

Restaurants cont'd from pg 1

(Friday and Saturday). On Saturday and Sunday Dub's St. Johns will open for breakfast starting at 9 a.m., the Black Street Bakery vegan pop-up bakery will sell sweet and savory pastries at Jade District Night Market from 5 to 10 p.m. On Sunday, two restaurants – Naija and Epif – will host pop-up dinners prepared by Black chefs (reservations are required).

Support Black Restaurants Week started in 2015 as Black Restaurant Days, a Bay Area event imported to Portland by a local woman named Bertha Pearl, who created a Facebook event and published a map with local businesses owned or partially owned by

people who identify as Black or African American. Since then William "Dub" Travis III, the owner of Dub's St. Johns and Devra Beth have taken over promotion and organization of the event. It includes a fully fleshed out website describing different kinds of cuisines and listing restaurants relevant to each theme day.

Last year Travis told *The Skanner* that the 2015 event didn't result in a notable increase in business, but subsequent events have boosted business for Black-owned businesses in the area.

For more information, visit <http://iloveblackfood.com/support-black-restaurants-week-2018/>.

Greenway cont'd from pg 1

this month.

The bureau has a detailed slideshow presentation online for viewing at your convenience, with a chance to leave feedback. Find that slideshow at <http://openhouse.jla.us.com/lloyd-to-woodlawn-2>.

Those without computer or smartphone access can call PBOT directly and share your views of the greenway plan at (503) 823-5185.

Many are concerned that the proposed greenway would clog the streets around Albina Head Start at Northeast Fremont and 7th. It's a major intersection with the organization's main office and a large childcare facility.

So far several observers around the city are publicly suggesting that the 7th Avenue route is most popular, but it's still not too late to weigh in on the decision by filling out a comment form online or calling PBOT directly. The work is scheduled for completion over the next few years.

"Our online open house will be available on the project web site through Aug. 31 and we plan to have more meetings and other opportunities for people to engage," PBOT spokesman Dylan Rivera told *The Skanner*.

The Greenway Project would

take one street that connects the Woodlawn neighborhood to the Lloyd District – whether that's Northeast 7th or Northeast 9th or some combination of the two has not yet been officially decided – and create a slower transportation corridor for pedestrians and bikes by adding traffic features including crosswalks, a few "green boxes" painted on the street for cyclists at intersections, a new roundabout and potentially a closed-off turnaround on Northeast 7th that dead-ends on a tiny park.

Outreach is slow

“We plan to have more meetings and other opportunities for people to engage

While PBOT has held meetings and forums since February, the word on the proposed project has been slow to reach households of color. Local boosters hope more families will participate before it's too late.

"When I first heard about it I thought it wouldn't happen,"

said Darcell Dance, who lives on Northeast 9th Avenue and works on Northeast 7th Avenue.

If Northeast 7th is slowed for the greenway project it will force more traffic onto Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and other nearby streets, she said.

"Everybody I've talked to thinks that is crazy," she said. "There is a disconnect here."

Dance said she never received any mailing or notice on her door about the proposed changes, but that now she is better informed she is trying to make sure others are as well.

So far she has attended a forum at SEI and chatted at the PBOT table at Good in the Hood, but Dance is concerned that already the Northeast 7th Avenue option is being consistently described in public as the most popular.

Albina Head Start Director Ronnie Herndon says that's why he is watching this pro-



PHOTO COURTESY OF PORTLAND CENTER STAGE

'The Color Purple' to Launch Portland Center Stage's 2018-19 Season

Portland Center Stage at The Armory's 2018-2019 season launches with the Tony Award-winning musical "The Color Purple," adapted from Alice Walker's classic novel about the sisterhood, resilience and self-empowerment found in a community of Black women living in rural Georgia in the early 20th century. "The Color Purple" begins preview performances on Sept. 15, opens on Sept. 21, and runs through Oct. 28 on the U.S. Bank Main Stage. Timothy Douglas directs the production, joined by music director Darius Smith, who will bring the Grammy Award-winning score to life. Felicia Boswell (pictured) stars in the production as Celie. For more information visit www.pcs.org/purple.

cess like a hawk.

