

Making Political Impacts

continued ▲ from page 3

"The secret to influencing folks is numbers and consistency," Alexander added.

Leaders at Center for Intercultural Organizing are attributing most of their successes this year to a similar grass roots campaign.

The group's public policy director, Andrew Riley, says this year they brought down over 300 people to Salem.

Some of their victories included a

tuition equity bill calling for in-state tuition for all Oregon high-school graduates regardless of immigration status; a repeal of state's preemption on inclusionary zoning, now allowing developers to consider affordable housing during new development; and a law which prohibits discrimination in housing against Section 8 voucher holders.

"What took this place this session shows the power immigrants, refugees, and people of color have is growing in Oregon," says Kayse

Jama, the Center for Intercultural Organizing's chief executive officer.

A law that would have furthered accountability when it comes to profiling did not pass this session.

Jama, however, remains hopeful.

"This new generation is working together, and organizing as a team, so I think we will be able to continue to convince elected officials they need to take a look at these issues," he says.

The next Legislative session in Oregon begins in February, 2014.

Art Honored

continued ▲ from page 3

Arts has named.

Dekomstruction was designed by artists Buster Simpson and Peg Butler at the intersection of Northeast Dekum and Durham, adjacent to the Breakside Brewery.

Twenty halved oil barrel planters stenciled with the names of depleted oil fields and painted with an irides-

cent sheen allude to the culture of big oil. The planters are planted with native species and receive water run-off from the adjacent private property. All of the water then flows through a downspout onto an up-ended oil barrel that quite literally "beats" the drum on rainy days.

The project was initiated by the Portland Bureau of Environmental Services as a part of their Sustainable Stormwater "green street" program to address stormwater man-

agement issues. The bureau worked with city transportation officials to help with bike parking to give the project an aesthetic and augmented conceptual twist, and then turned to the Regional Arts & Culture Council, which hired artists Buster Simpson and Peg Butler.

The overall project budget was nearly \$60,000. Funding came from a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency with additional funds from all of the other partners.

Grandmother's Family Seeks Support

Looking for relief after several horrific months

A freak car accident one night in October, 2012 surprisingly saved the life of Ms. Gladys Waters. It was at the hospital where she would learn that she was a diabetic. Upon that news Waters with the help of her family changed her diet and soon underwent physical therapy for the injuries she sustained from the accident.

Just months later doctors also informed with the devastating news that she had cancer.

Weeks later she had her first minor stroke.

The recent stream of bad luck has also crept its way into Waters' places of employment. Described

by friends and family as a woman who divvies up the bulk of her time between church and work, she has been left without an income for 3 months now.

Simoutaneously she maintained jobs at Albina Head Start for 43-years and Kmart for 15-years the once devoted employee no longer was able to work because of the harshness of her condition.

Last week Waters and her family were hit with the even more overwhelming news that an artery in her neck is narrowed at 90% closed. She is scheduled to undergo surgery in about a week.

The family is asking those who

can to help them in the midst of their financial crisis.

Waters' family has opened an account at Onpoint Credit Union and are currently accepting donations.

Contributions can be made at any Onpoint location using the account number 1119286-8.

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