getting products can be difficult, so can support. White said Koreans succeed in the industry because they support each other, but the Black community does not. "They (Koreans) have the relationships and work within, we laugh at them when they are living together, then they break through and have four stores in our community. But we won't help each other out. It is a culture thing." He said that none of the other Black owned beauty supply stores work together to pull their resources.

Johnson agreed that there is a lack of togetherness and said sometimes, "We are our own obstacles. If Black people stuck together we could make an impact. The competition shouldn't be among ourselves."

They both agreed that there is a loyalty amongst the Black community when it comes to shopping at Asian owned stores and working for them. "They do not treat them right, but they continue to go back," White said.

White said the solution to bringing the Black hair industry profits back to the community is by working together. "We (suppliers) need to form an alliance amongst ourselves and find a way to bring our customers to our stores. We can help each other out. We can sit down together and compose our tools. There's enough business around here for everyone," White said.

Multnomah County MWESB, Procurement: Fostering a Diverse Vendor Pool

By Bruce Poinsette
Of The Skanner News

Sophia Cavalli has been with Multnomah County for four and a half years. Currently the county's Procurement and MWESB supervisor, she has over 13 years experience in designing and implementing small business programs. In addition, she now works on sustainable purchasing efforts.

Cavalli began working in the private sector in sales and commodities. Following that, she was at the City of Portland, where she oversaw its small business program for close to seven years. Cavalli currently serves on the National Associations of Counties Green Purchasing Task Force.

She says her vision is to include as many businesses as possible to foster a diverse vendor pool and workforce.

"We believe that (having a diverse vendor pool and workforce) is part of not only economic development, but com-



'...here in Multnomah County, 95 percent of all businesses are small businesses, and generally small businesses hire the most workers'

munity development," says Cavalli. "Specifically here in Multnomah County, 95 percent of all businesses are small businesses, and generally small businesses hire the most workers. It's a good responsible business practice."

The percentage of contracts the county has awarded to minority, women and emerging small businesses has exceeded 30 percent for the third straight year. In addition to awarding contracts, the county also sponsors training programs and holds quarterly meetings between a host of over 20 regional agencies to ensure the long-term success of minority, women, and emerging small businesses in the region.

When awarding contracts, Cavalli says the county is looking for firms with responsible business practices.

"How we buy the goods and services needed by the County and who we buy them from matters," she says. "Social equity is an important aspect of how we make our buying decisions, this includes the participation of local minority, women, and emerging small businesses. Chair (Jeff) Cogen and our Board of Commissioners have been very supportive of our efforts."



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Nielsen Study: Black Media More 'Relevant' to Black Consumers

By George E. Curry
NNPA Editor-in-Chief

WASHINGTON (NNPA) – Companies that fail to advertise with Black media are missing an opportunity to effectively reach nearly 43 million African Americans whose \$967 billion annual buying power is projected to exceed \$1 trillion in three years, according to the new study released by Nielsen and the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA).

“Still the largest racial minority group in America, with a projected buying power of \$1.1 trillion by 2015, Black consumers remain

at the forefront of social trends and media consumption,” the study found. The findings were released Friday at the Congressional Black Caucus

information and measurement company. “NNPA’s insertion of the report into its 200 publications allows Nielsen access to millions of African-American consumers,

“Since 2000, the total U.S. population only increased by 11.3%, while the Black population increased by 17.9%, a rate that is 1.6 times the greater overall growth,” the Nielsen study said. The report noted that the U.S. Black population is larger than 163 of the 195 countries in the world, including Argentina, Poland, Canada and Australia.

“The average income for African-American households nationwide is \$47,290 with 35% earning \$50,000 or more,” the report stated. Ten percent of Black households earn \$100,000

Benjamin Jealous, president and CEO of the NAACP, stated that African-American readers give more credence to ads placed with Black media than those that appear in the general interest publications. And the Nielsen research supports that view

Foundation Legislative and allows us to share vital information that will help increase the awareness of Blacks’ consumer power.”

“Our collaboration with the NNPA has been successful,” said Susan Whiting, vice chair of Nielsen, a premier global infor-



PHOTO BY ROY LEWIS FOR NNPA

NNPA Chairman Cloves Campbell speaks as NNPA President.

or more each year. The study noted, “The Black population and its aggregate buying power is overall more geographically widespread and more diverse than other ethnic and racial segments.”

Cloves Campbell, chairman of the NNPA and publisher of the Arizona Informant, said: “Marketers underestimate the opportunities missed by overlooking Black consumers’ frustration of not having products that meet their needs in their neighborhoods. And companies that don’t advertise using Black media risk having African-Americans perceive them as being dismissive of issues that matter to Black consumers. This report demonstrates what a sustainable ad influential economic force we are.”

Benjamin Jealous, president and CEO of the NAACP, stated that African-American readers give more credence to ads placed with Black media than those that appear in the general interest publications. And the Nielsen research supports that view.

According to the report: Ninety-one percent of Blacks believe that Black media is more relevant to them;

Eighty-one percent believe that the products advertised in Black media are more relevant to them;

Seventy-eight percent would like to see more Black models/actors used in ads (51 percent said they would purchase a product if the advertising portrayed Blacks positively);

Seventy-seven percent of African Americans said Black media has a better understanding of the needs and issues that affect them;

Seventy-three percent believe Black media keeps them in touch with their heritage;

Sixty-eight percent want to see more commercials directed specifically to Black audiences and

Sixty-seven percent of Blacks want to see more advertising targeting Black consumers.

NNPA President and CEO Bill Tompkins said Black media plays a unique role in the African-American community.

“The general media does not cover us as well as we cover ourselves,” he said. Tompkins noted that Black media receives only 2 percent of the \$120 billion advertising dollars spent with general media.



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MBE 2012

Minority Business Enterprise Special Edition page 5-6

NEW MEMOIR



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Aaron Dixon signs his book, 'My People Are Rising: Memoir of a Black Panther Party Captain,' before speaking to a packed room, Sept. 18 at the Northwest African American Museum. Dixon was one of the co-founders of Seattle chapter of the Black Panther Party.

State Schools Tax?

Supermajority rule attacked as barrier to education funding

By Donna Gordon Blankenship
The Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — State Rep. Jaime Pedersen has a message for the Washington state Supreme Court: You've told the Legislature to put more money into education, now give lawmakers the tools they need to make that happen.

