

LAW & JUSTICE

Book Tells Story of 1887 Massacre

Chinese miners killed for gold

One of the bloodiest incidents in Oregon history – the massacre of more than 30 Chinese laborers in a crime that was never solved – is receiving a fresh look in a new book written by a veteran journalist.

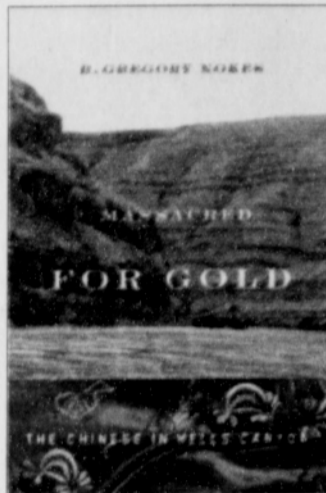
Author R. Gregory Nokes delves into the details of the atrocity and unearths evidence pointing to a gang of rustlers and schoolboys as the killers in his book, "Massacred for Gold: The Chinese in Hells Canyon."

In 1887, as many as 34 Chinese gold miners were slaughtered on the Oregon side of the Snake River's Hell's Canyon in what is considered one of the most heinous of

numerous crimes committed against the estimated 300,000 immigrants from China who arrived in this country during the latter half of the 19th century. Only 11 of the victims were identified; the others died anonymously – many without graves.

Nokes' meticulous research of old records and newspaper accounts uncovers a trail of accusations and cover-ups, according to Micki Reaman of the Oregon State University Press, the book's publisher.

"The book traces the author's long personal journey to expose details of the massacre and its aftermath," Reaman said, "and to understand how the crime was for



so long lost to history."

Barry Lopez, a noted author and editor, said "Massacred for Gold" provides a local and national context for the murders and the subsequent lack of justice.

"It...makes it clear why all



Chinese miners in the later half of the 19th century mine for gold along the Salmon River, a major tributary of the Snake River where more than 30 Chinese miners were massacred in 1887.

the young murderers went free," Lopez writes. "Nokes describes two tragedies then,

one of rapacity, the other of a community's willful denial of its past. Nokes' book, there-

fore, is an act of citizenship as much as it is a commendable work of history."

Hate Crime Law Expanded

(AP) -- Gays who are physically assaulted because of their sexual orientation receive new federal hate crime protections under legislation heading for President Barack Obama's signature.

With a Senate vote on Thursday, Congress has approved a

measure that expands current law to include crimes based on gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability.

That's one of the most significant expansions of the law since it was enacted after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968.

U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., was a co-sponsor of the amendment.

"Hate crimes tear at our collective spirit, create divisions in our communities and worst of all, victimize people for being who they are as individuals," said Merkley. "I am proud that

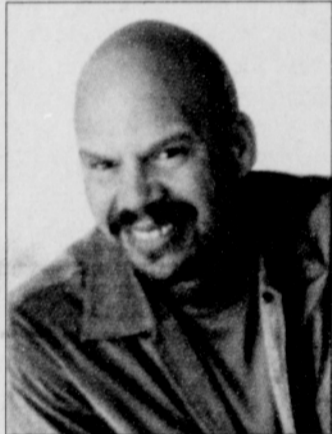
Congress has finally passed a bill that will give state and local law enforcement the necessary tools to prevent and prosecute these violent crimes and help our country continue on a path towards equality under the law and freedom from persecution."

Joyner Wins Pardon for Uncles

Men were executed in 1913

(AP) -- Two great-uncles of syndicated radio host Tom Joyner, sent to the electric chair for the 1913 murder of a Confederate Army veteran, were unanimously pardoned Oct. 21 by South Carolina.

Black landowners Thomas and Meeks Griffin were executed 94 years ago after a jury convicted them of killing 73-year-old John Lewis, a wealthy white veteran living in Blackslock, a Chester County



Tom Joyner

town 40 miles north of Columbia. Two other men were also put to death for the crime.

