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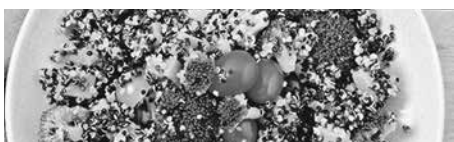
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# LOCAL NEWS



PHOTO BY CLIFFORD KING

Alton Sterling and Philando Castile, two black men killed by police in Minnesota and Louisiana, are remembered during a protest Thursday in downtown Portland.

## Protests and Vigils

### Community and police respond to shootings

BY CERVANTE POPE  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland joined protests and vigils all around the country in the wake of last week's apparent revenge shooting of five police officers in Dallas, Texas, and the deaths of two black men at the hands of police a few days earlier in Minnesota and Louisiana.

A sweeping march in downtown Portland on Thursday took

place after the officer-involved shootings, but before the Dallas violence. The protest temporarily closed the Morrison Bridge as an estimated 1,000 people gathered to demand police reforms. Activist groups Black Lives Matter and Don't Shoot Portland were at the forefront of the demonstration.

In an attempt to keep the peace between the police and the community, Portland Mayor Charlie Hales issued a statement that the Portland Police Bureau would respond with as little force as possible. He also pledged to continue city investment in young people and work to keep guns out of the

hands of young people by lobbying the Legislature and Congress for stricter gun control.

The protest was somewhat interrupted by a videographer, Michael Strickland, who was caught brandishing a Glock handgun during a dispute with protesters. Police arrested him on charges of disorderly conduct and menacing.

Marches to demand police reforms in the wake of officer-involved shootings continued all weekend across the country. Police departments across the nation also held gatherings in honor of

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## Lead Worries Grow with Testing

### Jefferson tests finds highest levels yet

A problem with water faucets containing lead continues to grow as testing increasingly is finding harmful levels of lead at Portland's public schools, city parks and other public buildings.

Tests released this week for Jefferson High School in north Portland, for example, show 198 water fixtures with elevated lead levels, including two drinking

fountains with lead levels 22 higher than the Environment Protection Agency's action level.

A sink faucet at Jefferson was tested at 9070 ppb, the highest result found in a public water system in Oregon, according to Kari Salis, a technical services manager for the Oregon Health Authority. New tests also show elevated lead levels at Beach, Creston and Sunnyside elementary schools.

In addition, Portland Public Schools has now reported dangerous lead paint debris on the playground at Alameda Elemen-

tary in northeast Portland, showing the district has failed to remedy a problem in lead dust from paint found in 2013.

The school district sealed off a portion of the Alameda playground Monday to prevent exposure and issued a statement to families saying a firm will clean up the contaminated areas as soon as possible.

Health authorities say there is no safe level of lead in the blood for kids. The Multnomah County Health Department will continue providing free lead screening clinics all summer.