Oregon aims to preserve original constitution, warts and all

By ANDREW SELSKY Associated Press

SALEM — Inside the white-marble state archives building, way in the back of a cavernous room, lies Oregon's original constitution. It's in poor shape, and among its fading pages is a clause from an ugly chapter in the state's history that completely conflicts with its progressive image.

Now, the state is trying to raise funds from schoolchildren and others to restore the leather-bound document, and to buy a special case to preserve and display it, warts and all. They've raised one-tenth of the amount needed so far.

On a recent morning, State Archivist Mary Beth Herkert walked past rows of laden shelves that mechanically shift at the touch of a button. She got to a door, spun a wheel like one on a submarine hatch, and walked inside a vault. There, sitting in a box on a shelf, was Oregon's founding document. Herkert carefully opened the constitution with gloved hands. Some pages were starting to fall out. The vegetable ink on linen paper is fading after 159 years.

It could be even worse, considering how the document was kept for decades. For many of those years, there isn't even any record of where the constitution was stored, Herkert said. She could not confirm one account that the constitution was saved from a fire that destroyed the Oregon State Capitol in 1935.

"That it is not in awful condition, I think, is pretty remarkable," Herkert said. "Until 1990-1991, when we moved into this building, it never was in an environmentally controlled space."

These days, the constitution is kept with 250 million other pieces of paper, all at a chilly 65 degrees with 45 percent humidity in the archives building.

The clause

Written by white men in 1857 after a constitutional convention, it contained a clause prohibiting black people from residing in Oregon. That clause was approved in a popular vote, along with a ban on slavery. That made Oregon the only state admitted to the Union with an exclusionary clause in its constitution.

"It is a shameful part of our history, but if you take it in context of what the times were we were right before the Civil War," Herkert said, adding



Oregon State Archivist Mary Beth Herkert holds Oregon's original constitution in Salem. Signed in 1857, it is becoming tattered and torn. Herkert is trying to raise money to restore it, buy a case to display it and preserve it. The constitution contains a clause prohibiting blacks from residing in the state, which Herkert calls shameful but says shouldn't be hidden.

that Oregon had to strike a balance to achieve statehood, with America becoming sharply divided over slavery. Two years after Oregon became a state in 1859, the Civil War broke out.

The exclusionary clause remained until it was repealed in 1927. That history reverberates even now. Oregon's population is only 2.1 percent black, compared with 13.3 percent for all of America, according to the 2015 U.S. census.

'Racialized policies'

In the county that encompasses Portland, African-Americans "continue to live with the effects of racialized policies, practices and decision-making," a 2014 report said. The report by the Coalition of Communities of Color and Portland State University cited discrimination in housing, school discipline and the justice system, and racial profiling by police.

On a recent Friday, several dozen demonstrators in Portland affiliated with Black Lives Matter accused the police of racism, and complained of excessively rough treatment at a demonstration two days earlier. Demonstrator Nita Kelly described witnessing racial profiling, saying that during the earlier demonstration at City Hall, police assaulted an African-American woman waiting for a light-rail train "simply because she looked like someone who participated" in the demonstration.

In 1984, Oregon students raised over \$37,000 to re-gild the golden pioneer statue on top of the State Capitol. In the current fundraising drive, \$6,000 has been contributed so far, Herkert said. A total of

Re-elect

\$60,000 is needed. Officials are also asking adults to donate on behalf of schools. Schools that donate more than \$250 will have their names on a plaque next to the display.

"The Constitution helps remind us of our past — both The leather cover of Oregon's original constitution, is shown in Salem. The cover and binding were added years after the constitution was written in 1857. Herkert doesn't know if the serves as the foundational document upon which Oreracist exclusionary clause will

> tution goes on display, but she said it won't be hidden either. "We have to remember it's our history, and we have to

be highlighted once the consti-

learn from our mistakes," she



gon's progress has been built

since 1857 and continues to be

built today," Secretary of State Jeanne P. Atkins said. "It should

be restored, publicly displayed,

State Representative HD 32, Democrat Rural homeowner in HD 32 since 1974 BooneforStateRep.org

