

DIVERSITY

Diversity in Construction

Woman finds passion in career switch

This self-described "military brat" really thought that her employment in the administration field would be the path she would continue traveling, until one assignment changed everything.

Hailing from South Carolina originally, Marlana Sledge graduated Grant High School in Portland in 1995, and headed for college on a golf scholarship, attending Cal State Los Angeles. She would later transfer to Portland State University.

Her career path took a turn while on a temporary assignment with Brooks Staffing Agency. Sledge would take on a construction project for the Edith Green Wendell Wyatt

federal building in downtown Portland.

"I never thought about working in the construction field, but I'm sure glad that the opportunity presented itself," she says.

Mentored by "one of the best"

senior project accountants at Howard S. Wright construction, Sledge was able to pick up the skills and training to do the job herself; it proved itself true as she was soon hired as a Project Accountant at the company.

Now, she is responsible for processing pay applications for sub-



Marlana Sledge

contractors, invoices from vendors, and processing weekly payroll for the craft employees that are out working in the field along with other tasks.

Currently, Sledge is a part of a Howard S. Wright project in Camas working on a 5-story building that is being constructed from the ground up.

"I love being on site to see the day to day happenings, wearing my hardhat, included," she says.



Analese Steverson-Pugh

Local Student Top Black Scholar

The National Achievement Scholarship Program was established 50 years ago to provide scholarships and recognition to scholastically-exceptional black high school students.

Central Catholic senior Analese Steverson-Pugh, who graduated from Trinity Lutheran School in 2010, was one of Oregon's three 2014 black scholar winners and will be attending Stanford University this fall.

The other students earning \$2,500 scholarships were Solan Israel-Mergerssa of Sheldon High School and Alejandra Padin-Dujon of Lincoln High.

Students are picked for having high PSAT and SAT scores and consistently high academic performance and being endorsed by their school.

Steverson-Pugh, who played Trinity sports and was a top student at the northeast Portland school, is now a pole vaulter with plans to study neuroscience.



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