



Portland Public Schools'
Back to School Date is
Tuesday, August 26



The Portland Observer

Volume LII • Number 16



'City
of
Roses'

www.portlandobserver.com
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Committed to Cultural Diversity

Partnership Helps 250 Kids Gear Up for School

PB, Fred
Meyer Team
Up for Students

Sunshine Division is partnering with the Portland Police Bureau and Fred Meyer to provide a back-to-school shopping experience for 250 Portland-area children in need on Thursday, Aug. 21.

Sunshine Division's 23rd annual Izzy's Kids "Shop With A Cop" event will take place from 7 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. at the Johnson Creek Fred Meyer (8955 SE 82nd Ave, Happy Valley).

Portland Police Chief Bob Day and Sunshine Division Executive Director Kyle Camberg will share brief remarks to welcome families before shopping begins.

Each child will receive a \$165 Fred Meyer gift card and be paired with a Portland Police Bureau officer or local first responder to help them shop. Gift cards are provided through Sunshine Division's Izzy's Kids program.



Sunshine Division, the Portland Police Bureau, and Fred Meyer teamed up on Thursday, Aug. 21, to give 250 Portland-area children a back-to-school shopping experience at the Johnson Creek Fred Meyer. Photo courtesy of Portland Police Bureau.

Fred Meyer will offer significant clothing discounts during the event and provide free school supplies and toiletries for every child. Columbia Sportswear is also contributing backpacks for participating children.

Families will begin checking in around 7 a.m. near the Fred Meyer Garden Center. Representatives from Sunshine Division, Fred Meyer, and the Portland Police Bureau will be available for interviews.

"This event not only provides clothing and school supplies for hundreds of children whose families can't afford them; it also creates an opportunity for

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Knights Pledge \$2 Billion to OHSU



Nike, Inc. co-founder Phil Knight and his wife, Penny, with OHSU Knight Cancer Institute Director Brian Druker, M.D. The Knights received the 2020 "Champions for Cures" award from the Association of American Cancer Institutes. (OHSU Foundation)

Record-setting Gift Fuels Cancer Research

Phil and Penny Knight announced a record-breaking \$2 billion gift to the Oregon Health & Science University's Knight Cancer Institute to transform the future of cancer care and set a new standard globally:

"We are grateful for the opportunity to invest in the next stage of the Druker-led revolutionary vision of cancer research, diagnosis, treatment, care, and some day, eradication. We couldn't be

more excited about the transformational potential of this work for humanity. We are confident that establishing the Knight Cancer Institute as a self-governed entity within OHSU will help the Knight and OHSU reach these goals."

Phil Knight is no stranger to pushing boundaries and breaking records. Known for his bold and competitive leadership, Mr. Knight co-founded Nike and grew it into the world's largest footwear, apparel and equipment company, and one of the most recognizable brands on the planet. In the same way that Nike has impacted and shaped sport, the Knights have supported a revolution in the fight against

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400 Legacy Mount Hood Nurses Vote to Authorize Strike

Nurses at Legacy Mount Hood are Making Demands and Taking Charge

More than two years after forming their union and after 21 months of bargaining, 400 registered nurses (RNs) at Legacy Mount Hood Medical Center have voted overwhelmingly to authorize a strike, citing Legacy Health's refusal to make meaningful investments in recruiting and retaining frontline caregivers, patient care, and fair wages and benefits.

Frontline nurses at Legacy Mount Hood are represented by the Oregon Nurses Association (ONA).

"Mount Hood nurses have been more than patient. After nearly two years at the bargaining table, Legacy executives still refuse to address critical issues like fair pay and caps on insurance premiums—changes we need to recruit and retain the skilled nurses our patients rely on," said Lille Charron, a nurse at Legacy Mount Hood and ONA vice-chair of the bargaining team. "We don't want to strike, but if management continues to slow-roll negotiations, we are united and ready to act."



Frontline nurses at Legacy Mount Hood Medical Center celebrate the results of their successful vote to join ONA April 6, 2023. Photo Courtesy of ONA.

Nurses at Legacy Mount Hood are demanding:

- A voice in decision-making about patient care and workplace conditions
- Fair compensation that is competitive with other health systems to recruit and retain more nurses
- Quality, affordable healthcare
- Protections against shifts

being unilaterally shortened by management

- Appropriate compensation for RNs who work during times of crisis including inclement weather.
- "We're the ones at the bedside every day — we know our patients best," Charron said. "We formed our union to speak up for the people we care for. A fair contract will help recruit and retain the nurses our

community depends on, so every patient gets the safe, quality care they deserve."

The vote does not set a strike date. Nurses are hoping upcoming mediation sessions on August 22 and 28 will result in a fair agreement and avert a strike. If a deal is not reached, nurses say they are prepared to act—and they have the support of RNs and frontline caregivers across the Legacy system.

Two-Day Celebration of Culture, Music, and Unity



Soul2Soul booth at a previous celebration.

Building Bridges & Restoring History

Bridge-Pamoja, in partnership with the Coalition of African & African American Pastors/Imams and the Proactivists of Oregon, invites the public to Soul2Soul 2025, a two-day celebration of culture, music, and unity.

The African & African American Summit will take place on Thursday,

August 22, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM at Portland Community College, 705 N. Killingsworth St. This year's theme celebrates Afro-Futurism in the spirit of Ubuntu ("I am because you are") and highlights the Somali community, which numbers about 12,000 in Oregon. The summit will explore Somali cultural history within the context of the broader African Diaspora and African American experience. Featuring thought-provoking conversations and inspiring speakers, the event is designed to foster

connection, shared understanding, and collective empowerment.

