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Legacy Fabricator Killed

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edge on to lots of people," Julia Colson, the co-owner of the auto-shop who sometimes trimmed Gora's rose bushes, added.

The Colsons noted they'd sometimes seen his door ajar, too.

A makeshift memorial apparently put together by neighbors and friends with flowers, messages of love like "we miss you," a candle, and a slice of apple pie were left on his doorstep Tuesday morning.

The property had three open complaint cases with the city of Portland Neighborhood Inspections Program, two related to the upkeep of his yard and one complaint of illegal residency of the owner.

Two complaints, both from Dec. 11, had not yet resulted in citations—a nuisance complaint of debris and hazardous material in Gora's yard, and a complaint

of exterior storage of some of his possessions, including vehicles.

A third complaint of illegally residing in the garage, which was marked for commercial use, did result in a citation on Jan. 31, Housing Inspection Supervisor Megan Greenauer told the Portland Observer.

Gora told a housing inspector he had been living on his property for the past 45 years, Greenauer added, but was actively working with the city to correct the complaints.

"He was moving towards selling the property. We were working with him to make the occupation of the space more safe in the meantime," she said.

Gora even held an estate sale just two weeks ago, in the last weekend of April, where he sold some of his vehicles and other property in an apparent attempt to get clear his property, the Colsons said.

Police have said the circum-

stances of Gora's death make them suspect homicide, and the cause of death was confirmed to be homicide-related, but it remains confidential as to how exactly police suspect the killing was implemented.

"In order to preserve the integrity of this ongoing investigation, the Police Bureau is not releasing the specific cause of death," Sergeant Chris Burley, the bureau's Public Information Officer, told the Portland Observer via email Monday.

Portland Police Detective Division's Homicide Detail and criminalists with the Forensic Evidence Division were dispatched to investigate the killing, officials said.

Anyone with information about the death should contact Detective Todd Gradwahl at 503-823-09991, Todd.Gradwahl@portlandoregon.gov or Detective Brad Clifton at 503-823-0696, Brad.Clifton@portlandoregon.gov.

'Left Hook' to Displacement

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

nity who once lived in or remembered Vanport to curate and record their stories.

As Lo Forti was collecting these oral histories, she had gotten word that Webb was working on a play about Vanport, Cottonwood in the Flood, through a mutual friend. They got in touch with each other and have been running Vanport Mosaic together, ever since.

The community of Vanport was home to many groups including African-Americans, whites, Japanese-Americans returning from internment during World War II, and Native Americans. It was one of the first integrated communities of its time in the state.

By 1947 the town that once boasted 40,000 dwindled to half that, but 4,000 residents of col-

or stayed. That changed when the 1948 flood wiped out the community, even as the Portland Housing Authority was vying to dismantle it. The former residents were forced to move somewhere else, which for many blacks would end up being the Albina District.

Due to a discriminatory lending practice that limited African American presence elsewhere in the city, known as redlining, many Portland blacks who sought rentals or buying a house were also sequestered to the Albina district.

Urban renewal efforts by the city, such as the construction of the Memorial Coliseum and the Interstate 5 freeway cut through north Portland neighborhoods in the 1960s, and the 1970s expansion of Emanuel Hospital, created economic blight in the area and

displaced hundreds. The hospital expansion permanently altered some of the district's signature features and, in some areas, razed sections of neighborhood without developing anything on it.

Left Hook compresses the timeline of these events from a dozen years or more into a few months. It focuses on the return of African-American soldiers from Vietnam trying to find their place amid a transformed neighborhood; the Black Panther Movement; and a boxing club once integral to the community struggling to find a home.

The Left Hook Boxing Club is based on an amalgamation of many of the actual gyms in Portland at the time; in particular the Knott Street gym that still exists today from its current home out of the Matt Dishman Community Center in northeast Portland.

Thursday, May 24th @ DoubleTree by Hilton Portland
1000 NE Multnomah Street | Portland, OR 97232

Doors open at 11:00 am
Program begins at 11:30 am-1:00 pm

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