Herndon runs an organization that serves parents and staff from all over the area, which means literally hundreds of vehicles need to pull up to its doors every weekday.

He says putting the greenway on Northeast 9th Street makes more sense because it is already residential.

"When they came here to talk I took them right outside and we walked up to the corner – the main thoroughfare for Head Start is right there on the corner," Herndon said. "If they restrict traffic, it will force hundreds of cars onto King and into the neighborhoods – and it's already overcrowded."

"This would make it more

difficult for people – frankly, low-income people who are trying to use the services of Head Start," he said.

More PBOT Outreach

Rivera said the bureau is continuing to build its relationships with churches, Albina Head Start and other organizations, to make sure the word gets out on issues but also opportunities.

For example PBOT last year awarded grants to a dozen local organizations for streetscape and parks projects led by neighborhood residents, organized by Living Cully, NAYA Generations, the Urban League PDX, Rosewood Initiative and more.

Read more at TheSkanner.com

Centralia cont'd from pg 1

George Washington was born Aug. 15, 1818 in Virginia, the son of a White mother and a free man of African descent. The family story says that the birth mother gave George to a White couple, Anna and James Cochran, to be taken out of Virginia and raised as a free man.

The Cochrans adopted George and started moving to free states. First they moved with the child to Ohio, then they settled in Missouri. But in 1850, the terms of Missouri's new statehood made it a slave state; so the whole family decided to move again to avoid the chance that George could be captured and enslaved.

In 1850, Washington and the Cochrans headed across the Oregon Trail together. They arrived in Oregon, but decided to continue north towards Seattle, settling where the Chehalis and Skookumchuck Rivers meet.

Because they were White, the Cochrans were able to file a land claim. After the Washington Territory became independent of the Oregon Territory

in 1853, George was able to buy the land from his adoptive parents because the new territory did not make it illegal for

“I want to do right by my fellow men. And if I do, I'll never lose anything by it

—George Washington

African American people to own property.

Washington's genius emerged years later, when he realized that his family's land was on the path of the soon-to-be-built Northern Pacific Railroad; that's when he decided to turn it into a small city. George filed a plan with the state, then he and Mary Jane mapped out their town and named its streets (the new bronze statue of Mary Jane shows her holding a Centralia map and pointing out the streets).

By 1872 Centralia was an import-

ant stop along the railroad; it became a boomtown for transporting locally-produced timber, coal and dairy products to the rest of the world.

Centralia was officially incorporated in 1886. Mary Jane died at age 49 in 1889; George Washington was 88 years old when he passed away in 1905.

George was known to help destitute families with groceries or rent money; he also donated more of his family's land for municipal features such as parks and a library.

Mittge says the most important thing people should know about George Washington is that his personal motto was "Peace and Plenty."

"He wanted everyone to have that, and he generously helped people by giving them work, food, clothing and more," Mittge said.

"I also love this quote that we have from him as he talked with his wife and step-son about his commitment to helping their neighbors, even if it meant personal sacrifice: 'I want to do right

CENTRALIA HISTORY: Medal of Honor

Local military history buffs should start planning your trip to commemorate the life of Dexter J. Kerstetter; a World War II US Army veteran and the first son of Centralia ever named as a US Medal of Honor recipient. He is buried about 70 miles north of his hometown, in the military graveyard at Tahoma National Cemetery, 18600 SE 240th St, Kent, WA.

In 1945, Kerstetter served in Company C, 130th Infantry Regiment, 33rd Infantry Division, and is credited with leading his platoon to capture a key location in the Philippines. He had served as a cook's assistant for his entire career until suddenly grabbing a weapon and leaping into action during an attack on his comrades' position.

Kerstetter died in a boating accident in 1972, where contemporary accounts say he gave up his life to save someone else.

by my fellow men. And if I do, I'll never lose anything by it."

View more photos at TheSkanner.com