The Cultural Celebration will be held on Saturday, August 24, from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM at Alberta Park, 1905 NE Killingsworth St. The event will feature electrifying performances from artists across the African Diaspora, with music ranging from Gospel, R&B, and Hip Hop to Afrobeat, Funk, and traditional drumming. Attendees can enjoy cultural and modern dance, games, vendor booths, and the rich flavors of African,

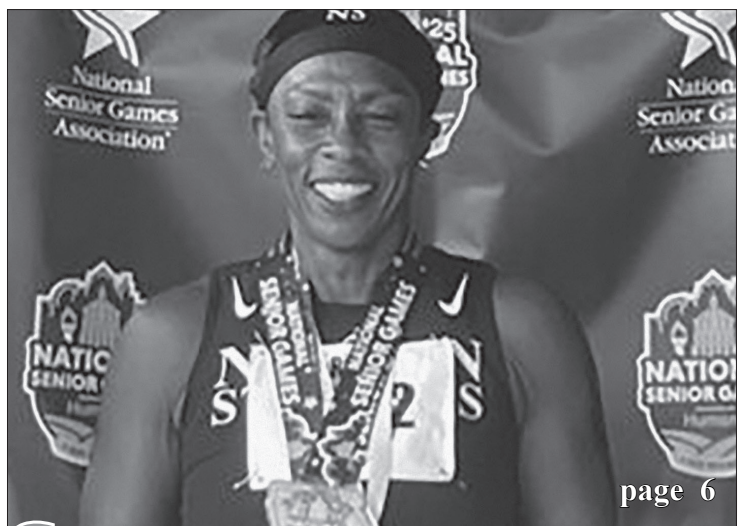
Caribbean, and Soul Food cuisine. Families will also find children's activities, health resources, and community soccer and basketball tournaments. This outdoor celebration invites everyone to come together in unity, heritage, and joy.

Now in its 4th year, Soul2Soul is designed to engage, invigorate, and elevate the artistic contributions of African and African Americans in the world for ALL to celebrate. It is a catalyst to heighten understanding within and between our communities, to showcase our contributions of the arts to the world and to elevate our oneness in the spirit of Ubuntu ("I am because you are"). Since its inception, Soul2Soul has attracted nationally recognized music artists such as Andy Stokes, J.J. Hairston, Liv Warfield and a host of local artists.

In addition, over 35 black business vendors participated as a complement to a range of interactive children activities, health resources and school supplies giveaways, along with cultural cuisine that honors the cultural heritage of African and African Americans. This event has been featured on all the local television stations, newspapers and radio stations.

Soul2Soul embraces the importance of family and creates space for all ages to connect. With interactive programming and opportunities to experience the richness of the African Diaspora, the event centers joy, resilience, and togetherness.

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Proving that Passion and a Powerful Mindset can Defy Age and Expectations



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Arts & Community Programs Gain Momentum



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A Recap of the Q Center Storytelling Event

LOCAL NEWS

Buckle Up! Police Cracking Down

Seatbelt and Child Seat Awareness

Beginning Monday, August 18, 2025 and extending through Sunday, August 31, 2025, law enforcement agencies throughout Oregon will use federally funded enforcement hours to educate the public about safety belt and child seat laws including a law passed in 2017 increasing safety for children under age two.

Of the 23,959 passenger vehicle occupants killed in the United States in 2023, nearly 50% of those killed were not buckled.

ORS 811.210 – Failure to properly use safety belts; penalty is a Class-D violation.

Child Passenger Safety Week is September 21-27, 2025. Just like drivers check their vehicle's oil and tires, everyone who drives children needs to check their car seats to make sure they're appropriate for your child's age and



Portland Police Bureau is joining law enforcement agencies statewide for a safety belt overtime blitz, and a car seat safety campaign. (Photo Courtesy of Portland Police Bureau)

size. Sometimes as parents, we don't know what we don't know. Even for experienced parents who think their children are all set, Child Passenger Safety Week is a great time to double-check. Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians will be holding pub-

lic events in communities nationwide where parents can get their car seats checked for free. Let's work together to keep our children safe.

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Hope Rises in Washington County

New Home for Women, Children

Union Gospel Mission is preparing to open a brand-new building in Washington County at 18555 NW Rock Creek Blvd, Portland, OR 97229. The new facility will provide addiction recovery and transitional housing for up to 80 women and children at a time. On Saturday, August 16, more than 100 volunteers from Sonrise Church of Hillsboro came together at the LifeChange Center for Women and Children to help ensure the home is ready to welcome its first residents in late August.

The Mission recently completed construction on the 53,000-square-foot building, which features 52 resident rooms for single women and women with children who are seeking to overcome addiction, escape domestic violence, and heal from trauma. The new home includes



Exterior New Home (Photo Courtesy of Union Gospel Mission, Portland)

an education center, a children's activity center, a commercial kitchen, a counseling center, and a chapel. Over the next 10 years, UGM expects to offer more than 2,000 women and children a chance at new life.

"We want to make sure that any woman in our community who finds herself in an unsafe, unstable situation has a safe place to turn. This new home, Angela's House,

is designed to help women move from instability, abuse, trauma, and addiction, to safety, love, trust, community, and hope," said Matt Stein, Union Gospel Mission Executive Director.

Sonrise is one of many volunteer groups who are coming to the Mission throughout the Month of August to help complete the move-in and set-up of this new home.

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Knights Pledge \$2 Billion to OHSU

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cancer through their philanthropic support. With this pledge, they recognize there is still more to be done and that this gift will allow the seamless integration of the best treatments with the best care.

The Knights have a long history of teaming with Brian Druker, M.D., and the Knight Cancer Institute's team to end cancer as we know it. Dr. Druker holds the JELD-WEN Chair of Leukemia Research and was the lead developer of Gleevec, a drug that transformed the survival of patients with chronic myeloid leukemia from less than five years to a diagnosis for which a normal lifespan can be expected. Gleevec specifically targets cancer cells without harming normal cells. It received FDA approval in record time in 2001 and helped to usher in the era of precision medicine. In 2013, the Knights pledged a \$500 million donation to the Knight Cancer Institute if the university could match it within two years. In one of the most ambitious feats in fundraising history, the \$1 billion Knight Cancer Challenge was successfully completed, thanks to \$200 million in bonds from the Oregon Legislature, \$100 million from Gert Boyle, chair of Columbia Sportswear, and donations from 10,000 individuals from all 50 states and 15 countries. These funds were used to establish one of the first large-scale early cancer detection programs, spurring the development of numerous blood tests for the early detection of cancer. And the investment allowed the Knight Cancer Institute to continue to lead in targeted therapies and precision medicine.

The Knights' investment of \$2 billion was inspired by Dr. Druker's vision to integrate the benefits of scientific discovery



Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, Oregon (Q. Washington/Portland Observer)

they have supported in the past with unmatched cancer care. This fully integrated cancer care model will expand and accelerate diagnostics, ensure access to innovative clinical trials informed by Knight researchers and simplify the experience for patients and families. Every patient will have access to a full range of much-needed support resources, including nutritional support; psychological, genetic and financial counseling; symptom management; survivorship care and support; and other complementary therapies.

