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City Hall Debates Ban the Box

Ordinance would remove questions about criminal history from applications

By Donovan M. Smith
Of The Skanner News

The fight for tougher Ban the Box protections continued in a City Hall hearing last Wednesday.

Advocates from a number of different organizations testified in front of City Council Nov. 18 in favor of local leadership adopting a new city ordinance that would require prospective employers to wait until a conditional job offer is extended before inquiring into their criminal background.

From there, employers must determine whether any offenses on the candidate's record are relevant to the job.

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AP PHOTO/PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVIAIS
President Barack Obama and French President Francois Hollande at the end of their news conference in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2015.

World News Briefs

Solidarity against ISIS
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Movies Opening this Thanksgiving Day Weekend

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FOOD BRIGADE



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Gino Douglas joined 350 volunteers to help assemble 550 boxes of food during the 10th Annual Seattle Basket Brigade. Thousands of pounds of food including over 500 birds were packed up November 21st at the Meadowbrook Community Center and delivered to needy families throughout Seattle.

Black Lives Matter Hosts Black Joy Event

By Arashi Young
Of The Skanner News

In August of this year, Black women and girls unapologetically celebrated their identity, heritage and skin color. The picnic was held in a city that's now considered "liberal," but is a former White utopia — a city divided between rich White people who lived in the center of the city and the poorer Black people pushed to the outskirts.

The event, called "For Black Girls Only," was held in Cape Town, South Africa.

The Black Lives Matter Portland Chapter is taking inspiration from the festival in South Africa to hold a local day of celebration and healing called "Black Joy: Self Care Saturday for Black Girls and Women."

Event organizer Ebony Oldham said the day will be a safe space centered around Blackness, community love and radical

healing. There will be food, arts and crafts at no cost to participants.

"It's a space to self-care and uplift black folks. Oftentimes we are so engaged in work because we are in a state of emergency every day that we forget to take care of ourselves and each other," Oldham said.

Black Joy will take place at The Center for Intercultural Organizing from 12 to 4 p.m. Nov. 28. The event welcomes women, girls, queer-identified women,

non-gender conforming people, transgender women and those who identify as femme.

Oldham said the space is open and accessible to as many Black women as possible, including those who don't speak English, people with disabilities and former inmates.

The Black Joy event is a Black-only celebration. For Oldham, this is fundamental to the celebration that

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A Talk With Bank of America Leader Claudia Monroy

Student Leader Program Participant Talks About Her Present, Future

By Arashi Young
Of The Skanner News

Even though Claudia Monroy was born and raised in Portland, her childhood experience has been anything but typical. Monroy's parents emigrated from Tepic Nayarit, Mexico, and she describes herself as a shy child who struggled with being a first generation Latina woman.

This summer she was chosen for Bank of America's student leaders program. The internship seeks out community-minded high school students and helps develop their leader-

ship skills through an internship and a leadership summit in Washington, D.C.

Monroy is also best friends with Hawi Hussen, another student leader (profiled by *The Skanner News* last week). We spoke with Monroy about her life, the internship and her future plans.

The Skanner News: How did you use your interest in the arts during your internship?

Claudia Monroy: Coming into the Boys and Girls Club for my internship, I didn't think there was a place

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Claudia Monroy