

Portland Blacks And The Spotted Owl

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table in these organizations, there would be fewer decisions made based on greed and self-interest. In other words, these companies and agencies would have the benefit of more diverse perspectives that would in the long run work to help us as a country get out of these situations.

Surely Blacks and other minorities know what it means to be out of work, but at same time we instinctively know we can't sacrifice the environment for jobs. Until indoctrinated into American society, African-Americans were basically people of the land. We have an inherent appreciation and respect for the earth and all its treasures. Unlike some European cultures, the African culture is harmonious with nature instead of trying to dominate it.

That is why it is so disheartening to see the deterioration of Black communities, evident by the trashy conditions of the streets, the rundown properties, and junk cars every where. When we see this happening, we know that it is not only the consequence of prolonged economic despair, but also a break in African cultural values and norms. But what is good about this forest summit is that there is some evidence that Clinton and Gore can see the relationship between the spotted owl and what is happening to Blacks, not only in Portland, but all over the country. They are looking at issues from a holistic, rather than from a regional point of view, and this is encouraging.

One brother I talked to at a gas station on MLK claimed he could see why all them whites are freaked because they are losing their jobs, homes and other things. He can see why they would want to commit suicide and stuff. He said, "Black people don't have that problem because they ain't had no jobs to loose. They ain't gonna go crazy because there's too much drinking and drugs to keep niggers chilled."

In a city were there seems to be almost daily shootings of African-American males, there is a bit of irony in the fact that Portland is hosting this forest conference to save an endangered species.

James Posey is a local, small business owner with a background in social work and community activism.

Longer Hours For Tax Help

If you call the Oregon Department of Revenue, you can get help on your income taxes from 8am to 7pm from Monday, April 12 through Thursday, April 15. The office is normally open from 8am until 5pm.

"So many people wait until the last week to file, we're trying to be responsive to their needs," explained Margaret Lofits, Revenue manager.

Lofits warns callers to be patient when they call. "This time of year we're getting almost 3,000 calls a day. If you call and get a busy signal, please call back."

Lofits added that it may be easier to get through before 9am or after 6pm.

When taxpayers call, they can listen to recorded messages that may answer their questions on some topics. If they need more help, callers can stay on the line and talk to a department staff member.

You can call the department:
From Portland: 243-2833

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OREGON TRAIL EXHIBIT FEATURES LOST WAGON TRAIN

Wandering Wagons: Meek's Lost Emigrants of 1845, an exhibit chronicling the first attempt by overland travelers to blaze a shortcut across the Oregon desert, will open to the public in the Earle A. Chiles Center on the Spirit of the West at the High Desert Museum in Bend, Oregon on Saturday, March 20, 1993. It will run through June 5, 1994.

The exhibit will feature a full-scale diorama of a trail-weary emigrant woman preparing a meal for her family surrounded by camp gear, family possessions, and the dust and sage of the Oregon desert. Exhibit cases will display larger-scale color reproductions of historic art portraying incidents from trail life, together with interpretive text and period artifacts. Elsewhere in the exhibit will be contemporary photographs of the trail ruts, campsites, river crossings, and landscapes along the route by noted

Northwest photographer Charles A. Blakeslee. These will be punctuated with quotes from the diaries of members of the ill-fated group, family heirlooms actually carried on the journey, and recently excavated artifacts found along the route.

The High Desert Museum, a regional museum of natural and cultural history, is located six miles south of Bend on U.S. 97. In addition to "Wandering Wagons," the Museum has two permanent exhibits related to the Oregon Trail. The Museum is open 9am to 5pm every day except Thanksgiving, December 25, and January 1. Admission is charged. Members and children 4 and younger enter free. For further information, call (503) 382-4754.

This exhibit is sponsored by the Bureau of Land Management, with additional support provided by the Oregon Trail Coordinating Council.

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Even With a Filing Extension, Taxes Are Still Due April 15

Income taxes are due April 15. An extension gives you more time to file the paperwork, but you'll be charged penalty and interest on any taxes not paid by April 15.

"If you can't get all your records and other information together by then, you can request an extension to file your return," explained Oregon Department of revenue manager Sandy McLernan. "But you must still pay at least 90 percent of your taxes on April 15."

You need to pay at least 90 percent of what you owe, or you will be charged a five percent penalty on the tax owed, plus interest.

