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Interview

cont'd from pg 7

KW: What message do you think people will take away from the book? What did you hope to achieve by publishing the book?

MON: There were a few reasons why I wrote the book. One was that I wanted to tell my story myself, and not have others tell it for me. Another was that I felt my family is nebulous in many ways. A lot of people don't understand it. It represents change which can be frightening to many people. I wanted people to know about the Obama family and where we come from, with a lineage traced back to the 17th Century. I think that's a service the country needs to know. The other thing I wanted to talk about is the experience of being mixed-race. Many Americans, and more and more people around the world are going through this globalization of race, culture and religion. And we're discovering that we don't represent just one culture, but two or three. Growing up as a mixed-race kid was a very bumpy road, and I wanted to share how that

experience helped form my identity, hoping that it might serve as a lesson for the kids of the world who are closer and closer physically as well as intellectually.

KW: I found your writing intense and moving, especially that chapter about the loss of your brother, David.

MON: Thank you so much. That was a tribute to my brother. I wanted to make sure that no one forgot him. He was the closest to me in many ways. We had the same mom and the same dad. In that chapter and the one on my step-father I try to pay my respects to two remarkable people. Part of my purpose was to express the humanity of these wonderful people in my family.

KW: Well, you certainly succeeded. But you also succeeded in painting your biological father as a monster.

MON: He was tortured. For a long time, I felt that it wasn't a big deal, until I appreciated its effects on my life. For a long time, I couldn't remember anything good about my father. That was one of my reasons for writing the book. How can a child actually not remember one good thing about his

father? I would really try to, Kam, but I couldn't.

KW: What inspired you to write about him anyway?

MON: The pride that Barack inspired in me about the Obama family once again. That rush of elation and that sense of being a part of something bigger than myself was unmistakable. For all of Barack's flaws and shortcomings, his ability to inspire people is amazing. Then, as I was writing, I felt like I couldn't write about a father who was so one-dimensional. And in the process of researching more about him, I imagined his good points, I came to a sort of resolution, and I also came to understand a little bit more about myself.

Still, there was something so raw about that chapter that I couldn't read it after I wrote it. It's so emotional for me, but it was something that needed to be said.

KW: You have a way with words. For instance, it was very vivid how you described Barack's smelling like cigarettes and his callousness.

MON: [Laughs] Details are important. I realize that people find it strange when I talk about my brother in physical detail. But I don't see him as the President. I see him as a brother. That's the fundamental difference in perspective between me and the vast majority of the people I interact with. When he steps off a plane, I might

notice the bags under his eyes. Some people feel you shouldn't point that out about a president. You've got me going, Kam. [Laughs heartily]

KW: Cousin Leon Marquis says: I didn't even know Barack had a brother. How'd you get a name like Mark when your brother is named Barack? Did you Americanize it, like when Barack called himself Barry?

MON: When I was born, my father, being a member of the Luo

tribe, wanted to give me a Luo name. He called me Okoth. But my mother, from the outset, wanted to give me a Western name, too. She took Mark from the Bible.

KW: Professor/Author Dinesh Sharma asks: Do you feel that growing up with parents from two different cultures shaped you in any important ways?

Read the rest of this interview at TheSkanner.com

HR ADMIN/RECRUITMENT SPECIALIST

United Way of the Columbia-Willamette is hiring an HR Admin/Recruitment Specialist. Hiring range: \$35,100 to \$41,217, DOE. For more info and to apply: www.united-way-pdx.org/careers. Position open until filled; resume review will begin immediately. Equal Opportunity Employer

7-13-16

MARKETING COORDINATOR—INTERNATIONAL TOURISM

The purpose of Marketing Coordinator—International Tourism position is to support and execute Travel Portland's international marketing efforts that target leisure consumers and the travel trade. This position will participate in the development of marketing programs and consumer-facing special projects in identified international locations. The Marketing Coordinator will also serve as the primary, day-to-day contact for internal stakeholders and external vendors in order to create and provide marketing tools – advertising, direct-mail, lead-generation programs, collateral material, tradeshow booths, etc. – that support the International Tourism Department. To apply visit www.travelportland.com. The position closes at 5:00 pm, July 25th.

7-20-16



PCRI IS HIRING!

Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives is a non-profit community development corporation with a mission "to preserve, expand and manage affordable housing in the City of Portland and provide access to and advocacy for services to our residents." We are currently having several open positions in our Fiscal, Administrative, Resident Services, Property Management and Housing Development Departments. PCRI is growing and we are looking for motivated candidates who will join our team to serve our residents. See full description, qualifications, and application instructions at <http://www.pcrihome.org/jobs>. PCRI is an EEO employer committed to the inclusion of all people in our workplace and programs. Please note that only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

7-13-16



SUBSIDIZED HOUSING

Hawthorne East Apartments, located in Portland, offers subsidized housing for seniors and people with disabilities.

We are currently accepting applications for our newly remodeled, spacious one bedroom apartment homes. Come by for a personalized tour of our community or contact the office for more information: (503) 230-0306. 1420 SE 16th Ave, Portland, OR 97214

7-13-16



RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITATOR DAY CARE TEACHER

LifeWorks NW's Project Network program is hiring for the following positions: - Residential Care Facilitator - Day Care Teacher APPLY AT: Careers page of www.lifeworks-nw.org LifeWorks NW believes that diversity strengthens our workforce and empowers our community. LifeWorks NW is an EEO/AA employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, veteran status, or any other status in accordance with law.

7-13-16

INVITATION TO BID

CITY OF FOREST GROVE, OREGON FIRWOOD LANE SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT CDBG #7108

Sealed bids for the Firwood Lane Sanitary Sewer Extension Project will be received at the office of the Administrative Services Director of the City of Forest Grove, 1924 Council Street, P.O. Box 326, Forest Grove, OR 97116, until BID CLOSING at 10:00AM, local time, on July 28, 2016. No bids will be received after the BID CLOSING time. Bids will be publicly opened and read at the above mentioned location and date at 2:00PM local time.

This is a sanitary sewer construction project with work consisting of approximately: 1200 LF of 8"-10" diameter sewer main line, 4 manholes 8'-20' deep, 1600 LF of 4"-6" diameter side sewer piping with connections to existing buildings, and trench resurfacing.

Plans and specifications may be examined at the office of the City of Forest Grove Engineering Department, 1928 Council Street, Forest Grove, OR 97116. A copy of said documents may be obtained at the above location/address upon payment of a \$65.00 non-refundable fee (cash or check only).

For more information regarding this project, contact Nick Kelsay, Project Engineer, at 503-992-3228.

7-13-16

SUB-BIDS REQUESTED

UO Chapman Hall Renovation –
Demo Package
East 13th Ave
Eugene, OR 97403

Bids Due: August 3, 2016 – 3:00PM

Job Walk: Wednesday, July 20th – 2:00PM
Pre-Bid RFIs Due: Friday, July 22nd – 12:00PM
Construction starts September 21st, 2016

Phase 1 Demo Package - Soft and hard interior demo. Full MEPF system removal.



1705 SW Taylor Street, Suite 200
Portland OR 97205

Contact accepting bids: Natasha Carroll
Natasha.Carroll@fortisconstruction.com

Phone: 503-459-4477
Fax: 503-459-4478

OR CCB#155766

Bid documents are available for review at the Fortis office and at local plan centers.

We are an equal opportunity employer and request sub bids from minority, women, disadvantaged, and emerging small business enterprises.

7-20-16

Obituary: Carmon Cunningham

May 30, 1954 - June 21, 2016

Carmon Cunningham, a loving father, husband, brother and friend who was highly loved and respected by members of the community with whom he worked, has died at the age of 62.

He was born on May 30, 1954 to Melvia and Roosevelt Cunningham. He graduated from John Adams High School in northeast Portland in 1972, and earned a bachelor's degree in economics at Pacific University in Forest Grove in 1976. At Pacific, he was known for starting the Concerned Black Students organization and also for his role as a DJ for the college radio station.

He received his Master's in Business Administration from Boston University in 1991. In 1995, he became the director of alumni relations for the Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. While at MIT, he met his wife, Paul T. Hammond Cunningham, and they married on Sept. 9, 2000 and moved to Newton, Mass.

He became the vice president of communications and technology for the Boston non-profit, Jobs for the Future, working to increase the education and training level of young adults.

He opened the Cleaner Spot, a dry cleaners in Wilmington, Mass., with three locations. He also serviced as president of the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce.

He is survived by his wife Paula; son Dante; daughter-in-law Rathana Bun; stepson James Hammond, mother Melvia Cunningham, and two brothers, Gerald and Derwin Cunningham. He also leaves behind several cousins, nieces and nephews, and multiple friends from every phase of his life.