



Minority Business

SPECIAL EDITION 2026

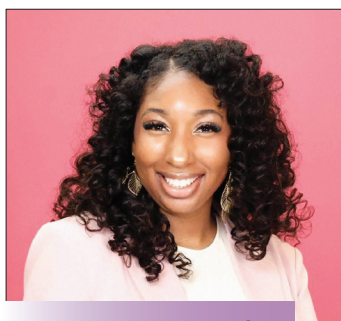
In This Issue



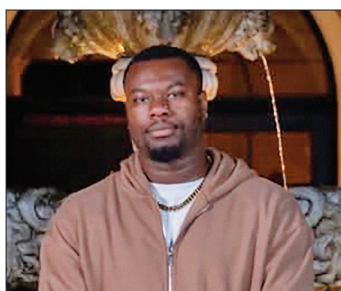
Mylani Vegan Hair & Body Care - page 7



National Beard League - page 7



Ella Dean - page 6



Smooth Collective - page 7



Callie's Custom Hat Wigs - page 6



Nite Owlz - page 6

Bison Coffee House: A Dream Brewed into Community

Bringing People Together, One Cup at a Time

Bison Coffee House LLC, owned by, opened on Veterans Day in 2014 as a coffee house dedicated to serving the community and honoring veterans. The business features Native and local coffee roasters along with in house baking and a menu of specialty coffee and freshly baked items, including scones, biscuits, muffins, bagels, espresso coffee cake and more.

The inspiration for Bison Coffee House came from a dream. Guzman had a dream about a big bison, and after overcoming stage 4B cancer, she decided to open her own coffee business. She named it Bison Coffee House and created a space where all people are welcome.

Bison Coffee House has been in business from Veterans Day 2014 through October 2026 and will reach 12 years in business next month. Guzman says it is the only Native owned coffee shop in Portland.

At the heart of Bison Coffee House is a message of community and connection: "We don't have to agree on everything to be in the same space and we can get along to make change." For Guzman, the coffee house is about more



Loretta Guzman, owner of Bison Coffee House LLC. Photo by Mark Washington.

than serving coffee. It is a place where people can come together and share the same space while finding common ground.

Being a minority owned business has a special meaning for Guzman. "It means we can do it and we can make a better day and

future. It's up to each of us."

Her advice to anyone who wants to start their own business is rooted in perseverance: "Make sure you have plenty of energy and keep showing up when others won't. When it's hard, get up and push forward."

Bison Coffee House is located at 3941 NE Cully Blvd., Portland, OR 97213. Business hours are Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. email bisoncoffeehouse@yahoo.com, or visit bisoncoffeehouse.com.

Bringing Dental Care to the Patient

Dentist House Calls Expands Access Across the Pacific Northwest

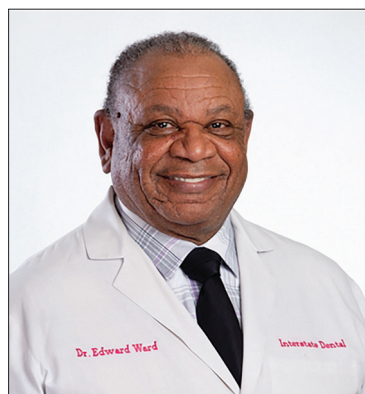
For many people, visiting the dentist is routine. But for seniors, individuals with disabilities, and patients with significant medical or mobility limitations, simply getting to a dental office can become one of the greatest barriers to receiving care.

Dentist House Calls is working to change that.

Led by Dr. Edward Ward, Dentist House Calls brings professional dental services directly to patients in their homes, residential facilities, assisted-living communities, and memory-care settings throughout Oregon and Washington.

The mission is simple: bring the dental office to the patient.

Some patients served by Den-



Dr. Edward E. Ward

tist House Calls have gone years without routine dental care. For someone who uses a wheelchair, lives with advanced dementia or developmental disabilities, or depends on caregivers for transportation, a traditional dental appointment can require extensive coordination. Too often, care is postponed until pain or infection develops.

Dentist House Calls offers a different approach.

The mobile dental team works with patients, families, guardians, caregivers, and residential communities to provide care where patients are most comfortable and accessible. Services may include dental examinations, diagnostic imaging, preventive hygiene care, periodontal evaluation, treatment planning, and other dental services when clinically appropriate.

The goal goes beyond convenience. It is about access, prevention, comfort, and dignity.

As the population ages and more families rely on assisted living, memory care, adult foster homes, and other residential settings, accessible healthcare is becoming increasingly important. Oral health plays an essential role

in a person's comfort, nutrition, ability to eat and speak, and overall quality of life.

As a Black-owned business, Dentist House Calls also represents entrepreneurship built around community need. The organization is creating a model of dentistry in which the healthcare system adapts to the patient rather than expecting every patient to adapt to the traditional system.

As Dentist House Calls continues expanding throughout the Pacific Northwest, its purpose remains centered on the individual:

One home. One facility. One patient at a time.

Dental care should not become inaccessible simply because someone cannot easily get to a dental office.

Sometimes, the answer is to bring the dental office to them.



Board of Director Tiffany Penson (left) chats with PCC Foundation Executive Director Christina Kline at the anniversary celebration at Willow Creek.



The key ingredient is a strong financial partner.

Building a business from scratch takes more than passion. It takes planning, resilience, and a financial partner who understands that growth isn't always a straight line. That's why Mosh Ice Cream and Bake Shop banks with OnPoint; a community credit union dedicated to serving local businesses.

- Treasure Management Solutions
- Flexible Lending
- Merchant Services

Discover more at
onpointcu.com/business-banking

OnPoint
COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

All OnPoint business loans & lines of credit are subject to credit terms and approval. Federally insured by NCUA. Equal Housing Opportunity.

Future Connect Celebrates 15 years of College Success

Building Pathways from College Access to Completion

Oregon's community colleges are drawing students back, but will they stay? Two-year enrollment rose 6.6% in fiscal year 2025, even as the state's latest affordability measure found that 35% of resident students faced college costs beyond their expected resources.

For first-generation and low-income students, admission is often only the first hurdle. Finding the money, guidance and sense of belonging needed to graduate and transfer can be even harder.

Against that backdrop, Portland Community College and the PCC Foundation marked the 15th anniversary of Future Connect, a nationally recognized program designed to turn college access into college completion. The Sept. 10 celebration at the Willow Creek Opportunity Center in Washington County brought together former students, elected leaders, community donors and friends of the program.

Since its first cohort entered PCC during the 2011-12 academic year, Future Connect has served nearly 5,000 students. The program combines scholarships with personalized advising, career guidance and support from a dedicated college success coach. Students also receive job and internship resources and help navigating academic, financial and personal barriers.

"Future Connect demonstrates what is possible when a college and its community commit not only to opening the door to higher education, but also to helping students thrive once they walk through it," said Dr. Katy Ho, interim president of Portland Community College. "For 15 years, the program has combined financial support with personalized coaching, trusted relationships and a strong sense of belonging for thousands of first-generation and low-income students. Its success now shapes how PCC supports new students across the college."

Future Connect cohorts reflect communities that have historically faced some of the greatest barriers to higher education: 75% of students come from low-income households, 85% are the first in their families to attend

college and 87% are students of color. In total, the PCC Foundation has secured more than \$24 million in gifts and grants (from private and public partners) for Future Connect with \$8 million supporting scholarships.

"Fifteen Years of serving students is something the community can truly be proud of," said Josh Laurie, dean of PCC's College Success Programs. "In that time, we have invested and re-invested in how students access opportunity through education. When we started the program 15 years ago, people said it might not stick and it might just be a flashy object that fades. But we believed in what we were building and so did the community."

In 2011, Future Connect began with more than 100 students and support from the City of Portland and PCC Foundation donors. It later expanded through partnerships with Beaverton and Hillsboro and now welcomes more than 300 new students each year.

Its influence has extended beyond PCC. In 2015, then-Gov. Kate Brown ceremonially signed House Bill 3063, the "Aspirations to College" law based on Future Connect. The law funded similar programs at Oregon community colleges, and Future Connect received a \$1.3 million state grant in 2016.

A 2017 Education Northwest evaluation found that Future Connect improved first-year grade-point averages and credits earned, persistence into the second year, and three-year completion and transfer rates. In December 2021, the federal What Works Clearinghouse found promising evidence of effectiveness in its review of the evaluation.

