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Good cheer for a romantic comedy

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Zoo Lights Bigger Than Ever

A winter wonderland of 1.5 million lights

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The Portland Observer

Volume XLVIII • Number 48



'City of Roses'

www.portlandobserver.com
Wednesday • December 11, 2019

Committed to Cultural Diversity

Trump Charged with Abuse and Obstruction

Two impeachment articles move to a vote

(AP) — House Democrats announced two articles of impeachment Tuesday against President Donald Trump — abuse of power and obstruction of Congress — pushing toward historic votes over charges he threatened the integrity of the U.S. election system and endangered national security in his dealings with Ukraine.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi, flanked by the chairmen of the impeachment inquiry committees, declared at the U.S. Capitol that they were upholding their solemn oath to defend the Constitution. Voting is expected in a matter of days in the Judiciary Committee and by Christmas in the full House.

In outlining the charges, Democrats said they had no choice but to act because Trump has shown a pattern of behavior that, if left unchecked, poses risks to the democratic process ahead of the 2020 election.

"Our president holds the ultimate public trust. When he betrays that trust and puts himself before country, he endangers the Constitution; he endangers our democracy; he endangers our national security," said Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., the Judiciary chairman, announcing the charges before a portrait of George Washington. "Our next election is at risk. ... That is why we must act now."

Nadler said, "No one, not even the president, is above the law."

Chairman Adam Schiff of the Intelligence Committee said, "We stand here today because the president's abuse of power leaves us with no choice."

Trump swiftly responded to the impeachment articles by again decrying

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PHOTO BY BEVERLY CORBELL/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Rev. LeRoy Haynes of northeast Portland's Allen Temple CME Church shares his thoughts among a group of religious leaders from all over Portland who gathered on Monday to announce and show support for a new effort at reducing gun violence in Oregon, a new voters initiative petition to ban the sale of semi-automatic guns and large capacity ammunition magazines. Kicked off at Augustana Lutheran Church, also in northeast Portland, the new Lift Every Voice campaign will gather signatures in hopes of making the ballot for next year's November presidential election.

Gun Control Petition Recharged

New effort to ban assault-style guns and large ammo

BY BEVERLY CORBELL
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A local nondenominational group of religious leaders announced on Monday they are starting a new petition drive to get a gun control initiative on the November ballot. The petition will call for restrictions on the sale of certain semi-automatic guns and large capacity ammunition magazines. A similar effort failed last year because

legal maneuvers by opponents to gun control left insufficient time to gather signatures.

Supporters behind the new Lift Every Voice Oregon Interfaith Movement petition met at Augustana Lutheran Church, a diverse congregation in northeast Portland, where about 50 people heard religious leaders from many different faiths call for action to contain gun violence in Oregon and across America.

Rev. W.J. Mark Knutson, senior pastor at Augustana Lutheran, said he doesn't expect the new petition to be derailed this time, saying that he and others have been working nonstop for more than a year to overcome obstacles, including in the Ore-

gon Legislature. "We have trained over 1,000 people to get the petition signed," he said. "We met every two weeks and took two bills to the House, but neither was acted on. But we did not stop. We worked with other groups in the state, students in particular." The petition has been submitted to the Oregon Secretary of State, Knutson said, and once it is accepted, volunteers all over the state are ready to start collecting signatures.

Knutson spoke about the escalation of fear that deadly violence has on society, from the Cold War drills of yesteryear pre-

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