"Penny and Phil Knight have always challenged us to do what no one else is

doing," Dr. Druker said. "It can seem impossible to navigate the health care system after being diagnosed with cancer. We're going to change that. We have revolutionized the way we detect and treat cancer. Now we are going to transform the way we care for patients while continuing to develop innovative treatments."

With the magnitude of this mission, the Knight Cancer Institute will become self-governed within OHSU. To accomplish this, the Knight Cancer Group will be created to lead the Knight Cancer Institute and manage OHSU's cancer services. It will have its own board of directors and

Dr. Druker will be the inaugural president of this new organization.

"This gift is an unprecedented investment in the millions of lives burdened with cancer, especially patients and families here in Oregon," said OHSU President Shereef Elnahal, M.D., M.B.A. "It is also a signal of trust in the superlative work that our clinicians, researchers and teammates at the Knight Cancer Institute do every day. Dr. Druker's vision around a multidisciplinary system of care — focused squarely on making the patient's experience seamless from the moment they receive a diagnosis — will now become reality. And thanks to the extraordinary generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Knight, Oregon will be the place to do it."

Oregon Gov. Tina Kotek said the gift will be groundbreaking for the state.

"OHSU is Oregon's only academic health care center, and thanks to the generosity and foresight of Mr. and Mrs. Knight, the nation will get to experience life-saving benefits from innovations and expertise in cancer treatment and care as the institution continues to push new boundaries. And this gift sends a signal to the world that Oregon is a place where amazing people make amazing things happen."

Steve Stadum, J.D., who served as OHSU's interim president until earlier this month and served as the Knight Cancer Institute chief operating officer during the Knight Cancer Challenge, worked with Dr. Druker and the Knights to bring this gift to fruition.

"This monumental gift is a game-changer, and not just for the Knight Cancer Institute," said Mr. Stadum. "This is an investment that will elevate OHSU and our entire state, give Oregonians another reason to be proud, and most importantly, provide unparalleled support to those with cancer."

Kohberger's Sexist, Creepy Behavior was Alarming Before Idaho Murders

Growing Concerns Over His Conduct Prior to the 2022 Murders of Four Students

(AP) — Bryan Kohberger developed a reputation for being sexist and creepy while attending a criminal justice program in the months before he killed four University of Idaho students in 2022, fellow grad students told investigators.

His behavior was so problematic that one Washington State University faculty member told co-workers that if he ever became a professor, he would likely stalk or sexually abuse his future students, according to the documents. She urged her co-workers to cut Kohberger's funding to remove him from the program.

"He is smart enough that in four years we will have to give him a Ph.D.," the



Bryan Kohberger appears at the Ada County Courthouse.

woman told her colleagues, according to the report from Idaho State Police Detective Ryan O'Harra. She continued, "Mark my word, I work with predators, if we give him a Ph.D., that's the guy

that in in that many years when he is a professor, we will hear is harassing, stalking, and sexually abusing ... his students at wherever university."

Summaries of the interviews with stu-

dents and instructors at Washington State University were included among more than 550 pages of investigation documents released by Idaho State Police last week in response to public record requests. Kohberger was sentenced to life in prison without parole last month for the stabbing murders of Kaylee Goncalves, Madison Mogen, Xana Kernodle and Ethan Chapin at a rental home near the Moscow, Idaho, campus early on Nov. 13, 2022. The WSU faculty member told investigators that Kohberger would sometimes go into an office where several female grad students worked, physically blocking the door. Sometimes, she would hear one of the women say, "I really need to get out of here," so she would intercede by going into the office to allow the student to leave.

The faculty member believed Kohberger was stalking people. She told police

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SPORTS

Will the Portland Trail Blazers be Bought Out?



Tom Dundon, majority owner of the Carolina Hurricanes talks to the media about his \$250 million investment in the Alliance of American Football league before the start of an NHL hockey game between the New York Rangers and the Carolina Hurricanes in Raleigh, N.C., Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019. (AP Photo/Chris Seward, File)

Hurricanes Owner Tom Dundon Strikes Tentative Deal

(AP) — A group led by Carolina Hurricanes owner Don Dundon has reached a tentative agreement with Paul Allen's estate to buy the Trail Blazers and keep the team in Portland.

Dundon confirmed the agreement in a text exchange with The Associated Press on Wednesday. His group includes Portland-based Sheel Tyle, the co-founder of investment firm Collective Global, and Marc Zahr, co-president of Blue Owl Capital.

The NBA Board of Governors has to ratify any final purchase agreement. ESPN reported Wednesday that the deal was for \$4 billion. Dundon did not reveal the terms of the sale to the AP.

CNBC earlier this year valued the Trail Blazers at \$3.65 billion. In March, the Boston Celtics sold for \$6.1 billion.

Dundon, 53, bought a stake in the Hurricanes in 2017 and became the majority owner in 2018. He is chairman and managing partner of the Dallas-based firm Dundon Capital Partners.

Allen's estate announced in May that it had begun the process of selling the Trail Blazers. The billionaire co-founder of Microsoft, who died in 2018 at age 65 from complications of non-Hodgkin lymphoma, origi-

nally bought the Blazers in 1988 for \$70 million. Allen also owned the NFL's Seattle Seahawks and was a co-owner of Major League Soccer's Seattle Sounders.

Since his death, Allen's sister, Jody Allen, has served as chair of both the Blazers and Seahawks and is a trustee of the Paul G. Allen Trust. Paul Allen stipulated in his will the eventual sale of his teams, with the proceeds given to philanthropic endeavors.

Representatives for the estate did not immediately respond to emails from The Associated Press seeking comment on the agreement.

The estate has not announced plans for the sale of the Seahawks or the 25% stake in the Sounders.

Jody Allen reportedly rebuffed an offer from Nike co-founder Phil Knight to buy the Trail Blazers for more than \$2 billion in 2022. At that time, there were no ongoing discussions about the sale of the teams, she said in a rare statement.

The Trail Blazers joined the NBA as an expansion team in 1970 and won their lone NBA championship in 1977.

Last season, the Blazers finished 36-46 and missed out on the playoffs for the fourth straight year.

