

Prosper Portland offers business finance programs.

PDC Becomes 'Prosper Portland'

Portland Development Commission rebrands to promote equity and inclusiveness

By Melanie Sevcenko Of The Skanner News

earing up for its 60th anniversary next year, the Portland Development Commission has revamped its image with a new name and website.

Now known as Prosper Portland, the \$200,000 rebranding effort is, according to agency spokespeople, to more clearly convey the agency's trajectory.

The change follows another public agency that ditched its traditional title for a more approachable one: in 2011, the Housing Authority of Portland became Home Forward and launched a fresher, more progressive identity.

"The word 'prosperity' really stuck as being aspirational," Prosper Portland's

See PROSPER on page 3



In this 1950s photo a black man included in a syphilis study has blood drawn by a doctor in Tuskegee, Ala. For 40 years medical workers in the segregated South withheld treatment for unsuspecting men so doctors could track the ravages of the horrid illness and dissect their bodies afterward.

The Tuskegee Study page 8

Neo-Nazi Website is Now Available in Spanish page 9

SPIRIT OF AFRICA FESTIVAL



A Somali Dance Group performs during the the 2017 Spirit of Africa Festival. The festival celebrated Africa and African culture, and featured music and dance from all over the continent including traditional music from Morocco, Zimbabwe and balafon music from Guinea, West Africa, dance from Ghana, Somalia and Ethiopia, an African Print Fashion Show and an African Market Place.

Vice Chair Rachelle Dixon on County Democrats

Dixon is vying for diverse political voices and an educated voting public

By Melanie Sevcenko Of The Skanner News

native of the Pacific Northwest, Rachelle Dixon became fascinated by politics when she moved to Washington, D.C. in 1993. As a life-long Democrat, she got her first taste of major-league politics while working on a campaign for John Kerry's political action committee. That energy carried her through two Barack Obama campaigns.

When Dixon came back to Portland in 2009, she settled down into motherhood. But after her son graduated from high school, she caught the political bug again. In 2016 she ran to be a Bernie Sanders delegate, before launching her own campaign for vice chair of the Multnomah County Democrats.

In January, Dixon took her elected seat as vice chair 1, of Dist. 50, and is one of only two African American women that have ever held an executive or administrative title for her party in Multnomah County. She sat down with *The Skanner* to discuss her role and how her party is working to resist the Trump agenda. This interview has been edited for space and clarity.

The Skanner News: How have your expectations about your seat and your party changed since you were elected last autumn?

Rachelle Dixon: The

original expectation may have been that things would be more like they are on a national level. Nothing could be further from the truth (laughs). On a national level, when you enter a room on a political action campaign, there are priorities — and the top three priorities are what everyone is focusing on. The other things are distant wishes.

Multnomah County has such diverse views among See DIXON on page 3

Voters Approve Record-Setting School Bond, Expansion of Auditor's Role

Landmark \$790 million school bond passes with 66 percent of the vote.

The Skanner News Staff

lightly more than 30 percent of Multnomah County's registered voters cast ballots in this spring's special election. Portland voters cast votes on three ballot measures: a \$790 million bond to improve facilities in Portland Public Schools, a measure authorizing the Portland City Council to change the scope of transient lodgings and an initiative to increase the city auditor's independence from the bodies it audits.

Voters throughout the county also selected new board members to oversee school boards and the board of Portland Community College. The Skanner has compiled the results of the city ballot measures, Portland Public Schools, the Multnomah Education Service District and Portland Community College director positions. For a full list of results, visit http://www.results.oregonvotes.gov.

Measure 26-189 Amends Charter to Increase Auditor's Independence From Audited Agencies



Yes, 86.42% (106,750 votes) No, 13.58% (16,772 votes) 123,522 total votes

Measure 26-194 Amends Charter Authorizing Council to Change Scope of Transient Lodgings Tax

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