

'Let's Get Moving' Health Event

The Vancouver branch of the NAACP and other organizations are inviting their friends and neighbors to get involved in a 'Let's Get Moving' campaign to build awareness on the importance of adopting a healthy lifestyle.

African Americans face many health disparities, impacted by issues like low incomes, dependency on Medicaid services; gym memberships that lack cultural inclusion; chronic health conditions like diabetes, obesity, heart disease, stroke and other daily stressors to name a few.

Community health worker and founder of the "Let's Get Moving" program, Kelli Keyes says, "We need to create more opportunities to build awareness of the importance of becoming more active as a community."

On Saturday, March 17 at 1 p.m., area residents are invited to learn more during an open house at the Vancouver Housing Authority, 2500 Main St. For two hours each Saturday at the facility, the group meets for dancing to music, an outdoor walk-rhythm activity, healthy conversations and a variety of healthy snacks. The group's age range is college young adult through an amazing 80 years young!

For more information, call Kelli Keyes at 360-993-9558.

Jeff Alumni Oppose Name Change

Will host public discussion next week

A group representing past and present students of Jefferson High School has taken a stand against changing the name of the school and has started a petition not to change the name and leave it the same.

The call to change Jefferson's name took on weight last January when the Humboldt Neighborhood Association sponsored a public forum at the North Portland Library. It followed an appeal by resident Clifford Walker, a local black neighbor and activist who objects to public high school named after a former slave owner. Others want to focus on supporting and improving the school and warn about a gentrified community erasing Jefferson's current history. The Portland School Board is considering revising its policies to allow for school name changes when it takes into account the district's desire to eliminate systemic discrimination.

Monday, The Jefferson High School Alumni association issued a statement saying it found little support for changing Jefferson's name. The group said when it asked its members to comment on its Facebook account, only 20 people stated they were in favor of a name change and



A monument of President Thomas Jefferson fronts Jefferson High School.

112 people were against it.

The Jefferson Alumni Association and the nonprofit immigrant and civil rights group Unite Oregon are calling on current Jefferson students, alumni and the wider

Jefferson community to attend their own public discussion on the issue. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 21 at 7 p.m. at the Unite Oregon offices at 700 N. Killingsworth St.

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The Week in Review

Serial Package Bombs Deadly

Three explosions that occurred when people picked up packages outside their homes around Austin, Texas appear to be connected, according to police. Two of the blasts happened Monday, killing a 17-year-old African-American boy and injuring two others. A March 2 blast killed a 39-year-old African-American man.

More White House Shakeup

President Donald Trump unceremoniously dumped Secretary of State Rex Tillerson on Tuesday — by tweet — and picked CIA Director Mike Pompeo to take his place, abruptly ending Tillerson's turbulent tenure as America's top diplomat and escalating the administration's chaotic second-year shake-up with five top officials resigning or being fired in the last two weeks.

Lillard Player of Week

The NBA named Damian Lillard the Western Conference Player of the Week Monday after he led the league in points per game and led the Blazers to three-straight wins, including a 17-point victory over the defending champion Golden State Warriors.



Students to see "Hamilton"

Portland Public Schools announced Monday that is sending 750 high school students to see the award-winning musical "Hamilton" at a special matinee performance on Wednesday in Seattle, ahead of the play's arrival in Portland next week. The Hamilton Education Program made the tickets available at a deep discount to the 10th and 11th grade students from historically underserved schools.

Crows Killed by Neurotoxin

In late January, witnesses in the vicinity of Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Jessup Street reported seeing nearly a dozen crows "falling from the sky," seizing on the ground and dying. Last week, a criminal investigation determined the birds were intentionally poisoned with a neurotoxin called Avitrol, a restricted use pesticide. Whoever put out the poison likely violated federal law, according to the Audubon Society.

Food Bank Recalls Chia Seeds

The Oregon Food Bank initiated a recall of 22,201 pounds of chia seeds Monday, which were donated to the food bank and distributed between November and March 9. The product may be contaminated with rodent droppings. While no known illnesses have been reported with this product, use or consumption may present a health hazard to consumers.

Merkley on Presidential Run

Rumors of Sen. Jeff Merkley running for president in 2020 may be fueled by his upcoming trip to New Hampshire, but last week he told KOIN 6 News he's focused on campaigning for fellow Democrats fighting for a majority in the Senate. "My main focus is the fight for 51, to get a Democratic majority in the Senate that can stop some of the worst of Trump's policies and also the packing of the courts," Merkley said.



House Ends Election Probe

In a viewpoint met with sharp disagreement with Democrats and with the U.S. intelligence community, Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee announced Monday that they have ended their probe into the 2016 election, finding no evidence Russian President Vladimir Putin was trying to help Donald Trump win or that Trump campaign colluded with Russia.

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