

'Why Aren't There More Black People in Oregon?'

Judy Hoyle

IVN Contributing Writer

One of the Oregon Humanities programs most popular Conversation Project discussions, "Why Aren't There More Black People in Oregon? A Hidden History," will be presented free of charge at Healthy U April 7 at 6:30 p.m. Donations will be accepted.

Educator, writer, activist and public scholar Walidah Imarisha will facilitate a discussion on the history and living legacy of race, identity and power in Oregon. Participants will discuss how politics and culture shaped Oregon and how to build communities that guarantee safety and dignity for all.

Known for coining the phrase "visionary fiction," Imarishi has shared the stage with Angela Davis, Cornel West, Michael Franti and

Spearhead, Ani DiFranco, Amiri Baraka and Nikki Giovanni. She also directed and co-produced the Hurricane Katrina documentary "Finding Common Ground in New Orleans."

Event organizer Eliot Feenstra stated, "I helped bring this presentation to Grants Pass last year. It's a compelling and engaging participatory look at our history. To move forward as a free, diverse, caring community, it's critical to understand what has brought us to the present moment. I see this coming at a great time for our community as we are amid strategic visioning with Rural Development Initiatives and Ford Family Foundation. The United States in general is waking up to the legacy of racism that keeps people divided."

In an interview, Imarisha pointed out that Oregon was founded

as a racist white utopia. "In 1844, when Oregon was still a territory, they passed the first racial exclusion law that essentially, it was illegal for blacks to live in Oregon and it wasn't removed until 2001," she said.

Her first chapbook was titled "Child of Ex-Slaves, An Unfinished Revolution." She believes the work of ending legalized slavery is not finished.

Imarisha said, "The first prison boom in this country took place immediately after the 13th Amendment passed that abolished slavery, with the loophole: "except in cases of punishment." Prisons went from being overwhelmingly white to overwhelming black in the course of a few years."

"Black Codes were passed which were laws that criminalized behaviors only if you were black.

People were thrown in prison not for what they did but for who they were, and not much has changed."

"We need to challenge policies that disproportionately incarcerate people of color and boost profits for corporations running jails, prisons and immigration detention centers. We must challenge media when they stigmatize youth of color. Our nation will only prosper when we invest in all our children, and work to end militarized policing and the systemic racism that threatens our common future."

Imarishi has taught black studies at Portland State University and gender studies at OSU. She's also taught at youth detention centers and women's prisons. She is the editor of two anthologies, "Octavia's Brood: Science Fiction Stories from Social Justice Movements" and "Another World is Possible."

She is also the author of the nonfiction book focused on criminal justice issues "Angels with Dirty Faces: Three Stories of Crime, Prison and Redemption" and the poetry collection "Scars/Stars." She was awarded one of two 2015 James Tiptree Jr. Fellowships for her science fiction writing.

Healthy U Center is located at 535 E. River in the I.V. Family Coalition building. Entrance to the Center is located at the rear of the building.

This free event is sponsored by Rural Organizing Project (www.rop.org) and Oregon Humanities (oregonhumanities.org), an independent nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and a partner of the Oregon Cultural Trust.

Watershed News: by Kevin O'Brien

It'll probably surprise you...how much water you can collect from your roof.

During a typical moderate storm of 1 inch of rain during a 24 hour period, over 700 gallons of water will run off the average roof (about 1,200 sq. ft.). In one rainy day, your roof runoff could fill up fourteen bathtubs. Which could be used at our drier times for outside water irrigation.

Water can be easily and legally captured naturally from your roof top by using a rain barrel. Rain barrels capture and store rainfall that might otherwise be lost in the storm drain.

By capturing this water you will reduce runoff volume and erosion, promote infiltration, and slow and filter runoff from the roof. Rain barrels can be found at your local home goods or landscaping store or on the internet. They range from \$20 for a do-it-yourself kit to upwards of \$200. Most are in the 45 to 55 gallon capacity size, but for greater storage multiple barrels may be installed in a series.

To install your rain barrel:

- Decide the location of your rain barrel. Often they are placed near downspouts, but you can place the barrel under any surface that has a concentrated flow of water coming off of it. Locate the barrel so it is convenient to water your flower beds and gardens

- The barrel must be placed on a flat, level surface, and should be raised off the ground to increase gravity flow and allow you

to place a bucket under its spigot. Concrete blocks, pavers, or a sturdy wooden structure all provide a good base. Be aware, a full barrel can weigh 400 pounds or more.

