

Black Business Pioneer

Harvey Garnett, 82, Portland's first black theater owner, was the first person to take out an advertisement when the Portland Observer began publishing in 1970. He was the proprietor of then Alameda Cinema, now known as the Alberta Rose Theatre.

Garnett, who is originally from Waco, Texas and moved to Portland



PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Harvey "Mr. Alameda" Garnett, the first black movie theater owner in Portland, visits the offices of the Portland Observer. The former owner of Alameda Cinema, now the Alberta Rose, Garnett was also the first business owner to purchase advertising in the Portland Observer in 1970, the black-owned newspaper's first year of publication.

in 1945, ran Portland's only African American owned theater at the time. In 1965, and co-owned by childhood friend Ron Leverett, the theater screened second-run films, and later, blaxploitation films like Shaft and Superfly. In 1971, Garnett took full ownership of Alameda and screened the now-classic In the Heat of the Night, starring Sidney Poitier, as its first iteration of a theater for new releases.

Garnett, who's also known as "Mr. Alameda," was raised in a house near present-day Legacy Emanuel Hospital on North Gantenbein Avenue and told the Portland Observer he was also the first African American to work for Pepsi, in 1965. He also took ownership of one of the few black-owned record stores in town, Bop City, formerly located on North Williams Avenue in 1968.

Prosper Portland's commitment to social equity is inspired by the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

We acknowledge our past as we move forward to create economic opportunity and prosperity for all communities.

We make racial equity the foundation of our community and economic development work.

We hold ourselves accountable to Portland's communities of color and others our work has negatively impacted.

While racial equity is the primary lens to focus our efforts, we understand the connection between racism and other forms of bias that lead to oppression.

Within our workplace and working with our partners, we embrace values of authentic inclusion, transparency, and collaboration.

We work toward nothing less than an anti-racist Portland that welcomes and serves all communities and perspectives. We encourage our partners to do the same.



PROSPER
PORTLAND

Building an Equitable Economy

prosperportland.us/social-equity

The Week in Review

Police Faulted on Death

A new report by outside consultants faulted Portland Police for placing themselves in a dangerous position with no available cover when they shot and killed Quanice Haynes, a 17-year-old African American burglary suspect two years ago. The analysis said police must strive to use cover, time and distance to their advantage when responding to potentially violent encounters.

Mayor Targets Hate Groups

Citing a moral obligation to lead on the issue, Mayor Ted Wheeler has put forth a city ordinance condemning white supremacy and alt right groups.

An hour and a half will be reserved for public testimony on Thursday, and then the council will vote on whether to adopt the resolution.

Masonry Placard Pause

City Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty directed Portland Fire and

Rescue last week to pause enforcement of new placard warnings on unreinforced masonry buildings until further outreach by her office is completed. Hardesty said she wants to look at ways to better support businesses and nonprofits in seismically upgrading their buildings.



Vancouver to Build Army Ships

Portland shipbuilder Vigor Industrial announced last week that it will build a new class of Army landing craft ships in Vancouver. As many as 36 of the new vessels would be built over the next 10 years, eventually adding 400 jobs and \$1 billion to the local economy, company officials said.

Employee Claims Retaliation

A black Multnomah County employee filed a \$420,000 lawsuit last week claiming the county failed to foster a racially sensitive workplace and that colleagues retaliated against her after she complained about a co-worker who pinned up a "Blue Lives Matter" flag in his office in 2017, an action seen as demeaning to the Black Lives Movement for social justice.



The Portland Observer

Established 1970

USPS 959 680

4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Portland, OR 97211

PUBLISHER: Mark Washington, Sr.

EDITOR: Michael Leighton

ADVERTISING MANAGER: Leonard Latin

Office Manager/Classifieds: Lucinda Baldwin

CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Paul Neufeldt

REPORTER/WEB EDITOR: Danny Peterson

SALES/ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Avanna Lake

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Mark Washington Jr.

OFFICE ASSISTANT/SALES: Shawntell Washington



The Portland Observer welcomes freelance submissions. Manuscripts and photographs should be clearly labeled and will be returned if accompanied by a self addressed envelope. All created design display ads become the sole property of the newspaper and cannot be used in other publications or personal usage without the written consent of the general manager, unless the client has purchased the composition of such ad. © 2008 THE PORTLAND OBSERVER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED, REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED. The Portland Observer--Oregon's Oldest Multicultural Publication--is a member of the National Newspaper Association--Founded in 1885, and The National Advertising Representative Amalgamated Publishers, Inc, New York, NY, and The West Coast Black Publishers Association



PO QR code



CALL 503-288-0033 FAX 503-288-0015

news@portlandobserver.com • ads@portlandobserver.com

subscription@portlandobserver.com

Postmaster: Send address changes to Portland Observer, PO Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208