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Study Seeks Photos

OHSU memory study to use old photos, walking tours

By Arashi Young
Of The Skanner News

Images of backyard barbecues, neighborhood parades and baptisms can all be part of a new community memory and healthy aging project from the Oregon Health & Science University.

Raina Croff, PhD, is looking for pictures of Black Portland in or around the historically Black neighborhoods of North and Northeast Portland. The photos will become part of a collection that promotes brain health through sharing memories.

Croff is developing the Sharing History through Active Reminiscence and Photo-Imagery program through the Layton Aging & Alzheimer's Disease Center at OHSU. The SHARP study is a walking program that incorporates historical photos to prompt individual and group memories of living in North and Northeast Portland.

The study is also a much-needed brain health intervention for the African-American community. Many qualitative studies have shown that African-Americans are less aware of their risk for Alzheimer's disease and less likely to seek early care – even though African-Americans have higher rates of Alzheimer's disease than their white counterparts.

As a native of Portland's African-American community, Croff has seen first-hand the effects of gentrification -- and the need to preserve memory as the familiar landmarks disappear.

"We have so much rich memory and rich culture within the African-American community in Portland and I really believe that our community memory can be used towards promoting individual memory health," she said.

Most of the photos that the SHARP program has are from the Oregon Historical Society and the Verdell Burdine and Otto G. Rutherford Family Collection at Portland State University. The two resources cover a

See OHSU on page 3

NEW QUEEN



PHOTO COURTESY OF BILL BARRY

Kahedja Burley was crowned Queen of Rosaria Saturday at Memorial Coliseum. Burley, a 17-year-old Jefferson High School student and the daughter of Mashavu Hicks and Rondale Burley, is focusing on bio-technology at Jefferson and plans to attend a four-year university outside of Oregon to study marketing.

Saadat Joins COCL Team

Longtime LGBT, civil rights activist joins police oversight effort

By Christen McCurdy
Of The Skanner News

Kathleen Saadat has come out of retirement again – this time to oversee police reform.

Now she'll be serving on the Compliance Officer/Community Liaison team overseeing reforms required by The United States vs. City of Portland settlement. The 2012 agreement was the result of a Department of Justice investigation that found Portland Police Bureau had engaged in a pattern of ex-

cessive use of force against people with mental illness. The DOJ recommended a host of reforms, including improved training as well as increased funding for mental health services, and in late 2014 the city of Portland hired Chicago-based researchers Dennis Rosenbaum and Amy Watson to oversee reform efforts. The Rosenbaum group in turn hired retired Paul De Muniz, a retired chief justice for the Oregon Supreme Court, to serve as a local point of contact. De Muniz resigned his position

in April, citing health issues. Initially mum about next steps, in May the Rosenbaum group announced Saadat had been hired to serve on COCL.

Saadat, a longtime racial justice advocate and an advocate for gay, bisexual, lesbian and transgender rights, most recently worked as affirmative action coordinator for the city of Portland. She has worked for Cascade AIDS Project, Multnomah County and the state of Oregon consulting on affirmative action and diverse hiring prac-

tices. She's also a well-known grass roots activist and organizer, helping defeat the anti-gay rights Ballot Measure 9 in 1991 and organizing Portland's first gay pride marches in the 1970s.

Saadat spoke with *The Skanner News* about her vision for the new role and what she hopes to accomplish. She noted that Portland – one of more than a dozen cities to have been investigated by the DOJ for patterns of police misconduct – is the only

See SAADAT on page 3

INDEX	
News	1,3,9,12
Opinion	2
Calendars	4,5
A & E	7,8
Bids/Classifieds	11

The Black Baccalaureate is Back

Program highlights success stories among Black youth

By Arashi Young
Of The Skanner News

Stories of success among Black youth too often go untold.

A large collaboration of Black student success and leadership organizations have come together to bring back the Black Baccalaureate program to honor African-American high school graduates from schools

around the Portland area.

The event was organized by members from the Portland African American Leadership Forum, Self Enhancement, Inc., Black Male Achievement, Black Education Achievement Movement and other community-based organizations.

A graduate reception will be held at 3 p.m. at Portland Bible College in Northeast Portland and the baccalaureate ceremony begins

at 4 p.m. Interested graduates should contact BlackBaccOregon@gmail.com.

Antoinette Edwards, director of the Office of Youth Violence Prevention and event organizer, said honoring youth is an important way to strengthen the community.

"It is that reclaiming the village and bring-

See BACCALAUREATE on page 3