The transfer component is key. According to Columbia University, a national research report shows that about 80% of entering community college students aspire to earn a bachelor's degree, yet only 33% transfer to a four-year institution and 16% earn a bachelor's degree within six years. For students from low-income households, the completion rate is 11%.

Future Connect scholars can continue receiving assistance through available scholarships at Portland State University, Lewis & Clark College, Pacific and Linfield Universities, and any Oregon University of their choice. Known as Future Connect's Next

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

The **INSIDE**

page 5

Benson Student Arrested Following September Incident

page 8

Nike Co-founder Gives \$1.1B for Oregon's First Women's Hospital

page 11

SPORTS **Damian Lillard Provides a Steady Influence****CLASSIFIEDS/BIDS** page 10**The Portland Observer**

Established 1970 USPS 959 680
1727 NE 13th Ave. Suite 201
Portland, OR 97212

The Portland Observer welcomes freelance submissions. Manuscripts and photographs should be clearly labeled and will be returned if accompanied by a self addressed envelope. All created design display ads become the sole property of the newspaper and cannot be used in other publications or personal usage without the written consent of the general manager, unless the client has purchased the composition of such ad. © 2008 THE PORTLAND OBSERVER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED, REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED.



The Portland Observer--Oregon's Oldest Multicultural Publication--is a member of the National Newspaper Association--Founded in 1885, and The National Advertising Representative Amalgamated Publishers, Inc, New York, NY, and The West Coast Black Publishers Association

Publisher: Mark Washington, Sr.

Editor: Shawntell Washington • Admin Coord: Quayuana Washington
Office Mngr/Clasfids: Lucinda Baldwin • Creative Director: Kenya Anderson

CALL 503-288-0033 • FAX 503-288-0015

news@portlandobserver.com • ads@portlandobserver.com
subscription@portlandobserver.com

**Postmaster: Send address changes to Portland Observer,
PO Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208**

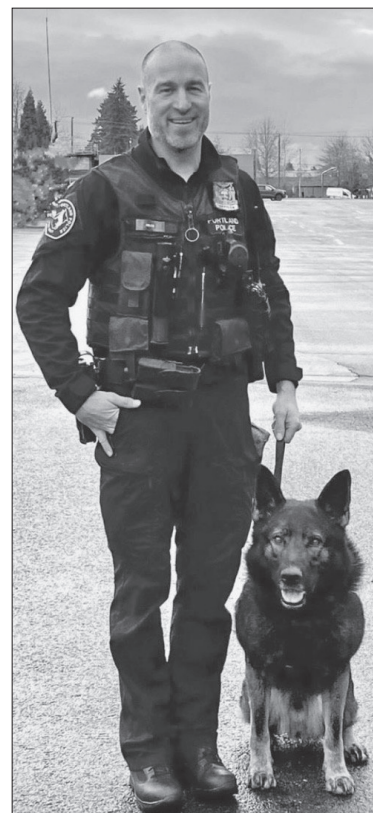
LOCAL NEWS**Honoring K9 Kylo****Portland K9
Kylo Dies
Saving Officers**

Kylo joined the Portland Police Bureau after being acquired from Adlerhorst International K9 Academy in Riverside, California. Paired with Officer Justin Raphael in February 2020, Kylo quickly established himself as an exceptional police canine with a talent for locating suspects. In December 2021, he was partnered with Officer Jerry Ables, beginning a five-year partnership that would define the final chapter of his career.

During nearly seven years of service to the greater Portland community, Kylo was credited

with 139 captures and became beloved throughout the K9 Unit for his courageous nature, playful personality, and unmistakable habit of matching his howl to the police siren. One K9 Unit supervisor summed up Kylo's impact simply: "There will never be another Kylo."

Set to retire after a distinguished career, Kylo was called upon for one final mission on September 24, 2026, assisting the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force in locating and apprehending a dangerous suspect. During the incident, Kylo made the ultimate sacrifice, saving the lives of his handler and fellow officers. Kylo gave his life in the service he loved, protecting the people who depended on him. His courage, loyalty, and spirit will never be forgotten.



Officer Jerry Ables pictured with K9 Kylo

**PP&R Announces Planned
Demolition of Columbia Indoor Pool****Safety Assessment
Deemed Continued
Operation is Unsafe**

Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) announces that Columbia Pool, a cherished community gathering space in North Portland since 1930, is scheduled for demolition later this year. A specific demolition date will be announced once final permitting and contractor timelines are confirmed.

Columbia Pool served generations of Portlanders for more than nine decades. It was far more than a recreational facility, it was a place where families bonded, neighbors connected, and countless young swimmers learned skills that lasted a lifetime. Lessons, memories, and relationships formed at Columbia Pool continue to echo through the community long after its doors closed.

The pool was temporarily closed during the COVID-19 pandemic and permanently shuttered in 2022 after an independent structural engineering inspection identified severe life and safety hazards and significant deterioration. The assessment showed that the building had reached the end of its useful life, and the structural issues were beyond repair. PP&R had conducted regular roof inspections since 2008 and internal quarterly reviews, but the safety assessment made it clear that continued operation was unsafe.

In March 2025, Mayor Keith Wilson directed a one-year pause



Photos are courtesy of Portland Parks & Recreation, Portland, OR.

on demolition at the request of District 2 Councilors, allowing time for PP&R to explore alternatives. During this pause, PP&R commissioned Convergence Architecture, based in St. Johns, to lead a multidisciplinary feasibility study on reopening Columbia Pool as an outdoor, seasonal-use facility. The assessment team included civil and structural engineers, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing engineers, aquatic specialists, and professional cost estimators.

The parks bureau worked closely with the Mayor's Office and District 2 Councilors to find a path forward. Ultimately, securing the resources necessary to fund the reopening or reconfiguring of the facility was not viable.

The planned demolition underscores the broader challenges PP&R faces in maintaining the city's park and recreation infrastructure. PP&R currently carries

an estimated \$759 million major maintenance backlog systemwide. Without sustainable long-term funding, Portland risks losing additional community assets over the next 15 years.

A new and better facility is coming to North Portland. Planning and design work for PP&R's indoor, full-service North Portland Aquatic Center continue. We expect construction to begin in 2027.

The project goals are to create a beautiful, durable, equitable, and state-of-the-art aquatic center that is inclusive of all Portlanders, promote equity by reducing barriers to access and providing a safe, welcoming environment for everyone, and expand the types of aquatic programming offered by Portland Parks & Recreation.

Balance high-performance sustainability aspirations with long-term operational success.

Meals on Wheels People Celebrates 20 Years in Clark County



Photo Courtesy of Meals on Wheels.

New Campaign Will Create a Permanent Clark County Hub to Expand Meal Delivery

Meals on Wheels People celebrated two decades of service in Clark County at its Here for Good 20th Anniversary Luncheon on Sept. 29, bringing together community members, volunteers, supporters, and local leaders to mark the milestone and launch a \$4 million capital campaign for a permanent Clark County Hub.

The new hub, located at 3307 NE 109th Ave. in Vancouver, will give Meals on Wheels People a permanent home in Clark County while expanding its capacity to store and deliver meals, respond to emergencies, and provide specialized nutrition services.

The luncheon at the Heathman Lodge featured stories from people whose lives have been touched by Meals on Wheels People, including Tim Centner, a participant in the organization's Medically Tailored Meals program. A video featuring diners at the Luepke Center and The Diner Vancouver and the connections they've built through Meals on Wheels People captured the stories and connections at the heart of the event.

Meals on Wheels People began serving Clark County in 2006. Over the past 20 years, the organization has delivered more than 3 million meals to people throughout the community.

This past year alone, Meals on Wheels People provided 215,551 meals to 2,503 older adults in Clark County, supported by 271 volunteers who contributed 19,085 hours of service.

The organization's Clark County services have also expanded beyond traditional home-delivered meals to include dining centers, The Diner Vancouver, the Diners Club, the Pet Program, and Medically Tailored Meals — nutrition designed around the needs of people managing serious health conditions.

For Tim Centner, medically tailored meals have become an important part of managing his health.

"My kidney function had declined to 23%, and at 20%, you go on dialysis," Tim said. "I got really worried. I have to really watch what I eat. Since Meals on Wheels People, my kidneys went up from 23% all the way to 45%. I'm really glad for the meals."

The Here for Good Capital Campaign will raise \$4 million to transform a nearly 1-acre property on NE 109th Avenue into a permanent Clark County Hub. The site will include a new 7,500-square-foot warehouse and existing office space, expanding storage, delivery, and program capacity.

