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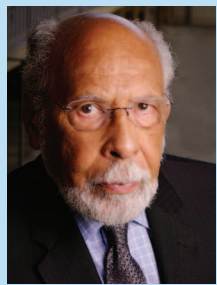


Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast 2016

## Moore to Speak at MLK Breakfast

Civil rights lawyer to speak on MLK's vision, predictions

By Christen McCurdy  
For The Skanner News



Howard Moore

**O**akland-based civil rights attorney Howard Moore, whose clients have included Angela Davis and Julian Bond will speak at The Skanner Foundation's

31st annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast Jan. 16.

He told *The Skanner* he intends to talk about the aspects of life Martin Luther

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AP PHOTO/CARLOS OSORIO

Flint, Mich., Mayor Karen Weaver listens as Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette addresses a news conference, Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2016 in Flint, Mich., where he charged two former State of Michigan Emergency Managers with multiple 20-year felonies for their failure to protect the citizens of Flint from health hazards caused by contaminated drinking water.

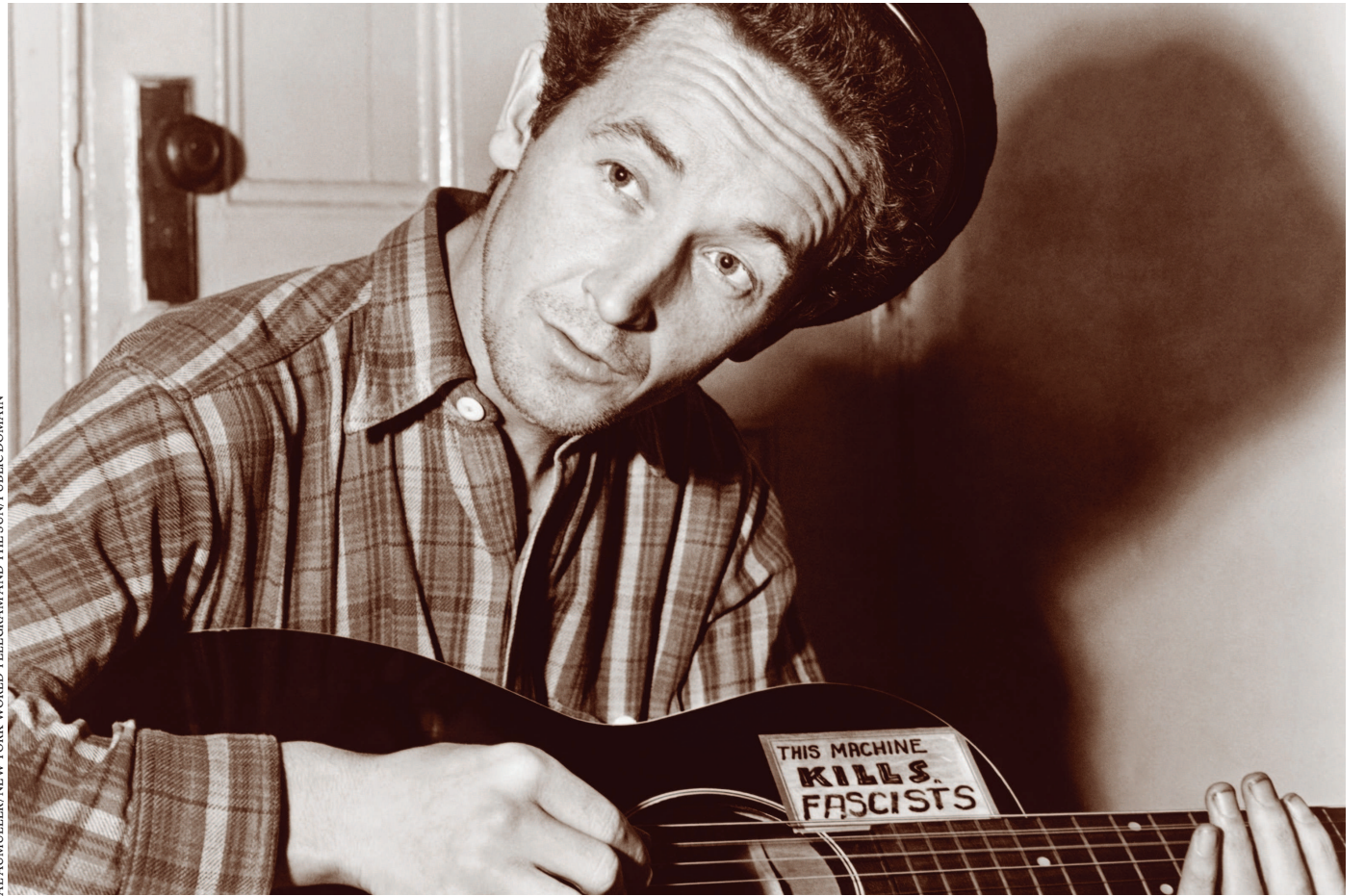
## Charges Filed in Flint

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## New Movies Opening for This Holiday Weekend

page 6

# VANPORT'S FLOOD



ALAN MULLER/NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM AND THE SUN/PUBLIC DOMAIN

Folksinger Woody Guthrie, the one-time Northwest resident known for writing "This Land is Your Land" and other classic American folk songs, wrote a never-recorded, recently-unearthed song chronicling the Vanport flood.

## Lost Song Tells Story of 'Vanport's Flood'

Woody Guthrie's song was published in 1963, but forgotten until recently

By Thacher Schmid  
For The Skanner News

**I**n 1948, America's greatest folk musician, Woody Guthrie – known for "This Land Is Your Land" and numerous other songs about American life and the plight of working people – penned a piercing ballad about Oregon's worst disaster, Vanport.

"Vanport's Flood," he called it.

The song is the only known Guthrie song about the Pacific Northwest outside of the "Roll On" Columbia River songs he wrote for the Bonneville Power

Administration (BPA), Guthrie experts say. It also may be one of his last important creative efforts before Huntington's Disease took its toll on his ability to write and play music.

Vanport historians say its lyrics touch on important, still-controversial truths about the Vanport tragedy.

