

MARCH FOR OUR LIVES



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Thousands of people gathered in Seattle and nationwide March 24 to demand that more be done to address gun violence.

Living Cully Adopts Community Energy Plan

Neighborhood is launching a plan to bring clean energy to residents

By *Melanie Sevckenko*
For *The Skanner News*

While the Northeast Portland neighborhood of Cully was gearing up to release its new plan on tackling clean energy, disaster struck. On March 12, a five-alarm fire erupted at NW Metals, an auto salvage yard near Northeast 75th Avenue and Killingsworth Street. Thousands were ordered to evacuate the area while dark, billowing smoke polluted the skies above. According to Portland Fire and Rescue, close to 10 families lost their homes.

Within a week of the cri-

sis, the collective known as Living Cully introduced Living Cully Community Energy Plan, a strategy that — in the wake of the scarp yard fire — underscores the need to bring renewable energy to communities often left out of the green economy.

A collaborative effort between Habitat for Humanity, Hacienda Community Development Corporation, the Native American Youth & Family Center and Verde, Living Cully was formed in 2010 to address disparities in the neighborhood by making environmental investments to boost outcomes in education, income, housing and

health.

Often portrayed as an undesirable region of Northeast Portland, Cully is characterized by its large lots, unpaved roads, and its highly diverse, majority low-income residents. According to Living Cully, the neighborhood includes one of the most racially and ethnically diverse census tracts in Oregon, with 13.4 percent of residents identifying as Black. It also suffers from “poor walkability, scarce access to transit, relative lack of open space, and an abundance of contaminated, post-industrial land.”

It's no surprise then that these types of neighbor-

hoods get least priority when companies and local governments are looking to invest in clean energy and climate change policies. Meanwhile, people with means living in dense urban areas are the first to reap the benefits of energy incentives and efficiency upgrades.

“The beneficiaries of our current energy policies are primarily White, middleclass or upper-income individuals,” Jo Ann Hardesty, president of the NAACP Portland branch, told *The Skanner* back in July 2017. “Low-income folks and communities of

See CULLY on page 3

Audits Find Racial Disparities in Gang Enforcement

Reports call on PPB to increase accountability and transparency

By *The Skanner News Staff*

Two audit reports released this week by the City Auditor's office call on the Portland Police Bureau to show traffic stops are effective in addressing gang violence and to increase accountability and transparency for the bureau's Gang Enforcement Team. It also found the police bureau continues to collect information about individuals' gang associations despite its discontinuation and disavowal of a similar prac-

tice last fall.

An audit of the bureau's Gang Enforcement Patrol found 59 percent of the Gang Enforcement Team's traffic stops targeted African Americans.

“Because the Police Bureau has not shown that these stops are effective, the audit recommends the Police Bureau analyze and publish data about Gang Enforcement stops,

See AUDITS on page 3

Two new audits say the Portland Police Bureau's Gang Enforcement Team hasn't demonstrated the effectiveness of traffic stops — and is still collecting information on suspected gang members.



PHOTO BY SUDIPTO SARKAR (CC BY-NC-ND) VIA FLICKR

A new ad campaign, compelled by a 2006 court ruling, requires tobacco companies to disclose information about the health effects of tobacco.

Ad Campaign Corrects the Record on Tobacco Use

Tobacco companies forced by a 2006 federal ruling to correct decades of deceptive ads

By *Christen McCurdy*
Of *The Skanner News*

It's not news that smoking tobacco has adverse effects on human health — but new information about the full scope of its effects is continuing to surface.

Newspapers all over the country — including *The Skanner* — have run advertisements in the last two months detailing additional adverse effects of smoking tobacco.

The major messages of the new ads include:

- The adverse health effects of smoking. Example of ad copy tobacco com-

See TOBACCO on page 3



COURTESY PHOTO
Davon Fisher, 16

School Shootings, One By One

The first of a two-part series on the murders of teenagers throughout the U.S. page 8

Rose Festival Princesses

page 7