

The 2014 Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast

Live

continued from page 6

Health Systems, presents a scholarship to Hanna Atenafu, attending Oregon State University.

Lisa Smiley and Cobi Jackson of Wells Fargo Bank, present a scholarship to Henry Sissac, attending DeLa Salle North Catholic High School and heading to Washington State University, Vancouver.

Pat Reiten, president and CEO of Pacific Power & Light, presents a scholarship to Veronica Medhanie, attending Portland State University.

Bernie Foster, president of The Skanner Foundation, presents a scholarship to Michelle Carr, attending Kent State University.

Bernie Foster presents a scholarship to Sanrawit Dagne, attending Reynolds High School and on his way to Oregon State University.

Bernie Foster, presents a scholarship to Kevin Jones, attending Oregon State University.

News editor Lisa Loving presenting the Drum Major for Justice Award:

This year's Drum Major for Justice is a scholar, a community organizer, an educator and an inspiring mentor for people of all ages. A Reed College graduate, she was a founding member of the Black Educational Center and the Black United Front. Over the years, she has partnered with community groups and institutions on groundbreaking projects from the Baseline Essays to the Urban League's State of Black Oregon. Our Drum Major for Justice has also proven to be a tireless advocate for police accountability and a wider understanding of the prison industrial complex. She has served as co-chair of the African American Alliance, and currently works as Equity Assistance Center Director for Education Northwest.

The 2014 Drum Major for Justice is

Joyce Braden Harris.

Joyce Harris gives thanks to her family, mentions son-in-law Jay Williams, who works with youth in East County for POIC, and her new grandchild.

I want to accept this award in memory of my sister-in-law, Doris Eiland, an educator who passed away this morning in Forest Mississippi. She dedicated her life to teaching the children, clothing the sick, feeding the hungry... The work that I do is not possible without the love the support and the care of so many people here in this room. Thank you very much.

9:48 a.m. Soloist Jeanne Wiggins of Mt. Olivet church sings "Nothing in this whole wide world don't mean a thing without you."

9:51a.m. Jack Roberts of the Oregon Lottery speaks.

"I'm not sure what Dr. King would think about the Oregon Lottery. But I think that Dr. King would be concerned that 45 states have got dependent on lot-

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website didn't work.
—Bernie Foster, president of
The Skanner Foundation

tery money. But I think then he would have asked what do you do with the money? And I think he would have been pleased that we like many other states use the majority of the money for education."

Lottery spends 150 million on job creation and job training, among other



Bernie Foster, President of The Skanner Foundation

peducation spending.

9:55 a.m. Bernie Foster, publisher of The Skanner News and president of The Skanner Foundation.

"My name is Bernie Foster and I want to thank every one of you in the viewing audience and in attendance here, for joining us to celebrate the Skanner Foundation's Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast.

We've been fortunate to run this event for 28 years now. Over the years we've been able to give more than half a million dollars in scholarships to students. Many of them have gone on to make huge contributions to our community and we're very proud of them.

This is only possible with the help of our wonderful sponsors. Thank you all.

And I want to thank our keynote speaker Dr. Bruce Goldberg, who is helping to bring healthcare to 180,000 Oregonians so far. Many of them have never had that security before. Ten years from now, nobody will remember that the website

didn't work. I think what they will remember is they got affordable healthcare.

Personally, I believe everyone should have affordable healthcare.

And I want to bring our attention to Oregon's United States senators: Senator Ron Wyden and Senator Jeff Merkley, and our Congressman, Earl Blumenauer. I go back east about twice a year to meet my fellow publishers. We're a small group and they always tell me: "You all have very progressive senators."

And I want to say about Senator Wyden...There is a cost to freedom. So with all the work you are doing around those issues of freedom and the NSA. It's not a given. Don't take this for granted with all this data mining and everything else. You could end up in Guantanamo Bay and nobody knows where you are. Sen. Wyden keep up the good work.

Now let me highlight a couple of important issues.

It's 2014 but Portland's African American community continues to struggle. Child poverty, high rates of unemployment, and continued discrimination in employment, housing, education and justice are keeping Black Portlanders from achieving full equality. Just take a look at this graph showing poverty for Black people is worse here in Multnomah County than in the rest of the country. Check out the full story in The Skanner – there is one at your table.

Mr. Mayor and elected officials: Having an office of equity or a diversity plan isn't enough. We need specific action. The buck stops at the top, and we deserve results – results we can see and measure.

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Written by The Skanner
Published
Date: Jan 20, 2014
Print Issue: Month: January