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Liberian Refugee Gets Help

Volunteers provide repairs for Moima Doe's NE Portland home

By Arashi Young
Of The Skanner News

Liberian refugee Moima Doe was struggling to maintain her aging house in Northeast Portland. After her husband died five years ago, necessary repairs — such as detached gutters and broken electrical outlets — were being neglected.

As Doe grew older, the staircases were harder to manage as her knees began to falter.

She needed help to stay in her home.

Doe said she had to walk on floors that were falling apart underneath her feet.

“My bedroom was breaking down.

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NEW COURT



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Members of the CD Panthers play basketball with Doppler the Seattle Storm's mascot before the official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Judkins Park basketball court renovation on Dec. 9. Seattle Parks and Recreation, together with community partners, renovated the Judkins Park basketball court with funding support from Seattle Neighborhood Park and the Street Fund Grant, Community Development Block Grant Funds, as well as donations from LifeWise Health Plan of Washington and Seattle Storm. The court renovation features a new professional-sized basketball court and sideline benches. The existing backboards on the smaller cross-courts remain for younger players. All three courts will have new court striping and benches on the sidelines.

Anti-Displacement Call to Action in East County

Group says early signs of gentrification present in areas past 82nd Avenue

By Donovan M. Smith
Of The Skanner News

As Portland explodes in population and popularity, it is also becoming increasingly unaffordable for many of its residents.

Along the city's outermost edges, the East Portland Action Plan group is fighting to protect some of Portland's most vulnerable populations from being displaced.

“There is no excuse to allow Portland's most vulnerable community members, families, and businesses to be eradicated from Portland,” Lore Wintergreen, a planning advocate for the East Portland Action Plan, wrote in a media release sent out last week. “East Portland has been the place Portlanders were displaced to. Now people are being driven out of East Portland. This is unacceptable, it is

shameful.”

The group, made entirely of citizen volunteers, held a press conference Monday to present research they'd conducted over the course of the past years, which they say points to early signs of gentrification in area neighborhoods.

Last week Wintergreen told *The Skanner* that when she became a volunteer for her neighborhood organization, the warning signs were already there.

“There were property owners that I spoke with that were already doing what we call the first stage of displacement, which is disinvestment,” Wintergreen told the *The Skanner*. “You already had property owners, both commercial and residential, basically saying they were not putting any money into their properties because they were going to wait for the

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Attorney Charles Bonner to Speak at MLK Breakfast

Author, Constitutional rights attorney has fought for civil rights since 1965

By Christen McCurdy
Of The Skanner News



Charles Bonner

The 30th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast will be held on Monday, Jan. 18, 2015, from 8:30 am — 10:30 a.m. at the Oregon Convention Center, 777 NE Martin Luther King Junior Blvd., in Portland.

Keynote speaker is trial lawyer, author and lifelong activist Charles Bonner. Born in Selma, Ala., 16-year-old Bonner joined the Student Non-

violent Coordinating Committee in 1963 and participated in sit-ins, marches and other actions for voting rights in the South. Two years later he became a field director for the organization. Bonner was one of hundreds who were beaten on Sunday, March 7, 1965 by Alabama State troopers, rushing the marchers on horseback, and on foot, wielding whips, nightsticks and tear gas on the Edmund Pettis Bridge during the “Bloody Sunday” Selma to Montgomery march.

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Holiday Giving

A list of organizations that could use donations of money, items or time

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Portland and Seattle events this week

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