



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON JR./THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Black Voices United, a start-up organization striving to create new educational and political spaces for the black community, draws five candidates running for the No. 3 seat on the Portland City Council to the stage of their candidates' forum Saturday at Maranatha Church. The candidates pictured (from left) are Stuart Emmons, Loretta Smith, Andrea Valderrama, Felicia Williams and Jo Ann Hardesty.

Election Face Off

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

ning for the position No. 3 seat which will be left vacant at the end of the year with the political retirement of current City Commissioner Dan Saltzman.

Black Voices United, a start-up community organization structure striving to create new educational and political spaces for the black community, sponsored the forum, which included an earlier session for Multnomah County Commissioner candidates.

Andrea Valderrama, a David Douglas School District school board member and current City

Hall staffer, said people may have good ideas for combating homelessness and housing shortages, but the City Council needs to adopt workable funding measures.

"I understand how to address these issues, not just to get good ideas, but have the means to put them into action and what type of budget makes the most sense for what type of action," Valderrama said. "Those are things I've already been working on."

Stuart Emmons, a Portland architect and community activist, said he has been a housing advocate for the last 20 years.

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MIKE SHANNON

3 A.M. - 6 A.M.
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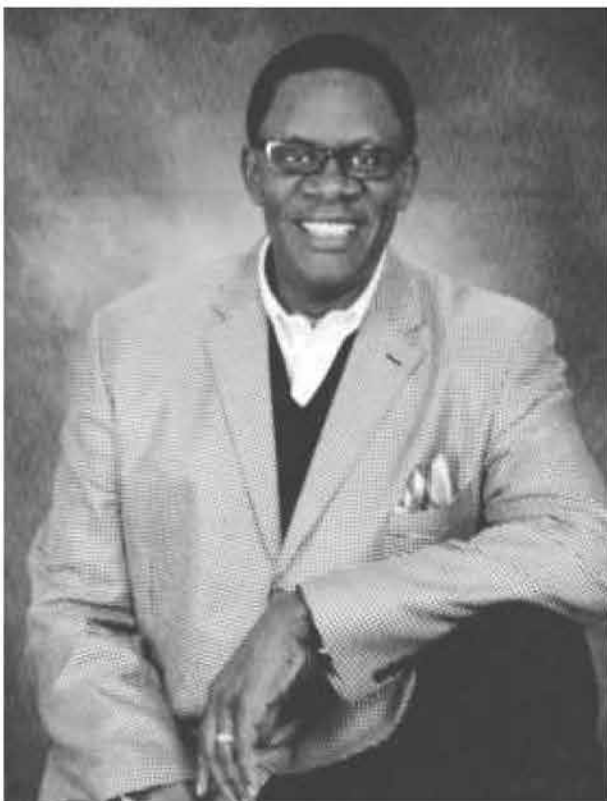
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