Evening listings **TUESDAY**



TUESDAY EVENING OCTOBER 25 A - Charter Astoria/ Seaside - L - Charter Long Beach 6 РМ 7:30 8:30 9 рм 11:30 KATU News at 6 ABC World News Wheel of Fortune Am.Housewife (N) Fresh Off-Boat (N) Real O'Neals (N) Agents of SHIELD "Lockup" (N) (:35) Jimmy Kimm Jeopardy! KOMO 4 News KOMOKING Wheel of Fortune e (N) Am.Housewife (N) Fresh Off-Boat (N) Real O'Neals (N)
"The Knockouts, Part 2" (N) This Is Us "The Game Plan" (N) Agents of SHIELD "Lockup" (N) KOMO 4 News Jeopardy! The Middle (N) (:35) Jimmy Kimme NBC Nightly News KING 5 News Chicago Fire "Scorched Earth" (N) NCIS: New O. "Course Correction" KING 5 News ING 5 News (:35) Tonight Show ening 6 KOIN NCIS "Shell Game" (N) KOIN Local 6 at 6 | CBS Evening News Extra KOIN 6 News @ 11 (:35) S. Colbert KIRO 7 News KIRO News Ent. Tonight CBS Evening News The Insider NCIS "Shell Game" (N) Bull NCIS: New O. "Course Correction" (N) (:35) S. Colbert 8 KGW 9 KRCW KGW News Trail Blazers Home NBA Basketball Utah Jazz at Portland Trail Blazers Site: Moda Center -- Portland, Ore. (L) Inside Edition Chicago Fire "Scorched Earth" (N) KGW News at 11 (:35) Tonight Show 3 Last Man Standing Last Man Standing Modern Family The Flash "The New Rogues No Tomorrow "No Holds Barred" (N) KGW News at 10 Two and a Half Met Your Mother Modern Family Two and a Half 10 Ask-Old House The Contenders: 16 for '16 (N (III) KOPB Nightly Business PBS NewsHou American Masters "Norman Lear" (N On Story Art in the 21st Cen (III) KPTV FOX 12's 8 O'Clock News on PDX-TV Family Feud (5:00) MLB Baseball World Series (L 10 O'Clock News 11 O'Clock News 2 Broke Girls Family Feud FOX 12's 8 O'Clock News on PDX-TV FOX 12's 9 O'Clock News on PDX-TV Mike & Molly (E) KPDX Mike & Molly Big Bang Theory Big Bang Theory The Simpsons American Dad Cleveland Show KCPQ (5:00) MLB Baseball World Series (L) Big Bang Theory Big Bang Theory Q13 News at 10 Q13 News The Simpsons **20)** TBS Seinfeld Pt. 1 of 2 | Seinfeld Pt. 2 of 2 Big Bang Theory Big Bang Theory Modern Family Modern Family Big Bang Theory Big Bang Theory Big Bang Theory Big Bang Theory Conan (N) ESPN Last Man Standng Two and a Half Two and a Half Last Man Standng | Modern Family Q13 News at 9 Big Bang Theory Big Bang Theory Friends Friends 30 for 30 "Phil Slama Jama E:60 (N) SportsCenter SportsCenter SportsCenter portsCenter 30 for 30 "Rand University NFL Live Baseball Tonight Drone Racing ESPN2 Jalen & Jacoby (N E:60 (N) Fantasy FB (N) Henry Danger Henry Danger Rank the Prank (N) The Thundermans | The Thundermans | Eaton's MegaLife | Full House Full House **Full House Full House** Friends K.C. Undercover d to the Bone" (N) (5:25) Halloweentown Debbie Reynolds. ** Halloweentown 2: Kalabar's Revenge

** Addams Family Values ('93) Raul Julia, Christopher Lloyd, Anjelica Huston. Be Girl Meets World Liv Maddie Cali Austin & Ally "Chad to the Bone" 32 DISN Bizaardvark Babysit/ Vampire Ben & Lauren "Chad to the Bone' The Letter "Hollywood It-Crowd" (N) The 700 Club 32 FAM Ben & Lauren :10) ** Total Recall (2012, Action) B em Woodbine, Bryan Cranston, Colin Farrel ★★ 47 Ronin (201 , Action) Hiroyuki Sanada, Tadanobu Asa (:50) FXM Presents (5:00) Rise of the Planet of the Apes o, Keanu Reeves Dance Moms 36 LIFE Dance Moms Dance Moms: Dance and Chat Dance Moms Dance Mom Dance Moms 33 ROOT 38 (4:30) UEFA Soccer | Motocross X-Figh NPGL Fitness Phoenix Rise vs. Miami Surge Poker Heartland Tour Poker Night (N Poker 39 WPT Poker Alpha8 Speak for Yourself Fox Sports Live TMZ Sports (N) Speak for Yourself Skip and Shannon: Undisputed Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day 39 FS1 (43) Ink Master "Sticky Situation Ink Master "Bent Out of Shape (43) SPIKI Ink Master "New School, Old Sca Ink Master "Head Ga Ink Maste Ink Master Ink Master (AA) COM 44 Futurama Futurama Futurama Tosh.0 Tosh.0 Tosh.0 Tosh.0 Tosh 0 (N) Drunk History (N) The Daily Show (N) @midnight (N) Futurama 45 HIST 46 A&E American Pickers American Pickers Amer. Pickers "Picked a Peck of Peppe American Pickers "Mountain Mayhem 05) Pickers "The Elephant in the Room (45) Amer. Pickers "Bad Mother Shucker The More You No Reverse the Curse :05) Married at First Sight "In-Laws :05) Counting On "The After Show" 46 The First 48 Married at First Sight "In-Laws Married1stSight (:45) Married at First Sight "Till Death Do Us Part" The couples must make their decisions. (SF) (N) Deadliest Catch "Cursed Bay"

