

‘Put Your Guns Down’

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wrap them around somebody. Because if you guys kill somebody else, you’re making me hurt, so I’m begging, please don’t do this,” she said. “I don’t want somebody’s family to have to go through what I’m going through right now.”

Other family members of shooting victims, including Lucy Mashia (mother of the late Leonard Irving), Kimberly Dixon (mother of Andreas Dixon), and Dr.

Josephine Carter-Holmes (mother of the Lenton Bernard Yarborough), sat alongside Assistant Police Chief Kevin Modica, one of Portland’s long time African-American officers, while they testified to their experiences of losing their sons.

The families also want the community to come forward with any information to help law enforcement bring those responsible for the shootings to justice.

“Somebody knows something,” said Lucy Mashia, “and no one is saying any-



PHOTO BY OLIVIA OLIVIA/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Nike Greene (left), wife of Pastor Herman Green, and Kimberly Dixon, a Portland mother who lost her son Andreas Dixon to gun violence, share thoughts in preparation to making a public plea with other family members of sons and daughters killed in gang-related shootings.

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thing. Somebody knows what happened to my son, and I’m begging you to let us know. This culture of silence has got to end, please.”

The group was lead in prayer at the end of their meeting by Pastor Herman Greene, who prayed for peace, forgiveness, and hope for the families suffering the loss of their sons.



Happy Birthday

Maggie Gibson

Thank you for all the hard work you have done in the community