

Honoring Service to Community

A local high school senior and a Vancouver attorney have been honored for their outstanding service to the community from the Fort Vancouver National Trust.

Matthew Bisturis received the 2014 General George C. Marshall Public Leadership Award during a special ceremony last week. He is the 25th recipient of this prestigious community award honoring the legacy of one-time Vancouver resident General George C. Marshall.

Bisturis volunteers his time to the Washington Small Business Development Center through Washington State University, which provides advice, training and research to businesses in southwest Washington. In addition, he volunteers in teaching two classes on the topic of business formations to students enrolled at WSU. He also serves on the board of the Parks Foundation of Vancouver and Clark County and donates his time to the group Leadership Clark County.

Fort Vancouver High School Senior Jose Scott was recognized as the 2014 General George C.



Marshall Youth Leadership Award recipient. This prestigious award is presented to a student who demonstrates leadership, takes a stand for the rights of others, serves as a role model, shows initiative and motivates others to become involved.

His teacher and counselor praised him for his exceptional leadership skills and his countless hours towards the school's anti-bully and students of color clubs.

"Jose is a young man of incredible integrity, a gentle smile and a heart to contribute to the community to make it a better place for kids that are less fortunate," said his counselor, Marie Monek.

Fort Vancouver High School Senior Jose Scott (left) and Vancouver resident and attorney Matthew Bisturis are honored for their outstanding public service at the General George C. Marshall Public and Youth Leadership Awards.

Publishers Pick Portland

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diabetes around the city.

"I am very excited for the NNPA to be coming to the Northwest," said Portland Observer Publisher Mark Washington. "I think it is going to be a real extravagant event. I just wish my brother, the late publisher of the Portland Observer, Charles Washington, was here to see it. We talked about it for years, how it would be great if it could be hosted here in Portland, Oregon...I have always had respect for Mr. Foster and I know The Skanner and The Portland Observer and will welcome the NNPA to Portland with open arms."

With hundreds of newspapers reaching a combined audience of some 15 million people, the NNPA continues to play a crucial role in civil rights and economic empowerment for black Americans.

Historically, black publishers have played a powerful role in American politics and culture, since the first African American newspaper, Freedom's Journal, was published in 1827. Its editors were Rev. Samuel Cornish and John B. Russwurm, who famously said, "Too long have others spoken for us ... We wish to plead our own cause."

The association was founded in 1941 when John Sengstacke of the Chicago Defender invited publishers to a meeting aimed at "harmonizing our energies in a common purpose for the benefit of Negro journalism."

Some of the most influential journalists in the history of the American Press have worked for Black newspapers. Among them: Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. DuBois, Ida B. Wells Barnett, Langston Hughes, Romare Bearden, James Weldon Johnson, Mary McLeod Bethune and Daisy Bates.

The Black Press gallery, which features publishers who have made significant contributions to Black journalism, is housed at Howard University, and the Black Press archives are stored at the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, also at Howard.



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