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WORLD DANCE PARTY



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Mula Reda demonstrates traditional Amharic Dance at the World Dance Party Nov. 18 at Meadowbrook Community Center. The event was made possible by the Seattle Parks District Recreation 4 All Initiative and organized in partnership with The Seattle Public Library, Lake City Future Fund, and several other community organizations. Neighbors enjoyed a potluck and the opportunity to learn dances from all over the world.

Companies Expand Services for Unbanked

Credit unions seek to tailor their offerings for people who don't have access to traditional bank accounts, credit or other banking services

By Christen McCurdy
Of The Skanner News

A Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation report released earlier this fall reported a decrease in the number of people nationwide without access to basic financial services — but said the number of unbanked Portlanders is up.

In the Portland area in 2015, 23.6 percent of households did not have an account with a traditional financial institution. That

number is up from 20.5 percent, the number released in 2013. Statewide the number is higher, with 25.6 reporting access to a lack of traditional banking services, up from 21.6 percent in 2013.

The FDIC did not break out demographic data for specific regions, but its survey did find that racial minorities, especially African Americans and Latinos, tended to have higher rates of being unbanked. (The unbanked rate among Black households de-

creased from 20.6 percent in 2013 to 18.2 percent in 2015 — but Black Americans are still more likely to be without a bank account than the general population.) Approximately 24.5 million U.S. households, composed of 51.1 million adults and 16.3 million children — or about 20 percent of households were did not have bank accounts in 2015, unchanged from 2013.

The FDIC also tracks the number of “underbanked” households — defined as

having a checking or savings account and using one of the following products or services from an alternative financial services provider in the last 12 months: money orders, check cashing, international remittances, payday loans, refund anticipation loans, rent-to-own services, pawn shop loans or auto title loans.

Lower-income people, people with less education and people with dis-

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Black Unemployment Rate Is Up

Among adults 20 years and older, Black men suffered the biggest setback in October

By Freddie Allen
NNPA Newswire Managing Editor

Black workers lost ground last month, as the unemployment rate increased from 8.3 percent in September to 8.6 percent in October, according to the latest jobs report from the Labor Department.

October was a bad month for Black workers, in general. Not only did the share of Black workers in the labor

force slide, the share of Blacks who held jobs (employment-population ratio) also declined. The employment-population ratio for Blacks decreased from 56.8 percent in September to 56.5 percent in October.

The White unemployment rate improved slightly from the 4.4 percent mark set in September to 4.3 percent in October. The labor force participation rate for White workers ticked

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PHOTO COURTESY OF NNPA

The unemployment rate for Black workers increased from 8.3 percent to 8.6 percent in October, and the change in rate of unemployment for Black men was even worse — from 8.2 percent in September to 8.7 percent in October.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Octaviano Merecias and Raahi Reddy testify at last week's meeting of Portland Public School's board of education. The board passed a resolution last week saying it would not assist immigration officials in finding information about students or families who may be undocumented.

PPS Adopts Sanctuary Campus Resolution

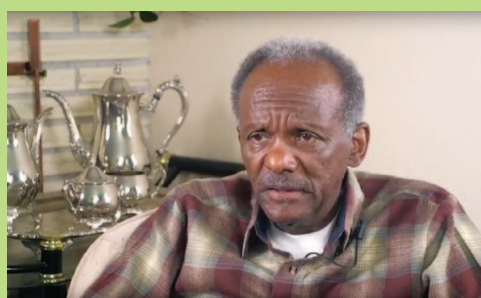
Schools won't help immigration officials get information on students

By Arashi Young
Of The Skanner News

In the wake of the election of Donald Trump, Portland Public Schools voted to make it harder for immigration officials to seek out undocumented students and families.

Thursday night the PPS board of education unanimously passed a resolution protecting community members from the U.S. Immigration and Customs

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Vanport survivor Curnel Walden speaks to documentary producers about the 1948 flood and his family's rush to get out of the house before the waters hit.

FILM REVIEW: 'The Wake of Vanport'

Kam reviews the latest in the series page 7

Easy Retirement? page 8