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This April 21 photograph depicts a building under construction on N. Mississippi Ave. Rents in newly constructed buildings fell in 2017, according to the city's State of Housing report — but renters of color are still unable to afford rent in any neighborhood in the city.



PHOTO BY A. DAVEY (CC BY-NC-ND 2.0)

Rents Too High for Black Portlanders

State of Housing report shows most renters of color can't afford to live anywhere in the city

By Christen McCurdy
Of The Skanner News

A new report from the Portland Housing Bureau paints a bleak picture for renters of color in Portland.

The 2017 State of Housing Report, released at the end of April, contains a few encouraging signs — including signs that rents in newly constructed have decreased for the first time since the Portland Housing Bureau started publishing the report in 2015.

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TEEN SUMMER MUSICAL AUDITION



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Kids audition for the 2018 Teen Summer Musical May 5 at Rainier Beach Community Center. Dozens of kids showed up May 5 and May 6 to try out for a chance to participate in the popular program. The kids selected for the musical will begin rehearsing June 25 and will perform the musical for an audience on Aug. 16-19.

Activists Raise Money to Bail Out Black Mothers

Local campaign is part of a national movement to end money bail

By Christen McCurdy
Of The Skanner News

Portland-area activists are raising money to bail Black mothers out of jail this weekend so they can be reunited with their children for Mother's Day.

A fundraising site that was posted Monday had raised \$13,000 toward a \$25,000 goal by Wednesday morning.

The fundraiser is part of

a movement called the National Bail Out, conceived by Mary Hooks of the Atlanta-based organizing group Southerners on New Ground. The idea behind it is twofold: first, to raise funds to post bail for individuals currently in jail, and to draw scrutiny to the cash bail system, hopefully bringing about its end.

The Portland-area campaign was sparked by Gina Spencer, a nurse practitioner who moved to the

Portland area last year from Philadelphia, where she had contributed to a Mother's Day bailout campaign previously. She reached out to local activist groups to find out if something similar was happening in the Portland area this year for Mother's Day, and when she found out there wasn't, she worked with Portland's Resistance to start a local campaign.

Organizers have been in contact with the pub-

lic defender's office and have reviewed the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office rolls to generate a list of eligible women, and plan to go downtown on Friday and post bail to reunite them with their families. Average bails in Multnomah County hover around \$5,000, and the group has set a target of \$25,000 so they can help free five women for the weekend.

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New Podcast Shares Perspectives of Immigrant Youth

The three-part podcast asks immigrant students to reflect on the work of photographer Fazal Sheikh, on display at the Portland Art Museum

The Skanner News

In a unique collaboration with the Portland Art Museum and the Refugee and Immigrant Student Empowerment (RISE) Program at David Douglas High School, Portland Meet Portland has produced a three-part podcast that takes an introspective look at the photographic works of Fazal Sheikh.

Sheikh's exhibit "Common Ground"

— on display at the Portland Art Museum until May 20 — is a collection of documentary-based photographs spanning 25 years of stories and portraits from displaced people around the world.

His subjects are marked by war, ethnic and religious strife, climate crises and social banishment — at the fulcrum are human rights and dignity. Sheikh often spent months

See PODCAST on page 3



Portland Meet Portland's executive director Manuel Padilla is host of a podcast series in partnership with Portland Art Museum and IRCO's RISE Program at David Douglas High School.

TIM TAI/THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER VIA AP



Meek Mill speaks during a news conference promoting Gov. Tom Wolf's proposals to reform the criminal justice system in Philadelphia, May 3, 2018.

Rapper Seeks Criminal Justice Reform

Meek Mill's eight years of probation turned into 16 years

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Microsoft to Use AI to Assist Disabled

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