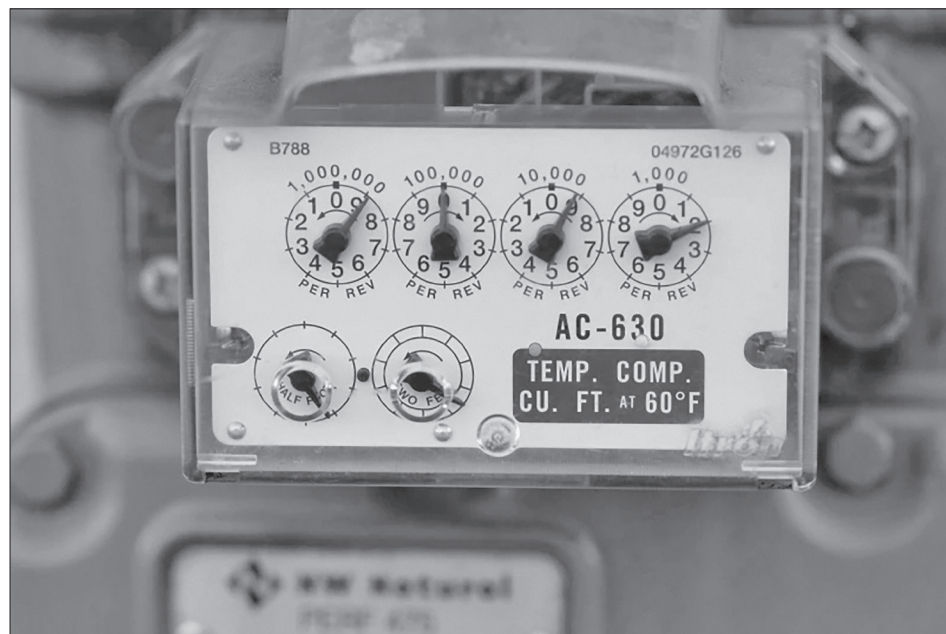
The project has already received significant public support. Earlier this year, the Washington State Department of Commerce awarded Meals on Wheels People a \$2.7 million grant toward establishing a centralized hub for medically tailored meals and older adult nutrition services in Clark County.

The new warehouse will hold approximately 28,000 frozen meals — enough for up to four weeks of meals in an emergency, more than twice the capacity of Meals on Wheels People's current rented warehouse in Southwest Washington. That reserve will help the organization continue delivering meals during severe weather, wildfires, supply disruptions, and other emergencies.

The facility will also eventually serve as Meals on Wheels People's Washington shipping hub for its Medically Tailored Meals program. Because the organization will own the property, resources that would otherwise go toward renting warehouse space can instead support programs and services.

"Here for Good means being there when it matters," said Jessica Morris, interim CEO of Meals on Wheels People. "We can't know exactly what the future will bring. But we can build the infrastructure to be ready for it."

Clark County's older adult population is growing quickly. By 2035, more than 1 in 4 Clark County residents is projected to be age 60 or older. The new hub is designed to give Meals on Wheels People the capacity and flexibility to continue serving the community as those needs change.



A natural gas meter operates Jan. 22, 2025, in Portland, Ore. (AP Photo/Jenny Kane, File)

Will Households Pay More for Energy Because of Federal Policy Changes?

The Energy Innovation Analysis Found that Households Will Pay an Average of \$6,500 More for Energy

AP-Households in the contiguous United States will pay thousands of dollars more for energy through 2040 because of federal policy changes since President Donald Trump returned to office such as canceling new clean energy projects, according to modeling released Friday by a nonpartisan think tank.

The Energy Innovation analysis found that households will pay an average of \$6,500 more for energy, cumulatively through 2040. In five states, households will pay roughly \$9,000 more: Oregon, Mississippi, South Dakota, Virginia and Wyoming.

The California-based think tank said there will be more demand for natural gas for electricity because the administration is canceling new wind, solar and hydrogen projects and there will be more gasoline demand for transportation because Trump and Congress are revoking policies that incentivized efficient and lower-emissions vehicles. Higher demand increases prices. Energy prices are elevated in many countries. The International Energy Agency said after Russia invaded Ukraine, record prices were observed between 2022 and 2024 in the European Union, the United Kingdom, Japan and Korea. In many countries, the rise has outpaced income growth and inflation since 2019, including the European Union and the United States. In some areas of the U.S., demand from data centers is being blamed. The Iran war has sent oil and gasoline prices sharply higher, too. The Energy Information Administration expects residential U.S. customers to pay about 18.6 cents per kilowatt-hour in 2027, compared to 17.3 cents in 2025 and 18.2 cents in 2026.

The independent research firm Rhodium Group has also examined the issue, saying in April the U.S. has entered a new period of rising electricity prices. It cited increasing price volatility in natural gas, which is increasingly used to generate power; needed grid improvements; inflation; storm recovery and wildfire mitigation; and shifting policies.

Absent significant policy action, electricity prices likely will continue their significant rise over the next five years, the firm said.

White House spokeswoman Taylor Rogers said Wednesday that lowering electricity prices remains a top priority and Trump is unleashing reliable energy like coal and natural gas to reverse the damage Democrats did to the grid by increasing clean energy. A 2025 Department of Energy report, mandated by Trump, warned of increasing blackouts if the U.S. continued closing coal and natural gas plants.

"Joe Biden created a grid crisis; President Trump is fixing it," Rogers wrote in an email. "If the Democrats had their way, these costly and unreliable renewable energy projects would still be failing our grid and our communities."

The Republican president prioritizes fossil fuels to produce electricity, unlike Biden, who saw clean energy as a climate solution. The conservative Institute for Energy Research said in December that blue states have high rates because they have embraced aggressive renewable mandates, 100% carbon-free targets, premature coal and nuclear retirements and restrictions on natural gas infrastructure. It said high electricity prices are not an inevitability; they are a choice.

It focused on the sweeping package of tax breaks that slashed funding for clean energy tax credits, known as the One Big Beautiful Bill, Trump signed; environmental rollbacks, including clean air and power plant rules and the revocation of a

PPS Weighs Closing Up to 14 Schools Amid \$65M Funding Gap

Portland Public Schools is Proposing Two Scenarios to Take Effect in Fall 2027

Portland Public Schools has released two scenarios aimed at addressing declining enrollment across the district. One proposal would close as many as 14 schools, while the other would result in the closure of 11.

In a news release, the district said Superintendent Kimberlee Armstrong will gather feedback from students, families, educators and the broader community before presenting a final recommendation to the school board. The board is expected to vote on a course of action in December.

"We know how deeply connected students, families, educa-



Superintendent, Dr. Kimberlee Armstrong

tors and communities are to their schools, and considering the closure of any school is extraordinarily difficult," Armstrong said in a statement. "But we also have a responsibility to look at Portland Public Schools as a whole and consider changes that give every student access to strong programs, stable staffing and the opportunities and support they deserve."

If approved, the changes would take effect in fall 2027. Both scenarios include more than 30 school boundary changes, converting several K-8 schools to K-5 campuses and moving some programs between buildings.

"Decisions of that magnitude take time and care, and PPS leadership has proven inept at making decisions of that scale in a rushed timeline," The Portland Association of Teachers (PAT) said in a statement. "Closing schools is not a plan, it's a reaction. Our students deserve better. Families deserve better. Educators deserve better. We ask that the district exhaust every available option it has before considering closing schools."

PPS also said DLE programs would be consolidated; Spanish and Mandarin immersion programs would either be relocated or combined at designated schools, but Vietnamese immersion would remain at Rose City Park.

PREMIER
MORTGAGE RESOURCES

USA TODAY
TOP WORK PLACES
2024
USA

PAUL MARRS
MORTGAGE
LOAN OFFICER

NMLS 5212, WA MLO-5212

- Born and raised in NE Portland
- Irvington Graduate
- Fernwood Graduate
- Grant HS Graduate
- San Francisco State University Graduate
- Loan Officer since 1999

Phone: (503) 781-2114
paul.marrs@pmrloans.com
1325 NW Flanders St. Unit 3
Portland, OR 97209

SCAN TO APPLY

Premier Mortgage Resources, LLC
Co NMLS 1169 | Equal Housing Opportunity



Benson High School (Photo Courtesy of Portland Public Schools)

Benson HS Teen Faces Attempted Murder, Terrorism Charges

Student Arrested Following September Incident

On Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at approximately 8:30 a.m., Portland Fire & Rescue personnel, followed by Portland Police officers, responded to Benson Polytechnic High School following a report of a student experiencing a medical emergency. When first responders arrived, they immediately rushed to the cafeteria. School staff were there tending to a 15-year-old male student who was in significant distress after mixing chemicals he had brought

from home and inhaling the gases produced by the mixture. The student was transported to a local hospital for further medical treatment. Other students and staff were evacuated to nearby athletic fields to be triaged by PF&R.

