

Bombs cont'd from pg 1

paign news in an already-tense political season, which has included pitched fights over immigration, the Supreme Court and sexual violence against women.

The White House quickly condemned the attacks aimed at Democrats and perceived foes

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of the administration.

“Acts or threats of political violence have no place in the United States,” Trump said. “This egregious conduct is abhorrent.”

“That’s a very bipartisan statement,” he said.

All the confirmed bombs appeared to come from the same person or persons, said John Miller, the New York Police Department’s head of intelligence and counterterrorism, who briefed reporters in New York.

The U.S. Secret Service intercepted a bomb that was addressed to Hillary Clinton at the Chappaqua, New York, home she shares with former President Bill Clinton, and another that was sent to former President Obama at his home with Michelle Obama in Washington.

A police bomb squad removed still another from CNN’s New York headquarters, which was evacuated.

Overhead TV shots showed a truck carrying that device, which law enforcement officials said was linked to the other explosives, being driven away. The package sent to CNN contained a live explosive and envelope with white powder, and officials said the substance was being tested to see if it was dangerous.

“We will not rest until we stop these hazardous devices from being mailed and bring the in-

dividual or individuals to justice,” said Bryan Paarmann, the FBI’s top counterterrorism official in New York.

The FBI also said it was responding to a report of a suspicious package at a Florida office of Rep. Deborah Wasserman Schultz. New York Gov.

Andrew Cuomo said his office received a similar package, but New York police officials said the office was cleared and no device was found.

Cuomo said at a briefing that “we will not allow these terrorist thugs to change the way we live our lives.”

A U.S. official told The Associated Press that investigators believe the explosive that was discovered near the Clintons’ home was linked to one found Monday at the Soros compound.

The official noted that one of the packages had the return address of Florida Rep. Schultz, a reference to the former chairwoman of the Democratic National Committee who was accused by Clinton rivals of secretly helping the party’s eventual presidential nominee.

Neither Clinton nor Obama received the packages, and neither was at risk of receiving them because of screening procedures, the Secret Service said.

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said in a statement, “These terrorizing acts are despicable, and anyone responsible will be held accountable to the fullest extent of the law.”

Two law enforcement officials, speaking to AP on condition of anonymity to discuss an ongoing investigation, said the pipe bomb at CNN was crude but operational.

Gospel cont'd from pg 1

Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

King had been a champion of labor rights; by 1968, his attentions were on a broad-sweeping Poor People’s Campaign and on antiwar organizing. But he came back to address Memphis strikers, delivering the famous “I’ve Been to the Mountaintop” address, which was his last: the following day, King was killed.

In the play, for which Harrel drew heavily from archival materials at the Memphis Public Library, the lead character — a gospel singer — has the chance to perform for King during his final visit to Memphis. It is King’s death

that draws Clarence to the blues.

“It’s been a blast,” said Harrel of working on the project, which features Alonzo Chadwick and Saeeda Wright in lead roles. The hope was to produce

“It is King’s death that draws Clarence to the blues”

the show in April of this year, in honor of the 50th anniversary of King’s assassination, but neither Harrel and Chadwick were able to go forward at that time due to personal and medical



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Black Health Matters

Evelyn Johnston and Jasmine Hairston, owners of the vegan catering company Nourish, talk about how to prepare healthy vegan meals during Black Health Matters Oct. 20 at the Northwest African American Museum. The event which honored the legacy of the Seattle Chapter of the Black Panthers commitment to healthcare, included workshops, health screenings and presentations by experts in nutrition, sickle cell anemia and mental health.

Jobs cont'd from pg 1

mented by race. There are two data sets from the federal government that provide a demographic breakdown of rates of joblessness, but they use very different methodologies — and can come up with very different results.

The federal Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes annual estimates based on the U.S. Census Bureau’s Current Population Survey, which is a monthly survey with some results compiled and released annually using averages from the previous year. Fifteen years of data from that set, compiled and released by the Oregon Department of Employment at *The Skanner’s* request, show that in 2017 an average of 5.9 Oregonians identifying as Black or African American were unemployed, as compared to 4.1 percent of the general population.

A second set of data, also gathered by the U.S. Census Bureau, shows a much higher unemployment rate for Black Oregonians for the same year. The American Community Survey reports an unemployment rate of 13.1 percent among Black Oregonians in 2016.

Tracy Morrisette, local area unemployment statistics coordinator for the Oregon Employment Department, said there are two things that can help account for the difference between the two numbers. First, since African Americans make up 2 percent of

Oregon’s total population, survey takers can have a difficult time getting a large enough sample size to get good data.

Second, the two surveys have very different methodologies. For the Current Population Survey, the Census Bureau sends interviewers to households, where they can talk to individual residents and ask followup questions as they take down information. The American Community Survey is mailed to households for

“Most recent job gains have been in the construction industry, which added 11,100 jobs in the last 12 months”

individuals to fill out, and while it is a far more extensive survey, the interpersonal dynamic and the relative ease of reaching people by mail can really shift the numbers.

Morrisette also noted that while CPS data on race are available, the Bureau of Labor Statistics did not publish the data on Black Oregonians for 2016 because the sample size was too small.

So which number gives a better picture?

Morrisette said because the American Community Survey is more comprehensive and reaches more households, for this specific line of inquiry it gives more useful information.

“For that kind of analysis you’re

probably better off with ACS because you kind of compare it to the ACS rate if you’re just looking at that year,” Morrisette said.

ACS data can also give a better picture of just how well Black Oregonians are faring in the current boom. For example, state report from May using ACS data also noted most nonwhite racial groups, including Black Oregonians, report lower average wages than White or Asian Oregonians and that African Ameri-

cans tend to be overrepresented in lower-wage industries such as leisure and hospitality. Black Oregonians, making an average reported wage of just over \$40,000 in 2016, also had slow rates of real wage growth over the past decade.

According to the state, using data from surveys of employers, most recent gains have been in the construction industry, which added 11,100 jobs in the last 12 months — or 11.2 percent. Oregon’s other growth industries included leisure and hospitality, which added 6,600 jobs (3.2 percent growth), professional and business services (up 7,400 jobs or 3 percent) and “other services” (up 2,000 jobs or 3.1 percent).



PHOTO BY JIM DOROTHY

Charles Grant, Alonzo Chadwick and Saeeda Wright star in “Gospel Blues,” a new musical with staged readings to be performed this weekend.

issues. And in a bittersweet coda, two of Harrel’s collaborators didn’t live to see the play to fruition: Scroggins died in June 2014 and Hornbuckle joined her that October.

Harrel has invited local theatres to this weekend’s readings and hopes the work will be produced as a full stage play in the near future.

The play opens at 7:30 p.m. Friday at West Hills Covenant Church and will be performed again at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Maranatha Church in Northeast Portland. For more information, including ticket information, visit gospelbluesmusical.com.