A spokesperson for the Carolina Hurricanes said Dundon was "excited about the opportunity" to buy the Trail Blazers, and added that the move will not affect the NHL team.

The Hurricanes, based in Raleigh, have made the playoffs in each of the last seven seasons.

Akie Iwai Wins Portland Classic

Joining Twin Sister Chisato as Rookie LPGA Tour Champion

(AP) — Akie Iwai joined twin sister Chisato as a rookie LPGA Tour winner Sunday at Columbia Edgewater, closing with a 6-under 66 for a four-stroke victory in The Standard Portland Classic.

Akie Iwai capped the bogey-free round with birdies on the final two holes, running in an 18-footer on the last before Chisato rushed on the green and sprayed her with champagne.

The 23-year-old Japanese player broke through in her first



Akie Iwai, and Chisato Iwai of Japan, After Akie won the LPGA Portland Classic golf tournament at Columbia Edgewater in Portland OR.

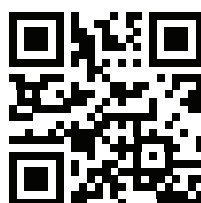
season on the LPGA Tour after winning six times on the JLP-GA Tour.

She had second-place finishes in Thailand in February and Los Angeles in April, then watched

her sister win at Mayakoba in May in Mexico. On Sunday, Chisato Iwai shot a 64 to tie for third, five strokes back.

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SPORTS

62-Year-Old Track Runner Breaks Record!

Proving that Passion and a Powerful Mindset can Defy Age and Expectations

Johnnie Reid, a 62-year-old African American athlete who works at the State Attorney's office in Naples, Florida, just broke a national record at the National Senior Games in Ames, Iowa. She ran 100 meters in 13.6 seconds in the 60-64 age group.

This, however, is not the first time that she has broken a record. In 2023, she also broke a record when she ran 50 meters in 7.36 seconds in the same age group. Last week, though, while in Iowa, she broke her own record running 50 meters in 7.23 seconds.

Reid, once a high school track runner, rediscovered her passion for the sport at age 50—and she



Johnnie Reid, a 62-year-old African American athlete who works at the State Attorney's office in Naples, Florida.

says she's now faster at 60 than she was a decade ago. Her return to competition began when a friend encouraged her to enter the Senior Games in Fort Myers. One race was all it took to reignite her love for the sport, and she's been chasing speed ever since.

Back when her son left for college, Reid was searching for a project to fill her "empty nest" years. The answer came from her

own past. "Running had brought me so much joy as a teenager," she recalled. "When I started training for the Senior Games, it clicked instantly. I jumped right in and never turned back."

Over the years, Reid has drawn inspiration from the remarkable athletes she's met at the Senior Games. "The seniors I've met there are amazing," she said. "They've become my heroes and

'she-ros,' pushing me to keep going and give my best."

Her growth as a competitor hasn't just come from years on the track—it's also been fueled by a willingness to learn and adjust. Just weeks before competing in Kentucky this year, a friend pointed out that she was leaving the starting blocks incorrectly. Reid went home, turned to YouTube for guidance, and discovered how

to improve her drive: explode out of the blocks, stay low, pump her arms at maximum speed. "When a race is over in seconds," she said, "every single movement matters."

In addition to sprinting, Reid competes in shot put and javelin, following a rigorous weekly schedule that balances track work, strength training, and skill practice. Monday nights are for sprint drills at Naples High School, running distances from 100 to 300 meters and refining her block starts. Tuesdays are reserved for shot put practice, while Wednesdays find her at the NCH Wellness Center lifting weights, squatting, and doing plyometric exercises like box jumps and lunges.

When asked what advice she would give to others aiming to train at a high level or pursue goals like competing in the Senior Games, Reid said her message is simple: if she can do it, anyone can. "You have to see it in your mind and put it in writing, almost like creating a vision board," she explained. "My personal mantra was, 'I am the fastest woman in my age group,' and I kept working until that became my reality."



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Sunshine Division, the Portland Police Bureau, and Fred Meyer team

Partnership Helps 250 Kids Gear Up for School

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

law enforcement to have a positive, lasting influence on young people in our community," said Officer Rashida Saunders, Sunshine Division's Bureau Liaison.

Children selected for Izzy's Kids "Shop With A Cop" are identified based on their financial need and referred to Sunshine Division by agencies across the Portland metro area. Registration for this year's event is full.

"Every year, we see children and families light up with joy

from simply being able to choose their own clothes," said Kyle Camberg, Executive Director of Sunshine Division. "A fresh set of clothes can give kids a boost of confidence that helps them focus and learn more easily."

The Izzy's Kids program was founded in 1981 in honor of Sunshine Division's late board chair, Isabel Hoyt. Thousands of kids have received new school clothing through this program over the years, which today serves approximately 500 children annually.

Funding Secures Portland Center Stage's Mission



Photo by Jingzi Zhao



Photo by Jingzi Zhao



Photo by Shawnte Sims



Photo by Jingzi Zhao



Photo by Jingzi Zhao



Photo by Jingzi Zhao

A collage of previous Portland Center Stage productions. Photos courtesy of Portland Center Stage.

Arts and Community Programs Gain Momentum

On Thursday, August 7, the State of Oregon committed \$1.5 million in funding for Portland Center Stage (PCS), which secures PCS's ability to launch the 25/26 season and promotes the future vitality of the organization. This funding comes as part of the Oregon House Bill 5006, in which the Oregon Legislature has appropriated funds to the Oregon Business Development Department, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the General Fund.

With this award, the "Save PCS" campaign has surpassed our first benchmark of \$2.5 million by August 31. As of today, Portland Center Stage has secured a total of \$3,609,518 and is well on its way in

this urgent journey, of raising \$9 million by June 30th, 2026—ensuring that we can continue the mission of creating transcendent theatrical experiences and community programs that break down the barriers separating people. Portland Center Stage is so grateful to everyone who has supported us through donations, advocacy, volunteering and spreading the news about PCS's critical role as a place of gathering in our community for transformative theater and community programs.