Oregon uses the federal extension form and allows you the same amount of time. Mail in any tax due by April 15 and include a copy of your federal extension form.

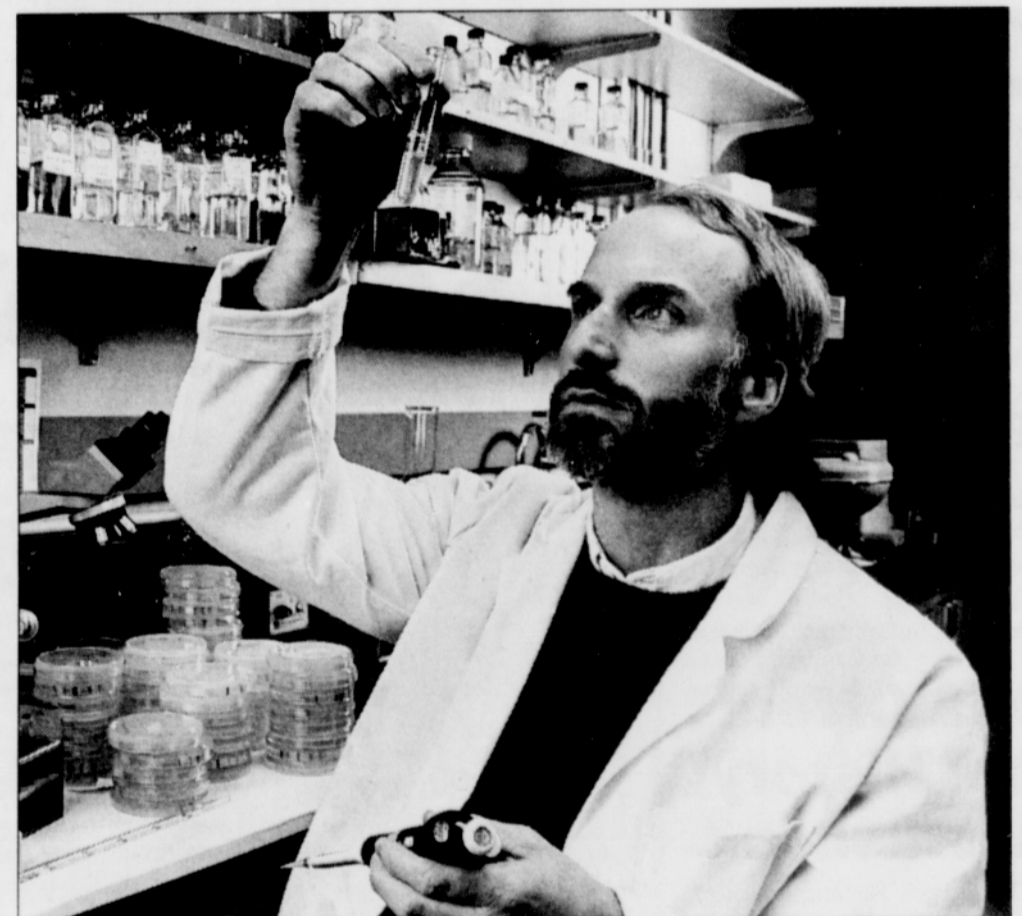
Questions? You can call the department:

From Portland, 243-2833.
From Salem, 378-4988.
From elsewhere in Oregon, 1-800-356-4222.
TDD number, 945-8617.
Spanish-only speakers, 945-8618.

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How to Build a Bridge Over a Protein River



People die waiting for cures. Whole continents pray while scientists feverishly dig for answers. Meanwhile, the Oregon Lottery is doing more than praying; it's helping the digging to continue.

Dr. Tom Stevens heads a biological research laboratory at the University of Oregon. In certain circles, his work on protein splicing is famous. Though it sounds of more use to dieters than to cancer patients, protein splicing may help unlock the final puzzle piece holding us all captive.

Oregon Lottery funds of \$12

million were dedicated to the University of Oregon which provided the stage for Dr. Stevens' research. This money will buy understanding of how to make cells behave. Those millions will also provide jobs for the next generation of scientists, who will usher in new understanding of illness and health.

Tom Stevens knows his work is just a bridge, over which many more will travel enroute to finding the cures we desire. The Oregon Lottery is proud to be part of the bridge that Tom built.



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