

Ban cont'd from pg 1

Given the speed with which the new presidential administration has moved to restrict travel, the speed of change in reaction to the ban — and the large number of travelers and legal residents the executive order has already affected — *The Skanner News* reached out to local organiza-

and has been forbidden from doing so by state law. The Multnomah County Sheriff's Office has expressed similar sentiments.

IRCO also shared information for the Southern Poverty Law Center's hate crimes database (www.splcenter.org/report-hate).

“The ACLU has created a hotline for people arriving at Portland International Airport

tions that advocate for and work with immigrant and refugee populations to compile a list of resources concerned parties should consult.

Here's what we found:

Legal Resources:

The ACLU has created a hotline for people arriving at Portland International Airport, especially travelers from the seven banned countries, to provide legal referrals and advice. Concerned travelers can contact (971) 412-2258 or email info@aclu-or.org.

The American Immigration and Lawyers Association also has a hotline for those concerned about their immigration status: (971) 412-2258.

Unite Oregon has a list of attorneys and can provide referrals.

Reporting Hate Crimes:

The Immigrant Refugee Community Organization recommends reporting hate crimes and bigoted harassment to the Portland Police Bureau — 911 for emergencies or (503) 823-3333. (The Portland Police Bureau, at a press conference with community partners from several multicultural and religious organizations, said it has never enforced federal immigration law,

Getting Involved:

IRCO has also published an action guide for those who may not be affected by immigration changes directly, but still want to take action on behalf of marginalized groups. In addition to donating to and volunteering for supportive organizations, and joining rallies and community events that support immigrant and refugee communities, the group recommends:

Hiring refugees. Small businesses and human resource directors can join the We Hire Refugees Initiative and learn best practices on hiring refugees at <http://wehirerefugees.org>.

Advocate. IRCO recommends calling local, state and national elected leaders to voice support for refugee resettlement. Concerned citizens can call 1-866-940-2439 to be connected directly with local representatives and given a short script to talk about refugee resettlement.

Educate others. IRCO points to this guide as a starting point for conversation: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/11/20/info-graphic-screening-process-refugee-entry-unit-ed-states>.

Graduation cont'd from pg 1

wraparound support services to every student enrolled at Jefferson. Presently, the Whole School Model serves roughly 400 students at the high school.

“SEI helps within the school day, but also the pieces that fall outside of that,” explained Jefferson principal Margaret Calvert of the program's after-school

“SEI helps within the school day, but also the pieces that fall outside of that

services, which include homework tutorials, computers classes, performing arts and recreation. “We've knit a pretty tight social fabric, so there's less gaps through which students can disengage from school.”

In 2016, 84 percent of Jefferson's 123 seniors received diplomas, a big leap from a 58 percent graduation rate back in 2012.

More than half of those seniors were enrolled in the SEI Whole School Mod-

el and graduated at a 98 percent rate.

All Black students in the program graduated at an 88 percent rate, outpacing Oregon's 76 percent graduation rate for White students.

Moreover, Jefferson's graduation achievements have closed the gaps between African American, Latino and White students.

“We believe that the SEI Model is the solution to the graduation rate crisis, not only in Portland Public Schools, but for our entire state,” Hopson said. “Our recent success in moving Jefferson's entire school 54 percent to 84 percent is unprecedented in our state.”

Statewide, Oregon has made recent advancements in its graduation rates, which ranked third worst in the nation in 2015, after New Mexico and Nevada.

According to data provided by the



PHOTO BY JERRY FOSTER

Champions Barbering Institute

Durrele Wickliff (left), Mickey Rattanauns, Jamaal Lane, Willie Smith and Cesar Garcia watch and learn as Kari Sims (sitting) gets a haircut at the newly-opened Champions Barbering Institute on Killingsworth. Champions is the only barbering institute in the state of Oregon licensed to a Black proprietor. For more information, visit <https://cbi.life/>.

Landlords cont'd from pg 1

ly on the heels of a unanimous vote last Thursday evening by Portland City Council, which passed an emergency ordinance that stands up for renters' protections — the boldest measure of its kind in Portland's decades long housing crisis.

Crafted by newly sworn in City Commissioner Chloe Eudaly and Mayor Ted Wheeler, the measure requires landlords to pay between \$2,900 and \$4,500 in relocation fees (depending on the number of unit rooms) when they no-cause evict their tenants or raise the rent by 10 percent or more.

Days after it was passed in Portland, some Oregon lawmakers, including House Speaker Tina Kotek and Rep. Alissa Keny-Guyer, are working to adopt the ordinance statewide under House Bill 2004.

During six hours of testimony at Portland City Hall — which included panels of housing and

homeless representatives, woeful tenants and irate landlords — city council managed to make tweaks and add exceptions to the ordinance. For example, mom and pop landlords who only manage

“My rent is now 96 percent of my income’

one unit will be exempt from paying the fees, along with landlords whose tenants pay week-to-week, and landlords who occupy the same unit as their renters.

Renters of color disproportionately harmed in crisis

Chelsea Deloney, an African American renter from inner Northeast Portland (and former Miss Black Oregon), gave personal testimony of being displaced from her 400-square-foot-apartment, for which she was paying \$900 per month. Pregnant and working two jobs, Deloney was forced to move into an apartment

with considerably higher rent.

“My rent is now 96 percent of my income,” said Deloney. “We can't afford the security deposit for a new unit. I have to choose between feeding my son and paying for the roof over my head.”

Portland's rent increases and lack of affordable housing have disproportionately impacted communities of color, low-income people, seniors, and individuals with disabilities.

According to data provided by Matthew Tschabold, policy and equity manager at the Portland Housing Bureau, almost half of all Portlanders are renters, and half of all renters make less than \$2,900 per month. Considering that the average price of a Portland rental unit is \$1,445, most are spending well over 30 percent of their income on rent.

Read more at TheSkanner.com

Oregon Department of Education, the state now rests at a 74.8 percent graduation rate, an increase of nearly three points in two years.

Even more staggering is the fact that the graduation rate for almost all historically underserved student populations increased at a faster rate than the overall graduation rate.

Highlights from ODE's report include:

- In total, Oregon graduated 1,300 more students in 2016 than in the previous year
- African American students up 3.6 points to 66.1 percent (53.3 percent in 2011)
- American Indian/Alaska Native students up 1.4 points to 56.4 percent

(50.8 percent in 2011)

- Hispanic/Latino students up 2.0 points to 69.4 percent (59.5 percent in 2011)
- Asian students up 0.5 points to 88.0 percent (80.7 percent in 2011)
- White students up 0.6 points to 76.6 percent (69.1 percent in 2011)
- Multi-Racial students up 1.7 points to 74.4 percent (69.1 percent in 2011)



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEI

At-risk youth enrolled in Self Enhancement Inc. in 2015