

News.....	3,8,10	A & E.....	6-7
Opinion.....	2	<b>Student Loan Forgiveness..</b>	<b>8</b>
Calendars.....	4-5	Bids/Classifieds.....	11



Activist and mother Teal experienced gun violence at work, witnessing the shooting and injury of a coworker.

## Faith Community, Activists Introduce 'Evidence-Based' Gun Control Measure

Proposed law would require permits to purchase, limit magazine rounds.

By Saundra Sorenson  
Of The Skanner News

**A**n interfaith coalition has launched a ballot measure to curb gun violence through two practical safeguards.

In November, Oregonians will have the opportunity to vote on Measure 114, which will require law enforcement-issued permits to purchase any firearm and which will restrict the purchase and sales of magazines that hold more than 10 rounds.

In order to obtain a permit to purchase, applicants would be required to pass a background check and to attend and pass both a firearm safety training class and a live-fire training session.

Violating the law would be a misdemeanor, upgraded to a felony if the violator has any prior criminal convictions.

Currently, the group argued, weak Oregon gun laws allow purchasers to

See GUNS on page 3

**Oregon Historical Society Features Mowtown**

page 7

# CENTER OPENS FOR BLACK INNOVATORS



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

A group of people pose in front of the William Grose Center for Innovation at Africatown after the official ribbon cutting on September 16 in Seattle. The new center, located in the former Fire Station 6 building on 23rd and Yesler is named after Seattle Pioneer and founder of the Central District, William Grose. It will be an economic incubator and a place to develop the next generation of Black innovators and leaders in technology.

## Oregon's Tuition-Free Preschool Program Hits Major Delays

The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Thousands of Oregon families who expected their children to start tuition-free state-provided preschool this month remain in limbo because of staffing shortages that caused delays getting contracts to nearly 250 involved preschools.

The Early Learning Division, which has overseen the Preschool Promise pro-

gram since its 2016 inception, took over contracting duties from the Oregon Department of Education this year and has struggled to get contracts inked. It has yet to send paperwork to most of the 248 preschools in the program that serves families living at or below 200% of the federal poverty line, The Oregonian/OregonLive reported Tuesday.

Many facilities new to the program or those expanding services are hesitant

to accept children enrolled in Preschool Promise until they have a signed contract and payment for the care is assured, the newspaper reported.

The agency now says the preschools chosen to serve an estimated 6,381 children must open no later than Oct. 30. It could not say when all contracts would be signed. The total number of children marks an expected increase of more than 2,000 slots from

last year.

"It's super hard on families," said Molly Day, director of Early Learning Multnomah, one of 16 regional hubs that helps coordinate Preschool Promise enrollment. "If you're counting on your child to be in school while you're working, that's very disruptive."

Northeast Portland parent Melissa Laurie applied in March for her 3-year-old daughter, Frankie, to take part in Preschool Promise. Laurie gave up slots at other private preschools, which the state's Employment-Related Day Care program would have helped

See PRESCHOOL on page 3

## Environmental Justice Leader Vernice Miller-Travis on Fighting Racism and Climate Change

Vernice Miller-Travis shares her thoughts on the current presidential administration's handling of the climate crisis.

By Saundra Sorenson  
Of The Skanner News

**V**ernice Miller-Travis wants everyone to show up for environmental justice — both at the polls (or mailboxes, if you're voting in Oregon) and at their local planning or zoning commission

meetings.

"We've just got to expand the number of Democrats that are in the United States Senate, so that we won't have to get backed into a corner like this again," she told The Skanner in a nod to U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin's (D-W. Va.) obstruction of climate action bills.



Vernice Miller-Travis

And the often-ignored local planning meetings? "That's where a lot of critical decision-making is being made about zoning, about where new facilities are going to go, transpor-

See MILLER-TRAVIS on page 3