

# The INSIDE

## The Week in Review

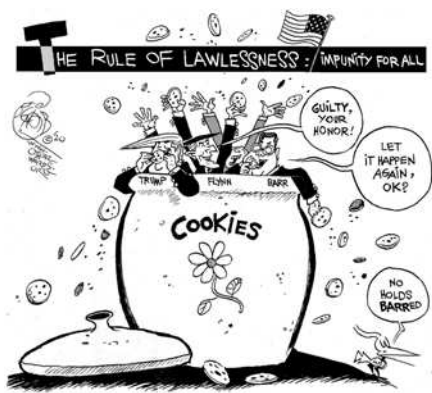
page 2



Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



pages 8



pages 9

OPINION

CLASSIFIED/BIDS

pages 10



## EDUCATION & CAREERS

page 6

# LOCAL NEWS



Joy Sinviengxay manages the counter at the Chai Thai restaurant in east Portland, one of two eateries providing meals to homeless shelters operated by Human Solutions as part of a partnership with two nonprofits providing financial backing to businesses impacted by the coronavirus health crisis.

## Restaurants in Crisis Feed Hungry

### Program is a win win for homeless, small businesses

A new partnership between two east Portland nonprofits, local restaurants and the city of Portland is bringing food to people in homeless shelters and supporting struggling businesses during the economic crisis created by the coronavirus.

The city is providing financial assistance for the feeding program through Prosper Portland, the city's urban and economic development agency, and the nonprofit Rosewood Initiative is channeling funds to struggling local restaurants in east Portland that are strapped for business during COVID-19.

Nelly's Taqueria and Chai Thai

are two of the participating restaurants, preparing hot, delicious meals delivered to two Human Solutions shelters, Lilac Meadows for Families and the Gresham Women's Shelter. On a typical night, about 220 people eat dinner in these shelters.

Program organizers hope to find additional resources in the community to expand this win-win effort. Human Solutions and The Rosewood Initiative are community-based organizations working in east Multnomah County to address the root causes of poverty and build vibrant communities where everyone can thrive.

The Rosewood Initiative supports community-driven solutions for a healthier, more economically vibrant Rosewood neighborhood. Human Solutions is a 31-year-old community organization that develops affordable housing and operates shelters and a range of programming to ensure all com-

munity members have economic and housing security.

Leaders for both groups said they saw an opportunity to collaborate and meet multiple community needs in a unique moment where restaurants are struggling to survive due to the COVID shutdown and emergency shelters are stretched to meet their ongoing need for warm meals.

Human Solutions Executive Director Andy Miller said he was thrilled with the results thus far.

"This is how community responds in a crisis," he said. "Prosper Portland stepped in quickly to do what they do best - supporting local small business to keep them working. The Rosewood Initiative did their part by recruiting local minority-owned restaurants they already partner with and Human Solutions was able to relieve some of the stress on our courageous

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

## \$8.5 Million Provided for Rent Relief

The Oregon Housing and Community Services announced Monday that it has accumulated over \$8.5 million to provide rent relief across the state.

As many Oregonians are struggling to pay rent during the coronavirus public health crisis, the rent relief program is providing assistance to those who need it most.

According to a news release sent by the organization, the money is

allocated to regional Community Action Agencies by a needs-based formula which takes rent burden data, poverty data, homelessness data, and unemployment claims into consideration.

"Through no fault of their own, many Oregonian families are facing an abrupt loss of income and find themselves unable to pay their rent during this pandemic," said Gov. Kate Brown. "Through Oregon Housing and

Community Services, we can deliver immediate rent relief so that more families can stay housed as we work to build a safe and strong Oregon."

Oregonians looking to apply for aid should contact their local CAAs directly or call 2-1-1 for assistance. Officials said they will begin taking applications in upcoming days. Any rent payments given will be made directly to the landlord on behalf of the tenant.

The Portland Observer

Established 1970 USPS 959 680  
4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.,  
Portland, OR 97211

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

CALL 503-288-0033 • FAX 503-288-0015 • [news@portlandobserver.com](mailto:news@portlandobserver.com)  
[ads@portlandobserver.com](mailto:ads@portlandobserver.com) • [subscription@portlandobserver.com](mailto:subscription@portlandobserver.com)

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



PO QR code



PUBLISHER: Mark Washington, Sr.

EDITOR: Michael Leighton

Office Mgr/Clasfids: Lucinda Baldwin

SALES DIRECTOR: Leonard Latin

CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Paul Neufeldt

OFFICE ASST/SALES: Shawntell Washington