

METRO

The Portland Observer



Step Back with the 'Dreamgirls'

Movie puts Motown's girl groups in spotlight
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SECTION B

Street Turns to Rosa Parks Way

First new signs unveiled

The official unveiling of new street signs for Rosa Parks Way were unveiled last Thursday in a ceremony drawing community leaders to the thoroughfare's symbolic intersection with Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

City Commissioners Dan Saltzman and Eric Sten attended the event with members of the Albina Ministerial Alliance, Piedmont neighborhood representatives, Urban League of Portland President Marcus Mundy and other community leaders.

The Albina Ministerial Alliance brought the proposal to rename Portland Boulevard to Saltzman, who introduced the ordinance to City Council for consideration. Council's unanimous decision Oct. 18 followed six months of outreach efforts about the proposal to honor Rosa Parks, considered the mother of the modern civil rights movement.

"This unveiling is a tribute to Rosa Parks' courage and triumph over racial segregation," said Saltzman. "It is an honor to be involved in this event along with other community leaders and our citizens to honor the memory of this icon of civil rights."

After brief comments from those involved in making the name change possible, the first Rosa Parks Way sign was unveiled.

City Commissioner Dan Saltzman, Piedmont neighborhood representatives, members of the Albina Ministerial Alliance and other community leaders gather to unveil the street signs going up in honor of Rosa Parks, the new name replacing Portland Boulevard.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Brandon's Story: The Ultimate Rebound

Break from past is path of success

At the age of 18, Brandon Hoggans was sent to prison. At the age of 27, he is making sure he never goes back.

Hoggans, who went to Roosevelt High School in north Portland, spent more than seven years incarcerated for robbery after his conviction nine years ago. He admits he hung with the wrong crowd. However, the experience of being locked up woke him up and made him vow that he wouldn't turn into a career offender like his cell mates.

Since being released, he has been good on his word.

You'll find Brandon now either studying to be a nutritionist at Portland Community College's

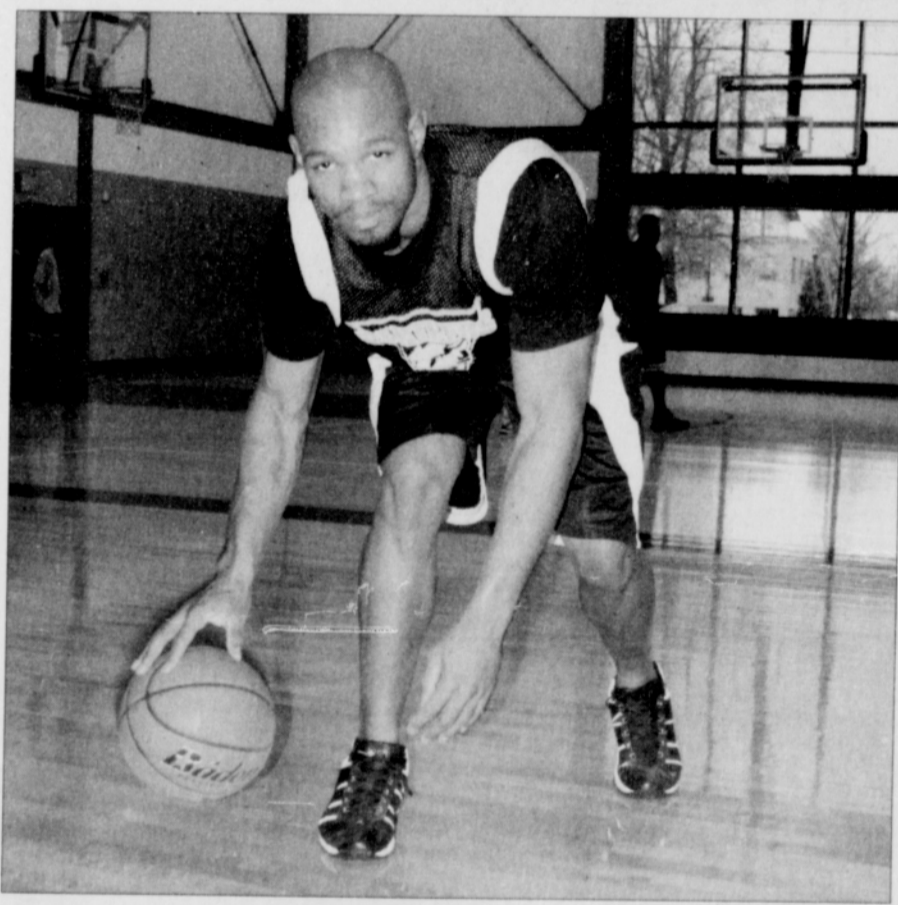
Cascade Campus or grabbing rebounds for the school's men's basketball team. Once he gets his transfer degree, he plans to go on to Oregon State University for his bachelor's degree. Following that up with a master's degree isn't out of the question.