The court is holding a hearing this week on a case Pederson says holds the key to whether the Legislature can properly respond to the court's earlier ruling on the inadequacy of Washington state's education spending.

In the tax lawsuit before the court this week, a coalition of lawmakers and education groups contend the two-thirds majority vote required in the Legislature for raising taxes or closing tax loopholes is unconstitutional.

A lower court agreed with their assertion against the supermajority and the state Supreme Court has expedited its consideration of the two-thirds requirement, which came about because of a series of citizen initiatives. Voters most recently approved the supermajority rule two years ago and initiative promoter Tim Eyman is asking the public to renew the measure in November.

The Washington Constitution requires a simple majority vote of the Legislature to approve most laws, but the supermajority or two-thirds vote has been the law for tax increases thanks mostly to Eyman's measures.

The state constitution cannot be changed through the initiative process; a vote of the Legislature is required.

That is at the heart of some of the arguments before the Supreme Court in this week's tax lawsuit. Briefs have been filed by several organizations, ranging from the League of Women Voters to the Association of Washington Business and the Freedom Foundation.

A somewhat unique aspect to this case is

See OWEN on page 3

See TAX on page 3

Lobbyists, Staff Aided Charity

Owen: No conflict of interest in lobbyists' donations to family charity

By Mike Baker
The Associated Press

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP) — For years, Lt. Gov. Brad Owen made the nonprofit Strategies for Youth an extension of his official government duties, even as it paid his wife a salary.

Owen's office staff used taxpayer-funded time to help conduct the operations of the anti-bullying organization that he founded, according to documents obtained by The Associated Press under state public

records laws. The Democrat also worked with lobbyists to help raise money for the nonprofit.

It was an unusual nexus of work, personal and extracurricular life, especially since the nonprofit paid Owen's wife \$25,000 during the span of a few years. The organization also provided his family with benefits such as full-time use of a \$33,000 truck.

Owen says he's always been upfront about how he wanted to use his office as a vehicle for

outreach, with the help of the nonprofit. The charity would send him to schools where he would work with kids to combat bullying.

Todd Donovan, a professor of political science at Western Washington University, questioned whether office workers should be able to use their state time to work on behalf of a nonprofit — no matter who the nonprofit paid.

"You're essentially contributing state resources to the nonprofit," Donovan said.

Last year, an ethics panel determined that a Department of Corrections official may have violated ethics laws when she used state time and resources to further the agenda of three nonprofits, even though she gained no financial benefit and said the work was to benefit the department. That case is ongoing.

Records provide a glimpse into how the Owen nonprofit operated. In one case, his office staff worked in June 2010 to organize a fundraiser with the

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Youth Offenders Caught in Jail Break

Female guard was knocked out cold and locked in room by teens

By Phuong Le
The Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — The teenage boys apparently planned their escape from the juvenile detention center in Washington state. Some had packed bags with them, and one boy even stuffed his bed to make it look like he was there, authorities said.

On Saturday night, when they were sup-

posed to be locked in their rooms at Echo Glen Children's Center in Snoqualmie, about 25 miles east of Seattle, six inmates knocked a staff member unconscious, locked her in a room and fled, authorities said.

They were captured a few hours later after a helicopter crew using thermal-imaging equipment spotted them in nearby woods early Sunday, according to the King County

Sheriff's Office.

"They basically attacked the staff member, knocked her out, took her keys and fled," Sgt. Cindi West said. The teens left the woman unconscious and locked in a room at the facility, she said.

All of the inmates should have been locked in their rooms by 11 p.m., but they

See JAIL on page 3

Viola Davis: The 'Won't Back Down' Interview

Viola Davis was born on Aug. 11, 1965, on her grandmother's farm in St. Matthews, S. C., but raised by her parents in Central Falls, R.I. After earning a degree in theater from Rhode Island College in 1988, she went on to do post-graduate work at the prestigious Juilliard School prior to embarking on a critically-acclaimed professional career.

Ms. Davis made a memorable mark on Broadway, winning Tonys for stellar performances as Tonya in "King Hedley II" and as Rose in the revival of "Fences." She's also been nominated twice for an Academy Award, for her powerful portrayal of stoic Aibileen in "The Help" and for her equally-sterling interpretation of Mrs. Miller in "Doubt."

Viola's other noteworthy screen credits include impressive outings in "Traffic," "Nights in Rodanthe," "Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close," "Eat Pray Love," "Madea Goes to Jail," "Antwone Fisher," "World Trade Center," "Trust," "Knight & Day," "Get Rich or Die Tryin'" and "State of



CELEBRITY INTERVIEW

by Kam Williams

Play." And her upcoming films include "Enders Game" with Harrison Ford, "Beautiful Creatures" with Emma Thompson and "The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby" with Jessica Chastain.

Here, she talks about her new film, "Won't Back Down," a female empowerment saga, where she plays Nona Alberts, a jaded teacher who joins forces with a frustrated single-mom (Maggie Gyllenhaal) to turn around an underperforming public school.

Kam Williams: Hi Viola, thanks for the interview.

Viola Davis: Thank you, Kam.

KW: Music teacher Steve Kramer asks: What interested you

in "Won't Back Down?"

VD: My interests in the film were two-fold: the backdrop of education and also the human story within it about a woman who, when she was in her twenties, had all these high ideals and hopes of taking the world by storm as a great teacher and also as a great mother. But all of that was just blown to bits, and we find her at a low point where she's totally disillusioned. For me, the movie is about her story of coming back to life again. And that journey is a very human one. It intrigued me, and I saw it as a very interesting challenge as an actor.

KW: What was it like working with such a top-flight cast: You had an Academy-Award-winner Holly Hunter, as well fellow Oscar-nominees Maggie Gyllenhaal and Rosie Perez?

VD: You forgot another Oscar-nominee, Marianne Jean-Baptiste. It was fabulous! To me, it's always a luxury to be able to work with the best of the best because they make it easier for you to do what you do. It's harder to work with people who are not as dedicated to their craft. It also leaves you a better actor when you finish the project, since you always feel like you've learned something. And it's refreshing to spend time with actors who are so vocal, so articulate. "You get more material to steal from." That's what I always say. [LOL]

KW: Editor/Legist Patricia Turnier would like to know whether you had any problems with any of your lines in the script, and how you handle such a controversy.

