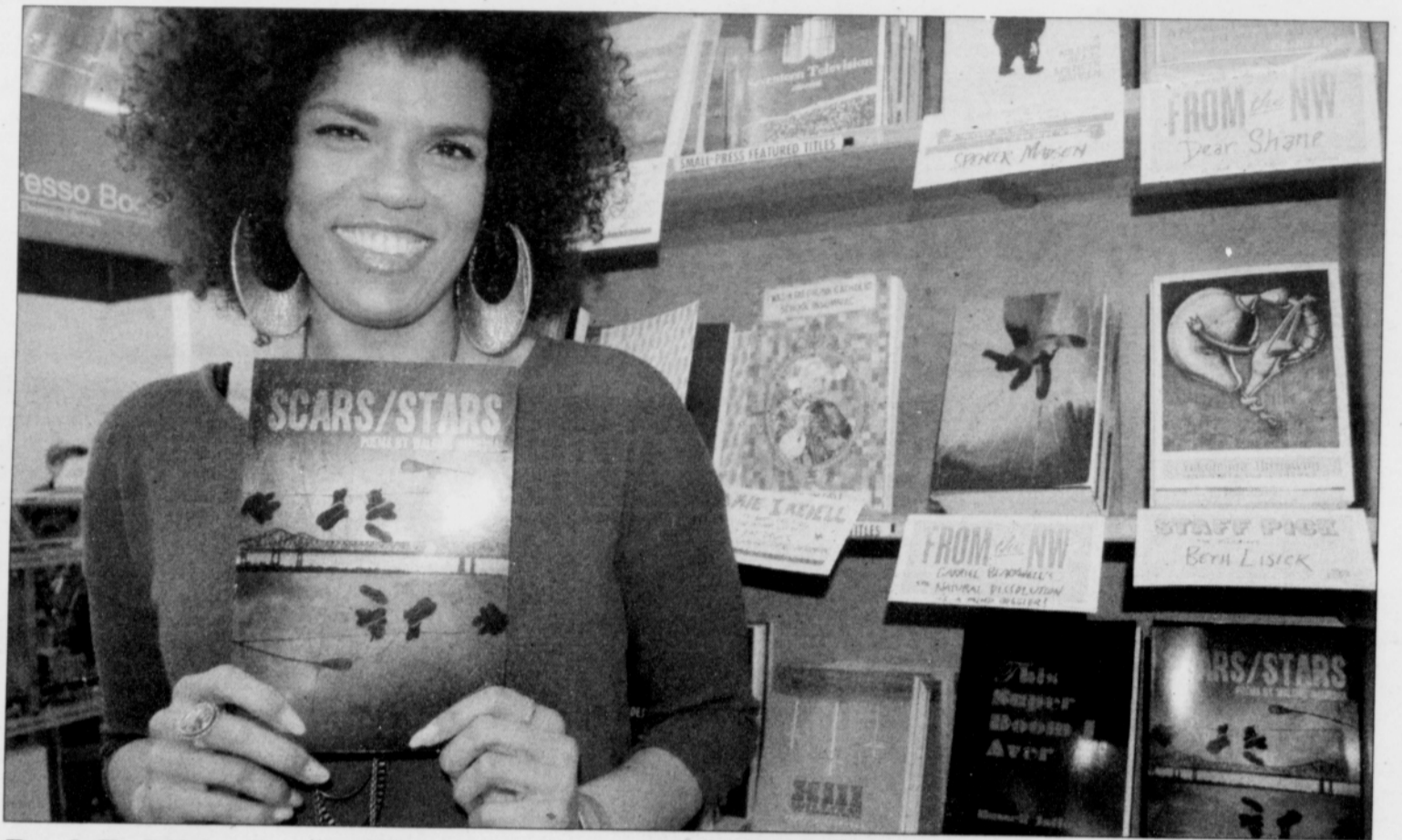


The Portland Observer looks back at some of our top stories of 2014

2014 Year

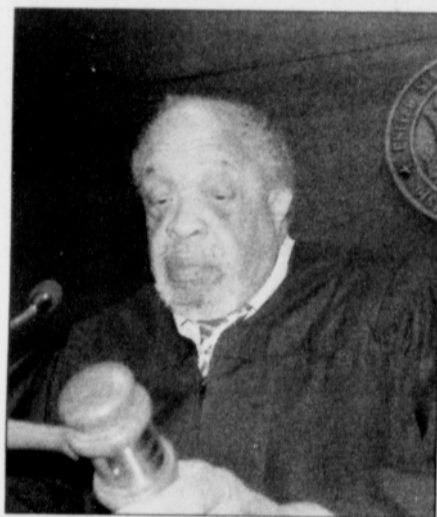
East County Uplift

Jan. 8 — The Boys and Girls Club and Friends of the Children announce plans to bring their respective youth service programs to the Rockwood neighborhood of Gresham to help a multicultural community that has grown more challenged by economics and race.



Book Published on Political Prisoners and the Black Experience

Feb. 26 — Walidah Imarisha, a local activist and professor of Black Studies at Portland State University, discusses her debut publication "Scars/Stars" a book of poetry about the pain of political prisoners, especially people of color impacted by mass incarceration, overpolicing, the war on drugs, attacks on hip hop culture and other injustices.

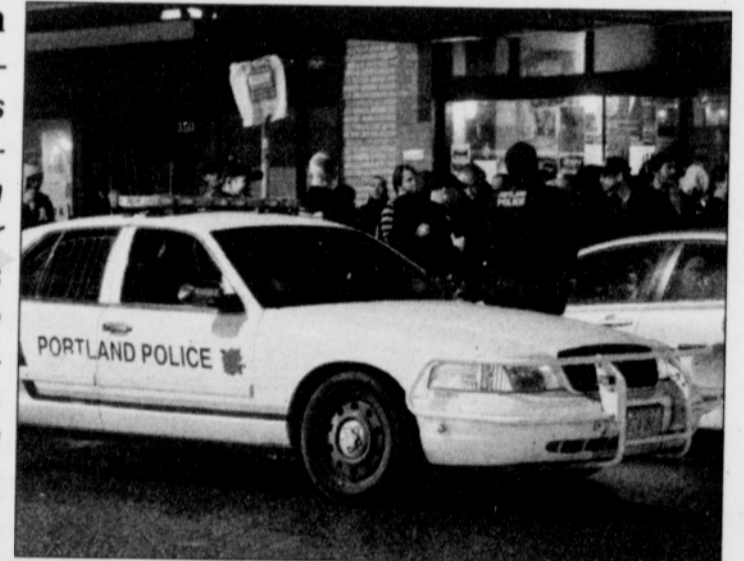


Drawing to a Final Verdict

Feb. 19 — Ansel L. Haggerty reflects on his journey to and from the bench as he plans to make 2014 his last year in office before retiring. Born in Vanport three years before a flood wiped out the city, Haggerty was the first African-American federal judge in Oregon and the first black circuit court judge in the state.

Portland's Hip Hop Shakedown

March 5 — Law enforcement is accused of ongoing, targeted harassment of hip hop shows after a sold-out show at the Blue Monk in southeast Portland comes to an abrupt halt when Portland performer Illmaculate stops the performance over an ever-swelling police presence in and outside the venue.



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Dolly England
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Jefferson Wins Back-to-Back Titles

March 19 — The Jefferson Democrats celebrate winning their second straight 5A state boys basketball championship with a 69-64 victory over Churchill in Eugene. The win came despite the loss of six of their players from team suspensions.



Community Builder

March 26 — Bemoaning the poor economic conditions many Portlanders still face, the displacement of people of color from their neighborhoods, and the failed government policies that were supposed to help residents, business owner and community stalwart Sharon Maxwell launches a campaign for City Council.