

# METRO *Life*

LIFE IN THE PORTLAND METROPOLITAN AREA

The Portland Observer

## Science Fair Offers Educational Opportunities

It's not your average poster galley—the works displayed in this exhibit come with titles that feature words like "Thromboplastin," "Paradigm," "Interferon," and "Outcomes." The third annual Legacy Science Fair, to be held Friday, March 12, 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m. in the Lorenzen Conference Center at Emanuel Hospital & Health Center will use a poster format to showcase a wide variety of research underway within Legacy Health System.

The theme is "Building the Bridges Between Clinicians and Researchers Within the Legacy Health System." It means scientists, physicians, nurses and clinical specialists will present studies and share research on neuro sciences, internal medicine, infections, HIV research, senior health Alzheimers, medical genetics, obstetrics/gynecology, oncology, cardiology, case management and more.

The fair also reaches out to future scientists. High School students from last summer's Saturday Academy class of the Oregon Graduate Institute of Science and Technology will present their projects as part of the fair's exhibits. These students develop and conduct medical research in conjunction with Legacy staff through a Legacy mentor/student program.

Middle school students from MESA (Math, Engineering, Sciences Achievement) and high school science classes from North/Northeast Portland will receive guided tours



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of the fair and its contents.

Many research projects at Legacy benefit from the help of college students who participate in 25-30 summer internships available throughout Legacy's healthcare delivery system: Emanuel Hospital & Health Center, Good Samaritan Hospital & Medical Center, Holladay Park Medical Center, Meridian Park Hospital, Mount Hood Medical Center, Legacy Visiting Nurse Association and Caremark/

Managed Healthcare Northwest PPO.

Emanuel also provides healthcare scholarships to high school seniors in North/Northeast Portland who pursue careers in medicine.

To further the educational component of the fair, contributions from medical residents and junior faculty will be evaluated and presented with top awards for both "Basic Medical" and "Clinical" research.

The keynote speaker, Peter S. Spencer,

PH.D., F.R.C. pathologist, director and senior scientist for the Center for Research on Occupational and Environmental Toxicology, Oregon Health Sciences University, will present an address on "Toxicology and Health: From Paracelsus to Al Gore," at 5:30 p.m. He will put research into perspective by addressing how we're forced to live under the sometimes toxic conditions we impose upon ourselves and our environment.

## "Project No Fakes" To Educate Kids About Law Enforcement Impostors

City Police Bureau, Portland Public Schools Police Department and Multnomah County Sheriff's Office Join Efforts To Help Portland Students Distinguish Fake Law Enforcement ID From The Real Thing

Portland Mayor Vera Katz announced today a joint education project, called "Project No Fakes," with the Portland Police Bureau, the Multnomah County Sheriff's Department and the Portland Public Schools Police Department to educate young Portlanders on how to spot the difference between a real and fake law enforcement officer.

The education project, co-sponsored by Kinko's Copies, which has donated printing costs, calls for distributing to local schools color flyers showing the correct pieces of identification for Portland, County and School

law enforcement officers.

"While problems with fake law enforcement officers are relatively rare in Portland, we are taking the problem very, very seriously," said Katz. "Earlier this month, a 10-year-old Portland girl appears to have been abducted by a man who was claiming to be a police officer. With relatively little effort or cost, we can better educate our youth to spot a phony law enforcement badge.



left: Portland Police Badge. Top: Portland School District Police Badge

ously," said Katz. "Earlier this month, a 10-year-old Portland girl appears to have been abducted by a man who was claiming to be a police officer. With relatively little effort or cost, we can better educate our youth to spot a phony law enforcement badge.

Katz was referencing a February incident in which Paul Griffin of Salem was charged with first-degree kidnapping and impersonating a police officer after he allegedly tried to abduct a 10-year-old girl.

Katz said the idea for this education project came from Bill Hinkle, a north Portland resident who suggested the idea to one of Katz' staff person.

In addition to showing pictures of badges and ID cards, the flyer lists the following precautions:

Familiarize yourself with your local police Agency's uniform, badge, and marked police vehicles.

If you are confronted or contacted by anyone identifying themselves as a police officer, ask for identification and carefully check the identification for authenticity (issued by a bonafide police agency)

If you are contacted or stopped by someone in a uniform who appears to be a police

officer, check their badge and shoulder patches to verify they are with a designated (bonafide) police agency.

Vehicles that are "Suspicious" or look like marked police patrol cars should be checked for actual police agency markings.

9-1-1 can often times verify if a police unit, either plain clothes or uniform, is in a certain area.

Immediately report anyone suspected of impersonating a police officer to a police facility.

Share this information with friends and family. But remember, until children are responsible enough to be on their own, and adult should always be with them.

Katz said the flyer would be distributed by the Portland School District police to classrooms and that Kinko's had agreed to pick up the cost of printing the flyer) call (503) 823-4120 for copies of legal identification)

## Oregon School Boards Association Supports Background Check

OSBA testified in support of a bill (SB 15) that would mean all teachers, administrators, personnel specialists and school nurses applying for a license must be fingerprinted for criminal background checks.

The bill would require the Oregon State Police to conduct a nationwide criminal record check through the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and report the information to the Teachers Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC). The estimated \$38 cost of the check

would be paid by the person requesting the license.

While Senate Education Committee members supported protecting students, they also indicated that this bill was not the vehicle to insure a child's safety.

Sens. Ron Cease (D-Portland) and Stan Bunn (R-Newberg) argued that the bill infringed on a person's civil liberties.

"This bill simply goes too far, and creates a great a burden on an individual's

liberties," said David Fidanque, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon.

Other organizations testifying in favor of the bill were the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators (COSA), the TSPC, Sen. Bill Kennemer (R-Milwaukie) and Rep. Larry Sowa (D-Oregon City).

This bill is similar to HB 2489 that OSBA is co-sponsoring in the House. That bill

includes classified staff as personnel who must have a criminal background check. The Bill's main sponsor, Rep. Peter Courtney (D-Salem), testified in support of SB 15 but said that it did not go far enough to protect children. Courtney urged the Senate education Committee to include classified staff in its version of the bill.

No further action by the Senate Education Committee on SB 15 is currently scheduled.

### Portrait Of Strength



By Jerry Shewell

On the Safety Circuit

### Plan Your Escape



Fire Can Happen Any Time!

And if it does, every second counts. Will you and your family know what to do?

- Practice an escape plan from each room in the house. Feel your way out with your eyes closed.
- Teach your family to stop, drop to the ground and roll if their clothes catch on fire.
- Keep the fire department's number by the phone. By your bed, have a flashlight to help you see and whistle to alert your family.
- Install smoke detectors on every level of your house. Test them monthly, and change the batteries at least once a year.



Remember, fire can happen anytime, so make plans for a surprise visit.



A message from the U.S. Fire Administration