VD: Yes, I did have a problem with a few things, which is good for an actor. The average person might not see it that way. The sentiment that I had a little trouble with was the idea that, "You change the school, you change the community." I couldn't wrap my mind around that. I just feel that those two trains need to be leaving



Viola Davis and Maggie Gyllenhaal in 'Won't Back Down'

the station at the same time. I think that that's a heck of a responsibility to expect schools and teachers to change these challenged communities. Many of them are experiencing growth deficits or are going bankrupt, and are infected

the high school teacher who inspired him to become a teacher was how the union had stepped in and saved the man's job when the system was failing him. So, I don't feel it's anti-union. I consider it pro-activist.

When you're really passionate, you're going to grab hold of every rope you see, and wrap them around your arms and legs to claw your way out.

with gang violence with as many as 85 percent of the people living below the poverty line. I knew this was going to be a hotbed issue, but I didn't realize how volatile it was going to become once the movie was released. Nevertheless, I welcome this spirited discourse. That's always been a spearhead to change.

KW: Is the big brouhaha due to allegations that the picture is anti-union?

VD: Yes, that is what the controversy's about. I don't think the film's anti-union. I feel it's pro-education. The teacher, in the end, becomes the hero. The teacher! Oscar Isaac's character [Michael Perry] says in the film that the one of the things he remembers about

KW: Larry Greenberg was wondering what would you say is the movie's message?

VD: The movie really emphasizes that we're all in the position to be the change that we want to see in this country. And I think there's no better time to bring that message home. What's interesting is that that theme is a common thread in the film, even in terms of the two main characters' taking control of their own personal lives. At the end of the day, nobody can tell you how to tackle failure or how to handle change. The world is very good at encouraging you to go along with the status quo and at basking in your

See DAVIS on page 8

Services for Richard Carley, 81

Mr. Richard Eddie Carley, the husband of Mrs. Alice Stein (King) Carley and father of Ms. Constance Carley, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 20, in Seattle, Wash. He was born on the 26th of November, 1930 in Tampa, Fla. He served over 20 years in the United States Coast Guard from which he retired in February 1968.

A viewing will take place from 3 until 7 p.m. on Thursday the 27th of September in Columbia Funeral Home's Fire-side Room.

Mr. Carley's remains will be interred at 10:30 a.m. on Friday the 28th of September at Tahoma National Cemetery located in Kent, Wash. A memorial service will then take place at Grace



United Methodist Church located in Seattle, Washington at 1 p.m. followed by a repast.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SEATTLE 2012



If you have an event you want to share with the community, email it two weeks in advance to *The Skanner* at info@theskanner.com

Friday September 28

OLDMILL DAYS/ THE FOREST FESTIVAL. Chainsaw Carvings Competition, ice sculptures carvings, live music, lumber jack show and much more. All day event. Port Gamble, HWY 104, 1/4 mile south of Port Gamble

BITE OF BROADVIEW. This family friendly festival

has a little something for everyone. Enjoy carnival rides and games, live music, food and more. 4 - 10 p.m. 405 N. 117th St.

Saturday September 29

HARVEST CELEBRATION. Featuring Harmonica Plaza, The Smalltime String Band, an orchard maze & scavenger hunt and much more. Come enjoy the Harvest Celebration free for all to enjoy. 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Magnuson Park Amphitheater & Children's Garden, 6344 NE 74th St.

Sunday September 30

SEATTLE CENTER WELCOMES VIBRANT AND ENTERTAINING POLISH FESTIVAL. Free entertainment and performances by Polish groups, workshops

related to Polish Culture and children's activities. Noon - 6 p.m. Seattle Center, 305 Harrison St.

Friday October 5

PHINNEY FARMER'S MARKET. There's always a wonderful array of fresh fruits, vegetables and other locally made food as well as several enticing options. Phinney Neighborhood Center Gallery, 6582 Phinney Ave. N.

Sunday October 7

CROATION CULTURAL ROOTS AND CONTEMPORARY INFLUENCES AT CROATIAFEST. Enjoy live performances, cultural displays, hands-on activities, foods and a lively marketplace. Noon - 8 p.m. The Seattle Center, 305 Harrison St.

Tax

continued from page 1

the inclusion of Gov. Chris Gregoire as a third party to the lawsuit, in which the attorney general's office, as the state's official lawyer, is charged with defending the two-thirds majority law.

The attorney general has argued this case is a premature challenge of the two-thirds rule because it hasn't stopped the Legislature from doing its work.

In her brief to the Supreme Court, Gregoire and her attorneys emphasize the necessity of a decisive statement by the court, to rescue her office and the Legislature from the budget limbo the initiatives have stuck them in. She speaks of the trouble she has had creating state budget proposals without the freedom to close tax loopholes or raise business fees.

Pedersen says life in state government has just gotten a whole lot harder, thanks to the Supreme Court's January decision on education funding, known as the McCleary case. The court's very specific ruling in the school spending lawsuit states that the Legislature has done a good job making plans to change the way the state pays for education, but it goes on to order lawmakers to find the money now to pay for it.

Most people agree the state needs between \$3 billion and \$4 billion to fulfill its constitutional promise to fully pay for basic education. One possible solution is to raise taxes, create a new dedicated tax, increase fees, or do some combination of these options.

The other possible solution, Pedersen says, is to "cut the heck out of everything else" the state spends money on: health care for the needy, disability payments, the state Ecology Department, state parks, state colleges and universities, student scholarships and the arts.

"I can't imagine how you could get 50 votes to do those things," let alone two-thirds of both chambers of the Legislature, he said.

He predicted the eventual outcome, if the Supreme Court does not give the Legislature back the power to raise taxes and close loopholes, would be a failure to answer the McCleary challenge.

Meanwhile, state Sen. Janea Holmquist Newbry, R-Moses Lake, has promised to propose a constitutional amendment to make the two-thirds vote permanent during this next legislative session.

Owen

continued from page 1

theme of "Everyday People Doing Extraordinary Things."

An Owen aide made preparations through his office email to honor two lobbyists with awards during the charity dinner and auction held at Emerald Downs. Another lobbyist served as emcee. Through a fourth lobbyist, AT&T donated \$1,000 to reserve a table and a foursome at the accompanying golf tournament, according to documents obtained by the AP.

Owen, a Democrat who presides over the state Senate and is listed as the nonprofit's president, said he saw no conflict of interest in asking lobbyists to donate to his family's charity, or in having his staff use state time to work on the nonprofit's behalf.

"Our goal was to help kids. That's the goal of my office. That's the goal of the nonprofit," Owen said. "The goal wasn't to make money for Brad Owen or Linda Owen: If we were going to do that, we wouldn't have had the nonprofit and she would have been working for the private sector."

