



PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland City Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty introduces her staff after being sworn into office on Jan. 2. Pictured (from left) are Administrative Assistant Angelita Morillo, Chief of Staff Karly Edwards, Policy Advisor Derek Bradley, Commissioner Hardesty, Community Outreach Coordinator Matt McNally, Financial Policy Advisor Kristen Johnson and Communications Director Lokye Au.

# A New Seat of Power

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

She encouraged her supporters and others who filled the City Hall chambers to continue to hold elected officials, including herself, accountable.

“I look forward to what we’re going to be able to do as Portlanders together. And I want to remind you that this is only day one,” Hardesty said. “You need to come back to this chamber. If this chamber looked like this every day, what a difference the city of Portland would be.”

“Keep coming back, keep making sure your voice is heard. ‘Cause that’s why you elected me, to make sure your voice was in this chamber,” she added.

Hardesty’s first day in office came with a City Council session that began with some disorderly and disruptive visitors who had to be escorted out of the chamber shortly after she was sworn in.

One of her first actions as a City Commissioner was voting to put in place the next steps for enacting an open and accountable elections measure that voters approved in the fall.

Mayor Ted Wheeler welcomed Hardesty to the council, calling her inauguration “historic.” He has given her oversight responsibilities for the Portland Fire Bureau, the 911 service departments, emergency management bureau, and firefighters’ pensions—the former assignments of Saltzman’s.

During a press meet and greet hours after her taking office, Hardesty cited houselessness as her number one priority, and spoke of working with the 9-11 Call Center to integrate more mental health professionals into the emergency dispatch and changing the way emergency responses are carried out.

“We’ve invested a lot of money in police. We haven’t invested that

much in the 9-11 Call Center or the Fire Department or the Bureau of Emergency Services, and so having a conversation and highlighting that this is the rest of the

public safety system, and we’re failing that system miserably, will help us be able to divert money to invest in those other parts of the system,” she said.

After congratulating Hardesty and offering his support, Mayor Wheeler cited the historical significance of her seat as a woman of

color on the Portland City Council, and for women in government generally, in Portland.

“You will feel the pressure of that history, for better or for worse. You have my commitment to work with you and help you make that historic moment count for people in this community,” Wheeler said.



## PoShines

### CAFÉ DE LA SOUL

**Po’Shines Café De La Soul, the soul food cafe serving north and northeast Portland, will be hosting their annual chitlin festival on Friday, Jan. 11 and Saturday, Jan. 12.**

A variety of dishes for both seasoned and curious eaters to try, including fried chitlins, chitlin mac and cheese, traditional stewed chitlins and more will be served at the PoShine’s Café at 8139 N. Denver Ave.

Since Po’Shines opened its doors in the summer of 2006 as part of a mission of providing great food and service while giving youth and young adults an opportunity to get job training and experience in the culinary world. Over the last 10 years, Po’Shines has not only grown into an established Portland soul food restaurant, but has also helped many individuals on their road back to success.

Po’Shines is now opening a Culinary School on Northeast Alberta Street that will provide a to go and catering menu. In addition offering classes on healthy eating alternatives for diabetic and people suffering from high blood pressure and just good down home cooking classes. We have acquired materials and equipment to create a more suited learning and training environment in hopes to help even more individuals to find their passion in the culinary arts with the help of our community sponsors and donations.

“When we started, we had no idea what we were in for,” said John Tolbert general manager of PoShines, “but day by day, piece by piece, person by person, everything has seemed to fall into place, and now we are able do things and help people in ways that we never could have imagined.”

Chitlins are not something often seen in the city of Portland, let alone the Northwest, however staff at Po’Shines weren’t surprised by the turnout at last year’s event, and the request for chitlins throughout the year. In addition to plenty of good food, the two day festival will also feature local music.

This is the 11th year that Po’Shines has brought the rare southern cuisine of chitlins (also called chitterlings or The Calamari of the Ghetto!) to our Portland diners. We appreciate the opportunity to reflect on our slave ancestors who took Chitlins, pig intestines, and made it into a wonderful delight. In honor of their suffering and sacrifice we celebrate this wonderful event.

The Chitlin Fest will be on **Friday, Jan. 11 and Saturday, Jan. 12 from 12 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Po’Shines, located at 8139 N. Denver.** For more information call Po’Shines at 503-978-9000.

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