"We stand in deep gratitude for our legislatures' support of Portland Center Stage in this critical time!" says Artistic Director Marissa Wolf. "Thank you to Representative Rob Nosse, Representative Shannon Jones Isadore, and Senator Kate Lieber, for their advocacy in supporting the intrinsic value of theater, and the driving economic engine that PCS provides in our neighborhood. This support is an incredible and

powerful moment of ensuring the future life of PCS. The company has received the kind of funding that all arts and culture non-profits deserve at the local, state, and federal level. So many of our peer arts orgs across the state are struggling to survive, and are in need of a lifeline; with its future on firmer ground, PCS is more committed than ever to advocating for the arts sector at large, in a movement towards abundance through collaboration."

By reaching this milestone through the critical support of the Oregon Legislature, Portland Center Stage is happy to confirm the 2025/2026 season will happen in full with no delays, kicking off the season with Primary Trust by Eboni Booth, and running from September 28th-October 26th, 2025. Primary Trust is a story about the transformative nature of small acts of kindness in a small city, the importance of community, and the courage it takes to

embrace change.

Beyond the stage, PCS's 2025-2026 calendar will be packed full with vibrant community events, including First Thursday gatherings, live music and comedy showcases, art exhibits, community discussions, classes for adults, and more. PCS's youth programs will continue to grow in the season ahead as well, with increased student matinees, ongoing classes for teens, and robust in-school offerings.

Season tickets are on sale now. Group tickets of 10+ are also available for early reservation. Single tickets will go on sale mid-August 2025. PCS will continue offering a wide array of prices to make its productions and events affordable for all, including two Pay-What-You-Will performances for each production, discounted rush tickets that can be purchased as early as noon on the day of a performance, and more.

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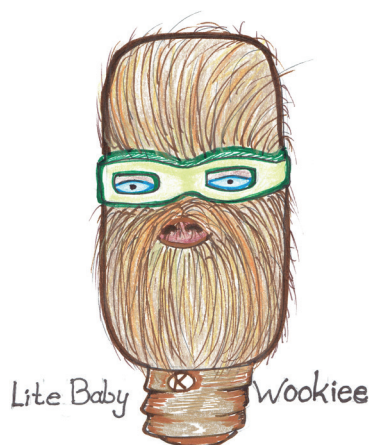
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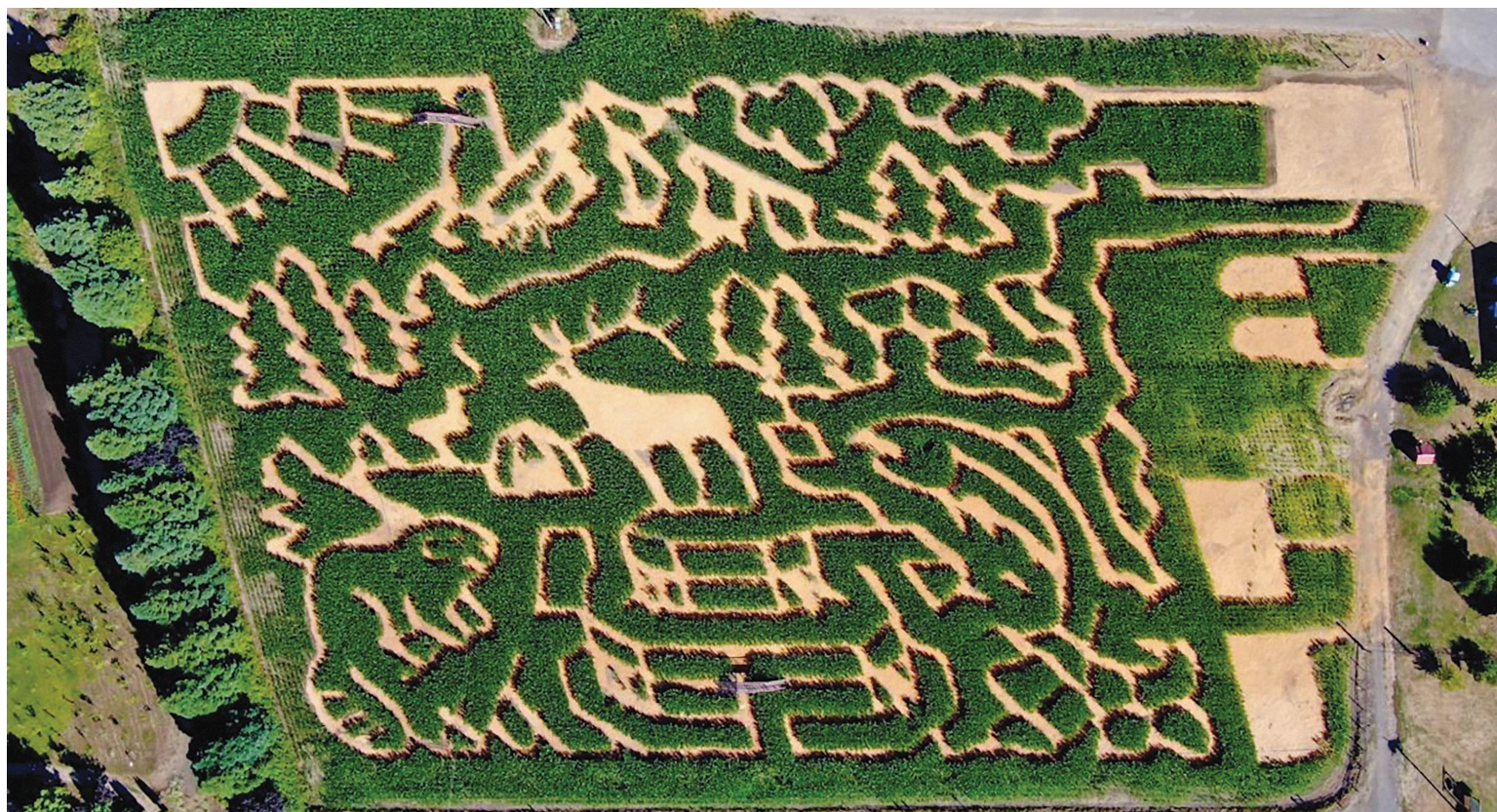
The MAiZE Opens August 30 with “Cornlandia” Theme

Celebrating 27 Years of Farm-Filled Fun on Sauvie Island

The MAiZE at The Pumpkin Patch, the premier destination for family-friendly entertainment and fall harvest bounty on Sauvie Island, is thrilled to announce the grand opening of its 27th season on Saturday, August 30th with a brand-new theme: “Cornlandia.”

