



# THE SKANNER

CHALLENGING PEOPLE TO SHAPE A BETTER FUTURE NOW



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## Parents Search For Teen

Police now consider the girl, 14, to be a 'missing person'

By Brian Stimson  
Of The Skanner News

It's been nearly two weeks since 14-year-old Yashawnee Vaughn was last seen or heard from.

On Thursday, March 25, friends and family gathered at the Northeast Precinct to get the attention of a police department and media they say wasn't treating the case seriously enough.

The Skanner News reported on the case, posting photographs and a story, within hours of learning of Vaughn's disappearance.

At the time, Police spokesperson Lt. Kelly Sheffer told The Skanner News that Vaughn's disappearance was being treated as a runaway, but clarified that all missing youth are now automatically treated as "missing." Although there was no evidence that indicated Vaughn had been abducted, Sheffer said detectives had interviewed certain family and friends. As of Thursday, they had not contacted the girl Vaughn had spoken to last.

Portland police announced on Monday, March 28 that because investigators have been unable to locate the minor, that she might be at risk.

"Detectives now consider this investigation a Missing Person's case," said the March 28 statement.

Sheffer said the crossover of a missing persons or runaway case is judged independently on the facts. Although many of Vaughn's family invoked the name of Kyrion Horman — the 7-year-old missing since June 2010 that resulted in exhaustive land and water searches and millions in investigative costs — to question why nothing more had been done about Vaughn, Sgt. Catherine Kent of North Precinct said the main difference in the two cases is age.

At 7, Horman is largely unable to care for himself. At 14, Vaughn is independent and old enough to ride public transportation on

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FINAL FOUR



AP PHOTO BY BILL KOSTROUN

Jefferson High School graduate Terrence Jones, left, a freshman at the University of Kentucky, heads to Houston this weekend for the NCAA Final Four faceoff. The Associated Press recently named Jones Best Newcomer in the SEC and the newswire reports that Las Vegas casinos have tabbed Kentucky the latest favorite to win it all.

## 'Harlem Hellfighter' Closer to Medal

Sen. Ron Wyden, Nick Fish fight to honor WWI combat hero

The campaign to honor WWI hero Sgt. Henry Lincoln Johnson with a Medal of Honor has made a major breakthrough, with the discovery of crucial new evidence. As previously reported by *The Skanner News*, Johnson's incredible bravery on the battlefield earned him the Croix de Guerre, France's highest honor.

Yet the Albany N.Y. railroad porter who fought with the fearsome Harlem Hellfighters regiment — the New York 369th —

went unrecognized back home in the United States. The reason? Johnson was Black at a time when America was in the grip of race segregation and racist violence.

"We found additional evidence that further confirms what we already know to be true," said Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden. "That Mr. Johnson is a hero and deserves the Congressional Medal of Honor."

Sen. Wyden took up the case after learning about Johnson

from Portland City Commissioner Nick Fish, whose grandfather Hamilton Fish was an officer in the 369th and a strong advocate for civil rights. He has been working with New York Sen. Charles Schumer, who last week announced the discoveries his staff had made—discoveries that confirm his exceptional story. The Skanner News Video

Staffers found the memo from Gen. Pershing in the National Archives, part of a May 1918 bulletin from the front lines command center.

Gen. Pershing wrote: "Reports in hand show notable instance of bravery and devotion shown by 2 soldiers of American colored regiment operating in French sector. Before day light on May 15 Private Henry Johnson and Private Roberts while on sentry duty at some distance from one another were attached by German raiding party estimated at 20 men, who advanced in 2 groups attacking at once from flank and rear. Both men fought

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## City Holds Religious Tolerance Discussion

Beaverton officials host event with local Muslim leaders April 6

As the number of Oregonians charged in terrorism cases steadily rises, the City of Beaverton Human Rights Advisory Commission sponsors a dialogue with the Muslim community on Wednesday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m. at the Beaverton City Library 12375 SW 5th St.

Guest Speakers are Ali Houdroge, founding member of the Islamic Center of Portland, and Dr. Shahriar Ahmed, president

of the Bilal Mosque Association.

HRAC Chair Rob Soloman says the guests will talk about why they moved to Beaverton and what issues the Islamic community here faces in the wake of the U.S. 'war on terrorism.'

"I think people get scared and their fear clams them up — but if you don't expose yourself to other ideas, other perspectives, you don't get to confront your fear and

overcome it,"

he said. "We're already thinking that we may get more people than the library will hold that day." The commission is looking into a larger facility for that evening's event to accommodate the possible crowd overflow.

Soloman says the HRAC works on foster-

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