Linda Owen was the only person drawing a salary at Strategies for Youth, and her pay

accounted for roughly 10 percent of its expenditures.

Brad Owen's office and the charity signed an agreement to work together and share resources — a contract that Owen said was drafted with the aid of lawyers in the Senate.

In a press release issued through his public office, Owen announced last year that he and his wife were ending Strategies for Youth, in part because of costs and his other work.

Emails from within Owen's office show that staff spent time sending out fundraising solicitations and event coordination for the nonprofit. Two workers also spent more than 100 work hours at Strategies for Youth events in recent years.

Owen said staff didn't need to do that work after hours because the office and the nonprofit had created a formal partnership, and he said the charity actually helped defray costs in the office on work that would have otherwise been done with state resources.

Owen, currently seeking re-election



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Classmates and friends from Garfield High School class of 1962 celebrated their 50th reunion Sept. 22 at the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center. Over a hundred classmates and friends spent the day reminiscing about their high school years on a cruise on Lake Washington before ending their day at the Performing Arts Center.

Jail

continued from page 1

somehow managed to get out, said David Griffith, who directs institution programs for the state Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration.

"The kids were supposed to be locked in their rooms. It may have been a procedural error, or the youth hid out and she (the staff member) didn't know where they were," Griffith said.

"It's very scary ... We'll investigate what went wrong, absolutely," he added, noting that the agency will address procedural changes if necessary.

He said the staff member was treated and is at home.

The teens were in a maximum-security unit of the juvenile correction facility, which currently houses about 165 youth offenders in 10 separate living units. The units include a small kitchen, living room and classroom.

"We're not sure how it was initiated. It might have been a single person, or a concerted effort," Griffith said. "The kids who assaulted the staff member opened the doors

Witnesses told detectives that the staff member was beaten with a chunk of ice frozen in a water bottle

for all kids living in the unit, so there was a potential for the entire unit to escape."

Six fled. Seven decided to stay and they notified security, Griffith said. The King County Sheriff's office said it received word of the escape at about 11:30 p.m. Saturday.

The unarmed staff member was alone in

against Republican Bill Finkbeiner, initially said his staff did not do fundraising work from the office. After an AP reporter pointed out emails that indicated otherwise, he went to assess the correspondence and said one staff member may have made mistakes by conducting some fundraising activity at the office.

Linda Owen was the only person drawing a salary at Strategies for Youth, and her pay accounted for roughly 10 percent of its expenditures

Owen said "a number" of lobbyists contributed to the nonprofit or helped the charity get connected with the appropriate contacts within businesses such as Waste Management and Boeing. He said he knows lobbyists from his job as lieutenant governor, so they were a logical point of contact.

"We got turned down by as many as we

got accepting," Owen said.

Joe Daniels, a lobbyist who has supported the nonprofit personally and through clients, said he thought the program was a good idea to help kids. He didn't see any conflict, noting that the lieutenant governor isn't typically pushing legislation.

"I don't see where I can get any benefit," Daniels said.

Owen has served as lieutenant governor since 1997 and chairs the Senate committee that determines which bills advance to the floor for possible vote.

One year, Daniels' client Holland America donated a seven-day cruise certificate for a Strategies for Youth auction. In 2009, government records show that Owen sought to get a similar donation for another fundraiser.

Strategies for Youth was never an efficient charity. Over the past five years, it averaged about \$56,000 in expenses, with less than half of that money going to program services, according to IRS filings.

Read the rest of this story online at www.theseattleskanner.com



the unit, which is typical after lockdown, Griffith said. She apparently wasn't able to push a panic button or call security for help, he said.

Witnesses told detectives that the staff member was beaten with a chunk of ice frozen in a water bottle, the Seattle Times reported.

"It definitely appears this was planned. The detective on the scene said when they found the boys they had their packed bags with them," West told the Times.

The six males, three 14-year-olds and three 15-year-olds, were serving time for offenses including assault, possession of firearms and burglary, West said.

Law officers on the ground with search dogs and in the air combed the area on the outskirts of Snoqualmie before a helicopter crew spotted them in woods near the center, according to West. All were captured by 2 a.m. Sunday.

Echo Glen Children's Center is a medium and maximum security facility for offenders serving time mostly for felony crimes. The facility is not fenced, but is bordered by natural wetlands. It provides treatment services for younger male offenders and is the main institution for female juvenile offenders, according to its website.

Once the teens were spotted by the helicopter, they split up into three groups and ran in different directions, West said. Deputies in the helicopter were able to direct deputies on the ground, including K-9 units, to where the teens were running or hiding.

One was bitten by a police dog while trying to escape and was taken to a hospital for treatment, West said. The others were arrested without incident and booked on charges of assault, unlawful imprisonment and escape, she said.

"There was no indication that this was coming up," Griffith said.



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Elders: Beware of Mortgage Scams

The economy has had a detrimental effect on homeownership. Unemployment and underemployment have made it tough for many homeowners to maintain current mortgage payments. In attempts to get assistance and avoid foreclosure, vulnerable homeowners become prime targets for scam artists who are taking advantage of people through a wide array of mortgage scams. For homeowners in need of assistance, now is the time to be more vigilant than ever.

Through December 31, 2011, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) had more than 2,500 pending investigations into mortgage fraud around the country. Although the scope of losses for homeowners, legitimate businesses and to the economy caused by mortgage fraud are difficult to calculate, CoreLogic, a research and analytics company, has estimated that losses due to mortgage fraud in 2011 were \$7.4 billion.

Scams from All Sides

There are many variations of mortgage scams, but the goal is the same: take money and even property from unaware homeowners. Some scammers guarantee that they can negotiate a loan modification with your lender for an up-

MORTGAGE SERVICING

Marie Day

front fee. Others claim they are affiliated with government agencies and the new loan modification programs. Some fraudsters say they can conduct forensic loan audits to determine whether loans

Homeowners looking for help to avoid foreclosure are primary targets

were made in accordance with federal and state mortgage lending laws. Other schemers convince homeowners to surrender the title or deed of their homes in exchange for a new “rescue” loan, or as part of a deal that would let the homeowners rent the home for a few years and then have the ability to repurchase the home in the future. Still others may claim that they could help expedite short sales.