This year’s design is a tribute to a wild harvest where nature, nostalgia, and Northwest pride grow tall. “Cornlandia” is a love letter to Portland’s untamed heart—celebrating the animals, land, and spirit that make our corner of the world wildly special. Visitors can wander through five acres of twisting pathways that honor elk roaming the forests, beavers building in the wetlands, salmon running in our rivers, and Mount Hood watching over it all.

For an added twist, guests can pick up a Cornlandia Trivia Pass-



2025 Maze

port at the entrance—a fun, optional guide with Portland-themed clues to help navigate the maze. Answer questions correctly, and you might just find your way out a

little faster... or discover a whole new path.

As part of the opening festivities, The Western Supply Company band will play on Saturday, Au-

gust 30th and again on Saturday, September 27th from noon until 2 p.m. under the iconic red and white big top tent. Admission is free with paid MAiZE admission.

“For more than a quarter of a century, The MAiZE at The Pumpkin Patch has been part of Portland’s fall tradition,” said

Craig Easterly, Owner of MAiZE at The Pumpkin Patch. “This year’s ‘Cornlandia’ theme invites guests to reconnect with the wild beauty that makes Oregon one-of-a-kind—while having a whole lot of fun getting lost.” For more information visit www.portland-maze.com.

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Buckle Up! Police Cracking Down

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The Portland Police Bureau is hosting a child safety seat clinic at the Traffic Division on Thursday, August 28, 2025 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. If you are interested in the child seat clinic, please make an appointment through OHSU: Car and Street Safety | Doernbecher Children's Hospital | OHSU. Time and space will be limited.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading nationwide cause of death for children ages one through twelve years old. In 2023, 1,972 children under twelve were injured in Oregon traffic crashes, 11 percent were reported not using a child restraint system. It is estimated that car seats may increase crash survival by 71% for infants under one year old and by up to 59% for toddlers aged one to four. Booster seats may reduce the chance of nonfatal injury among four- to eight-year-olds

by 45% compared to safety belts used alone.

Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) crash data for 2023 shows lack of safety belt or child restraint use was a factor in 30% or 111 of a total 365 motor vehicle occupant fatalities in Oregon.

In 2017 an Oregon law was passed requiring children to ride in a rear-facing safety seat until they are at least two years old. A child over age two must continue to ride in a car seat with harness or in a booster until they reach age eight or 4' 9" in height and the adult belt fits them correctly.

The 2017 law, which extends the rear-facing requirement from the previous age one to age two, will better protect the child's head, neck, and spine from potential crash injuries. This is because a rear-facing seat spreads crash forces evenly across the seat and child's body while also limiting forward or sideways motion of the head.

Lunch Rush for Portland Fire Crews



Boom Boom Ballon's (Photo Courtesy of Portland Fire & Rescue)

Multiple Fire Incidents Reported

On Friday, August 15, Portland Fire crews had a busy lunch rush with several incidents coming in simultaneously. It all started with a fire in a business at 2739 N Lombard Ave. Boom Boom Ballon's, a party supply business, caught on fire and was called in right at noon. First alarm crews found fire coming from the front door on arrival. They were able to make a strong push and contain the fire to just the one business. This took coordinated efforts from many companies as the attic space above Boom Boom Ballon's is shared with several other businesses. Preventing the fire from spreading horizontally was a success, and the neighboring businesses will only have to deal with smoke damage. The cause of this fire is still under investigation and there were no injuries.

While crews were working in North Portland, a residential fire was dispatched in SE Portland near 114 and Powell. A couple minutes later, a rescue call came

in for an individual that had fallen from a roof near SE Yamhill and Water Ave. And 15 minutes after that, a high rise fire was called in downtown Portland at 1705 SW 11th Ave.

The rescue call near SE Yamhill and Water Ave was for a worker who was hanging a banner over the edge of the building. He fell from the upper roof to a lower section below, about 20 feet. When crews made contact with the patient, he was alert and oriented. He was packaged in a stokes basket and brought down Truck 1's aerial ladder. The reason he was brought down in this manner is to provide for all spinal precautions since he had fallen from such a distance. He was transported to OHSU for evaluation.

A second alarm working fire, a residential box response, a rope rescue, and a high rise box response account for more than 3/4 of Portland Fire engines, trucks and chiefs responding to emergency calls within an hour. Both the high rise and residential fires turned out to be false alarms, just burned food and some smoke mitigation. But this all accounts for a busy afternoon for Portland Fire crews.

Kohberger's Sexist, Creepy Behavior was Alarming Before Idaho Murders

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

that someone had reportedly broken into a female graduate student's apartment in September or October, stealing perfume and underwear.

An unnamed Ph.D. student who was in the same program as Kohberger told police that he enjoyed conflict, was disparaging toward women and that he especially liked to talk about sexual burglary — his field of study.

Some people in the department thought he was a possible future rapist and speculated that he might be an "in-cel," she told the officer.

About three weeks after the murders, Kohberger told the Ph.D. student that whoever had committed the crimes "must have been pretty good," Idaho State Police Detective Sgt. Michael Van Leuven wrote in a report. Kohberger also told the woman that the murders might have been a "one and done type thing," Van Leuven wrote.

The woman "said she had never met anyone who acted in such a condescending manner and wondered why people in power in the department did not address his behavior," Van Leuven wrote. "The way he spoke to females in the department was unsettling to them."

One instructor told police that she was assigned to work with Kohberger on his doctoral program. In late August 2022, she said she began receiving complaints about him from students and

staff in the criminal justice program.

The instructor told police that she spent "a lot of time" speaking about Kohberger during disciplinary meetings.

"The meetings focused around Kohberger's interactions with fellow post-graduate students, in and out of the classroom, along with his behavior around some of the criminal justice professors," according to an investigator's report.

The school got nine separate complaints from faculty members, administration staffers and other students about his "rude and belittling behavior toward women," Idaho State Police Detective Sean Prosser wrote in a report. In response, the school held a mandatory training class for all graduate students about behavior expectations.

Many of Kohberger's fellow students and instructors at WSU did not suspect his involvement in the killings, according to the police reports. But at least one fellow student noticed his behavior changed after the murders. The student said Kohberger frequently used his phone before the killings, but stopped bringing his cellphone to class after the murders. He also appeared more disheveled in the weeks after the killings, the student told police, and she thought it was odd that he never participated in conversations about the Moscow deaths.

She eventually called a police tip line to report that she had seen Kohberger with bloody knuckles just prior to the killings and his hand looked like he had been hitting something.

Akie Iwai Wins Portland Classic

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

"This is a special year for us," Akie Iwai said.

Their parents shared in the victory.

"When I saw my mom crying, oh," Akie Iwai said.

She's the fifth player from Japan to win this season, following her sister, Rio Takeda, Mao Saigo and Miyu Yamashita.

"So many Japanese people this year won, so inspired me," Akie Iwai said.

They are fourth set of sisters to win on the LPGA Tour, joining Jessica and Nelly Korda, Ariya and Moriya Jutanugarn and Annika and Charlotta Sorenstam.

The winner finished at 24-under 264 on the tree-lined course. She opened with consecutive 67s, then shot a 64 on Saturday to take a two-stroke lead into the final round.

American Gurleen Kaur was a career-best second, closing with a 65.

"I think it's super exciting," Kaur said. "We're playing in Canada next week with a stronger field as well, so excited about that. Carrying that good momentum from here to there."

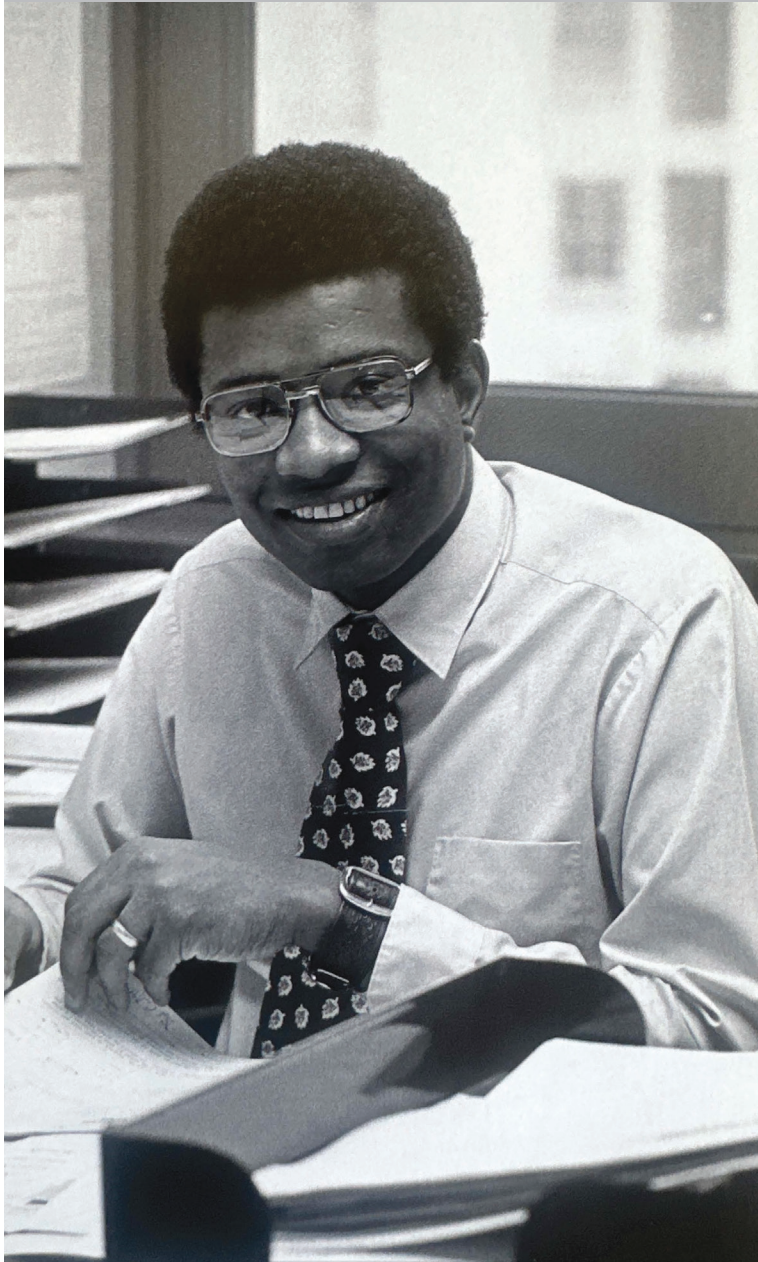
Linn Grant of Sweden had a 67 to join Chisato Iwai at 19 under. Grace Kim of Australia was 18 under after a 70.

Amateur Kiara Romero shot a 64 to tie for seventh at 16 under in her first tour start. The University of Oregon player won the 2023 U.S. Girls' Junior and 2025 Big Ten title.

"It feels great to just play really well my first LPGA event," Romero said. "Kind of gives me a lot of confidence going into the school year... All the Ducks fans are out here. So, we had a big crowd and a lot of people cheering me on, so it meant a lot to put a good week."

The tournament is the longest continuous event on the LPGA Tour except for the majors, dating to 1972.

Obituary



Jasper Leon Ambers

Jasper Leon Ambers passed away on November 14, 2024, in Portland, Oregon. His memory will be cherished forever by his family and friends who knew him.

Born on August 1, 1944, in Montgomery, Alabama, Jasper was the son of Mattie F. Foster and Alex Ambers, Sr., and the youngest of eight children: Mattie Louise Wilson (Ned, Sr.), Deacon Willie Ambers (Carrie), Josephus Ambers (Callie), Tillman Ambers (Myra), Eugene Ambers, Rev. Thomas J. Ambers (Bernice), and Ruby Ambers Taylor.

Jasper graduated from George Washington Carver High School in Montgomery, Alabama in 1962. He earned his undergraduate degree from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee in 1966, and completed his law degree at Cleveland State University, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 1974.

After relocating to Portland that same year, Jasper began his legal career in 1975 as a Deputy District Attorney with the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office. In 1978, he left the DA's office and purchased an office building in North Portland's Humboldt neighborhood, where he continued to practice law and serve his community until his retirement in 2010.

As one of not more than 15 black members of the Oregon State Bar when he was admitted to practice law in 1975, Jasper was a pioneer and trailblazer in the Oregon black legal community and paved the way for black attorneys who practice law in Oregon today. In 1980, he became a founding member of the Association of Oregon Black Lawyers, which transitioned to the Oregon Chapter of the National Bar Association in 1997.

