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PARENT INVOLVEMENT



The city has adopted a plan for the distribution of \$20 million set aside for affordable housing last fall.

City Adopts Housing Strategy

Plan to give preference to those most affected by gentrification

By Donovan M. Smith
Of The Skanner News

Distribution of government dollars often makes for a contentious debate. But the pledge of \$20 million in Portland Development Commission funds for affordable housing was one of the more talked about issues in 2014.

That move — a response to concerns about affordable housing in the area — led to the adoption of the North/Northeast Housing Strategy and an accompanying oversight committee charged with creating a plan of action for the funds.

Though the Portland City Council voted unanimously Jan. 28 to adopt the plan, which details how the dollars

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Movies Opening this Week

Reviews by Kam Williams page 6

Lack of Swift Action Due to Cop Code of Silence page 9



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

South Shore School student Badhatu Abdalla is welcomed to school Feb. 8 by more than 200 Black men. The welcoming of the students kicked off a day of events celebrating National African American Parent Involvement Day. The men who participated included members of the Seattle Police and Fire departments, college professors, elected officials, parents and community members.

Will Farming be the Future of Food Justice?

Advocates ask to change food system to include more Black producers

By Arashi Young
Of The Skanner News

Conversations about African Americans and food often veer toward issues of diet, price and culture. The problem of getting low-cost, healthy food to Black communities dominates the dialogue.

At a food justice workshop in January, organizer Edward Hill urged attendees to rethink the entire food system from seed to beyond the plate. The session, "Culture, Crops, Cash, Commerce: The Future of Food Justice," proposed a

new food network that specifically benefits African Americans.

Hill, the executive director of the non-profit organization Groundwork Portland, said food justice has to push beyond food access efforts.

"Food justice seeks to ensure the benefits and the risks of where and when and how food is grown, produced, transported, distributed, accessed... are eaten and shared fairly," Hill said.

He went on to describe the current food system as a network of food businesses. These are farms,

food processing plants, restaurants, distributors, farmer's markets, grocery stores, consumers and waste management industries.

"Those are all industries. It's all money. It's probably half the world's economy right there in all of those associated opportunities," Hill said.

But these opportunities aren't distributed equally along race and gender lines. According to a 2011 report, "The Color of Food," from the Applied Research Center, women and people of color are overrepresented in low-wage jobs in the

food system, holding jobs such as food servers and factory workers in food processing plants. White men dominate the higher paying management and ownership roles in the food network.

For African Americans, the legacy of slavery and Jim Crow directly affects the present day food system. In the work session, Hill talked about the historical obstacles affecting Black farmers.

Hill said there were 100,000 Black farmers who were farming more than 15

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Event to Honor First Heart Donor

Fundraiser pays homage to Black History Month and Bobby Olive, who donated his heart in 1985

By Christen McCurdy
Of The Skanner News

When Belinda Olive-Beltran lost her brother in 1985, she didn't expect to gain another family in the process.

Bobby Olive was shot at the age of 27 during an apartment burglary, but had been struggling to turn his life around. A father of three with a pregnant fiancée, Olive was about to

start a new job when he died.

"He was in the wrong place at the wrong time," Olive-Beltran told *The Skanner News*.

When doctors told Olive's mother, Martha Van Arsdale, that her son's brain had died, they also said there was a man who was waiting for a heart donation and could die soon if he didn't receive a heart for transplant.

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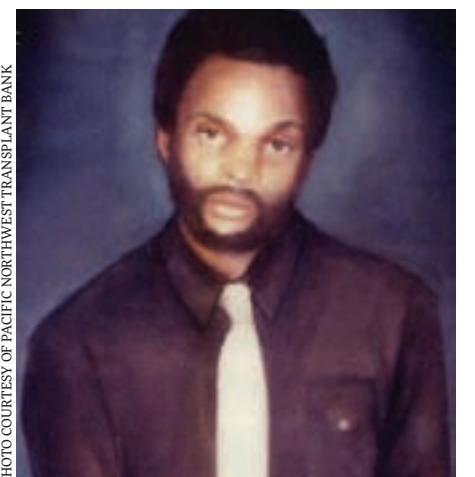


PHOTO COURTESY OF PACIFIC NORTHWEST TRANSPLANT BANK

Bobby Olive, who died in 1985, was Oregon's first heart donor.