

BLACK HISTORY MONTH and the American Experience

Living Wage Jobs Wanted

Sam Brooks of the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs (OAME) and Tom Chamberlain of AFL-CIO joined State Rep. Chip Shields for a town hall meeting on creating living wage jobs.

About 75 people shared their comments and concerns during the Feb. 15 meeting, the first of a series of community forums Shields is holding for residents of his House District 43, covering north and northeast Portland.

Shields said the district's proximity to the industrial areas of Rivergate, Swan Island, Airport Way and the Columbia Corridor was ideal for creating good jobs, but added that he sees "Far too many Washington license plates in those parking lots. We need to make sure that people who live in



Sam Brooks of the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs (OAME) addresses a forum on living wage jobs.

north and northeast Portland, particularly women and people of color, have a fair shot at these jobs."

Brooks talked about need to cre-

ate and support small businesses, focusing on education and the need for better schools to create a more skilled workforce in the area. Cham-



Rep. Chip Shields

berlain addressed the loss of living wage jobs resulting from unfair trade policies and bad corporate behavior.

Solutions that were discussed included, "Hire Oregon First" legislation, protecting Oregon's minimum wage, new technologies such as biofuels, full funding of education, and minimum standards of health benefits by large employers.

Training Center Dedication

The father of a Portland man killed in a police shooting 10 years ago is inviting local residents to the dedication of a community training center named in his son's honor and memory.

Joe Bean Keller is hosting the reception at the Deontae J. Keller Community Training Center, 2627 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. (lower level), on Tues-

day, Feb. 28 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. The date marks the 10th anniversary of Deontae Keller's death when he was shot in the back and killed by officer Terry Kruger after a traffic stop in north Portland.

For more information on the shooting, log on to www.ppbc.complaint.com and click The Untold Story in upper left of the opening page.

Portland Police Bureau Hires New Officers

The Portland Police Bureau recently recruited six new officers, following efforts to create a broader cultural representation within bureau staff.

The Bureau's outreach focused on attracting women and minorities from local communi-

ties. Of all officers hired last year, 20 percent were women and 31 percent were minorities.

Among the new hires are Officer Julian Carroll, an Asian American recruit, and Officer Jesse Senzer, a female recruit. Both became officers at a hiring

ceremony held Jan. 5.

"I am a 'typical Portlander'" Senzer said. "It's important to me that people in our community see that they have people like themselves working for them in law enforcement."

The new officers are currently

attending a 10-week Basic Academy, followed by a 16-week Advanced Academy, and a probationary rotation through the precincts. As the officers work through their rotation, community members will get the opportunity to meet the new officers.

Advocate Named Judge

PSU attorney fills vacancy



Adrienne Nelson

Gov. Ted Kulongowski has named Portland State University attorney Adrienne Nelson to fill a vacancy on the Multnomah County Circuit Court.

Nelson has led diversity efforts at PSU and was the attorney in charge of student legal and mediation services. She fills a vacancy on the court following Judge Sidney A. Galton's retirement in October.

At PSU, Nelson was responsible for providing advocacy and assistance to students with legal problems and questions, through legal counsel and advice, in-court representation, negotiation, representation in administrative proceedings, preparation of legal documents, notary services and mediation.

Prior to her position at PSU, Nelson was an attorney at the Bennett, Hartman, Morris and Kaplan firm in Portland and a public defender with Multnomah Defenders, Inc., a non-profit criminal indigent defense law firm in the city.

She an adjunct professor and frequent presenter on diversity issues at the Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark College, where she teaches a seminar on critical race theory.

In March 2003, Nelson received the Oregon Women Lawyers' Judge Mercedes Deiz Award for outstanding contribution to promoting women and minorities in the legal profession and in the community. In May 2003, she received the Delta Sigma Theta Women of Excellence Award for leadership and service.

Nelson earned her Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from the University of Texas at Austin School of Law and her Bachelor of Arts degree Summa Cum Laude in English and Criminal Justice from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

In her free time, Nelson enjoys live theater, music, dance, cooking and reading.

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