For many years, his favorite neighborhood park area was Peninsula Park, Portland's first public rose garden. Jasper could be seen regularly jogging around the Park, come rain or shine. He was also an avid New York Times crossword puzzle aficionado. He looked forward to the daily home delivery of the Times newspaper and the challenge of solving the day's puzzle.

Jasper is survived by his son, Jason Edward Ambers who is also an attorney; his daughter, Lanette Ambers; and Lanette's three children, Isaac, Quincy and Sean. He also leaves behind many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Jasper was laid to rest at Lone Fir Cemetery in Portland, Oregon.

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CLASSIFIEDS/BIDS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CITY OF MILWAUKIE
DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT
OF THE SPARROW SITE

Proposals Due: October 22, 2025 at 2PM

The City of Milwaukie is seeking proposals from qualified developers for the development of affordable homeownership units that maximize density potential (as allowable by code) at the City-owned property known as the "Sparrow Site."

The City utilizes Bonfire Interactive for its eProcurement solution. To access the solicitation documents, be added to the distribution list for this solicitation's automatic notices, and to submit proposals electronically, please visit <https://milwaukieoregon.bonfirehub.com/> to login or register.

A mandatory site walk and pre-proposal meeting will be held at 2:30 p.m. PDT on Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at the site which is located at SE Sparrow Ave and SE 26th Ave, Milwaukie, OR 97222.

Proposals are due by 2:00 p.m. PDT, on Wednesday, October 22, 2025. Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be accepted. There will be no formal opening of proposals.

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Stories Have the Power to Change Lives and Heal

A Recap of the Q Center Storytelling Event

August 9th we had the largest crowd ever for our storytelling event at the Q Center focusing on elder Queer storytellers. This was such a loving community. Elders are rarely celebrated and there was such enthusiasm, many of the audience members volunteered to help us set up when the staff person didn't arrive to open the room with the chairs and sound equipment. They were such a supportive group and really responded heartily to the stories of "Courage, Grace and Grit."

Many were visibly moved, wiping a tear or two or joyously laughing. At one point at the end, Tim Seelig led the audience in a chorus of "You Are My Sunshine." We continue to get these spontaneous moments of collective humanity and it's inspiring.

Excerpt from Sandra de Helen's story about the grit to keep writing: "In my twenties, I had several poems published. Won a few more contests. Feeling proud of myself, I signed up for a creative writing class at the University of Alaska in Anchorage. Before the semester was over, my professor, Tom Sexton, told me I'd never be a poet—because I didn't write like a man. He pointed to a woman in our class who had nine children, and said she could write like a man. So because of his harsh words—and my own insecurity—I stopped writing poetry. That was 1970. It took courage to keep writing through rejection and silence."

It took grit to write when no one was asking for it. Grace? That came later. Excerpt from Horatio Law about discovering art during the AIDS pandemic: "For gay men coming out during that time, liberation came with a terrible price amid the joy of discovering one's gay identity and sexuality. I was surprised. It was also tainted with uncertainty and prospect of horrible sufferings and death. In the middle of this whirlpool of loss and fear, mystery and shame, one could easily get lost about your goals in life or questioned your reason to live. And then there was this question about my own mortality. It dawned on me that if I were at all serious about this art thing, I better start doing something about it. That's when I realized I need to listen to my heart. And follow that whisper. It is said that art is about living. If



(Left to Right) Storytellers: Tim Seelig, choir director, Reid Vanderburg, singer, Kathleen Saadat, poet activist, Horatio Hung-Yan Law, visual artist and Host/Curator Sandra de Helen, writer.

I were an artist, I would explore every part of myself."

Excerpt from Kathleen Saadat's story about climbing a rockwall: "What, what does it mean? The grace, the goodwill, the kindness, the empathy, the caring, all of which helped me up the rock. They pushed me up the rock. It was the grace. Not what you say before dinner, but it was that feeling of having a group of people that cared about you, want you to succeed."

Excerpt from Reid Vanderburg about being trans in his younger days: "I understand now with several decades of hindsight that the commonality between me and my partner is we were both trans. But the difference is my partner had always had this male persona inside and knew it, just didn't know you could do anything about it. And then one day my partner saw an article random in a magazine about a trans man and thought. Oh my God. You can transition that direction. I had no idea. And came home and said to me, I've always felt like a man inside, and if I had the money, I'd have an operation tomorrow."

Excerpt from Tim Seelig about aging and recently deciding to skydive: "Being old takes courage. It takes courage to get out of the house. It takes courage to put on our clothes. It takes courage not to wear elastic pants, just on special occasions. A few weeks ago, four weeks ago, I faced yet another little

ladder and I looked at it and I thought, okay, here we go. And I climbed up with the help of some people got in this little metal tube and it took off and went

to 14,500 feet and I jumped. Wow. The landing was beautiful and I did not say I want to do it again. I think about the grit. It's taken all of us to get here."

Join us for our next storytelling event on Aug. 30th at 2pm at the North Portland Library (512 N. Killingsworth) with a focus on Black female affinity!

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A celebration of Community, Culture & Hope



Peace & Unity Fest Returns

Portland’s most uplifting summer festival is back! The Peace & Unity Fest will take place on Saturday, August 23, 2025, inviting families, neighbors, and friends

to come together for a day filled with music, culture, and connection. Hosted by Y.O.U.TH (Youth Organized & United to Help) and presented in partnership with 1803 Fund, No One Left Behind, Portland, Pacific Refugee Support Group, and Play Grow Learn, this free community festival blends entertainment with impact.

Guests can enjoy live DJ music by DJ George, a Back-to-School Giveaway providing free backpacks and supplies, vendors and food trucks showcasing Portland’s diversity, and youth and family activities designed to inspire joy and unity. “The Peace & Unity Fest is our way of showing that when the community comes together, healing and hope are possible,”

said Imani Muhammad, Executive Director of Y.O.U.TH. “This is more than a festival—it’s a reminder to practice the concepts of Peace & Unity in our families and community, one person at a time.” The event will be held at 16126 SE Stark St. on Saturday, August 23, 2025, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., with the backpack giveaway beginning at 2 p.m. Admission is free.



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