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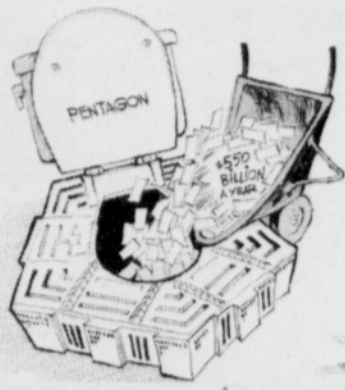
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What's on your list today?®

LOCAL NEWS



NAACP leaders from Oregon include Portland NAACP President Audrey Terrell (from left), membership chair persona and scholarship chair Hillary Hampton, youth coordinator Justin Swoboda, and Corvallis NAACP President Barry Jerkins.

NAACP Forming Leaders

Civil rights group encourages participation

The election of leaders for the Portland NAACP will be held on Saturday, Nov. 15 at the Red Cross Building, 3131 N. Vancouver Ave., Room C, from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The civil rights group met on Saturday to introduce the nominees running for the offices of president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

Portland NAACP President Audrey Terrell invites and encourages the entire community to join the NAACP and vote in the upcoming election. Terrell is seeking a second term.

Portland NAACP Unit 1120 has been brought back to life and is steadily growing in membership. The organization is in full compliance with the NAACP State Conference and at the National level.

Terrell says the group has also increased its participation in community activities, sponsoring its first Women of Honor Luncheon, First Pastors Breakfast, and sponsored and participated in the 50th anniversary in the historical 1964 March on Washington.

The group has held educational forums on affordable health care, met and conferred with stakeholders of the Trader Joes Project, and worked with the Albina Ministerial Alliance and the Department of Justice on the Settlement Agreement over police reforms. NAACP youth have surged in membership, meeting regularly and holding their own "Stop the Violence Rallies."

The Portland NAACP also sponsors various TV cable productions covering local candidates and issues. It has a radio segment on KBOO and works with other organizations such as the Urban League of Portland.

For more information, visit portlandnaacp1120.org.

Daimler Civil Rights Probe Grows

More employees at truck facility step forward

A civil rights investigation of Daimler Trucks at its Swan Island manufacturing plant in north Portland was expanded for the second time last week as four more employees have stepped forward to allege unlawful discrimination.

The Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries said the new civil rights complaints add to the agency's investigation of whether a pattern of racial discrimination and abuse exists at Daimler. In total, nine Daimler employees have open civil rights

complaints, in addition to a complaint filed last month by Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian on behalf of the people of Oregon.

Besides the allegations of racial discrimination against African American employees, the complaints include charges that a Native American employee faced threats of physical violence and intimidation as another employee pushed him against a truck and challenged him to a fight.

Other allegations include unfair treatment, discrimination based on race, national origin and age, use of racial epithets, retaliation and failure of management to take appropriate action to improve Daimler's workplace.

"Our investigators are working hard to determine whether there's evidence of a pattern of severe racial discrimination and abuse," said Avakian. "We have a duty to ensure that employees are treated fairly on the job. Our investigations will be thorough – and if we find substantial evidence, we will aggressively prosecute any unlawful discrimination uncovered."

Earlier, the director of public relations at Daimler, Dave Giroux, released a statement that the company "has a zero tolerance policy related to discrimination or harassment on any basis" but said that they could not release any official statements on the current ongoing investigation.