



Grassroots Action on Violence

Coalition intends to show how peace is possible

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Help with Parenting

Community-based healing program offers support

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'City of Roses'

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Committed to Cultural Diversity



Capt. Derrick Peterson is running to become Multnomah County sheriff.

Experienced Deputy Enters Sheriff's Race

Candidate speaks out on gun violence, other issues

BY BEVERLY CORBELL
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Capt. Derrick Peterson is pointing to extensive experience in law enforcement and corrections in a campaign to become the next sheriff for Multnomah County, replacing Dan Reese who is retiring next year because of term limits.

Peterson announced his candidacy for the position last week in an election that will be held in May. He is the first Black person to run for the office and his opponent, Undersheriff Nicole Morrissey O'Donnell, with 25 years in the department, is the first woman to run.

Peterson told the Portland Observer he was counting on his 32 years of experience in the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office to help him navigate the responsibilities of the job, along with his ability to build community coalitions to help bring peace to impacted neighborhoods.

Peterson has headed up the county jail system for the past three years, a department that he wants to

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Effort to Save Black Landmark



Louis McLemore, exalted ruler of the Billy Webb Elks Lodge, surveys the damage from a Sept. 11 fire that started outside the building and spread to the walls and roof of the landmark building. A gofundme.com campaign is gathering donations to make repairs. Photo courtesy Restore Oregon, Saving Historic Places.

Billy Webb Elks Lodge damaged by suspect fire

A gofundme.com campaign is underway to help raise donations to make repairs to the Billy Webb Elks Lodge, a landmark structure serving the Black community that was extensively damaged by fire on Sept. 11.

Neighbors first reported the fire which broke out during the early morning hours on the lodge's outdoor deck and spread, burning up through the roof.

The lodge and nonprofit Restore Oregon believe the fire was started by trespassers who were cooking or had some sort of fire that spread out of control.

Thankfully, the fire was reported quickly enough that

it was contained in time to save much of the building, organizers for the fundraiser said. Unfortunately, the blaze left gaping holes in the building's roof, and burnt rafters throughout.

Restore Oregon also reported that the water used to fight the fire destroyed the walls and floor of the lodge's ballroom, as well as the basement below, and the entire interior has been damaged by smoke.

The landmark building has been associated with the

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