Since September 8, PPB detectives, in conjunction with partners at the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office, have been investigating this incident to include numerous interviews, follow-up on tips, review of surveillance footage and social media accounts, execution of search warrants and seizure of electronic devices.

The investigation has resulted

in the arrest of the male student, who is not being identified due to his age, on the following charges: 10 counts of Attempted Aggravated Murder, Attempted Murder in the First Degree, Attempted Murder in the Second Degree, Domestic Terrorism in the First Degree, Domestic Terrorism in the Second Degree, Unlawful Manufacturing of Destructive Device, Unlawful Possession of a Destructive Device, Possession of a Weapon in a Public Building, Unlawful Use of a Weapon, and Recklessly Endangering Another Person.

PPB and partners spoke about the case at a news conference on October 2, 2026.

2026

OMSI

BLACK **COMMUNITY** **SCIENCE** **NIGHT**

OCTOBER 14TH
6 PM - 9 PM

TICKETS: \$10 ADULT | \$8 YOUTH

- PERFORMANCES
- PLANETARIUM SHOWS
- LOCAL VENDORS
- OMSI'S EXHIBITS
- TURBINE HALL
- SCIENCE DEMOS

THANK YOU TO ALL THE BUSINESSES PARTICIPATING IN THIS YEAR'S **MINORITY BUSINESS SPECIAL EDITION!** WE ARE EXCITED TO SPOTLIGHT THE ENTREPRENEURS, BUSINESS OWNERS, AND LOCAL BUSINESSES THAT HELP MAKE OUR COMMUNITY UNIQUE. VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO READ EACH BUSINESSES' FULL PROFILE.

Ella Dean: Four Generations of Haircare, Legacy and Community



Nicole Rose, Founder and CEO of Ella Dean, the botanical textured haircare line.

Nicole Rose, Founder and CEO of Ella Dean, created the clean, botanical haircare line for textured hair in 2020, continuing a family legacy that began in 1954 when her great grandparents, Benjamin and Mary Rose Dean, opened Dean's Beauty Salon and Barbershop in Portland's Albina neighborhood. The salon is the oldest Black owned salon in Portland and was later passed down to Rose's grandmother, Ella Dean.

As a little girl, Rose spent five days a week at the salon, sweeping floors, handing out towels and watching the women in her family care for their community. That

experience inspired her love of haircare and eventually led to Ella Dean, which offers a Moisturizing and Strengthening Shampoo and Conditioner and its signature *Look, But Don't Touch* Hair Oil. The brand uses clean, plant powered formulas with botanicals including pomegranate, amla, hibiscus and watermelon seed oil.

Ella Dean has been completely self funded for six years and has been featured in British Vogue, included in the 2022 Grammy Awards gift bags and expanded to nine stores across Portland, Vancouver, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. Its products take a scalp first approach, with targeted oils for hair growth, itchy scalps and dandruff.

The brand is named after Rose's grandmother, who battled Alzheimer's. Three percent of every sale goes to the Alzheimer's Association in her honor. Ella Dean also works with local nonprofits, including Every Child Oregon, to provide quality haircare kits for youth in foster care, and Rose will participate in Fosterful's Roots & Crowns event this November.

For Rose, being a Black woman owned business means carrying forward her family's legacy, creating representation and showing the next generation what is possible. "Your texture isn't a problem to fix. It's something to nourish, protect and celebrate."

Ella Dean is an online only business and can be reached at 971 266 4003 or hello@elladean.com. Shop online at elladean.com. Three percent of every sale supports the Alzheimer's Association in honor of Rose's grandmother.

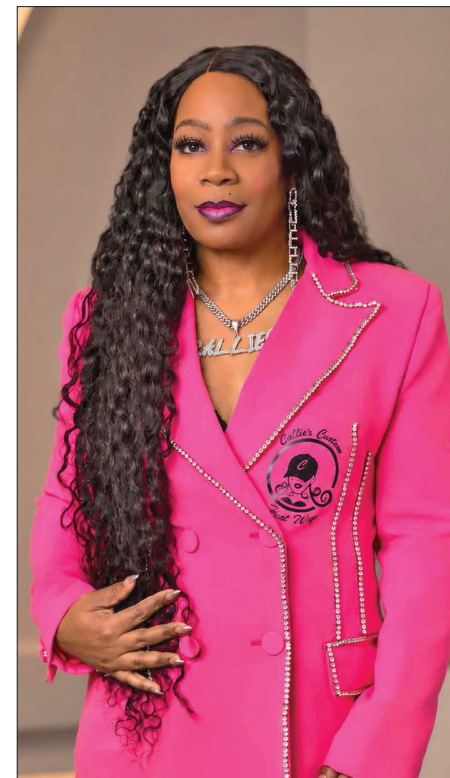
Callie's Custom Hat Wigs: Healing Through Hair

Tralice Lewis, Founder, Owner and Celebrity Wig Specialist of Callie's Custom Hat Wigs, founded the business in 2020 in honor of her mother, Callie Lewis, a hospice nurse who spent 33 years caring for others. After losing her mother in 2012, Tralice wanted to keep her name and legacy of service alive. Built on faith, Callie's combines Tralice's passion for wigs with her mother's heart for helping people.

Callie's serves women, men and children, including people experiencing cancer, alopecia, lupus, medical hair loss, life transitions or simply wanting a new look. Its message, "Wigs See No Color," reflects the belief that everyone deserves to feel seen, beautiful and confident. Services include premium fiber, human hair, glueless and hat wigs, wig grips and accessories, along with hats, handbags, clothing and other fashion accessories. The business also offers private consultations, mobile wig appointments, wig education and Wig Confidence workshops.

Callie's has provided wigs connected to celebrities and influencers including Tabitha Brown, Queen Luenell, Detroit Diamond, Nic Few and Dr. ShantaQuilette. Its wigs have been featured in movies and music videos, and Tralice shared her business at Bishop T.D. Jakes' Good Soil Forum in 2025. Callie's has also supported Kaiser Permanente through wig donations and continues seeking healthcare and community partnerships to help people experiencing medical hair loss.

Tralice opened her first 170 square foot storefront in 2022 after stepping out on faith. Today, Callie's continues



Tralice Lewis, Founder and Owner of Callie's Custom Hat Wigs

to grow through online sales, mobile services, pop ups, healthcare partnerships, community events and workshops. Tralice says Callie's is "a ministry inside of a wig business," focused on listening, educating, encouraging and restoring confidence.

The new location at 1110 NE Wood Village Blvd., Suite 29, Wood Village, OR 97060, is scheduled to open November 2, 2026. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., with after hours and Sunday appointments available by request. Call 971 335 6670, email customhatwigs@gmail.com, or visit CalliesCustomHatWigs.com.

Nite Owlz LLC: Clean Beyond Limits, Fresh for Everyone

Duronte Talton, Owner and Founder of Nite Owlz LLC, has built a Portland area cleaning service company supported by a growing team of cleaning professionals providing dependable residential, commercial, move out, specialty cleaning, moving support, delivery and related services throughout the Portland metropolitan area.

Nite Owlz was created to provide dependable, professional and accessible services to individuals, families, property managers and businesses. What began as a cleaning service has grown to include residential and commercial cleaning, deep cleaning, move in and move out services, emergency cleanup, packing and moving assistance, light junk removal, delivery services, carpet and upholstery cleaning, floor care, pressure washing and other specialty projects.

Services include Airbnb and short term rental cleaning, kitchen and appliance deep cleaning, high dusting and detail cleaning, property cleanup and organiza-

tion, and specialty cleaning projects. The company also focuses on environmentally conscious cleaning practices whenever appropriate and continues working toward expanding the Nite Owlz Eco product and service line.

Talton says he started Nite Owlz because he wanted to create something of his own that could provide dependable services while creating opportunities for others. He saw a need for a company that was flexible, professional, responsive and willing to handle jobs sometimes outside the scope of a traditional cleaning service.

