## New Leaders Emerge in Struggle for Police Reforms

continued A from page 7

thrown-with at least three or four thrown around his own feet.

Another Portlander who was also protesting came up to Waco after the flash grenades went off and told him "It looked like they threw them in your direction; they landed all around you."

Waco won't go as far as saying Portland Police threw the grenades at him, but it looked like they did before they "let out a war cry" and charged the stunned crowd.

Waco said he was inspired to join the struggle for police reforms and other advancements in civil rights from Teresa Raifford, another black Portland leader on the front lines in the justice movement.

"I went down there and I saw Teresa, and she had a megaphone in her hand and she was just like 'yo, we need young voices-we need you to lead. Here's the megaphone.' I just started leading the chant, you know?," Waco said.

Before becoming one of the faces of the Don't Shoot PDX movement Waco, a native of north Portland's St. Johns neighborhood and a Roosevelt High School alum, was already a prominent local hip-hop artist.



Civil rights activist Glenn Waco is a Portland rap and hip hop artist, and a member of the musical collective known as 'The Resistance.

of the Portland based musical collective, along with Mic Capes and Rasheed Jamal, known as "The Resistance", Waco has lit up stages all around Portland.

He tweeted after a Dec. 27 gig at Mississippi Pizza Pub, that the north Portland venue was the most packed it has ever been.

Keenly aware of his popularity around town, Waco does not want to be viewed as a shame-

is oftentimes vocal—he likes to embody the strong but silent type

"If you've seen me at these protests I'm usually...holding the bullhorn for other people to meeting last month of a citizen's speak... because I don't want to make it seem like I'm just out there promoting myself [or] out

As a solo artist and one third less self-promoter. While Waco there for the wrong reasons. It's like I wanna give people a voice to express themselves, and use my influence to inspire more people to come out."

Waco mixed both rolls at a committee reviewing Portland Police policies regarding the use

He let other members of Don't Shoot PDX do the talking. That is until it seemed as if the committee was dancing around the fact that it has no real authority to make change, and that the Portland Police Bureau essentially reviews itself.

Waco, frustrated with Portland citizen's lack of power as it pertains to police oversight, and the Independent Police Review and the Citizens Review Committee's inability to create change, finally spoke up. But once Waco had his say he remained stoic and let the others do the rest of the talking.

Waco feels like "power needs to be given to the citizens of Portland who pay for police to serve as public servants.

Firmly entrenched as a community leader, Waco isn't going anywhere anytime soon and will be a staple of future marches, meetings and entertainment in the city of Portland for the foreseeable future.

On Twitter? Follow Mike for interesting tweets regarding local sports, international affairs and other random timely topics @IlluminatorMike

## Angela Davis Keynote Speaker

Author, educator, and black students. To reserve a ticket, rights activist Angela Davis will call 503-725-3307. be the keynote speaker at "Living the Legacy: The Meaning of most important black academics Freedom," an evening com- and leaders in the struggle for memorating Dr. Martin Luther economic, racial, and gender jus-King Jr. at Portland State Uni-tice.

Tickets are \$15 and free to PSU system.

Davis has become one of the

In recent work, she argues The lecture will take place that the prison system more Wednesday, Jan. 21 at 6 p.m. in closely resembles a new form of the PSU Peter Scott Center. slavery than a criminal justice

## MLK Day at WSU Vancouver

Vancouver welcomes students Jr. Holiday.

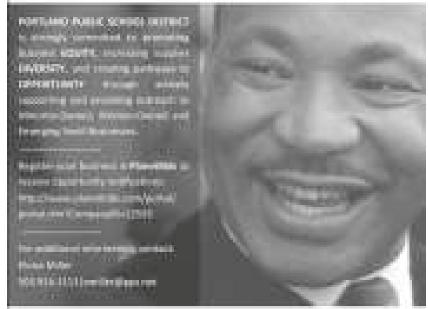
Activities will take place in Schools. the Firstenburg Student Commons building on Monday, Jan. 19 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The theme will be "Educational Justice: Creating Awareness and Doyle, a university student. The Challenging Inequities Within university faculty and staff will Our School System."

Washington State University children's activities, interactive workshops and a lecture by keyand community members to cam-note speaker Charlene Williams, pus for the Martin Luther King senior director for school performance at Portland Public

The opening ceremony will include a musical performance of the Black National Anthem, "Lift Every Voice" by Trenelle offer four interactive workshops Guests will enjoy music, focused on educational justice.



PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS Remembering Martin Luther King, Jr. tursuory 15, 1929 - April 4, 1965



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