

Tests

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Portland Fire & Rescue Battalion Chief Sara Boone, promoted last year, is the first African American chief officer at PF&R. She is based at Station 24, covering the Overlook/Swan Island neighborhoods.

government employee grievances as well as any effort by the City to interfere in an employee’s hiring. Their meetings are public. Next Commission Meeting, Wednesday, June 17, 9:30 a.m. at the

The City of Portland Civil Service Board does not investigate appeals of hiring decisions but “serves as the decision maker and does not act as a lawyer or advocate for any of the parties.” The current Board members are Presiding Officer Keith Pitt, Commissioner Beverly Wilkinson, and Commissioner Richard H. Schwarz. Find out more about them at

If you are a war veteran, it’s possible that you may benefit from Federal programs established to integrate the thousands of soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan back into the civilian workforce. Some states actually have rules requiring civil service job interviews be offered to qualifying veterans. Make the extra effort to check out opportunities tailored for you every time you connect with employers or attend job fairs. Companies like www.hireahero.com might have the Resources of interest to you. Check with your state department of Veterans Affairs for more on your rights.

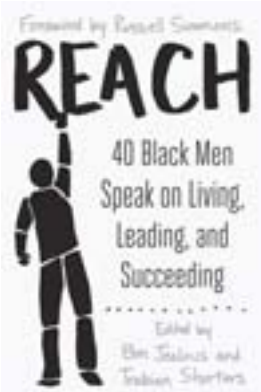
Book Review

Reach: 40 Black Men Speak on Living, Leading, and Succeeding
Edited by Ben Jealous and Traban Shorters, Foreword by Russell Simmons
By Kam Williams Special to *The Skanner News*

“I’m aware that, for black men today, racism is still an obstacle that causes tremendous anger and suffering... Whether it’s the kind of racially charged violence that led to the deaths of Trayvon Martin, Mike Brown, Jordan Davis, and countless other black, unarmed young men; or the predatory mortgages that invaded our neighborhoods; or the continuation of America’s obsession with warehousing millions of us in prisons and jails across the country—our people have been hit hard...”

No matter how great the challenge is, you must breathe deep and keep pushing through. That is what the great men in this book have done during the course of their lifetimes.” —Excerpted from the Foreword by Russell Simmons (pages xvi-xvii)

Many successful African-Americans seem to forget where they came from after they enjoy a measure of success and make it out of the ghetto. However, there are also those who remember their roots and maintain a lifelong connection to the black community. These role models serve a critical function since, as editor Ben Jealous puts it in the Introduction to the inspirational



book *Reach*, “We cannot imitate that which we have never seen, heard, or read about.” Jealous, the former President of the N A A C P , asked 40 black males, some famous,

some lesser-known, but each an everyday hero, to share his personal story of triumph in the face of adversity.

The contributors to this timely tome include rapper Talib Kweli Greene, actors Lou Gossett, Jr. and Lamman Rucker, choreographer Bill T. Jones, civil rights activists Al Sharpton and Reverend Joseph Lowery, NBA Hall of Famer Isiah Thomas, and former Obama Administration green energy czar Van Jones, to name a few. Each one’s essay opens with his portrait, age, title and a description of what community he continues to serve.

For example, singer/philanthropist John Legend reflects upon growing up in his hometown of Springfield, Ohio, where he and his siblings were homeschooled by their mom because his folks couldn’t afford the tuition for a Christian academy. He goes on to describe how he was profoundly affected by the death of his maternal grandmother when he was 10,

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We honor the many accomplishments of African Americans.

It is our primary goal as a labor union to better the lives of all people working in the building trades through advocacy, civil demonstration, and the long-held belief that workers deserve a "family wage" - fair pay for an honest day's work.



A family wage, and the benefits that go with it, not only strengthens families, but also allows our communities to become stronger, more cohesive, and more responsive to their citizens' needs.

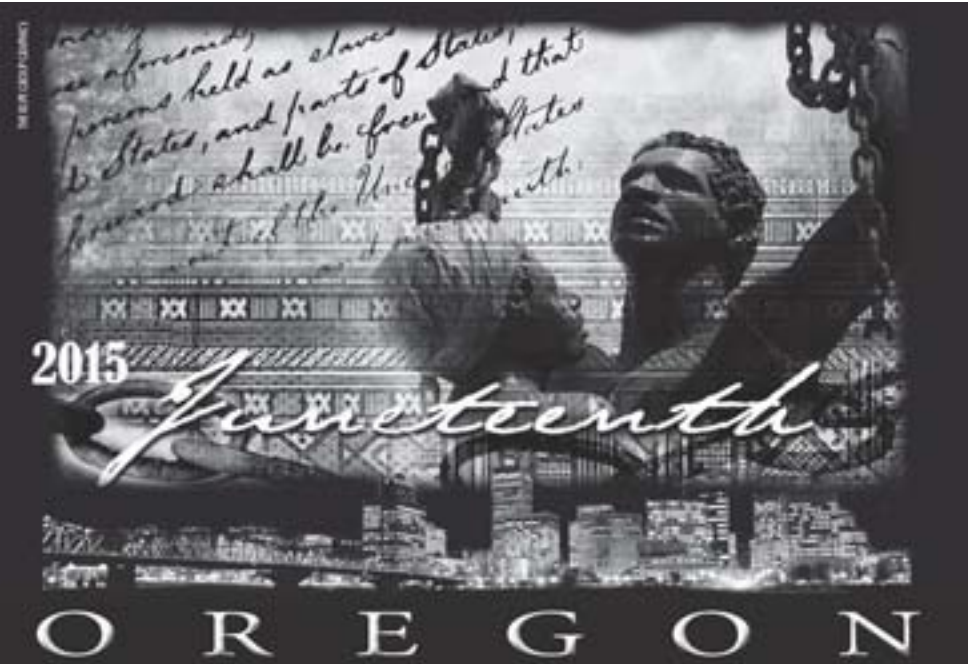
Our family wage agenda reflects our commitment to people working in the building trades, and to workers everywhere. In this small way, we are doing our part to help people achieve the American Dream. This dream that workers can hold dear regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, creed, or religious beliefs.

The Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters
Representing more than 5,000 construction workers in Oregon State.
Do you want to know more about becoming a Union carpenter?



Go to our website at www.nwcarpenters.org

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From Africa to America
150 Years of Freedom

**CLARA PEOPLE’S
FREEDOM TRAIL PARADE**
Parade begins at 11 am on MLK Jr Blvd
at N Jarrett St heading south to N Russell St.
continuing west to N Williams Avenue

Saturday June 20, 2015
Legacy Emanuel Field - N Williams Ave & N Graham St
Children’s Activities, Marketplace & Music. Meet Historical People
This is a family-friendly rain or shine event. Free to the public 12:00 Noon to 6:00 pm
For more information contact: juneteenthoregon@gmail.com

