

# 2019 Year in Review

A look back at some of our top stories



## A New Seat of Power

**Jan. 9** – Longtime political activist Jo Ann Hardesty takes office as Portland’s newest city commissioner, a historic benchmark in terms of seating the first African American woman on the City Council and tilting the governing panel to a woman-majority for the first time in history.



## NAACP Generations

**Jan. 30** – Vancouver NAACP volunteer and community artist Claudia Carter curates historical exhibit in celebration of the local civil rights group and Black History Month called ‘NAACP Generations: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow in collaboration with the Clark County Historical Society.



## Keeping the Focus on Health

**Feb. 13** – Miracles Club Program Director Maleka Taylor (right) and Wellness Within Reach Administrative Coordinator Makda Berhane oversee programs focused on improving health outcomes in the African American community, managing health initiatives previously run by the African American Health Coalition, which dissolved.

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## Mitigating Displacement

**Feb. 20** – Community leaders break ground on a new 70-unit affordable housing complex at Northeast Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks Way. The project by Portland Community Reinvestment, Inc. (PCRI) is rooted in the African American community, the nonprofit’s second major effort to create housing for people who have been displaced.

**KING + PARKS RENAISSANCE COMMONS SONGBIRD**

**APPLICANTS MUST INCOME QUALIFY TO BE ELIGIBLE**



## A Reversal of Fortunes

**March 6** – Nicole Kennedy brings diversity to the new legal cannabis industry as co-founder of the Green Hop marijuana dispensary in northeast Portland. The hip-hop themed shop operates with support from the city’s cannabis tax specifically meant to bolster cannabis entrepreneurs from communities

of color that were disproportionately and negatively affected by the criminalization of marijuana in the past.

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