What makes Nite Owlz unique is its versatility and willingness to take care of customers from beginning to end. The company emphasizes communication, flexibility, attention to detail, safety and being available when customers need them.

"We are more than a basic cleaning company," Talton says. "Our biggest message is that when you hire Nite Owlz, we want you to feel like you have a com-



Duronte Talton, Owner and Founder of the Portland cleaning company, Nite Owlz LLC

pany you can depend on."

Located at 3055 NW Yeon Ave #513, Portland, Oregon 97210, Nite Owlz is available 24 hours for scheduling and

service needs. Hours may vary by project and appointment. Call 458-202-5555 or visit niteowlzcs.com. Clean Beyond Limits, Fresh for Everyone.

Mylani Vegan Hair & Body Care: Beauty Rooted in Experience and Legacy

Charlisa Harris, Founder and Owner, Master Cosmetologist and Certified Cosmetic Formulator, created Mylani Vegan Hair & Body Care from nearly 30 years of experience behind the salon chair. After 16 years as the owner of Chadowboxx Salon, Harris wanted to create plant-based products that addressed the real hair and scalp concerns she saw every day.

Mylani offers vegan, cruelty-free hair and body care for moisture, scalp care, breakage, curl definition, length retention and healthy-hair maintenance. At Chadowboxx Salon, Harris specializes in textured hair care and incorporates Mylani products into her services based on each client's individual needs.

"Honestly, my clients did," Harris says about what inspired her to create Mylani. She saw clients struggle to maintain their hair between appointments and become overwhelmed by products that weren't meeting their needs. Instead of continuing to search for the products she wanted, Harris became a Certified Cosmetic Formulator and learned to create them herself.

Harris began practicing cosmetology at age 16, attended beauty school and became a licensed cosmetologist in 2008. She opened Chadowboxx Salon in 2010, and her product journey began in 2017, eventually evolving into Mylani Vegan Hair & Body Care.

"Mylani wasn't created in a boardroom. It was created behind the salon chair, and it still lives there today," Harris says. As a Master Cosmetologist and Certified Cosmetic Formulator, she combines decades of hands-on experience with product formulation while continuing to work directly with the people she creates products for.

For Harris, being a Black wom-



Charlisa Harris, Founder and Owner of Mylani Vegan Hair & Body Care

an-owned business represents ownership, representation and legacy. She became a mother at 17 and built her career while raising her family. Giving back is also important to her through mentoring young people and up-and-coming beauty professionals. "For me, it's about reaching back while I'm still moving forward."

Chadowboxx Salon, 110 E Historic Columbia River Highway, Troutdale, OR 97060, (503) 957-5369. The salon operates by appointment Wednesday through Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., with alternating Saturdays. Mylani Vegan Hair & Body Care is available 24/7 for online shopping at MylaniBeauty.com.

National Beard League: Grooming, Confidence, Community and Legacy

What began in 2018 as an idea centered on beard and grooming culture has grown into a family owned lifestyle brand focused on confidence, brotherhood, personal style and community.

Founded by Edgar Baker III, founder and CEO of National Beard League (NBL), also known as NBL Essentials, the online based business offers all natural men's grooming products and lifestyle accessories to customers locally and beyond. Baker says his vision was to create something larger than a traditional grooming company. "I wanted to create something that represented more than just a product," Baker said. "I saw an opportunity to build a brand around the confidence, culture, and brotherhood that comes with taking pride in how you look and feel."

NBL's product line includes beard oils, beard butter, beard wash and conditioner, beard pomade, grooming kits, body wash, combs, derma rollers, hats and other branded accessories. Its signature Hydro 6 Piece Beard Kit brings several core grooming products together as a complete beard care system centered on hydration, growth and overall beard care.

National Beard League describes itself as a lifestyle brand and community built around the philosophy: "Look Good. Feel Good. Live Better. Leave a Legacy." Its B.E.A.R.D. philosophy, "Be Enthusiastic And Ready Daily," reflects its message of confidence, self care and individuality.

As a minority owned, family owned business, Baker says entrepreneurship means having the opportunity to create something of his own while showing others that entrepreneurship is possible. He views NBL as a way to represent his community, create opportunities and build a legacy that can continue beyond him.

NBL participates in local markets, festivals, community events and other gatherings, promoting entrepreneurship, rela-



Edgar Baker III, Founder and CEO of National Beard League (NBL)

tionships, confidence and self care. "For us, it's bigger than selling a bottle of beard oil or a hat," Baker said. "It's about building relationships and creating a community people want to be part of."

Baker encourages aspiring entrepreneurs to "Start before you feel completely ready," remain consistent, listen to customers and be willing to make changes. "Most importantly, believe in what you're building and give yourself enough time to actually build it," he said.

Looking to learn more about NBL or shop its grooming products and lifestyle accessories? Visit NationalBeardLeague.com or reach out to Edgar Baker III at 503-490-1295 or Eb3@nationalbeardleague.com. You can also follow National Beard League on Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, Twitch, YouTube, LinkedIn and X and connect with the brand online around the clock.

Smooth Collective: Create, Love, Serve

Keeyontye Collier, Owner of Smooth Collective, founded the Portland based streetwear and lifestyle brand in 2016. What began as a creative outlet and a way to build connection and community has grown into a brand rooted in the mantra, "Create, Love, Serve." Through intentional apparel, storytelling, and collaboration, Smooth Collective uses fashion to celebrate creativity, culture, and community.

Over the past 10 years, Smooth Collective has grown from creating small runs of clothing into offering custom apparel and design services, participating in community events and fashion shows, and building partnerships with local businesses and organizations. The brand offers original streetwear and lifestyle apparel, including

T shirts, hoodies, jackets, jerseys, pants, shorts, hats, and accessories. Custom services include embroidery, heat transfer printing, graphic design, apparel design and consultation, and custom merchandise development.

Collier's inspiration came from a desire to create something that brought people together. As the oldest of 10 siblings, brotherhood and connection have always been important to him. He was also inspired by his father and uncles and the movement they created through NODR. After stepping away from college and football, creating became an outlet and a new sense of purpose. Smooth Collective began as an effort to build something with his brothers, express himself creatively,



The Smooth Collective brand has become a space for creativity, collaboration, storytelling and community - built through the people who wear it, create with it and continue to believe in the vision.

and create a community people could feel part of.

Collier began his journey as a maker and designer in 2016 and legitimized the business in 2020. Today, Smooth Collective combines original streetwear with creative services while using its platform

to creatively storytell, uplift community, and serve the like minded.

Visit Smooth Collective at 5415 N. Albina Ave., Studio 7, Portland, OR 97226. Hours vary. Call 503 387 0653, email art@smoothcollective.com, or visit smoothcollective.com.

**Ernest J. Hill, Jr.** Agent

Providing Insurance and Financial Services

Home Office, Bloomington,
Illinois 61710

311 NE Killingsworth St, Portland, OR 97211

Phone: 503 286 1103 | Fax: 503 286 1146

ernie.hill.h5mb@statefarm.com

24 Hour Good Neighbor Service

Antonio Harris Photography

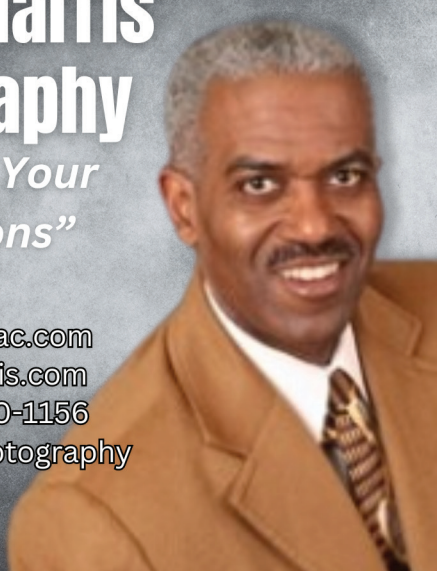
*"Exceeding Your
Expectations"*

antonioharris@mac.com

www.antonioharris.com

Contact: 503 - 730-1156

CashApp: \$black photography



Cason's

FINE MEATS

Portland's Best
Full-Service Butcher

**NOW TAKING
HOLIDAY
ORDERS**

(503) 287-0855

5015 NE MLK Blvd.
Portland, OR 97211

sunlan

LIGHTING, INC.

