

Events & Announcements



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Women of Color Speak Out

Representatives from the Group Women of Color Speak Out answer questions after doing a presentation Nov. 18 at the Ethiopian Community Center. The activists discussed Climate Change and The Systems of Oppression at the event. Women of Color Speak Out is a collective of activists in Seattle, who are working to educate and inform communi-

ties on the climate crisis. The group works in collaboration and connection with Cascadia Climate Collaborative, a program of the Whidbey Institute. Cascadia Climate Collaborative’s mission is to strengthen, deepen, and broaden the bioregional climate movement. Learn more at whidbeyinstitute.org/climate.

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Volunteer commitment is four hours per month. For the full list of volunteer qualifications visit <http://www.clark.wa.gov/sheriff/community/NOW.html>. To request an application or additional information, contact the Clark County Sheriff’s Office Outreach Unit at (360) 397-2211 ext. 3380 or email sheriffcommunityoutreach@clark.wa.gov.

Seattle News Briefs

Dr. Mae Jemison Joins Gov. Inslee, Others to Discuss STEM Education

Washington STEM will convene more than 350 policy makers, business, education, and community leaders, including Gov. Jay Inslee, University of Washington President Ana Mari Cauce, and the first African American woman in space — Dr. Mae Jemison — to develop solutions and partnerships that can drive the improvement of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education for all students. The event will take place from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Dec. 1. Joining Gov. Inslee, Dr. Jemison, and President Cauce at the Summit will be leaders from companies including Microsoft and The Boeing Company, and from K-12 and higher education to discuss topics such as creating solutions to eliminate barriers to a quality STEM education, how to increase teaching and learning of computer science, and how to create clear pathways for STEM careers in Washington state. Tickets for the event start at \$100 and are sold out, but there is a wait list. To learn more about the event or be added to the wait list, visit <https://washingtonstemsummit2015.sched.org/>.

Class Action Filed Against WA Department of Corrections Over Denial of Medical Care

Four Washington prisoners, represented by Columbia Legal Services (CLS), Public Interest Law Group, and McDonald Hoague & Bayless, filed a class action lawsuit yesterday against the Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC), challenging its denial of medical care to many prisoners suffering from long-term medical conditions and chronic and substantial pain. The litigation aims to require DOC to provide necessary medical evaluations and care, recommended by the plaintiffs’ health care providers to diagnose and treat serious medical conditions. The

plaintiffs are not seeking financial compensation. Hundreds of people incarcerated in Washington State prisons are denied needed medical care for serious medical conditions on a regular basis. Many of them suffer from long-term illnesses like diabetes or orthopedic problems that involve ongoing pain. The DOC’s Care Review Committee (CRC) regularly denies these prisoners necessary evaluations and essential care and treatment, even when recommended by the patients’ own DOC medical provider. The CRC denies more than 60percent of the requests for treatment and rarely, if ever, hears directly from the patient or reviews his or her medical records. Public Interest Law Group (PILG) and MacDonald Hoague & Bayless are serving as co-counsel in this litigation. Since 2010, PILG has filed several lawsuits on behalf of individual DOC prisoners suffering from painful medical conditions that DOC healthcare providers were unable to resolve. In each case, the prisoner was denied outside medical evaluations requested or recommended by a medical provider. The attorneys have been in talks with DOC officials on the issue of medical care and hope to work collaboratively with them going forward to reach a solution to this problem.

State Awards \$5.5 Million to Increase Number of Short-Term Psychiatric Care Beds

The Washington State Department of Commerce today announced \$5.539 million in grants to seven health care providers to develop additional facilities for short-term inpatient psychiatric detention services. The state’s investment is supported with another \$93.3 million from other funding sources. The grant recipients are:

- Jefferson County Public Hospital District No.2 – Port Townsend, \$1.509 million
- Providence Mount Carmel Hospital – Colville, \$2.0 million
- Rainier Springs, LLC – Vancouver, \$5,000
- Spokane Springs, LLC – Spokane Valley, \$5,000
- US HealthVest – Marysville, \$10,000
- US HealthVest – Olympia, \$10,000
- Walla Walla General Hospital – Walla Walla, \$2.0 million

The funds are for construction and equipment costs associated with establishing facilities needed to accommodate increased psychiatric admissions as a result of changes to Washington State’s Involuntary Treatment Act (ITA) that took effect in 2012.

Community Calendar 2015

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for our 48th Annual Celebration of Oregon’s Literacy Talents at our holiday book sale and signing. Chat with over 80 authors, and make a dent in your holiday shopping by picking up perfect personalized gift, sip on hot cocoa, listen to holiday tunes and much more. Free admission. Noon – 4 p.m., Oregon Historical Society, 1200 SW Park Ave.

Seattle

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

MY MACY’S HOLIDAY PARADE: The parade includes festive floats, costumed characters and local community groups, all followed by Santa himself. 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. Downtown Seattle, 7th Ave. and Pine St., Seattle.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

70TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING: Join in the celebration for the annual Tacoma holiday tree lighting tradition. Gather for carols and photos with Santa at this free community event. 5 p.m. Pantages Theater, 901 Broadway, Tacoma.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

WESTLAKE CENTER TREE LIGHTING: Kick-off your Holiday Season with this annual tree lighting celebration, featuring a special guest appearance by Santa Claus. 5 p.m. – 7 p.m., Westlake Park, 400 Pine St.

MONDAY – WEDNESDAY, NOV. 30 – DEC. 23

HOLIDAY BOOK SALE: See web link or contact The Mountaineers for more details. Book sale hours will be , T, W, TH, F 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., www.themountaineers.org Magnuson Park, 7700 Sandpoint Way NE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING: Visit with Santa following the tree lighting ceremony, and have a hot cocoa and other treats. 6 p.m. Burlington Visitor Center, 520 E. Fairhaven Ave., Burlington.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE: Enjoy vintage holiday decorations and refreshments as you tour the Lakewood History Museum. Free and open to the public. 2 p.m., Lakewood History Museum, 6211 Mt. Tacoma Dr. SW, Lakewood.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: Participants can dine on pancakes, deliver letters and wish lists to Santa, have their pictures taken with him, all while enjoying holiday music, crafts and games. Children must be accompanied by a paid adult. \$8. 9 a.m. – 11 a.m., Cheney Boys and Girls Club, 8502 Skansie Ave., Gig Harbor.

SANTA ARRIVAL AND TREE LIGHTING: It’s a holiday wonderland at Country Village with live reindeer, caroling by local choirs all day long, gingerbread house displays – and the chance to visit with Santa himself. Santa arrives at 7 p.m., but this is an all-day event running from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. Country Village, 23718 7th Ave. SE, Bothell.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

JOY TO THE WORLDS AUTHOR EVENT: Join bestselling mystery author and Bellingham local Maia Chance at the release of Joy to the Worlds Mysterious Speculative Fiction for the holidays. There will be other authors present too. 3 p.m. – 4 p.m., University Bookstore – Bellevue location, 990 102nd Ave. NE, Bellevue.

Patients treated are individuals with a mental disorder who may be gravely disabled or pose a danger to themselves or others, and who refuse or are unable to enter treatment on their own. The grants were awarded through a competitive process conducted by Commerce, the Washington State Department of Health and Department of Social and Health Services. The projects must maintain the beds or facility for the intended use for at least 10 years.

View the Community Calendar and regularly updated News Briefs

for Seattle and Portland at