

Events & Announcements**#Earth2Trump Roadshow of Resistance**

Aji Piper 16, waits to be introduced at the #Earth2Trump Roadshow of Resistance, Monday January 2nd at Washington Hall. The roadshow is stopping in 16 cities on its way to protest the presidential inauguration Jan. 20. Aji Piper, a young environmental activist is a plaintiff along with several other young people in a law suit against the Trump (originally the Obama) administration for failing to adequately protect them and future generations from the harmful effects of climate change.

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community connections and ways in which participants will be connected to access to capital and financial literacy.

The SBA will award the prizes to organizations through the online competition platform, www.challenge.gov. The competition is open to all for-profit and non-profit entities and organizations, and they must have an account in the System for Award Management (SAM).

The submission period opens December 29, 2016 and will end on Feb. 12, 2017. The SBA anticipates that winners will be announced no later than March 14, 2017.

Educational Series Targeted Toward Caregivers of Children with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities

The Washington County Developmental Disabilities program has opened registration for Powerful Tools for Caregivers, a six-week educational series for people caring for a child with an intellectual or developmental disability.

The classes take place on Wednesdays, Jan. 25 through March 1, from 10-11:30 a.m., at the Washington Street Conference Center, located at 225 S First Avenue in Hillsboro.

This educational series is designed to help unpaid family caregivers take care of themselves while caring for a child with an intellectual or developmental disability. Participants will learn how to reduce personal stress, communicate their needs effectively in challenging situations, deal with difficult emotions, and make tough caregiving decisions.

The class is appropriate and beneficial for parents, siblings and other unpaid caregivers who are caring for a child living in their family home.

There is a suggested donation of \$30 to help defray the cost of the book, but payment is not required to attend the class.

Class size is limited, and registration is required by calling (503) 846-3132.

Seattle Briefs**DFI Warns of Debt Collection Scam**

The Washington State Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) has received a complaint of what appears to be a debt collection scam.

The consumer reported receiving threatening calls from a company claiming to be "GM & Associates." GM & Associates threatened to garnish the consumer's wages if the consumer did not pay on an alleged debt with Riverside Financial. The consumer request-

ed proof of the debt but GM & Associates refused to provide any. The consumer reported never obtaining a loan with Riverside Financial.

DFI warns consumers to never give any nonpublic person information, such as social security number, credit card, or bank account information to any individual, website, or company without first verifying their identity and license status. Consumers can determine whether a financial services company or individual is properly licensed to conduct business in the State of Washington by using the "Verify a License" feature on the DFI's website at www.dfi.wa.gov. Consumers can also check license status with the Department of Licensing at www.dol.wa.gov.

GM & Associates is not licensed by DFI. They are also not licensed as collection agency by the Washington State Department of Licensing.

If you received a loan from a lender or owed money to a business and someone other than the lender or business is now attempting to collect from you, the collection activity may be subject to the federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA). If you receive a communication from a party claiming that a debt is owed, you should request a "written validation notice," which must include the amount of the debt, the name of the creditor you owe, and your rights under the FDCPA. If you have questions regarding debt collection laws, contact the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP, or online at www.ftc.gov.

If someone threatens to garnish your wages, contact your employer, or uses threatening, intimidating, or offensive language, report such actions to state and federal regulators. See below for how to contact the appropriate state and federal regulator.

Washington State residents only: If you suspect illegal or fraudulent activity involving a financial product or service, please contact the Department at 1-877-RING-DFI (746-4334), or online at www.dfi.wa.gov.

If you feel you have been the victim of a scam please contact the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-FTC-HELP (382-4357) or online at www.ftc.gov; or contact the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (855) 411-CFPB (2372) or online at www.consumerfinance.gov. You may also wish to contact the Office of the Attorney general at www.atg.wa.gov.

If you feel you have been the victim of a scam involving the internet please contact the Internet Crime Complaint Center online at www.ic3.gov.

If you live in another state, go to this webpage to find the regulator in your home state. <http://mortgage.nationwidelicencingssystem.org/consumer/Pages/AgencyContacts.aspx>.

If you feel you have been the victim of a financial scam and are concerned about your personal financial information, contact your banking institution and the three major credit bureaus. Procedures for contacting the credit bureaus are available on the FTC's website at www.ftc.gov.

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admission. Free admission for students. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Town Hall, Great Hall, 1119 Eighth Ave, at Seneca St.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

FRIENDS OF FREELAND LIBRARY USED BOOK SALE: Large selection of great books for all ages at bargain prices. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Freeland Library. 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. at the Library, 5495 Harbor St., Freeland.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

ARTVENTURE: TOY TRANSFORMATION! WITH MICHELLE HAGEWOOD: How do toys reflect who we are? Bring a toy or dig through a collection of oddities to build a new doll, vehicle or something else fun. Free. 1 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., Henry Art Gallery, 4100 15th Ave. NE.

30 AMERICANS FREE COMMUNITY FESTIVAL: Come celebrate 30 Americans with art-making, music and performances! Free. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Tacoma Art Museum, 1701 Pacific Ave., Tacoma.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP: RESUME BUILDING: This soup-to-nuts presentation will help you understand what employers are looking for and how to provide it. Come learn how to build your successful resume. 1:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m., Ballard Library, 5614 22nd Ave. NW.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12

30TH ANNUAL MLK CELEBRATION: Please join us for the annual King County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration. Now in its 30th year, the MLK celebration recognizes the impact that Dr. King had on our community and our nation. The 2017 celebration will be held at noon at the 5th Avenue Theatre, 1308 Fifth Ave.

LADIES NIGHT OUT AT COUNTRY VILLAGE: Grab your best friend and come out for an evening of relaxed shopping. Be sure to pick-up your PASSPORT and earn stamps with every \$10 or more purchase. Then enter your stamped PASSPORT to win special gift baskets. 6 p.m. - 8 p.m., Country Village Shops, 23718 Bothell Everett Highway, Bothell.

Publisher to Host Planning Meeting, Celebration for African American Business Directory

Organizers will co-host the first planning meeting to celebrate the upcoming 25th Anniversary Celebration for The African American Business Directory and Lottie Cross, Publisher.

Publishing is not an easy category in this hyperactive media world. And, according to many, Seattle is not the most recognized city for Black businesses.

What combinations and successes have brought Lottie Cross and her many supporters to this amazing milestone? Is this a lesson for all communities, for all entrepreneurs?

The open meeting and discussion will be held from - from 10:30 to 2:00 PM on Saturday, January 21, 2017 at the Seattle Public Library - Douglass-Truth Branch, located at 2300 E. Yesler Way.

Key issues for the meeting:

- 2019 Dates
- Venue
- Archives / Stories
- 25th Anniversary Edition (Print & Digital)
- Financial Planning
- Marketing Planning
- Hospitality
- Crew
- Strategic Partners
- Sponsors

Light refreshments will be served.

If you would like information about the current issue of the directory or specific publishing details, don't hesitate to contact Lottie Cross at aabd@outlook.com or (206) 324-3114.

