

Events & Announcements

PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Special Naturalization Ceremony

Robel, 10, and his family stand for the pledge of allegiance during a special Naturalization Ceremony Feb. 1, at the Northwest African American Museum. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services celebrated the start of African American History Month by welcoming Seattle's newest citizens including Robel's father and about two dozen other people from many different countries. The new citizens were welcomed by NAAM Executive Director LaNesha DeBardelaben, several members of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Keynote Speaker Mr. Ezra Teshome, originally from Ethiopia and now a U.S. citizen and NAAM Events Manager Marie Kidhe, herself the daughter of Ugandan immigrants, congratulated the new citizens.

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Drive Benefits Kindergartners at King Elementary

Clark College has chosen Vancouver's King Elementary School as the beneficiary of its tenth annual book drive, which runs Feb. 12-28.

Over the past nine years, the Clark College Bookstore has helped provide more than 1,100 books to local kindergartners. This year's book selection is Dr. Seuss' "Green Eggs and Ham," a favorite among children for six decades. Geisel wrote the book in 1960 after a publisher dared him to write a children's story using no more than 50 words.

The community is invited to help purchase 85 copies of the Dr. Seuss classic to be given to kindergartners at King Elementary on Read Across America Day (March 2), a celebration to commemorate Geisel's birthday. Books will be read aloud to students by volunteers from the Clark College Bookstore.

Copies of the selected Dr. Seuss books are available for purchase and donation Feb. 12-28 for \$6.85 each (plus tax). Each book will include a nameplate with the donor's name.

Donors will be able to purchase books at the Bookstore or online via the Bookstore's website at www.clarkbookstore.com, making it quick and convenient to participate in the book drive.

The Clark College Bookstore is located in Gaiser Hall on the northern end of Clark's main campus. Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Driving directions and parking maps are available at www.clark.edu/maps. Information about the bookstore is available at www.clarkbookstore.com. For additional information, contact Monica Knowles at the Clark College Bookstore at (360) 992-2904.

Seattle News Briefs**Ban on Use of Criminal Records to Deny Housing Starts on Feb. 19**

The new Fair Chance Housing ordinance takes effect this February 19. The city ordinance bans the use of criminal records to consider applications for rental housing. It was passed by the Seattle City Council last year, after nearly a decade of advocacy and development by community groups, the Seattle Office for Civil Rights (OCR), and the Mayor's Office.

If you would like to learn more about the rights and requirements that the new law creates, visit <http://www.seattle.gov/civilrights/civil-rights/fair-housing/fair-chance-housing-legislation>.

If you are a landlord or a prospective tenant, you might also want to attend one of the eight training sessions sponsored by OCR and the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections. They cover

information about fair housing, deposit and move-in fees, and other regulatory ordinances related to renting in Seattle.

To register, visit www.seattle.gov/civilrights/about/news-and-events/event-calendar.

Applications Now Open for 2018 Voter Education Fund

Applications for the 2018 Voter Education Fund are now open. King County Elections and Seattle Foundation are awarding \$460,000 in grants to increase voter engagement in underserved communities.

Organizations encouraged to apply include, but are not limited to, those serving communities of color, limited-English speaking communities, people with disabilities, low-income youth, veterans, people experiencing homelessness, and people who have been convicted of a felony.

Community-based organizations can apply for up to \$20,000 to develop an ongoing campaign to engage voters or potential voters, or up to \$10,000 to provide a series of targeted events.

The application period for the 2018 Voter Education Fund is open from February 6 to March 5, 2018. Organizations interested in applying can download an application or apply online.