Joyner learned about his uncles' fate during filming of the PBS documentary "African American Lives 2," which traced his lineage.

The talk show host and legal historian Paul Finkelman then began to work to clear the Griffins' names because they thought they were framed by another man who was linked to the victim's stolen pistol. John "Monk" Stevenson testified against the others in exchange for a life sentence, but later told fellow inmates the four men had nothing to do with the crime and he pointed his finger at them to

save himself.

Joyner said he waved his hands and hugged family members when he got word of his great uncle's pardons.

"This won't bring them back, but this will bring closure. This is a very good day," he said.

Before the executions, more than 120 people signed a petition asking for a reduced sentence for the men, including Blackslock's mayor, a former sheriff, two trial jurors and the grand jury foreman, but then-Gov. Richard Manning refused, sending the men to the death chamber.

Arrests Made in Firebombing Case



Bobby Cha

(AP) - The Portland Fire Bureau has announced two more arrests in the April 22 firebombing of a north Portland home.

Lt. Rich Tyler said Thursday that fire investigators have arrested 18-year-old Bobby Cha of Portland and an unidentified youth on accusations of attempted aggravated murder and arson.

Two brothers were arrested in August.

Nine people were asleep in the home when a Molotov cocktail was thrown through a front window. The father of the family, Ger Her, found the living room filled with smoke and fire and smelling of gasoline. He was able to get his family out a back door and put out the blaze with a garden hose.

In August, investigators ar-

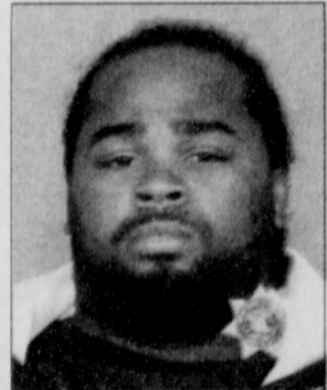
rested 19-year-old Tou Cim Cha of Portland and 21-year-old Vang Cha of Oregon City. Police said the Cha brothers were upset because two teenage boys in the home would not join their Hmong Pride gang.

Tyler says Bobby Cha is related to the Cha brothers, although he is not their brother. The spokesman would not say how they are related.

Record Crack Cocaine Bust

Federal officials say the largest Portland seizure of crack cocaine in a single arrest was made last week when a 28-year-old man was served with a search warrant on his car and home on Northeast 157th Avenue.

Sean Frank Lee Fowlkes, was arrested on multiple charges, including the intent to distribute more than 50 grams of cocaine base and being a



Sean Fowlkes

felon in possession of firearms.

Police said they recovered more than a kilogram of crack cocaine, powder cocaine, two loaded guns and more than \$87,000 in cash.

The U.S. Attorney's office said the maximum penalty on conviction is life in prison for the drug charges and 10 years for the gun charge.

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Weekday Service
Tuesday Night: Bible Study 7:30 P.M.
Friday Night: Regular Service 7:30 P.M.
Prayer Meeting & Seminar: Monday - Friday 12:00



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The ladies of **Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Zeta Sigma Omega Alumnae Chapter** will be hosting their **22nd Emerald Awards Brunch** on Sunday, November 1, 2009 from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm at the Crowne Plaza Hotel located at 1441 N.E. 2nd Avenue. This year eight outstanding African American men who have made remarkable contributions to our community will be honored. These individuals were selected from numerous nominations from various organizations, churches and businesses throughout the metro area. The 2009 Emerald Award recipients are:

- Mr. Herman Bramo- Education
- Mr. Williams Mitchell- Entrepreneurship
- Mr. Jerome Polk- Lifetime Achievement
- Mr. Ken Berry- The Arts
- Mr. Harvey Rice- Community Service
- Mr. John Canda- Youth Services
- Mr. Steven Bullock- Youth Services
- Mr. James R. Walker- Spiritual Leadership

In addition to brunch there will be entertainment, fashion show and a silent auction

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