- The barrel's overflow hose should be directed into a rain garden or other planted area, or optional second barrel at least 10 feet from a building's foundation.

- If you want to capture water from a downspout, you will need to modify the downspout so that it directs the flow of water into the screen covered opening of your rain barrel. There are several styles of diverters you may purchase or you can cut the downspout at a height above the barrel and use an elbow to direct it.

- Keep in mind that rain barrels fill up fast! For every inch of rain that falls on one square foot of your roof, you can collect just over a half gallon of rainwater. For example a 10 feet by 10 feet shed (100 square feet) will yield 60 gallons of rainwater during a one inch rain event. If you were to harness the water off a 2,000 square foot home, you would have 1,200 gallons from one inch of rain.

***If you are outside of Josephine County please check with your local Watershed Council to make sure harvesting rainwater is legal in your area.

Please visit and like our Facebook page www.facebook.com/ivstreamteam.

Spring Cave hours set

Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve opened for our spring season on Saturday, March 19. This spring the classic Discovery Cave Tour will be offered 10 a.m. through 4 p.m., Thursday through Monday. No tours are offered on Tuesdays and Wednesdays now through May 5. Tours fill quickly, especially during spring break and in the summer months.

Reservations are recommended and available at www.recreation.gov. The general Discovery Cave Tour fee is \$10 for adults and \$7 for youth 15 and under. Entrance to the surface areas of the Monument and Preserve is always free. The Historic Lodge will open with food, lodging and gift shop services on May 5, 2015.

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<p>Kraut Dog</p> <p>With side salad. Your choice of turkey or beef hot dog.</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$5.99 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$6.99 ea.</small></p>	<p>Beeler's Thick Cut Bacon.....</p> <p>All natural pork. No nitrates or nitrites.</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$5.99 pkg.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$7.39 pkg.</small></p>
<p>Asstd. Bionature Fruit Spreads</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$3.59 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$4.69</small></p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$4.39 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$5.19</small></p>	<p>Aidell's Chicken and Apple Links.....</p> <p>All natural chicken. Just heat up and serve.</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$4.99 pkg.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$6.09 pkg.</small></p>
<p>Rhubarb</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$2.99 lb.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$3.59 lb.</small></p>	<p>Applegate Organic Turkey Dogs.....</p> <p>An uncured turkey dog. Humanely raised.</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$5.99 pkg.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$6.99 pkg.</small></p>
<p style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">HABA</p> <p>Medicine Flower Massage Oils</p> <p>Choose from 7 8 oz. varieties.</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$13.39 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$15.79</small></p>	<p style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Produce</p> <p>Cucumber.....</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$1.29 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$1.59 ea.</small></p>
<p>Natura Botanicals Dentizyme</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$11.16 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$12.39</small></p>	<p>"All" Organic Salad Mixes.....</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$3.29 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$4.09 ea.</small></p>
<p style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Groceries</p> <p>Field Day Organic Apple Juice</p> <p>Unfiltered & Unpasteurized</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$6.99 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$9.49</small></p>	<p>Roma Tomatoes.....</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$1.99 lb.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$2.49 lb.</small></p>
<p>Asstd. Late July Tortilla Chips</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$2.19 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$3.39</small></p>	<p>Brussel Sprouts.....</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$6.79 lb.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$7.39 lb.</small></p>
<p style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Deli</p> <p>Gooseberry Grill Menu Delight</p> <p>With a side salad. Sourdough, Roast Turkey, Havarti cheese, Bacon & Pesto Mayo.</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$7.29 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$7.99</small></p>	<p style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px;">Cheese</p> <p>Wildwood Emerald Valley Salsa</p> <p>14 oz. Medium, Mild & Hot.....</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$3.99 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$4.39 ea.</small></p>
<p>Grab-N-Go Asstd. Bagel Sandwiches</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$3.59 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$3.99</small></p>	<p>TEN Veggie Salad</p> <p>Assorted vegetables, creamy garlic dressing.</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$7.49 lb.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$7.99</small></p>
<p>Breakfast Menu Breakfast Burrito</p> <p>2 eggs, choice of meat, cheese & veggies.</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$3.99 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$4.39</small></p>	<p>Buenatural Tortillas</p> <p>Organic, 6 Pack, 8 in.....</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$2.79 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$3.39 ea.</small></p>
<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">California Premium</p> <p>16 oz. Medium, Mild & Mozzarella.....</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em; color: red;">\$4.39 ea.</p> <p><small>Reg. \$5.39 ea.</small></p>	

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