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## ACLU Looks at Bills

The advocacy group discusses this session's hot-button bills

By Arashi Young  
Of The Skanner News

Propelled by the deaths of Eric Garner, Tamir Rice, Michael Brown, Walter Scott, Freddie Gray and others, the Black Lives Matter movement has made police accountability a national discussion.

This session, the Oregon Legislature responded by passing a number of bills that protect civil rights and increase police transparency. *The Skanner News* contacted the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon to discuss these new laws and what they mean for Oregonians.

The new police accountability bills that have been signed into law are:

House Bill 2002 B--expands the definition of profiling and requires law enforcement agencies to adopt written policies on profiling. The bill creates a system for reporting complaints and a way to analyze grievances.

House Bill 2571 B--creates rules about the use of body-worn cameras by police.

House Bill 2704--allows the recording of conversations of police officers when they are performing official duties.

Senate Bill 641--co-sponsored by the ACLU of Oregon, requires law enforcement to obtain a warrant before accessing data stored on a cell phone and information about cell phone location.

All three house bills were sponsored by Rep. Lew Frederick, who represents North and Northeast Portland.

Kimberly McCullough, the legislative director for the ACLU of Oregon, said the bills check authority with increased accountability.

"We entrust police officers with extraordinary authority, including the ability to use force when needed, even deadly force," McCullough said. "This authority must be balanced with transparency and accountability in order to deter and expose misconduct, protect individual rights and liberties, and promote public safety."

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# HEAT WAVES



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

People gathered at swimming areas along Lake Washington Sunday, July 19 to get some relief from another hot day in Seattle. The 95-degree day was the 8th day in the 90s this year. The record is 9 and it was set in 1958. Fortunately for most Seattleites, a cooling trend is coming and the temperatures are supposed to be in the mid-to-high seventies for the next 10 days or so.

## Promoting Black Entrepreneurship

Workshops provide inside knowledge to aspiring business owners

By Donovan M. Smith  
Of The Skanner News

Go to school. Get a job. Make a career.

It's the most commonly promoted path for the American worker. But Self Enhancement Inc. has a different message this summer: work for yourself.

"Be Your Own Boss" is the title of an in-progress workshop series the North Portland non-profit is offering this summer to empower Black Americans with the knowledge necessary to be

a successful entrepreneur in today's field.

"I think it's just really important to give opportunities, just kind of leveling that playing field of access to opportunities to be your own boss, to start your own business," said Melissa Hicks, community and family programs supervisor at Self Enhancement Inc.

SEI filled all 20 of its available spots within hours of announcing the program last month, according to Hicks.

Workshop topics include transforming an idea to a busi-

ness, marketing, reaching the right customer and perhaps the most important thing in the business world: building revenue.

In addition to the program for adults, SEI is also offering entrepreneur classes at their middle and high school programs this summer. In the program titled Black Oregon Social Startup Innovators (or "BOSSI"), students will create their own logo and poster for the business along with an executive summary of their mission all of which will be also on display during the pitch fest.

Twenty high school students will spend a month learning about the unique business opportunities available to Oregonians, and subsequently use that knowledge to create their own imaginary startup, complete with a business plan.

The startups will then be pitched to area professionals, in an event mirroring the popular ABC television series "Shark Tank," on Aug. 4 at Self Enhancement Inc., in an event that is free and open to the public.

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## Mural Shows Legacy of Black Women

Painting called a testament to Black United Fund's staying power

By Donovan M. Smith  
Of The Skanner News

Not much about the Black United Fund of Oregon's building on Alberta Street makes it jump out as the powerful civic and economic conduit that it is.

But a new mural, highlighting the contributions of several female African-American

freedom fight, may help to change that.

The nearly 25-foot by 100-foot piece pays homage to freedom fighters through the generations, with depictions of activists, leaders and artists including Ruby Bridges, Angela Davis, Coretta Scott King, Ruby Dee and Maya Angelou.

To Angelou's left stands a young girl looking at the dynamic women. She represents the continuation of leadership across time, according to Black United Fund executive

director, Kimberlee Sheng, who also oversaw the image's creative direction.

"I felt whatever we did [had to be] really significant in terms of this neighborhood, the history of the Black United Fund and just the grit and determination we've had to exhibit in order to push through," Sheng said.

Furthermore, Sheng said, the work of

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