The song was lost to history after its publication in a long out-of-print 1963 songbook, even as Vanport and Guthrie have remained noteworthy.

Portland Mayor Charlie Hales declared May 30, 2016 a "Vanport Day of Remembrance," and there

will be a second in 2017. There's been an article in the *Smithsonian Magazine*, The Skanner Foundation's documentary series called the "Wake of Vanport" and events by Vanport Mosaic. Zita Podany authored a book of photos, and Portland Community College professor James Harrison is working on a history.

The sheet music was published in "The Nearly Complete Collection of Woody Guthrie Folk Songs," by Ludlow Music, copyrighted 1963. The Woody Guthrie Center shared sheet music after a reporter investigated a throwaway reference in a 1969 Orego-

nian story.

"I had never known that this had ever been published in any form," Seattle musician and former BMI Foundation / Guthrie archives fellow Joe Seamons said. Seamons shared a copy of Guthrie's original typewritten lyrics, but didn't know of the published sheet music.

### Evocative lyrics stun survivors

Sitting in a Northeast Portland cafe and staring at the sheet music, Vanport survivor and community liaison for diversity initiatives at Portland State

See SONG on page 3

## Council Votes for Inclusionary Housing Ordinances

Program would dedicate a percentage of housing to renters making less than median income

By The Skanner News Staff

**T**he Portland City Council passed two ordinances Wednesday morning creating a program that would require developers to include less expensive housing in multi-family buildings of 20 units or more.

Last week the council approved a series of amendments to the ordinance, clearing the way for a coun-

cil vote this week, though a hearing on the ordinance scheduled for last Thursday was cancelled due to inclement weather.

"This may need to be tuned. It may not work perfectly in the marketplace, but the council has the opportunity to do that tuning as they have in the past," Mayor Hales said at Wednesday's meeting.

The ordinances, which would be-

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PHOTO COURTESY OF DAN SALTZMAN

The Portland City Council voted Wednesday to approve an inclusionary housing program, spearheaded by housing commissioner Dan Saltzman, that requires a percentage of new units to be affordable to renters with below-median incomes.