**We are
Open!**

3901 N. Mississippi Ave.
Portland, OR 97227

P: 503.281.0453

Fax 503.281.3408

Web:

www.sunlanlighting.com

E-mail:

kay@sunlanlighting.com



Oregon's First Hospital Dedicated to Women's Health

Nike Co-founder Gives \$1.1B for Oregon's First Women's Hospital

(AP) — Oregon billionaires Phil and Penny Knight committed \$1.1 billion to the Providence St. Vincent Medical Center and the Providence Heart Institute to build Oregon's first hospital dedicated to women's health, the medical center announced Tuesday.

Phil Knight, co-founder of Nike, and his wife, have supported the institute for more than a decade, previously giving it more than \$200 million, including a \$75 million gift earlier this year. Along with creating the new women's hospital, their new donation will help the medical center expand cardiovascular care and clinical research and training programs for the heart institute's medical personnel. It will also make it easier to integrate patient care across the medical center.

"Women's health needs change throughout life, and too often patients are asked to navigate multiple specialties and care settings on their own," Ray Moreno, the medical center's CEO, said in a statement. "The Knights' gift is an opportunity to bring these resources together, expanding access for women across Oregon and creating a strong foundation to bridge care gaps in women's health."

The donation is particularly significant because it comes at a moment when U.S. hospitals are seeing far more pregnant patients who are also managing chronic health conditions like diabetes, hypertension, addiction, and behavioral and mental health issues. It also lands at the same time healthcare organizations are struggling with the impact of government funding cuts.

"Resources are scarce, and healthcare is increasingly looking to philanthropy to fill in the gaps," Dan Oseran, the heart institute's executive medical director, told the Chronicle. "A gift like this reduces that friction a little bit and provides the ability to do things we wouldn't otherwise be able to do."

Medicine and medical research have been among the top causes capable of attracting mega-philanthropy ever since the birth of modern philanthropy in the late 19th century, said Benjamin Soskis, a historian whose work focuses on philanthropy and the nonprofit sector.



Phil Knight, right, and Penny Knight, watch the first half of an NCAA college basketball game in the Phil Knight Invitational tournament in Portland, Ore., on Nov. 26, 2017. (AP Photo/Craig Mitchelldyer, File)

"They are some of the few institutions that can reliably absorb big-dollar donations," Soskis said. "At a moment when there is more and more talk about the wealthy warehousing fortunes, the Knights have updated a standby of the traditional philanthropic playbook to provide a model of getting a lot of money out the door now."

Counting pledges and direct gifts, the Knights' latest commitment pushes their total charitable giving to more than \$9 billion over the past two decades, with about \$2.5 billion of that going to their family foundation and donor-advised funds. They have appeared on the Chronicle's annual Philanthropy 50 list of the biggest donors 12 times since 2006. The Knights' charitable giving is often the result of long-term relationships they have built with nonprofit leaders they have come to trust over time. "These are very personal decisions based on their trust and belief in the institutions and the people that they work with," said Oseran of Providence Heart Institute. "Each step along the way, when you can point to those achievements and successes, it engenders greater confidence that they have in your being good stewards of their philanthropy. That's the dynamic of how we got to this (\$1.1 billion) gift."

The couple, whose net worth stands at about \$25 billion, according to Forbes, have given huge sums to a range of Oregon nonprofits. They have given more than \$2.7 billion to Oregon Health & Science University over the years, including a \$2 billion donation for its Knight Cancer Institute last year. They launched the institute with a \$100 million gift in 2008.

They have donated more than \$2 billion to the University of Oregon, Phil Knight's alma mater, to support scientific and related programs, including \$500 million in 2016 to launch the Phil and Penny Knight Campus for Accelerating

Scientific Impact. They gave another \$500 million in 2021 to expand research programs, build new facilities, and support students and faculty at the Knight Campus.

The couple also gave \$400 million in 2023 to the 1803 Fund, a Portland, Oregon, nonprofit, for its Rebuild Albina project, an effort to revive the economic and cultural prosperity of a once-thriving Black neighborhood that fell into neglect in the 1970s.

The Knights have given at least \$580 million to Stanford University, where Phil Knight earned an MBA. That includes \$400 million in 2016 to establish Knight-Hennessy Scholars, a graduate program, and \$105 million to Stanford's business school to create the Knight Management Center. They also gave Stanford \$75 million in 2022 to launch the Phil and Penny Knight Initiative for Brain Resilience, an effort to learn what causes cognitive decline and diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's and how to delay and treat degenerative brain conditions.

The Knights have also supported college athletics, environmental programs, and sports and recreation activities for youth, among other causes. Gifts like the Knights' latest one prove that spending time with donors and educating them about an organization's work is extremely important and can lead to surprising windfalls, said Erin Hall, a development consultant and former nonprofit CEO. "I don't think we can ever do enough of that because that is how donors find out everything about your organization and that is how donors feel good about where their investment is going," Hall said. "What a great way to leave a legacy and to be able to watch your investment come to life. That's a pretty cool thing for a donor, and that's going to also keep the donor engaged for the next need that that organization has."

The Unfolding of a Failed Execution

Inmate Placed on a Ventilator and Remains Unconscious

(AP) — Christa Pike was placed on a ventilator and remained unconscious in a hospital in the hours after her failed execution in Tennessee, her attorneys said in a court filing Friday.

Hospital staff, her lawyers said, were working to save Pike's life and as of late Thursday were trying to clear the two doses of the drug that the state uses to execute prisoners.

The stunning failure in Tennessee's execution chamber on Wednesday has left both sides of the death penalty debate demanding answers. Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee has ordered an independent review.

The court filing offered the first detailed account of Pike's condition after an ambulance carried her away from Riverbend Maximum Security Institution in Nashville on Wednesday night. Her attorneys said a day earlier that she was in critical condition.

Pike's attorneys said they believed problems with the IV lines caused the pentobarbital to flow into her body instead of her bloodstream.

"Apparently at no point did any member of the execution team realize that the IV



Christa Pike (TDOC via AP)

lines were not correctly placed or that the veins had blown and that the pentobarbital was, in whole or in part, entering Ms. Pike's body," they wrote in the court filing.

Instead of "remedying this failure," they prepared and administered a second dose of pentobarbital, her lawyers said.

State officials have not offered any explanations about what went wrong.

Tennessee leaders want a review of execution methods

Lee demanded a review of the execution procedures and indefinitely postponed Pike's execution and another that had been scheduled for this year. Republican Tennessee lawmakers said the state should review whether to stop single-drug lethal injections and consider other options to carry out death sentences.

The execution team worked for an hour to administer the lethal drugs, said Pike's defense lawyer Randy Spivey, who counted at least seven needles in her left arm.

Neither the initial nor the backup dose of pentobarbital worked. Pike was still snoring when the execution chamber's microphone was cut off more than an hour into the attempt.

Pike's attorneys asked a state court to order the Tennessee Department of Correction to preserve all evidence from the failed execution.

"Preserving this evidence is essential to understanding what happened, ensuring accountability and protecting Christa's legal rights," two of her attorneys said in a statement.

She was 18 when she and her boyfriend tortured and killed a classmate, Colleen Slemmer, in a jealous rage. She later became one of the youngest women to be sent to death row.

Following the killing, Pike was diagnosed with bipolar disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder, her attorneys said.

"It took me numerous years to even realize the gravity of what I'd done. Even more to accept how many lives I affect-

ed. I took the life of someone's child, sister, friend. It sickens me now to think I had the ability to commit such a crime," Pike said in an earlier clemency petition.

The mother of the 19-year-old woman Pike killed expressed frustration over the failed execution. "I didn't get justice for my daughter," May Martinez said Thursday.

Four years ago, Tennessee's governor ordered another independent review into capital punishment after abruptly stopping the April 2022 execution of Oscar Smith. Lee then paused all executions after acknowledging the state had failed to ensure its lethal injection drugs were properly tested.

Months later, a report found the state hadn't complied with its own lethal injection process since its revision in 2018, resulting in executions being conducted without proper testing of the drugs.

At the time, the state used a three-drug execution protocol of midazolam, vecuronium bromide and potassium chloride. The state later switched to using just pentobarbital.

Pentobarbital has been used to carry out death sentences in multiple states and by the federal government.

The review, led by former U.S. Attorney Ed Stanton, also found that the state's unidentified executioner had no formal healthcare training and learned the role mainly through on-the-job experience.

