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2020 YEAR IN REVIEW



Passion for Giving Back

July 8 -- Bill Jackson of Portland's African American community was honored by his employer PepsiCo for 50 years of service and for being a mentor to young people in the community as well as mentoring new hires at Pepsi. He was also credited for driving conversations on race in the workplace, making sure the topic is addressed in an appropriate manner and helping to ensure different perspectives have been considered.



Wall of Moms Enter Fray

July 22 -- A wall of moms forming a human shield to protect Black Lives Matter protesters gained strength at nightly protests in Portland as President Trump took aim at demonstrations demanding justice in police officer involved shootings and sent federal police to the downtown U.S. courthouse.



Solidarity with Demonstrators

Aug. 5 -- Faculty at over two dozen Portland area colleges and universities circulated a statement denouncing heavy-handed tactics used by Portland Police and by federal agents that have inflamed tensions in the streets and surrounding protests in downtown Portland and elsewhere in the city.



Beloved Boxing Coach Dies

Aug. 19 -- Charles "Chuck" Lee Lincoln Sr., a beloved Portland boxing champion and coach, and father to his community, was being remembered after his death, on Aug. 7 at the age of 88. Lincoln coached hundreds of neighborhood kids who flowed through the doors of the Knott Street Center.



PSU to Disarm Campus Police

Aug. 19 -- Two years after campus police killed a Black Navy veteran and father in a disturbance outside a campus area bar, Willie Halliburton, Portland State University's new campus safety chief, and a retired African American police officer, announced that PSU officers will no longer carry guns. The decision was part of a broader policy to re-image safety at PSU, one that works to dismantle systems of racism.



Dueling Protests Turn Deadly

Sept. 2 -- Aaron 'Jay' Danielson, a supporter of a right wing group was killed in a confrontation, downtown, as dueling protests took place between social justice advocates and Patriot Prayer, a group that has clashed with left-wing protesters in Portland for years. Police Chief Chuck Lovell asked the public to give detectives time to do their work before drawing conclusions about the shooting.



Unhealthy at Best

Sept. 16 -- Dense smoke coming from massive wildfires in Oregon blanketed the skies across Portland and the Northwest. Residents were advised to remain indoors due to hazardous air quality.



Lillard Buys Toyota Dealership

Oct. 7 -- Infusing his personal style into business, Portland Trail Blazers point guard and NBA All-Star Damian Lillard becomes the new co-owner of a Toyota dealership in McMinnville.



A Hero for Community Health

Oct. 21 -- Lessie Williams, a long time champion for community health from Portland's African American community is honored as a national hero by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for her work in Portland tackling racial disparities in healthcare for families most at risk.



Family Fights for Home

Nov. 4 -- An African American family with indigenous roots is locked in a dramatic struggle for the right to return to their historic home in one of Portland's most gentrified neighborhoods, a battle blamed on a sophisticated mortgage scam, capturing the hearts and minds of a growing community of allies pursuing racial and economic justice. One month later when police enforced an eviction order, a response by more militant activists closed the street with barricades and used guns to keep unwanted people out.

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