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# UMOJA FEST



George J. Brown, M.D., Legacy Health president and CEO, at the project's press conference, Aug. 1, 2017.

## Legacy, Partners Launch New Project

Health services and affordable housing are slotted for the Emmanuel Hospital site

By Melanie Sevckenko  
Of The Skanner News

After close to 50 years of gentrifying historically Black neighborhoods, the city of Portland has recently announced a new development with the intent to heal Portland's relationship with its African American community.

Beginning in the 1960s, the Portland Development Commission bought and razed properties it considered "blight-

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In this July 8 file photo, Maine Secretary of State Matt Dunlap speaks during a voter registration meeting at the National Association of Secretaries of State conference in Indianapolis. A voter fraud commission established by President Donald Trump could make it easier for hackers to get voter registration information.

## World News Briefs

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## New Hope for Lifers Sentenced as a Children

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PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Ardaja Callandret, and the other cast members of the 2017 teen summer musical "The Wiz" perform a dance number from the show during the annual Umoja Fest parade Aug. 5. The parade is part of the annual Umoja Fest African Heritage Festival & Parade. This year's event was bigger than ever and featured three stages showcasing music, dance and fashion, the annual heal the Hood Basketball Tournament, a youth football jamboree, family fun village and a vendor market place. "The Wiz" will be performed at the Moore Theatre Aug. 24 through Aug. 27. The tickets are available through Ticketmaster.

## Jo Ann Hardesty to Run for Council in 2018

Former legislator, current NAACP president challenges Dan Saltzman

By Christen McCurdy  
Of The Skanner News

Jo Ann Hardesty is running for Portland City Council.

Hardesty, a former state legislator and the current president of the NAACP Portland Branch, launched a campaign site last week and announced her candidacy to local media Friday afternoon. She's running for position 3, currently occupied by Dan Saltzman.

The announcement

wasn't a surprise — she has hinted at a council run since October 2016 — but the way she announced it was.

According to stories published in *Willamette Week* and the *Portland Tribune* Friday, Hardesty visited Saltzman's office and asked him to retire and endorse her candidacy.

"I think he was a bit shocked by the question. His first question was, why him?" Hardesty told *The Skanner* Monday. There are two seats open in 2018

— positions 2 and 3 — and positions aren't geographically restricted, so candidates can run for any position on the commission. "My response was, [it's] because he's been there for a very, very, very long time and it seemed appropriate to have new leadership there."

Saltzman announced his intent to seek re-election in December. He has served on the city commission since 1999, making him the most senior of its five members.

"As I announced a couple of months ago, I am running for re-election, and I've been incredibly gratified by the support I am receiving from the community. I look forward to the campaign," he said in a written statement to *The Skanner*.

If Hardesty is elected, she would be the first woman of color ever to serve on the council. Portland has had just two commissioners of color — both Black

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## Black Male Achievement Looks for Mentors

Public event, Aug. 12 at Unthank Park, includes panels, entertainment centered on role models

By Melanie Sevckenko  
Of The Skanner News

Black Male Achievement Portland is hosting a community event Saturday to gather input on how to attract mentors for young Black men and boys.

Under Portland's Office of Equity and Human Rights, BMA works to assist and hold accountable city leaders and community stakeholders in their

efforts to boost outcomes for male Black youth.

Its strength is in its numbers, with over 20 regional organizations represented by Black men that form the BMA Portland umbrella. The group's primary work focuses on breaking down barriers to education, employment, family stability and criminal justice.

To accomplish its mission, the or-

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PHOTO COURTESY OF BMA PORTLAND

Participants of Black Male Achievement Summer Youth Experience, 2016