

The INSIDE



Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



page 7

CLASSIFIED/BIDS

pages 10

The Portland Observer

Established 1970 USPS 959 680

1727 NE 13th Ave. Suite 201

Portland, OR 97212

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PUBLISHER: Mark Washington, Sr.

EDITOR: Shawntell Washington

OFFICE MNGR/CLASFS: Lucinda Baldwin

ADMIN COORD : Quayuana Washington

CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Kenya Anderson

CALL 503-288-0033 • FAX 503-288-0015 • news@portlandobserver.com
ads@portlandobserver.com • subscription@portlandobserver.com

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

SPOTLIGHT



Do you know an outstanding woman whose dedication to the community deserves recognition? This is your chance to honor a remarkable leader whose achievements inspire others and drive meaningful change in Southwest Washington.

By nominating her, you're not only showcasing her story but also celebrating the exceptional leadership, philanthropy, service, and innovation that make our community thrive.

Submit your nominations for the 2025 Iris Awards by Tuesday, January 14, 2025! Secure your tickets and be part of this prestigious event as we honor and celebrate our award recipients!

LOCAL NEWS

Retail Theft Mission Results in Arrests Working Towards Prosecuting Offenders

On Sunday, November 24, 2024, East Precinct officers, in collaboration with North Precinct officers, the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office and the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, conducted a retail theft mission to combat retail theft. The multi-agency mission was conducted in the Mall 205 and Gateway Shopping Center areas. The work resulted in the recovery of approximately \$1,146 worth of stolen goods. In addition, 25 people were arrested, one stolen vehicle was recovered and one firearm seized.

During retail theft missions, PPB members work directly with our retail partners to identify, apprehend, and work toward prosecution of these offenders. Following each retail theft mission, officers conduct follow-up and work closely with MCDA to ensure prosecution on these cases.

Retail theft is often more than just shoplifting items for personal use. Many suspects are involved in organized theft rings. That entails stealing items that can easily be sold for cash on the secondary market or returned to stores for a "refund." Returning or attempting to return stolen property, no mat-



Suspect in custody outside of a department store (Photo from the Portland Police Bureau)

ter the value, is a class-C felony.

In many cases, these individuals are involved in criminal activity that extends far beyond retail theft, including illegally possessed guns, drug possession and distribution, vehicle theft, and more. Additionally, disrupting theft preserves the viability of retail businesses that serve the Portland community. Therefore, these missions go a long way in improving livability across the area. Mission commanders analyze theft and other crime data to

focus their missions on the neighborhoods most impacted by these crimes, which are often large retail shopping complexes.

PPB recognizes that smaller local businesses are also impacted by retail theft and it is their belief and goal that arresting and holding prolific thieves accountable will help reduce these crimes for the entire business community.

PPB would like to thank its partners for their collaboration aimed at addressing retail theft in the Portland Metropolitan area.

New Hitting Coach for the Cleveland Guardians

Mt. Hood Community College Alumnus Promoted

The Cleveland Guardians have promoted Mt. Hood Community College alumnus Grant Fink to major league hitting coach. The move marks a significant step in Fink's career, as he transitions from serving as the organization's minor league hitting coordinator for the past three seasons to a coaching role at the highest level of professional baseball.

Fink's baseball journey began at MHCC, where he played as an all-league middle infielder during the 2009 and 2010 seasons. His talent and dedication

on the field earned him a transfer to Missouri Western State University, where he completed his collegiate career. In 2013, Fink was drafted by the Cleveland Guardians, embarking on a professional playing career in the major leagues.

After hanging up his cleats, Fink transitioned into coaching, joining the Cleveland affiliate Mahoning Valley Scrappers. Over the years, his expertise and leadership have contributed to the development of numerous players within the Guardians' organization. His promotion to the MLB team's coaching staff is a testament to his deep understanding of the game and his ability to nurture talent at the highest level.

"Grant's journey is an inspiring example of where dedication and passion can lead," said direc-



Grant Fink. Photo Courtesy of Cleveland Guardians

tor of athletics, Dr. Kim Hyatt. "We are incredibly proud to see one of our own making an impact in Major League Baseball."

Fink's story highlights the strong foundation provided by MHCC's athletics program, which continues to produce talented individuals excelling both on and off the field.