

News.....	3,8-10	A & E.....	6-7
Opinion.....	2	Slave Voyages.....	9
Calendars.....	4-5	Bids/Classifieds.....	11

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Northwest Tap Connection performs during "Celebrating Community4Culture" Feb. 27 at Washington Hall. The event celebrated two years of Community4Culture providing grants, fellowships and legacy awards to organizations and individuals who are working towards racial equity in the arts. The program supports individuals and organizations serving people of color, immigrants, refugees, English language learners, people with low incomes, and King County's rural residents. During the program King County Council member Larry Gossett was recognized for his advocacy and there were performances by Community4Culture grant recipients JHP, Northwest Tap Connection and Griot Girlz.

Nonprofit Focuses on Putting Women First

Organization focuses on re-entry from the criminal justice system

By Christen McCurdy
Of The Skanner News

It took 10 years for Shannon Olive to start WomenFirst Transition & Referral Center, the nonprofit that celebrates its second anniversary this month.

She had the idea in 2007 to create a program to help support women who need help rebuilding their lives, but didn't get the organization off the ground until March 2017. In the meantime, Olive volun-

teered at Oregon Action, became the director of legislative affairs for the Associated Students of Portland Community College, and worked at the Urban League, Human Solutions and Janus Youth Programs. She also got involved in advocating for local campaign finance reform and for extended times on bus fares.

When she graduated from college in 2015, Olive sought a job relating to corrections or re-entry, and ended up becoming a

residential services coordinator at a public housing complex. Then, she said, she was inspired by faith to start the organization she'd dreamed of years before.

"The Lord came and said, 'Now is the time for Women First,'" Olive told The Skanner. She realized the reason it took so long is that she needed 10 years to build connections and learn what resources are already available.

"We're not her trying to reinvent the wheel," Olive

said.

In November 2017 Olive launched a women's empowerment group called "I Love Me," a 12-week program meant to encourage women to learn to love and value themselves. That has been a focus of WomenFirst, but the organization also offers emergency clothing (as well as connecting with Dress For Success to provide professional clothing for interviews and court dates), a meditation and healing

See WOMEN on page 3

'Sanctuary' Cities and States – Except Oregon – Are Getting Their Grants Despite Threats

28 other sanctuary jurisdictions have been cleared to receive 2017 lawn-enforcement grants

By Wilson Ring
Associated Press

MONTPELIER, Vt. — About 18 months after the Trump administration threatened to withhold law enforcement grants from nearly 30 places around the country it felt weren't doing enough to work with federal immigration agents, all but

one have received or been cleared to get the money, the Justice Department said.

In most cases, courts chipped away at the crackdown that escalated in November 2017 with letters from the Justice Department of former Attorney General Jeff Sessions to 29 cities, metro areas, counties or states it con-

See SANCTUARY on page 3



AP PHOTO/RICH PEDRONCELLI, FILE

In this June 20, 2018, file photo, demonstrators are outside the federal courthouse in Sacramento, Calif., where a judge heard arguments over the U.S. Justice Department's request to block three California laws that extend protections to people in the country illegally.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GREEN HOP

Green Hop was one of the first dispensaries to receive a grant from Prosper Portland.

City Doles Out Pot Grants

Funds come from voter-approved tax on recreational sales

By Saundra Sorensen
For The Skanner News

Two Black-owned cannabis businesses in Portland have been awarded the first-ever small business grants earmarked from the city's recreational marijuana tax revenue.

In 2016, Portland voters passed Measure 26, specifying that a 3 percent tax on recreational sales would be used in part to support minority-owned and women-owned local businesses in the cannabis industry. It is the first such tax initiative in the U.S. Further language in the measure emphasizes that these funds will provide "economic op-

See CANNABIS on page 3



AP PHOTO/EUGENE HOSHIKO

Former Nissan chairman Carlos Ghosn, front, travels in a car March 6, 2019, in Tokyo, after posting 1 billion yen (\$8.9 million) in bail once an appeal by prosecutors against his release was rejected. Ghosn was arrested in November and is charged with falsifying financial reports and breach of trust.

World News Briefs

page 9

Kam Reviews 'Roma,' 'The Favourite'

page 7