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# ROOTS PICNIC



Multnomah County commissioner Lori Stegmann addresses a small crowd at an immigration forum hosted by the county Friday morning.

## Advocates Eye Anti-Sanctuary Petition

IP 22 would require law enforcement to enforce immigration law

By Christen McCurdy  
Of The Skanner News

**M**at dos Santos admitted he was tense as a Friday morning community forum on immigration began.

ACLU of Oregon's legal director had joined Multnomah County Commissioner Lori Stegmann, Unite Oregon Executive Director Kayse Jama, Multnomah County Sheriff Mike Reese and CAUSA Executive Director Andrea Williams to talk about SB 4, Texas'

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In this July 20 file photo is the sign for J.E.B. Stuart High School in Falls Church, Va., named after the slaveholding Confederate general who was mortally wounded in an 1864 battle.

## Officials Address the Issue of Confederate Names on Public Schools

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## World News Briefs

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Owuor Arunga and Dadabass were part of a lineup that performed at the 45th Anniversary Roots Family Celebration Sept. 3 at Jimi Hendrix and Sam Smith Parks. The annual gathering of Seattle's Black families brought together old friends and family for a day of food and fun.

## Erika Preuitt Appointed President of American Probation and Parole Association

Preuitt vows to continue reducing racial disparities in justice community

By Melanie Sevckenko  
Of The Skanner News

**G**rowing up in Northeast Portland, Erika Preuitt always had a passion for social justice. Her mother was the first Black female police officer hired in Portland in 1973, and her father is health care advocate and blues musician Norman Sylvester.

Her paternal role models helped inform her sense of what a public servant looked like. So it's no won-

der that today Preuitt is a nationally recognized leader in community justice, with a drive to better outcomes for all people.

On Aug. 31, Preuitt was sworn in as the first African American woman president of the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA). She is also the third consecutive woman of color to take on APPA's presidency. The association provides training, education and technical expertise to the field of probation and parole,

serving 45,000 community corrections professionals nationally.

Preuitt started out as parole and probation officer with Multnomah County's Department of Community Justice (DCJ) Gang Unit, before becoming the director of the department's Adult Services Division.

In her new role as APPA president, Preuitt told *The Skanner* that she's committed to continuing her work in reducing racial disparities in the justice community, while pro-

moting diverse leadership throughout the association.

This interview has been edited for space and clarity.

**The Skanner News:** What inspired you to get into the field of community justice?

**Erika Preuitt:** I started my work in Spokane, Wash., when I graduated from Gonzaga University and worked with private

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## 'Black Girl in Suburbia' Documentary Screens Sept. 12

The documentary is part of the cultural series "We Can Listen" in downtown Portland

By Melanie Sevckenko  
Of The Skanner News

**T**he Old Church Concert Hall — a nonprofit, non-religious events venue in downtown Portland — is picking up the fall season of its educational series, "We Can Listen."

Ignited last spring in response to the Trump presidency, the free monthly series meets at the intersection of storytelling, personal expression and performing arts. It gives

Portlanders an opportunity to experience a variety of perspectives — across disciplines — on today's most important social justice topics.

Putting the power of thoughtful listening at the forefront, the cultural series aims to educate and build community around diverse voices.

"Having a program that at its core requires a person to simply sit and listen, and not voice their own opinions or try to monopolize, makes it possible for others to be heard," Amanda Stark, executive director of



"Black Girl in Suburbia" (Video still)

The Old Church, told *The Skanner*. "Racism and all isms are so embedded in our culture that we barely no-

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