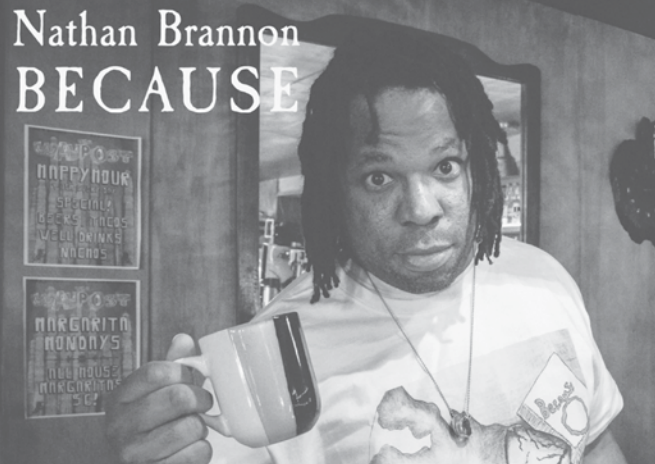


The INSIDE

The Week in Review page 2

Nathan Brannon
BECAUSE



METRO

page 9



Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

pages 8-11



OPINION

pages 12-13

CLASSIFIEDS

pages 14

CALENDAR

page 15

This page
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Fred Meyer
What's on your list today?

Recruiting Candidates

Color PAC executive hits the ground running

BY DANA LYNN BARBAR
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Color PAC, a local organization dedicated to improving equity in public policy by recruiting, training, and supporting candidates of color for state and local office, has expanded its mission with the hire of their first-ever state director.

Ana del Rocio, endorsed by Color PAC during her successful campaign last spring for a seat on the David Douglas School Board, started her duties with the New Year and is tasked with creating and cultivating a plan to engage the broader community with the political organization's mission.

She plans to visit different parts of Oregon over the next few weeks to meet with leaders from diverse communities and explore the possibilities and opportunities for growth.

"I'm committed to Oregon, and want to make sure it's a place where my family, and families that look like mine, can thrive," she said. Del Rocio is of Peruvian descent.

One of del Rocio's main goals is to reach more people of color who are leaders in their communities and arm them with the information and tools they need to offset any notions of whether they have "what it takes" to be an elected official.

She hopes that her own story as an elected official will inspire "regular" people like her



Ana del Rocio is the first state director for Color PAC, a local organization recruiting candidates of color for public office to improve equity in public policy.

to move past doubts and play a role in shared governance.

Del Rocio finds that many people in racial and ethnic minorities feel that they cannot hold public office for a variety

of reasons, a large one being the historical lack of representation of people similar to them holding these roles.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Sentenced for Strip Club Murder

(AP) -- A woman who fatally stabbed another woman at a Portland strip club was sentenced to 15 years in prison Monday.

Rinita Lowe, 25, pleaded guilty to first-degree manslaughter and unlawful use of a weapon in the 2016 murder of Shantina Turner at the Club Skinn nightclub near Northeast 60th Avenue and Prescott Street.

Authorities said Lowe had been arguing with Turner at the establishment when she pulled the knife from her purse and



Rinita Lowe

stabbed Turner three times in neck.

Lowe's defense attorney, Jason Steen, said surveillance video from the June 2016 incident showed Turner choking Lowe just before Lowe stabbed her.

Deputy District Attorney Kevin Demer said the women had known each other since childhood and had a history of tension.

Lowe apologized to Turner's family at Monday's court hearing.