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PHOTO BY OLIVIA OLIVIA/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The transformation of Cully Plaza into something positive for the community draws the support of U.S Sen. Ron Wyden who toured the facility with community volunteers Thursday.

# Senator visits Cully Plaza Grateful for work to transform blighted block

BY OLIVIA OLIVIA

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Women in the trades were wading through construction debris at Cully Plaza in northeast Portland Thursday as U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden strapped on a con-

struction helmet and a pair of goggles.

The Oregon Democrat donned the safety equipment to visit the dilapidated site and to meet and support the work of local residents who are embarked on a

mission to remodel the string of closed adult businesses into something positive for the community.

What was once a strip club

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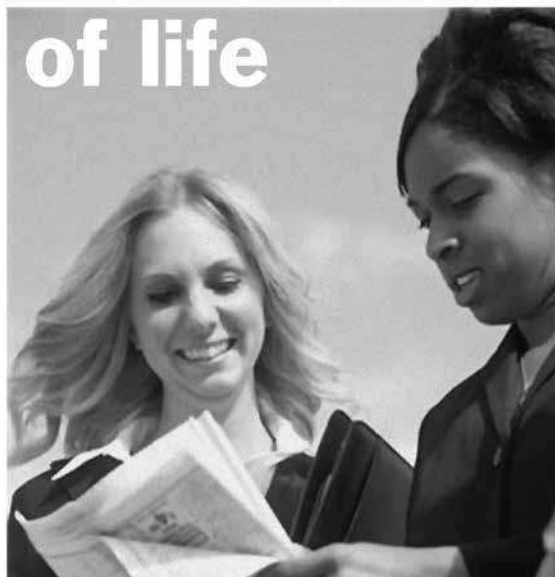
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## The Week in Review

### Attacks in Beirut and Paris

A double suicide and terrorism attack in Beirut on Thursday night killed 43 people and injured over 200 people. The next night a series of coordinated terrorist attacks were leveled in Paris, killing 129 people and injuring an estimated 430 others. Militants from the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) have claimed responsibility.

### Governor Welcomes Refugees

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown announced Tuesday that the state would continue to welcome refugees from Syria amidst a call by Republican governors across the country to stop Syrian refugees from entering their states following the terrorist attacks in Paris. "The words on the Statue of Liberty apply in Oregon just as they do in every other state," said Brown, a Democrat.

### Ban the Box Returns

The Portland City Council will discuss a proposed ordinance Wednesday that would require most employers to wait until after they've extended a job offer to look into someone's criminal history. The action follows the Ban the Box campaign, a nationwide

movement backed by civil rights organizers, anti-racism activists, and unions, to help rehabilitate and reintegrate former prisoners into working society.

### Student Sues Pacific University

A student who says she was raped at an underage drinking party at a coach's house filed a \$3 million lawsuit Monday against Pacific University. The attacker was initially only suspended for a year, according to attorney Greg Kafoury, but the college agreed to expel him when she threatened to go to the media.

### Two Women Struck By Max

A woman struck by a TriMet MAX train in Gresham Friday night remained listed in critical condition Tuesday. In a separate incident on Monday morning, a woman was struck by a MAX train at the Elmonica Station in Beaverton. She was expected to survive her injuries, but lost a leg in the collision.

### Death Sentence Affirmed

A Clackamas County jury found that Dayton Leroy Rogers should receive the death penalty for killing six women in 1987. This was the fourth time that Rogers was sentenced to death for the torture and brutal killings of the women whose bodies were found in a natural area outside of Molalla. The previous verdicts were overturned by the Oregon Supreme Court.