Information sessions will be held:

- Thursday, February 15, from 6-7:30 p.m. at Technology Access Foundation's Bethaday Community Learning Space, 605 SW 108th St, Seattle, 98146 ;
- Friday, February 23, from 10:30 a.m.-12pm at the Kent Centennial Building, First Floor Conference Room, 400 W. Gowe St, Kent, 98032 .
- Monday, February 26 from 3-4:30 p.m. at The 2100 Building, Community Room B, 2100 24th Ave S, Seattle, 98144

Donors Urged to Help the Red Cross Maintain Blood Supply

Winter storms and the flu don't just mean a lot of people are missing work and school – it also means they can't keep their American Red Cross blood and platelet donation appointments.

The Red Cross is urging healthy donors of all blood types to roll up a sleeve to help maintain the blood supply for patients in need.

In 2018, severe winter weather forced about 600 blood drives to cancel, resulting in more than 17,500 uncollected blood and platelet donations.

And, widespread flu across the United States has resulted in lower turnout at blood drives.

Make an appointment to donate this winter by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Community Calendar 2018

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

LECTURE – DIGITAL, URBAN, HUMAN: THE LIFE OF THE DIGITAL CITY: Public lecture by Myria Georgia, from the London School of Economics. What kind of subjects does the digital city produce? And what difference does digital life make to the city: Find out the answers to these questions and more information at this free lecture. 5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. ERB Memorial Union (EMU) Crater Lake North Room 146, 1395 University St., Eugene.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

VANCOUVER NAACP MONTHLY MEETING: After a short potluck, the business meeting will begin and guest will speak. We look forward to seeing you! All are welcome to the monthly meeting! 10 a.m. – noon, Vancouver Housing Authority, 2500 Main St., Vancouver.

LUNAR NEW YEAR DRAGON DANCE AND PARADE: To celebrate the Lunar New Year, The Portland Chinatown History Foundation and the OHS present the third annual Dragon Dance and Parade from Chinatown to Oregon Historical Society. Join us at the start of the parade route on NW Davis and 3rd St. for fireworks and Lion Dances and much more. 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Seattle Metro**THURSDAY – FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8 – 9**

CULTUREFEST 2018 – INTERNATIONAL EXPO: Travel the world in a day! Culturefest is a two-day event that celebrates the diversity and talent that international students bring to our campus and our region. 10:30 a.m. – 9 p.m. both days. The Husky Union Building (HUB), 4001 E. Stevens Way NE.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR & CELEBRATION: Celebrate Lunar New Year with a full day of activities for the whole family! A lion dance will bless The Wing Museum with their vibrant and energetic spirit from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Then take a passport journey through the museum, create crafts, learn about the Zodiac with a stuffed animal petting zoo, win prizes and much more! Wing Lake Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, 719 S. King St.

CELEBRATE NEIGHBOR DAY WITH RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS: Seattle Department of Neighborhoods invites all Seattle residents to celebrate Neighbor Day by indulging in random acts of kindness throughout the Seattle area.

FREE HOMEBUYER EDUCATION: Windermere Real Estate and Guild Mortgage Company have partnered with the Washington Housing & Finance Commission to help homebuyers understand both the down payment assistance loan programs and tax credits available to them. The seminars are free and we welcome your attendance. Please join us! 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Guild Mortgage Company, 150 120th NE, Bellevue..

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

LUNAR NEW YEAR IN CHINATOWN: Ring in the New Year of the Dog at this massive Lunar New Year celebration that showcases the diversity, richness of the Asia community. 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Chinatown International District.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

LEARN ABOUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING FUND: The Neighborhood Matching Fund, a program of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods is hosting a workshop for those interested in applying to the fund. This is for Neighborhoods and community groups that are interested. 6 p.m. -7:30 p.m., Mont Lake Community Center, 1618 Calhoun St.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

SOUND OFF 2018 – SEMIFINALS ROUND 2: MoPop's premier 21 and under battle of the bands supports the local music scene by giving artists of all backgrounds the opportunity to showcase original music. The winning band from each semifinal will progress to the Finals on Saturday March 3. Admission is \$9 members, \$10 students with ID, \$14 general admission. 8 p.m. Museum of Pop Culture, 325 5th Ave. N.