After the release of the report, the Tennessee Department of Correction fired its longtime top attorney and another employee.

Will Households Pay More for Energy Because of Federal Policy Changes?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

scientific finding that underpinned the U.S. fight against climate change; the loosening of fuel economy standards and blocking of California's novel rule banning the sale of new gas-powered cars by 2035; and federal actions to stop wind, solar and hydrogen projects. These changes will result in annual household energy costs rising in every state in the contiguous U.S., plus job losses in 47 of 48 states and losses to the gross domestic product in 46 states, Energy Innovation said. It's projecting 37,000 additional premature deaths from air pollution, \$72 billion in additional healthcare costs and more than 9 billion tons of additional carbon pollution because of the environmental rollbacks. The analysis did not include Alaska or Hawaii because key federal data is not available for those two states, said Robbie Orvis, senior director for modeling and analysis.

"Across pretty much every state, things are worse. The outlook now is worse for states and the affordability crisis will be worse because of the combined set of policies," Orvis said.

Climate Justice Alliance legislative director Mar Zepeda said her Washington, D.C., electric bill increased \$200 in

the past month. Zepeda blames electricity demands from data centers, and said federal "affordability" policies only exacerbate this.

"They may call it affordability, but affordable for whom and at what cost? Not for regular people," Zepeda said in an email. The modeling projects federal policy changes will increase annual energy spending in Oregon by \$840 per household in 2035 and \$1,200 per household in 2040, with a cumulative \$9,300 increase from 2026 to 2040 — the highest of any state.

The Oregon Citizens' Utility Board advocates for residential utility customers. Executive Director Bob Jenks called those numbers "frightening" because Oregon already has an energy affordability problem. He cited steep rate increases as utilities make upgrades and data centers use more power.

As costs rise, Jenks expects utilities to disconnect more customers who can't afford their bills.

Jenks said wind and solar are essential for affordable electricity, and he wants the federal government to partner with states to develop the energy they need.

"We're trying to optimize among the resource options we have, and they're trying to take things away and raise the costs," he said.

Future Connect Celebrates 15 years of College Success

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Step Scholarships, qualifying PCC graduates earn scholarships that pay for tuition and other costs. On average, Next Step scholars receive between \$35,000 to \$68,000 annually through institutional and merit-based scholarships and grants.

The program also provided the foundation for PCC's First-Year Experience, which brings Future Connect-style wrap-around support to more new students. PCC piloted the initiative in fall 2024 with a \$1 million gift from Brigid Flanagan, founder and principal of Tenfold Senior Living, and has expanded to serve 5,000 students a year.

"Future Connect shows what can happen when a community gets behind a strong idea," said Christina Kline, executive director of the PCC Foundation. "We have helped connect individuals, businesses, foundations, and public partners with opportunities to invest in the program as it has expanded into new communities, reached more students, and shaped new approaches to student success at PCC. That sustained commitment reflects tremendous confidence in

Future Connect and, most importantly, in its students."

Longtime supporters include Michael and Alice Powell, founders of Powell's Books. The couple supported a Future Connect leadership program; Michael served on the PCC Foundation Board, and both were honorary chairs of the Foundation's inaugural comprehensive fundraising campaign.

"Future Connect has meant so much to us because we've seen what can happen when students are given the opportunity and encouragement to pursue their goals," Michael said.

"To have been part of this program from the beginning and watch it grow over 15 years has been incredibly meaningful. We're proud to have played a part in helping thousands of students continue their education and build the lives they envision for themselves," added Alice.

Laurie said the anniversary demonstrates the durability of a program that some initially questioned.

"It is quite simply a way to envision a caring approach within a large institution; it takes time, a ton of energy and ultimately a lot of trust," Laurie said. "We are so grateful to have all three of those still going strong after all these years."

CLASSIFIEDS/BIDS

BISON
COFFEEHOUSE

3941 NE Cully Blvd
Portland, OR 97213

503-288-3941
BisonCoffeehouse@yahoo.com

CLEANING SERVICE

Marvin Barber, Owner
pdxcleaners79@gmail.com

MBE-DBE-ESB certified Cell 541-513-3265
Green Cleaning certified Fax 503-289-3099

PDX Cleaners
Residential and Commercial

Platinum Fade Salon

5010 NE 9th Ave Portland, OR 97211
(503) 284-2989

Services Offered

- Blowout Services
- Kids' Haircuts
- Beards & Mustaches
- Hot Lather Shave
- Razor Cuts and More
- Head Shave
- Line Up Haircut

Call Today or Walk In

Shalon Xcellence
Owner/ Stylist

8407 NE Fremont
Portland, Or 97220

503-890-6814
Shalonda70@gmail.com

Shalonda Brown

The

PUT YOUR BUSINESS IN FRONT OF THE COMMUNITY

Advertise with a business card-size ad for **only \$150 for 3 months**

(503) 288-0033
ADS@PORTLANDOBSERVER.COM

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Oregon Division of Financial Regulation:

The Division of Financial Regulation of the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services is the state agency that regulates insurance companies, insurance agents and agencies.

Consumer advocacy: Consumers with insurance complaints or questions may contact the division's Consumer Advocacy Unit at 888-877-4894 (toll free in Oregon).

Insurance company regulation: The Division of Financial Regulation licenses and monitors insurance companies and agents doing business in Oregon to ensure they meet their financial obligations and comply with state laws and rules governing fair treatment of policyholders.

Consumers affected by the wild fires: Consumers that after talking with their insurance company have questions, need more information or want to present a complaint may contact the Consumer Advocacy Unit at 888-877-4894 (toll free).



dcbs.oregon.gov

INVITATION TO BID



BID # 26-37: HAZEL DELL AVENUE AND BURNT BRIDGE CREEK TRAIL CROSSING

Notice is hereby given that the City of Vancouver, Washington, will receive sealed bids up to the hour of 11:00 a.m., Pacific Local Time, Tuesday, November 3, 2026 and will publicly open and read aloud at that time on the same day in the Vancouver City Hall, 415 W 6th St, Vancouver, Washington, for the following:

This Contract provides for the improvement of *** Hazel Dell Avenue between the Burnt Bridge Creek Trail termini. Work includes a 10-ft pervious concrete multi-use path connection on the west side of Hazel Dell Ave from the south east Burnt Bridge Creek Trail termini approximately 800ft to the north to the west Burnt Bridge Creek Trail termini. Additionally, ADA ramps, a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon and 2 proposed luminaires will be constructed*** and other work, all in accordance with the attached Contract Plans, these Contract Provisions, and the Standard Specifications.

The contract work shall be physically complete within 75 Working Days from the Notice to Proceed.

The City of Vancouver in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252,42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair 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.

The City of Vancouver is committed to providing equal opportunities to State of Washington certified Minority, Disadvantaged and Women's Business Enterprises in contracting activities. (Section 4 of Chapter 56, Laws of 1975, 1st Ex. Sess., State of Washington).

Bidding documents may be obtained from the City of Vancouver Procurement Services website at: cityofvancouver.bonfirehub.com. These are available for viewing, downloading and printing on your own equipment, free of charge.

*Your Stories.
Your Opinions.
Your Community.
All in one place.*

The *Portland Observer*
Online

www.portlandobserver.com



LEGAL NOTICES



Need to publish a court document or notice? Need an affidavit of publication quickly and efficiently? Please fax or e-mail your notice for a free price quote!

Fax: 503-288-0015

e-mail:

classifieds@portlandobserver.com

The Portland Observer

SPORTS

Blazers Open Training Camp After a Turbulent Summer

Damian Lillard
Provides a
Steadying Influence

(AP) — After a summer that included cuts by the new owner, squabbles over the renovation of the team's arena, the hiring of a new coach and the addition of Ja Morant, the Portland Trail Blazers opened training camp with more than the usual turbulence in the background.

The one steadying factor? Damian Lillard is finally back.

Tom Dundon became the face of the Blazers' new ownership group before the end of last season, when the team went to the playoffs for the first time in five years. In the offseason, the Blazers laid off more than 70 staffers.

Tiago Splitter, an assistant who was promoted to head coach when Chauncey Billups was arrested last fall in a federal gambling probe, bolted for the Chicago Bulls this summer. The Blazers hired Micah Nori, who was an assistant with the Timberwolves.

Nori said the anticipation of embarking on his first stint as a head coach was "like Christmas Eve."



Portland Trail Blazers guard Ja Morant poses for a photo during the NBA media day. AP Photo/Craig Mitchell/dyer.