"I've made some poor choices in life," Hoggans said. "But this term I have a 3.5 GPA. I do like the atmosphere at Cascade. There is no reason why anyone shouldn't succeed. Everybody, staff and students, are nice and very helpful."

He also credits his family and his inner strength. "I have strong support from my family," he said. "My will and determination to be a success and stay grounded is why I'm here today. I always stay positive."

He chose the area of nutrition because some of his family members suffer from diabetes and he

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Brandon Hoggans of northeast Portland has bounced back after serving more than seven years in prison. He serves as an inspirational leader of the Portland Community College men's basketball team.

Community Calendar

Season for Giving

The African American Health Coalition, a non-profit that touches the lives of millions of African Americans each year, reminds you to support your community organization. All donations, grants, and gifts are tax deductible. For more information, visit aahe-portland.org.

Diabetes Support Group

Legacy Emanuel Hospital hosts a diabetes support group the first and third Thursdays of every month, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., in Room 1027. Next meetings are Thursday, Dec. 21 and Thursday, Jan. 4.

Weight Loss Series

New Seasons Market at Northeast 33rd and Killingsworth Street will host the free weight loss classes on Jan. 31, Feb. 28, March 28, and April 25 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Nutritional Cooking

On Tuesday, Jan. 9, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., the National College of Natural Medicine will host a free nutrition class and cooking demonstration by the Nike chef at 221 N.E.

Freemont St. Contact 503-413-1850, for reservations, seating is limited. RSVP today.

Fort Lantern Tours

Fort Vancouver National Historical Site, 1001 E. 5 St., will host the highly anticipated lantern tours from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on: Friday, Jan. 5, Saturday, Jan. 20, Friday Feb. 2, and Saturday, Feb. 17. Reservations are required. For information, call 360-816-6230.

Holiday Art Exhibit

WSU Vancouver, 14204 N.E. Salmon Creek Ave., presents Acrylics on Clay, by local artist Linda Sawaya, through Jan. 12, in the Student Services Gallery and selected works by Ines Epperson thru Jan. 28, in the Engineering and Life Sciences building. For more information, visit vancouver.wsu.edu.

Bradley-Angle House

The Bradley-Angle House needs volunteers to help its outreach against domestic violence. Women of color and bilingual women are encouraged to call. For more information, call 503-282-9940.

Write Around Volunteers

Are you interested in becoming a facili-

tator for Write Around Portland's volunteer-run ten-week workshop? The workshop is for low-income adults, homeless or mentally disabled people or others who face barriers to writing workshops. Contact Jill Tuleya at 503-796-9224.

Work Against Abuse

Community Advocates invites those interested in protecting children from abuse to become an event volunteer, event outreach, technology expert, graphic artists or office support team member. For information, call 503-280-1388.

Women in Community Service

Volunteer female mentors are being sought by Women in Community Service to work with incarcerated women at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility. The women provide support and encouragement for inmates transitioning from prison back into the community. For information, call 503-570-6614.

Black History Museum

The Black History Museum of Oregon is seeking brilliant minds of concerned individuals to help in restructuring the museum foundation's committee. For information, call 503-284-0617.

Oregon Food Bank

The Oregon Food Bank seeks volunteers on Mondays from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to noon, to sort and repack perishable foods. Call 503-282-0555, extension 272 or visit Oregonfoodbank.org.

Volunteer for Crisis Line

Want to make a difference in your community? Volunteers and advocates are needed for the Portland Women's Crisis Line. The needs include on-call advocates to respond in person or over the phone, outreach and educational efforts, and fundraising and administrative duties. Call 503-232-4176 for more information.

Home buying Classes

Portland Community Land Trust helps first time and low-income homebuyers purchase homes at below market price. Attend a free, one-hour class to learn more about the program. Contact Kelly@pclt.org or call 503-493-0293.

Parenting Classes

Newborns don't come with instruction manuals but parents and parents-to-be can attend classes through Providence Health Systems to learn about a variety of topics from pain and childbirth to

breastfeeding to infant CPR and much more. For a schedule of events, call 503-574-6595 or visit: providence.org/classes.

Stroller Class for Moms

Are you a new mom or have a toddler? Get some exercise and meet other moms at the free Stroller Strides class, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursday at Peninsula Park. All you need is a stroller, water, a mat or towel and comfortable shoes. Call Helen at 503-260-5018 for more information.

Hatha Yoga Class

In Other Words Books and Resources hosts Hatha Yoga classes for beginners and all levels, every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at In Other Words, 8 N.E. Killingsworth. All genders and ages and donations are welcome.

37
years of
community service