Some swindlers have even used direct mail with prominent use of the lender’s name to gain the trust of customers and trick them into believing an offer for assistance is from their lender. Since homeown-

er names, addresses, lender names and original mortgage loan amounts are available to anyone through public real estate records, con artists use this information to create direct mail pieces that confuse potential victims into thinking that they are dealing with their lender.

Protect Yourself and Get Assistance

In order to protect yourself from scammers, always be on the look-out for key warning signs. Fraudsters might:

Request payment or charge fees in advance.

Guarantee results.

Direct homeowners to stop making mortgage payments and instead make a payment to a third-party organization.

Tell homeowners that they cannot deal with their lender directly.

Request that a homeowner sign over the deed or other papers.

Ask for personal information over the phone or email.

Pressure the customer to perform a specific action.

If you are having financial difficulties in paying your mortgage, you should contact your lender and a housing counselor approved

by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD-approved counselors can provide assistance free of charge, or for a nominal fee. A list of counseling agencies near you can be found at www.hud.gov. If you have doubts whether direct mail that claims to be from your lender is legitimate, call your lender directly and confirm it. And finally, if you think you have been scammed, you should file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission online at www.ftc.gov/complaint or call them at 877-FTC-HELP. Scammers are working hard to take advantage of people in distress.

Never agree to pay a fee to any company for ‘foreclosure help’

It’s imperative that you get informed and take precautions to not become their next victim.

Marie Day is the Residential Mortgage Default Servicing and Community Outreach Executive at Wells Fargo

Urban League to Nike: Just Don’t Do It

“The economy continues to fall apart, unemployment rates are through the roof and Nike knows that the kids are strung out. So they just keep mass marketing high-priced cool to those who can’t afford it.”

- Stephen A. Crockett, Jr., Washington Post

In recent weeks, on behalf of the National Urban League, I have been urging Nike to reconsider its plans to market a new basketball shoe targeted to urban youth that will be priced in the neighborhood of \$300. We understand that adolescence is a time dominated by peer pressure, the emulation of celebrities and the need to fit. This often leads to equating self-esteem with material status symbols, including high-priced sneakers. Aside from the misplaced values this represents, it can have devastating consequences for low income urban families. All of us – from parents and children to corporations – have a responsibility to recognize this problem and do something about it. On Aug. 24, I sent a letter to Nike company officials outlining our opposition to the upcoming release of their latest overpriced basketball shoe. Our objections include the economic exploitation of low-income youth and their families, the promotion of misdirected priorities to our children, and the potential and sometimes real violence associated with this type of marketing campaign. Following is a copy of that letter.



TO BE EQUAL

Marc Morial

August 24, 2012
Mark Parker
President & Chief Executive Officer
Philip H. Knight
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Nike, Inc.
One Bowerman Drive
Beaverton, OR 97005-6453

Mr. Parker and Mr. Knight:
In light of the recent news that Nike plans to release a \$315 basketball shoe, I ask that you pause to reflect on the implications of

launches repeatedly results in eruptions of violence. Obsession with the Nike brand in poverty-stricken communities, according to published reports has led to muggings, beatings, and worse.

With unemployment and its attendant hopelessness and desperation at historic highs in the very communities targeted by Nike’s aggressive marketing, now is the time to step back and consider the true impact of this kind of campaign. To release such an outrageously overpriced product, designed to appeal to a young, urban demographic, while the nation is struggling to overcome an unemployment crisis is insensitive at best.

Nike may well assure itself that it is not responsible for the priorities and values of its customers,

That message is undermined by Nike’s appeal to shallow materialism.

As you are aware, in our public statement earlier this week, we called upon parents to resist the

‘Nike ... can choose to address the negative consequences of its own marketing’

pressure to purchase expensive sneakers when those dollars would best be spent on school supplies, books or computers. They ultimately are responsible for the choices they make for their children, and for the values they instill in them. But good corporate citizens and responsible community members should help, not hinder parents in their efforts.

Please reconsider your plans for the LeBron X Nike Plus, and join the National Urban League in our efforts to empower young people to value their own talents – athletic and otherwise – above empty status symbols, and work together for broader access to the economic mainstream.

Sincerely yours,
Marc H. Morial
President and Chief Executive Officer

‘It’s no secret that the frenzy surrounding Nike product launches repeatedly results in eruptions of violence’

your decision during this fragile economic recovery.

It’s no accident that Nike is a coveted brand among the nation’s urban youth. It’s no secret that the frenzy surrounding Nike product

but it can choose to address the negative consequences of its own marketing. In recent years, Nike’s award-winning advertising has promoted a message of personal achievement and self-esteem.

Blacks Losing Profits on Hair -- to Korean Companies

By Ashley N. Johnson
Special to the NNPA from the New Pittsburgh Courier

Whether it is fried, dyed and laid or laid to the side; braided or loose; kinky, curly or straight; and even glued, sewn or bobby pinned, one's hair is essential to every look. According to the Black Owned Beauty Supply Association, the Black hair care & cosmetic industry is a \$9 billion industry and it serves millions of African-Americans.

But while African-Americans are spending most of the money in the industry, especially in regards to extensions, they are profiting the least. Most of the money being made in the industry is going to other ethnicities, the Koreans mainly.

While African-Americans are spending most of the money in the industry, especially in regards to extensions, they are profiting the least

"It is very hard breaking into the (hair) industry, being a Black owned business," said Nora Johnson, an owner of Sisters Beauty Supply, Downtown. "They (Koreans) own it because they have the money. It takes a lot of money and a customer base to keep it going."

In the Pittsburgh and surrounding area

there are approximately four Black owned beauty supply stores, such as Sisters Beauty Supply, Quik-It Beauty Supply Outlet, Neby Beauty Supply and newly, Annette's Beauty Supply, but almost twice as many are owned by Koreans, the largest being Hair Day in South Side, Two Cousins in the Hill District and Hair Masters in East Liberty.

While they all sell hair care products and accessories, it is the hair (wigs, weaves, etc.) that are the moneymakers.

Bernard White, owner of Neby Beauty Supply in Oakland, said, "Most products are able to be ordered easily, but there is not a large profit margin to be made. Hair is where the margin is. You can make \$3,000-\$5,000 a day on hair sales alone." He added, "It is not really a hard industry to get into, it

is getting hair that is the problem. It is a cold business in terms of the hair game. The Koreans have this industry on lock."

Both Johnson and White agreed that getting hair is a huge hurdle, because the distributors are Korean and most times they will only sell to other Koreans.

White said, "I have to buy hair through exchange. It is rough, but if I don't increase my hair game, I won't be in business next year. It is a cold business in terms of the hair game."

Johnson said that some Korean distributors say they will not sell to stores within so many miles from their other clients, but when she tried to have hair sent to her

Aliquippa location, which has no other beauty supply stores, they still would not let her purchase it. She said one distributor also told her the hair she wanted was no longer being sold, but when she went to a local Korean beauty supply store, that same hair was there. When she inquired about it she was told that a local store had told the distributor that if he sold to her, he would no longer buy from him.

She said she agrees with location rules, "but there needs to be regulations. One Korean store should not be able to dictate the entire industry in one area." In order for Johnson to get hair for her shops, she explained that she has to have it delivered to other cities and then have it shipped here.

Every year there are several major hair shows and conferences all over the country, such as the Bronner Bros. Beauty Show, the International Hair & Nail Show and more, that cater to the African-American consumer. Johnson said she has attended several national conferences in regards to the Black hair industry and Koreans run a majority of them and the workshops are conducted in the Korean language, even the ones on how to sell to the Black consumer.

Well what resources are there out there for Black owned beauty suppliers, one may ask? Well, the Black Owned Beauty Supply Association, which is supposed to be one of



Nora Johnson, Sisters Beauty Supply, Pittsburgh, Pa.

the resources for Black owned beauty suppliers, advertises that it's a premier national organization that provides African-Americans the platform to demonstrate competitive leadership in the \$9 billion Black hair care and cosmetic industry nationwide and nationally. However when trying to contact them to find out what help they give suppliers, the website advertised a number that was disconnected and they never returned emails. When asked about the association, White said, "it is a joke" and Johnson said she has never contacted them, but heard they were not a reliable resource.

Johnson said that not only is hair hard to get, but so are certain hair product lines that cater to women with natural hair

Read the rest of this story online at www.theskanner.com



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Pierce County Public Works & Utilities
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2702 S 42nd Street, Suite 201
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Pierce County
Public Works and Utilities

Seattle Schools Scandal May Be Worse Than Thought

SEATTLE (AP) — Last year's Seattle Public Schools financial scandal may have cost \$1.3 million more than previously thought.

According to the state auditor's office, Silas Potter Jr. approved gross overpayments during the four years he headed a district program to award small public works contracts, and total misspending could approach \$3 million.

In some cases, payments Potter approved appeared to be 10 times what they should have been, such as when the school district paid \$14,500 for video surveillance cabling and conduit worth just over \$1,000, The Seattle Times reported.

Potter faces first-degree theft charges, as do two others accused of conspiring with him.

The scandal, which came to light last year, prompted the firing of Superintendent Maria Goodloe-Johnson and the district's top financial officer. It also likely factored in the defeat of two school board members last fall.

In an earlier investigation, the auditor's office identified \$280,000 in losses and questioned another \$1.5 million in expenditures for a period when Potter headed a now-closed district office that was supposed to help small businesses win government contracts.

The latest audit covers the district's small-works program, which awards public works contracts that cost \$300,000 or less. Potter oversaw that program from 2005 through

2009. The audit found problems with 14 of the 26 vendors the office dealt with, including wages paid at much higher than the prevailing rate, lack of detail about what the district was paying for, charges for hours that vendors could not document, and excessive markups.

Duggan Harman, assistant superintendent of business and finance, said the district might ban some or all of the 14 vendors from bidding for future district work, and none of the 14 has had a contract since 2009. District officials also have been looking into whether they can recoup any of the money.

Harman acknowledged that the district failed in a number of ways, such as failing to oversee employees, follow normal accountability channels and maintain an "adequate means for employees to raise their concerns."

"It kills me to see this," Harman said. "I'm trying to keep in perspective that this was something that was seven years ago."

The district has fixed many of the problems and now requires more than one person to sign off on any purchase orders or invoices, no matter the amount, Harman said. Invoices must be detailed, he said, and can no longer say "payment per agreement."

The district also has established a new ethics program, beefed up board oversight of district finances, and hired two additional internal auditors.



Construction Employment Leads All Industries in Job Gains — but Other Industries' Losses Dominate

OLYMPIA - Washington's construction industry led all sectors in employment gains in August, with a seasonally adjusted estimate of 1,900 jobs, contributing to a net gain of 3,900 construction jobs since August 2011.

These and other job estimates are detailed in the latest report from the state's Employment Security Department. The preliminary, seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for August was 8.6 percent.

For the second year in a row, the employment estimates for the leisure-and-hospitality industry and the wholesale-trade industry showed unusually large losses for August. They contributed to an estimated net loss of 1,100 nonfarm jobs across the state.

"Based on the raw data, jobs in these sectors didn't change significantly," said Joe Elling, chief labor economist for the state's Employment Security Department. "The reported losses show up when the seasonal adjustments are applied."

Economists seasonally adjust monthly job numbers and the unemployment rate to remove or discount normal seasonal variations, such as holiday hiring. If an industry adds more jobs or doesn't eliminate as many jobs as expected based on past history, it shows up as a seasonally adjusted gain. Similarly, when jobs are cut deeper than expected in a given month, or if normal hir-

ing doesn't occur, that shows up as a job loss.

"It can take up to two or three years to determine when deviations from the seasonal norms are temporary or longer term," said Elling.

In addition to construction, the industries with the most seasonally adjusted job gains in August were manufacturing, up 1,500 jobs; financial activities, up 1,200; education and health services, up 500; and government, with an estimated net gain of 300.

On the loss side, wholesale trade dropped an estimated 2,600 jobs; leisure and hospitality lost 2,300; retail trade shed 1,600 jobs; and professional and business services lost 200.

Within the government sector, federal employment in Washington grew by 1,800 jobs, state agencies lost an estimated 900 jobs, public higher education declined by 100 jobs, K-12 schools added 500, and local government lost 1,400.

In August, an estimated 301,700 people (seasonally adjusted) in Washington were unemployed and looking for work. That includes 129,676 who claimed unemployment benefits last month.

Also in August, 3,429 unemployed workers ran out of unemployment benefits, bringing the total to 108,669 since extended benefits were activated in July 2008.

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9-26-12

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Owner: City Of Washougal, Washington
Address: City Hall, 1701 'C' Street, Washougal, Washington 98671

Separate sealed bids for the 32nd and Addy Street Pedestrian Improvements project consisting of:

The construction of approximately 1,100 LF of concrete sidewalk including pedestrian ramps, guardrail, and signage.

will be received by: CITY OF WASHOUGAL, WASHINGTON

at the office of: CITY HALL, 1701 'C' STREET, WASHOUGAL, WASHINGTON

until **2:00 P.M. on October 9th, 2012**, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.

CONTRACT PROVISIONS, PLANS, AND BID PROPOSAL forms may be obtained by going to the City's online plan center at (<http://plancenter.swca.org/site/washougal>). This online plan center provides Bidders with free of charge access to these documents with the ability to email, download, and view full/partial plan sets and any addenda. If a Bidder has not previously done so, the Bidder will need to create a free user account.

Information copies of the contract provisions, plans, and bid proposal are also on file for inspection at the City of Washougal, City Hall, 1701 'C' Street, Washougal, WA 98671.

This project will require enrollment and participation in the "E-Verify" program through the Department of Homeland Security. "E-Verify" enrollment will apply to both the successful contractor and their respective subcontractors.

All bid proposals shall be accompanied by a bid proposal deposit in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or surety bond in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of such bid proposal. Should the successful bidder fail to enter into such contract and furnish satisfactory performance bond within the time stated in the specifications, the bid proposal deposit shall be forfeited to the City of Washougal. No bid will be considered unless fully completed in the manner provided in the "Instruction to Bidders" upon the bid form provided by the Engineer.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive all informalities. No bidder may withdraw or modify his bid after the hour set for the opening and thereafter until the lapse of thirty (30) days from the bid opening.

Attention is called to the minimum wages as set forth in the contract documents.

42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

9-26-12

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Serendipity Center, Inc.

Serendipity Center, Inc. will not discriminate against any individual with respect to employment or provision of services based upon that individual's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, sexual orientation, political affiliation, veteran status, marital status, disability, gender identity, source of income or familial status. Additionally, Serendipity complies with Executive Order 11246, Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Inquiries regarding compliance with this policy may be directed to the Executive Director

P.O. Box 33350, Portland, Oregon 97292-3350

Telephone number: 503.761.7139.

9-26-12

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

Asian Elephants – New Elephant Habitat Oregon Zoo Portland, Oregon

Advertisement for: **Oregon Zoo – New Elephant Habitat – Early Work Bid Package**

Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC, serving as the Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC) for Metro– Oregon Zoo is soliciting bids for the construction of the Asian Elephants new Elephant Habitat in Portland, Oregon. Terms and conditions of the bid are outlined in Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC (CM/GC) "Invitation to Bid", dated September 24, 2012, attached to and made a part of the Contract Documents.

Bids will be received at the offices of Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC, (CM/GC), 550 SW 12th Avenue –3rd Floor, Portland, Oregon 97205, until 2:00 P.M. PST, October 12, 2012 at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Proposals shall be clearly marked "Oregon Zoo Elephant Habitat Bid Package No. 1"

The total construction cost for Oregon Zoo New Elephant Habitat Early Work Package is projected to be approximately \$7,600,000.

This Bid Package includes the following scopes of work only.

- Wild Life Live Building Addition and Renovation
- Train Track and Trestle Demolition, Reconfiguration, and Construction
- Construction of New Train Building
- Construction of a new Perimeter Service Road & Utilities

All remaining scopes of work to be included in future Bid Packages.

A MANDATORY pre-bid conference for bidders bidding specific Bid Package #1.1 – Earthwork, Civil, Service Road, Utilities, Retaining Walls and Tie Backs will be held at the Project Site, in the Skyline Conference Room (Basement of Cascade Grill) located at 4001 SW Canyon Rd, Portland, OR on September 28, 2012, at 9:00 A.M., local time.

Pre-Bid conference is non; mandatory for subcontractors bidding all other packages.

It is the intention of Lease Crutcher Lewis, LCC (CM/GC) to submit a bid for Bid Package 1.2 –Concrete Structure.

Contract Documents and the Invitation to Bid may be reviewed at the following locations: Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC (CM/GC)/Portland, OR; Precision Images, ARC; Oregon, and Oregon Contractor.

Contract Documents may be purchased (non-refundable) in its entirety or in part from Precision Images, (503) 274;2030.

All proposers must comply with the following requirements: Prevailing Wage Law, ORS 279C.800; 279C.870, Licensed with Construction Contractors Board ORS 671.530. Bidder shall indicate Resident Status per ORS 279A.120. If Required, Bidders must obtain business licenses to perform work in the City of Portland prior to mobilizing on jobsite.

Bids will not be considered unless RECEIVED by 2:00 P.M. PST on October 12, 2012, and fully completed in the manner provided by the "Instructions to Bidders"

"NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION TO ENSURE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (Executive order 11246)";

Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC (CM/GC) is committed to taking affirmative action to encourage and facilitate the participation of minority, women-owned, and emerging small business enterprises (M/W/ESBE) in State and Metro projects and encourage Subcontractors to provide similar opportunities for their subcontractors / vendors.

9-26-12



View all open positions at LifeWorks NW or apply online: <http://www.lifeworksnw.org>

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- Grants Coordinator
- Residential Care Facilitator, On Call
- Respite/Case Manager
- Service Coordinator 2
- Skills Trainer, On Call
- Supported Employment Specialist
- Treatment Foster Care Parent, On Call

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9-26-12

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Vancouver Housing Authority will receive bids for project **201212 - VAN VISTA ADDITION** until **2:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 23, 2012** at **Vancouver Housing Authority, 2500 Main St., Vancouver, Washington 98660** at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. A **MANDATORY Pre-Bid meeting and walkthrough** will be held on **Tuesday, October 9 at 2:00 p.m.** at Van Vista Plaza, 410 W. 13 St., Vancouver, WA 98660. Bidders will be let in through the front door.

Work includes a one story kitchen/dining addition, renovation to 1st and 10th floors, life safety and HVAC addition to units, new emergency generator and parking lot addition. Copies of the documents will be available at J-2 Blueprint, 8100 NE St. Johns Rd in Vancouver (website j2b.com - Phone 360-696-1861) and local plan centers.

Attention is called to the provisions for equal employment opportunity, economic opportunities for low and very low income persons (Section 3), and payment of not less than the minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the specifications. Award will be made to lowest responsive and responsible bidder that meets solicitation requirements.

9-26-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLANS THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR RFP 13-2205

The Human Resources Department of Metro, a metropolitan service district organized under the laws of the State of Oregon and the Metro Charter, located at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-2736, is hereby requesting sealed proposals for defined contribution plans third party administrator.

Sealed proposals are due no later than close of business November 2, 2012, in Metro's business offices at 600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-2736, Attention: Sharon Stiffler, Procurement Analyst, RFP 13-2205.

Metro is soliciting responses from qualified firms to provide sole provider administration, record keeping, education, participant investment advice and investment management services for its current 401(k) Tax-Deferred Savings Plan and its 457 (b) Deferred Compensation Plan.

Proposals can be viewed and downloaded at Metro's website <http://www.oregonmetro.gov>, click on "Doing Business With", then "Requests for Bids and Proposal"

Metro may accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, or waive irregularities not affecting substantial rights if such action is deemed in the public interest.

Metro extends equal opportunity to all persons and specifically encourages minority, women-owned and emerging small businesses to access and participate in this and all Metro projects, programs and services

Metro and its contractors will not discriminate against any person(s), employee or applicant for employment based on race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, physical handicap, political affiliation or marital status. Metro fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, see www.oregonmetro.gov.

9-26-12

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Opening This Week — Sept. 28

BIG BUDGET FILMS

Hotel Transylvania (PG for action, rude humor and scary images) Animated romantic comedy about the Dracula's daughter (Selena Gomez) who, over the objections of her father (Adam Sandler), falls in love with a mere mortal (Andy Samberg). Voice cast includes Kevin James, Ceelo Green, Steve Buscemi and Jon Lovitz.

Looper (R for profanity, sexuality, nudity, drug use and graphic violence) Sci-fi thriller, set in 2042, about a mob hit man (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) who has no qualms about time-traveling to carry out contracts until he is ordered to assassinate his future self (Bruce Willis). With Emily Blunt, Paul Dano, Jeff Daniels and Piper Perabo.

Won't Back Down (PG for mature themes and mild epithets) Fact-based, female empowerment saga, set in



KAM'S CAPSULES

Movie Reviews by Kam Williams

Pittsburgh, about a jaded teacher (Viola Davis) and a frustrated single-mom (Maggie Gyllenhaal) who join forces to turn around an underperforming public school. A-list cast includes Ving Rhames, Academy Award-winner Holly Hunter (for *The Piano*), and Oscar-nominees Rosie Perez (for *Fearless*) and Marianne Jean-Baptiste (for *Secrets & Lies*).

INDEPENDENT & FOREIGN FILMS

American Autumn (Unrated) Occupation Wall Street-inspired documen-

tary speculating about what the world would look like if capitalism were replaced by an economic system that put human need above corporate greed.

Bear City 2: The Proposal (Unrated) Homoerotic sequel reunites the hirsute, gay gang from Manhattan in Provincetown, Mass., for a wild, week-long bachelor party in anticipation of two pals' (Joe Conti and Gerald McCullouch) same-sex wedding. With Kevin Smith, Kathy Najimy and Richard Riehle.

Bringing Up Bobby (PG-13 for profanity, sexuality and drug use) Famke Jansen makes her writing and directorial debut with this dysfunctional family comedy about a European con artist (Milla Jovovich) on the run from the law who settles with her son (Spencer List) in Oklahoma hoping to escape her shady past. Co-starring Bill Pull-

man, Marcia Cross and Rory Cochrane.

Headshot (Unrated) Revenge thriller, set in Thailand, about an honest cop (Nopachai Chaiyanam) who turns vigilante after being framed for a crime he didn't commit. Plot thickens when he's shot in the head and emerges from a coma seeing the world upside-down. With Sirin Horwang, Chanokporn Sayoungkul and Apisit Opasaimlikit. (In Thai with subtitles)

The Hole (PG-13 for violence, profanity and frightening images) Haunted house horror flick about a single-mom (Teri Polo) who moves with her kids (Nathan Gamble and Chris Massoglia) from New York City to a new home in the country only to unwittingly open a gateway to hell when they unlock a hatch over a bottomless hole in the basement. With Haley Bennett, Bruce Dern and Quinn Lord.



Viola Davis and Maggie Gyllenhaal in 'Won't Back Down'

My Life as Abraham Lincoln (Unrated) Surreal, dark comedy about a blushing bride (Caroline Luft) whose life spirals out of control after she murders her fiancé (Trevor Nelson) on their wedding day. With Gerry Birnbach, Jennifer Lynn Malloy and Wendy Taylor.

The Other Dream Team (Unrated) Hoops documentary recounting the unlikely triumph of the Lithuanian Men's Basketball Team at the 1992 Olympics with help from the Grateful Dead. Featuring Bill Walton Chris Mullin and Mickey Hart.

Celebrity

continued from page 2

successes. But when you hit a wall in your personal life, and you screw up, people don't give you a chance to navigate your way through it and tap into what's extraordinary about you. I think this movie tackles that subject in a beautiful way, and I think it's the best message you could give to a child. And, hey, you can even bring your kids to the film because it's rated PG. [Laughs]

KW: Harriet Pakula-Teweles says: "Won't Back Down" is not only the title of your new film, but that same sort of spirit was also part of your character's persona in "The Help." How much of that strength we see up on the screen is you and how much of it is great acting?

VD: [Chuckles] Well, I'd like to say that it's all great acting. That's what I'd prefer to say, but I suppose I do have that same quality in real life. I guess they say, "Necessity is the mother of invention" because you have two stark choic-

es when you find yourself in a really desperate situation. You can either fold and cave-in to it or you can become really passionate about getting out of it. When you're really passionate, you're going to grab hold of every rope you see, and wrap them around your arms and legs to claw your way out. And that's the way I've felt in my life.

KW: Harriet has another question: Is there a classic film you'd like to star in the remake of?

VD: You know what? Playing Norma Rae would be great, too, although I don't whether that would work. I'd also like to play Harriet Tubman.

KW: Patricia is also wondering whether there's any truth to the rumor that you'll be playing Barbara Jordan in an upcoming biopic about the late congresswoman.

VD: Yes, my husband [Julius Tennon] and I started a pro-

duction company out of necessity, the need for great narratives for actors of color, and we are currently developing that script with some great producers.

KW: Kate Newell says: I loved your performance. Did you have a teacher who especially inspired you?

VD: I had several teachers who inspired me, in both the public school system and the Upward Bound program. I needed several, because I lived in such abject poverty and dysfunction. And they're still in my life today, because I consider them to be friends, actually.

KW: Thanks again for the time, Viola, and best of luck with *Won't Back Down*.

VD: Thank you, Kam



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