Portland surprised many in late June by trading Jerami Grant and Kris Murray to the Grizzlies in exchange for Morant, a two-time All-Star who had a rocky tenure in Memphis.

Morant, who averages 22.4 points per game, has played in just 79 games over the last three seasons because of injuries and suspensions — including a 25-game suspension after he was seen on a livestream holding a gun while he was a passenger in a car. He was also suspended eight games for flashing a gun in

a nightclub.

Morant said he needed a fresh start "because everything that happened over the years pretty much was just stuck with me. Everybody keeps bringing them up. As long as Memphis was across my chest, it was still getting said."

The addition of Morant made the Blazers' roster unbalanced, but general manager Joe Cronin said he believes the point guard-heavy team with Morant, Lillard, Jrue Holiday and Scoot Henderson can work.

"There's definite areas of strength, particularly at the guard, where we have a lot of very capable guys there, many of whom are best with the ball. So we understand that we have to figure out roles and touches and just the overall team dynamics of things, but I don't feel like there's a major deficit throughout our other positions," Cronin said.

Lillard returns to play after a torn Achilles tendon sidelined him for all of last season. Last summer, Lillard rejoined the Blazers — where he played for his first 11 seasons — after a two-year stint with the Milwaukee Bucks.

Over the course of his career, Lillard has averaged 25.1 points and 6.7 assists. Now 36, Lillard doesn't feel like he needs to log the heavy minutes he did in years past and aims to play with more joy this season.

He also said he's excited about the addition of Morant and believes the balance on the court will work itself out.

"All of our careers have ups and down, it's a journey on the court, off the court. It's a journey ultimately. It's how you respond

to those experiences and the criticism and the highs — how you respond to it is important," Lillard said. "And being around him, you see he's a good dude, and you know, I consider myself a pretty good judge of character."

Lillard also expressed hope the team would remain in Portland despite contentious negotiations with the city over a \$600 million project to renovate the city-owned Moda Center, the league's oldest arena, which hasn't been refurbished.

The state has already approved \$365 million toward the project, but it's contingent on the city's approval to contribute a share of the total. The deadline to reach a new lease agreement with the city is in December.

Team President Dewayne Hankins said the team is meeting twice a week with the city to resolve the remaining issues.

"We're doing everything we can to ensure the Trail Blazers stay right here," Hankins said.

The Blazers formally open training camp Tuesday ahead of the season opener on Oct. 21 at home against the Phoenix Suns.

BLACK MEN IN TRAINING
EMPOWERING YOUTH. BUILDING LEADERS. CHANGING FUTURES.

A CELEBRATION OF
IMPACT Gala

FRIDAY
OCTOBER 9TH
2026

PURCHASE YOUR
TICKET NOW!

BE PART OF A BRIGHTER TOMORROW.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
CHRISTOPHER LAMBERT
LEADER. MENTOR. VISIONARY.

OUR YOUTH.
OUR COMMUNITY.
OUR FUTURE.
OUR LEGACY.



MOST OF OUR ENERGY IS SPENT HELPING YOU GET THE MOST OUT OF YOURS.

We offer resources and cash incentives to reduce your energy costs and generate clean power. Learn more at energytrust.org.

EnergyTrust
of Oregon

MORE power TO YOU.

Army Study Found Shock Gloves Purchased by ICE Causes Pain

Immigration and Customs Enforcement Leaders Were Aware of the Findings Before Signing a \$16.7 Million Contract

(AP) — The shock gloves immigration agents could soon use to control detainees and protesters worked so powerfully during a military exercise that participants felt intense pain, stopped fighting immediately and feared additional exposures, according to a previously unreleased Army study.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement leaders were aware of the findings before signing a \$16.7 million contract to purchase 6,000 pairs of shock gloves in August, according to records obtained by the watchdog group American Oversight and shared with The Associated Press.

The shocks had a profound impact on Army employees who played the role of combative prisoners during the exercise, which took place at the military prison at Fort Leavenworth in Kansas in October 2024. The participants, several of whom were large-statured men, stopped resisting seconds after officers applied shocks by touching gloves to their skin, and were left with “fatigue, sore-

ness and excessive apprehensiveness to being shocked again,” the study found.

“After experiencing the effects of the GLOVE, ... participants stated just seeing the GLOVE was enough to make them want to comply,” the authors wrote. ICE has called the gloves “distraction and de-escalation devices” that will be safer than other non-lethal options to subdue targets for arrest and deportation and protesters who create civil disturbances. The agency has argued the rapid compliance they cause will keep officers safer and prevent incidents from requiring potentially lethal force. But critics have warned the gloves will give ICE another weapon to intimidate and brutalize people even as the agency is under fire for excessive force that has left a trail of deaths and injuries across the nation. The gloves, they note, are easy to discharge, do not leave a mark and have not been extensively used in settings outside of jails. The manufacturer warns they should not be used on high-risk populations such as kids, pregnant women or disabled people.

“The military assessment in ICE’s own files shows that these gloves can cause ‘intense pain’ and force compliance. It does not establish that they are safe,” said Chioma Chukwu, executive director of American Oversight.



Justin Hall shows an electric shock glove that is used at his facility, Aug. 13, 2026, in Bardstown, Ky. (AP Photo/Dylan Lohan, File)

“Everyone should be alarmed that ICE is preparing to deploy a tool designed to inflict, at best, intense pain, without showing that it is safe for the people who will be subjected to it.”

ICE released the study and other documents to American Oversight as part of the group’s Freedom of Information Act lawsuit against the agency seeking records related to its use of force. The military prison study assessed whether the gloves could be used effectively to forcibly remove combative prisoners from their cells, to respond to disturbances in common areas and to transport uncooperative inmates. Role-playing employees conducted several scenarios with and without the gloves to test their impact, including violent encoun-

ters in which inmates were to fight as hard as they could. The study found the devices “increased the efficiency” of teams carrying out forced cell extractions and responding to disturbances by reducing the length of physical encounters, keeping guards from becoming exhausted and preventing injuries. They did not “significantly change” the time it took to control inmates during escorts but required less effort.

“GLOVE provides a boost in confidence to smaller or less trained members,” the study found. “Inmate compliance was immediate” compared to other methods, it added.

The electric jolt does not cause the body to freeze like a Taser shock does, but instead “works

by overloading the peripheral nerve endings” of the skin to cause pain, the study said. Participants who were wet or had oil on their skin described even more powerful shocks, with one reporting discomfort for 30 minutes afterward. ICE’s contract requires the manufacturer, Compliant Technologies LLC, to deliver the gloves within six months. Its owner, Jeff Niklaus, said he was unavailable for an interview, citing a busy workload.

White House border czar Tom Homan has said it could “be awhile” before the gloves are in the field because ICE is still ironing out training and policy issues. ICE did not respond to an AP request for comment on the study and the status of the rollout. U.S. Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto of Nevada said ICE has not responded to an Aug. 27 letter in which she and 15 other Democratic Senate colleagues called for ICE to abandon its plan to buy the gloves or explain how they would be used and managed to avoid abuse. She said she still wants answers. “Without ICE’s responses to legitimate questions from 16 United States Senators, the American public is being left in the dark about how these electric shock gloves are being deployed and what, if any, training the agents who use them have received,” she said.

OREGON PROBLEM GAMBLING RESOURCE

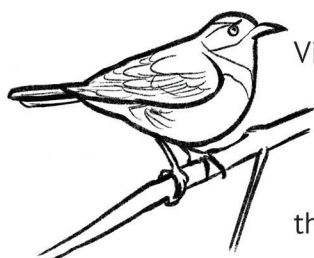
OPGR

GAME DAY YOUR WAY

No matter which team you root for in fall, October brings all the early-season excitement. And for many fans, opening an app and placing a bet on the outcome has become another part of the game-day thrill. For most people who bet, it’s a fun way to experience the game. For others, however, it can be a path to unanticipated outcomes and stress.

The key is keeping betting in balance and making a plan before game day begins. Setting limits, taking breaks, and checking in with yourself can help keep gambling fun and within your comfort zone.

Is your betting still just for fun? Taking a moment to reflect can be the smartest play of the season.



Visit Oregon Problem Gambling Resource at OPGR.org to take a self-check quiz and learn about free, confidential support available throughout Oregon. Taking control of your gambling is a great way to keep the fun in fall sports this season.

Find information, tools and support to help at OPGR.org