# LOCAL, STATE & REGION

#### **PORTLAND**

# Billboards aim to expose racism's violent impact on Black people

#### BY SAVANNAH EADENS

The Oregonian

"Destroy white supremacy, not each

That's the message plastered on several new billboards across the Portland area. The message is displayed between a large gold-colored bullet that includes

a superimposed image of a slave ship.
At a Monday unveiling of one of the new billboards, the artist behind the image — Portland native Elijah Hasan – said the bullet, like a slave ship, is a vessel of trauma for Black people.

"It is my intention to remind the Black minds inside these Black bodies that they may think that these bullets fly because someone snitched or even killed a loved one," said Hasan. "But I am suggesting that this is not the reason you're shooting. But instead, it's a symptom of the environment you find yourself in."

Motivated by Portland's recent homicide rate increase, community organizations and anti-gun violence advocates
— including the No Hate Zone, the

Portland Rotary Peace Builders Committee, Love is Stronger, and Books Not Bars Oregon — came together to create the billboards. Their goal is to "directly connect the issue of Black-on-Black gun violence to the self-hate that is procreated by racism."

The organizers hope to "reveal the impact that anti-Black trauma has had on the psyche of Portland's Black community," said Sam Sachs, founder of The No Hate Zone, a Portland racial justice organization. "The billboard campaign is done out of love and compassion, with the intent to bring awareness, action and solutions to the overwhelming number of shootings that impact communities of color, but more specifically Black men in Portland."

Portland Police Bureau data as of Monday shows 30 homicides this year, which includes 22 deaths from gunshots, including one fatal shooting by a police officer. There have been about 370 shooting incidents, and 118 people injured in shootings.

Racism + Self-hate = Gun violence

Reject the oppression.



S. Renee Mitchell, left, crafted the language for the anti-gun violence billboard that was recently erected on Portland's Sandy Boulevard, shown in the



#### **TODAY**

Today is Thursday, May 13, the 133rd day of 2021. There are 232 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:** 

On May 13, 1607, English colonists arrived by ship at the site of what became the Jamestown settlement in Virginia. (The colonists went ashore the next day.)

In 1568, forces loyal to Mary, Queen of Scots were defeated by troops under her half-brother and Regent of Scotland, the Earl of Moray, in the Battle of Langside.

In 1914, heavyweight boxing champion Joe Louis was born in Lafayette, Alabama.

In 1917, three shepherd children reported seeing a vision of the Virgin Mary near Fatima, Portugal; it was the first of six such apparitions the children claimed to have witnessed.

In 1961, actor Gary Cooper died in Los Angeles six days after turning 60.

In 1967, a vault fire at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in Culver City, California, destroyed hundreds of the studio's early films.

In 1981, Pope John Paul II was shot and seriously wounded in St. Peter's Square by Turkish assailant Mehmet Ali Agca.

In 1985, a confrontation between Philadelphia authorities and the radical group MOVE ended as police dropped a bomb onto the group's row house, igniting a fire that killed 11 people and destroyed 61 homes.

In 1994, President Bill Clinton nominated federal appeals Judge Stephen G. Breyer to the U.S. Supreme Court to replace retiring Justice Harry A. Blackmun.

In 2002, President George W. Bush announced that he and Russian President Vladimir Putin would sign a treaty to shrink their countries' nuclear arsenals by two-thirds.

**Ten years ago:** Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi taunted NATO in an audio broadcast, saying he was alive despite a series of airstrikes and "in a place where you can't get to

Five years ago: The Obama administration issued a directive requiring public schools to permit transgender students to use bathrooms and locker rooms consistent with their chosen gender identity.

One year ago: President Donald Trump urged governors to work to reopen schools that were closed because of the coronavirus.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor Buck Taylor is 83. Actor Harvey Keitel is 82. Author Charles Baxter is 74. Actor Zoe Wanamaker is 73. Actor Franklyn Ajaye is 72. Singer Stevie Wonder is 71. Former Ohio Gov. John Kasich is 69. Basketball Hall of Famer Dennis Rodman is 60. "Late Show" host Stephen Colbert is 57. Rock musician John Richardson (The Gin Blossoms) is 57. Singer Darius Rucker (Hootie and the Blowfish) is 55. Former NBA player Mike Bibby is 43. Rock musician Mickey Madden (Maroon 5) is 42. Actor Iwan Rheon is 36. Actor-writer-director Lena Dunham is 35. Actor Robert Pattinson is 35. Actor Hunter Parrish is 34.

#### Associated Press

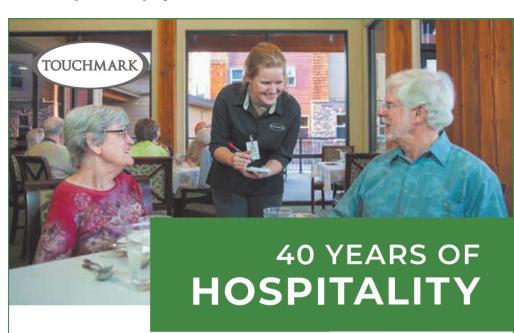
#### 26-year-old charged with murder of his grandparents in Eugene

A 26-year-old man has been charged with killing his grandparents in Eugene, following a chase in which police say he challenged officers to shoot him. Nicholas Borden-Cortez was ar-

raigned Monday in Lane County Circuit Court. Along with two counts of first-degree murder, abuse of a corpse and attempting to elude officers.

Eugene Police identified the victims Monday as Borden-Cortez's grandmother, Nancy Loucks-Morris, 85, and his step-grandfather, Gerald Morris, 87. Police responded to a report of "suspicious conditions" at a home in the Falconwood Mobile Home Park just before 10:30 a.m. Friday, Eugene Police spokeswoman Melinda McLaughlin said. Borden-Cortez was taken into custody Friday reportedly following a vehicle chase that ended in Springfield.

— Associated Press



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We are excited to invite you, our readers, to participate in this unique project. Please bring your photos to one of our scanning sessions listed here — and be sure to check our submission guidelines. Photos will be scanned on-site and given right back to you. In order to keep things speedy, please fill out our simple photo submission form prior to the session. Forms can be downloaded at HelloBend.PictorialBook.com. Please plan to fill out one form for each photo you'd like to submit.

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#### **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

General interest photos, such as: commerce, industry, transportation, rural life, public service, etc.

Photos taken between 1950 and 2000.

Photos taken in Central Oregon. If you're a private collector, call

will appear in the final book.

360-723-5800 to set up an appointment. Not all photos submitted or used in ads

Photos will become part of the Deschutes Historical Museum's archived collection.

#### **SCANNING SESSIONS**

**Thursday, June 10** 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 11 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. **Saturday, June 12** 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. **Saturday, June 12** 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Bend Bulletin 320 SW Upper Terrace Dr. Ste. #200, Bend

