REERSEDUCATION The Portland Observer







IETRC

page 13



ENTERTAINMENT



pages 10-17

LASSIFIEDS

ALENDAR

page 19

pages 18







The former director of this former northeast Portland home for foster youth has been charged with the theft of over \$800,000 of monies intended to support foster care services, children and families. The Rodney Avenue home was recently purchased by the neighborhood to keep it from being demolished.

Foster Provider Charged Grand jury cites money

laundering and theft

A federal grand jury in Portland has charged Mary Holden Ayala, 56, a longtime resident of Portland, with theft of over \$800,000, money laundering and filing false personal tax returns.

Ayala served as the president and executive director of Give Us This Day, an Oregon state-licensed private foster care agency and residential program for hard-to-place foster youth, including youth of color, until its closing in September 2015.

The indictment alleges that between 2009 and 2015, Ayala embezzled at least \$800,000 in funds intended to support foster care services, children and

families. In addition to other crimes, the indictment also alleges that Ayala filed false personal income tax returns in tax years 2009 through 2014, and failed to file a personal tax return in 2015.

FBI agents arrested Ayala last week in Holly Springs, Miss. She appeared before a magistrate judge and a separate detention hearing will be held later this week, officials said.

An indictment is only an accusation of a crime, and a defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

This case was investigated by the FBI, the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General and the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigations.

Police Chief Search Widens

Community input sought in selection process

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler announced an online survey Monday for community input on the Marshman, appointed to the job line survey for community input qualifications needed for a police last year by former mayor Charlie which can be found online at portchief to guide the Portland Police Hales, has already been asked to re-Bureau. The mayor also official- apply for the position. But if he is to ly opened a recruitment process, stay, Wheeler has said he will have launching a national search for a to be committed to the reforms the police chief that is expected to be mayor has been espousing. completed this July, with a job offer coming thereafter.

national talent in our efforts to nity and member of the Albina transparency and accountability," of an oversight panel. Wheeler said.

Marshman recently won the support of rank and file police of-"The nature of police work in ficers, but has also been criticized deserves the chance to evaluate of the African American commu- cess," said Wheeler.

create a 21st Century police force Ministerial Alliance Coalition for focused on building community Justice and Police Reform, for not trust, embracing diversity, and liv- working hard enough to impleing up to the highest standards of ment police reforms as a member

Wheeler is asking people to Current Police Chief Mike spread the word about the onlandoregon.gov/omf/PoliceChief-Survey.

"This national search gives our community the chance to address fundamental questions about the direction of policing in Portland. I am dedicated to receiving and acting upon input provided by the America is changing, and Portland by Rev. T. Allen Bethel, a leader community throughout this pro-