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What's on your list today?

LOCAL NEWS

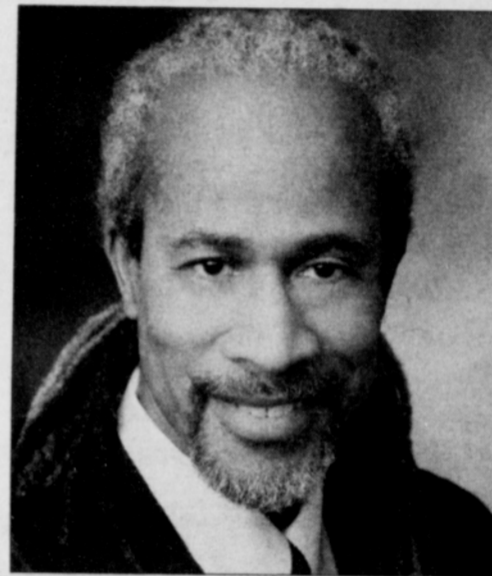
Making Political Impacts

Minority advocates count up legislative successes

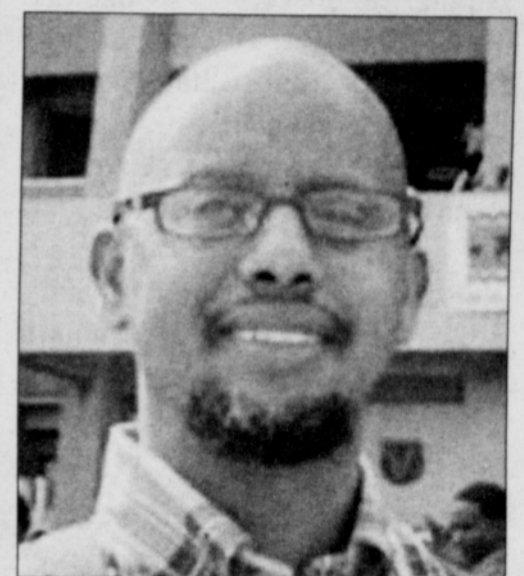
BY DONOVAN M. SMITH
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Oregon is one of the least racially diverse states in the union, but that has not stopped minorities from making significant changes in the state Legislature this year. Minority advocates such as the Urban League of Portland and Portland's Center for Intercultural Organizing were major players in the 2013 session.

The Urban League was either at the head of or in support of several major initiatives that took place this year. Some of those victories included a healthcare competency bill that requires doctors to better understand special circumstances related to minority health before diagnosing patients, and a natural hair care law which eased restrictions on practitioners of chemical-free hair styling.



Michael Alexander



Kayse Jama

Michael Alexander who was only named Urban League Portland's president in November of last year says the accomplishments came after a conscious effort by the organization and other civil rights advocates.

more than 100 Urban League supporters helped kick off the grass roots effort, Alexander said, and constituents were able to keep up the pressure on elected officials to incite change.

A visit to the State Capitol by

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Dekumstruction is a sculptural artwork and stormwater management system integrated with a custom bike rack at the intersection of Northeast Dekum and Durham, adjacent to the Breakside Brewery.

'Green Street' Art Honored

A sculptural artwork and standing public art projects in the stormwater management system has United States by the Public Art Network of the Americans for the

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