Life Below 7070 " 47 TLC 48 DISC Say Yes-Dress Counting On (N) Counting On "The After Show" (N) Sweet 15: Quinceañera (N) OutDaught. "Chaos With Quints" (N) (:05) Edge/ Alaska "Fight for McCarthy The Boonies "Below the Grid" (N) Deadliest Catch "Another Lost Soul Dungeon Cove "Final Crossing" (N)
Life Below Zero "The Confrontation" Deadliest Catch "Winter's Wake" (N) 05) Deadliest Catch "Winter's Wake 49 NGEO (49) Life Below Zero "Lost in the Wild .ife Below Zero "Blindsided' Life Below Zero "Tools of the Trade Life Below Zero "Blindsided" (N) EO TNT (5:00) NBA Basketball New York vs Cleveland (L) NBA Basketball San Antonio Spurs at Golden State Warriors Site: The Oracle -- Oakland, Calif. (L) NBA Basketball New York vs Cleveland Inside the NBA ('01) Shawn Christian, Michael Gross. (a) AMC ★★★ Tremors (1990, Horror) Fred Ward, Michael Gross, Kevin Bacon. ** Tremors 2: Aftershocks ('95, Action) Helen Shaver, Michael Gross, Fred Wa :15) ** Tremors 3: Back to Perfectio Law & Order: S.V.U. "Identity' Modern Family WWE Smackdown! WWE superstars do battle in long-running rivalries. (N)
Chopped Junior "Snapper Snafus" (N) Chopped "On the Quack Burner" Chrisley Knows (N) Chrisley Knows Chopped "Midnight Snack Attack" (N) **⑤**2 USA Law & Order: S.V.U. "Quarry Modern Family Star Plates (N) Chopped After
) Welcome Back (N) Welcome Back (N) Chopped "Stacking Up Chopped "Just for the Halibut (53) FOOD Fixer Upper Fixer "Three Generations, One Fixer House Hunters (N) House Hunters (N) 54) HGTV ixer Upper Fixer Upper 56 FX (5:00) Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters ★★ The Wolverine (2013, Action) W Yun Lee, Tao Okamoto, Hugh Jackman Atlanta (N) Atlanta Atlanta Movie CNN Toniaht With Don Lemon (57) CNN Anderson Cooper 360 CNN Tonight With Don Lemon CNN Tonight With Don Lemon Anderson Cooper 360 Anderson Cooper 360 The Kelly File With Megyn Kelly 53 FNC 58 The Kelly File With Megyn Kelly The O'Reilly Factor Hannity On the Record Hannity Paid Program (61) CNB(61 Shark Tank Shark Tanl Shark Tank The Profit "Bowery Kitchen Suppl Millionaire Inventor Paid Program Below Deck (N) Real Housewives BRAV 63 B.Deck "The Freak Comes Out at Night" Below Deck Below Deck **Below Deck** WatchWhat (N) (5:00) Wait Until Dark Audrey Hepburn. ★★★ Giant (1956, Romance) Elizabeth Taylor, James Dean, Rock Hudsor (64) TCM Oon't Eat the Daisies ('60) Doris Day (65) (4:30) Blade: Trinity ('04) Wesley Snipes. ★★ The Strangers (2008, Horror) Channel Zero: Candle Cove (N) Aftermath (N Wrong Turn 4: Bloody Beginnings : Speedman, Glenn Howerton, Liv Tyler. Chris Cox Product Showcas Downunder Horsema Ag PhD



Suzanne Elise Assisted Living Community is the proud recipient of a PERFECT STATE SURVEY for 2015 – a reflection of our core value, "Quality that is Obvious!"

P: 503-738-0307 | www.suzanneelise.com

ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITY