

Children paint and learn about culture

Project is one of several in public schools connecting students with youngsters from all walks of life.



See Metro section, inside.

Community treasures

Area residents are dedicated to making Portland a great place.



See Metro section, inside.

Mase, Usher coming to Rose Garden

Poetic powerhouse Mase will headline with superstar Usher in Portland.



See Arts & Entertainment, page A3.

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Spy plane flies over Iraq

The Pentagon says an American U-2 spy plane flew a U.N. mission over central Iraq without incident Tuesday despite threats by Baghdad to shoot down such planes. "The U-2 has completed its UNSCOM mission over Iraq without incident. The plane is back out of Iraqi territory," Pentagon spokesman Ken Bacon said.

Defense experts on Iraq

If diplomacy fails to defuse the latest crisis in the Gulf, President Clinton can bring awesome firepower to bear on Iraq. But use of military force is likely to be tricky and fraught with risk, defense experts say. Several current and former U.S. officials said Clinton would probably start turning the screws on Baghdad by expanding no-fly zones in northern and southern Iraq to cover all Iraqi airspace.

Reno meets counterpart

Attorney General Janet Reno has asked Chinese Justice Minister Xiao Yang for China's cooperation with the Justice Department's investigation into campaign-finance allegations in the 1996 U.S. elections. The Justice Department has been investigating allegations that China sought to influence U.S. elections in 1996 by making contributions to President Clinton's re-election campaign and to congressional campaigns.

Hillary Clinton heads home

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton Tuesday ended an eight-day journey through the former Soviet Union. In her final speech in a century-old, maroon velvet-seated opera house, Mrs. Clinton praised Ukraine for holding free elections that resulted in a peaceful change of government, a rare example among former Soviet republics.

Chernobyl help pledged

The United States is offering \$78 million to help shore up the so-called "sarcophagus" that shelters the fatally damaged Chernobyl nuclear reactor, according to U.S. officials. The U.S. contribution is part of \$300 million committed by the European Commission and the Group of Seven leading industrialized nations, the officials said at a briefing.

Militants claim massacre

Egypt's most powerful Islamic militant group has claimed responsibility for Monday's tourist massacre that killed 58 foreigners, saying it wanted to force the United States to free the imprisoned spiritual leader of the World Trade Center bombers. Al-Gamaa al-Islamiyya of the Islamic Group, said its gunmen had not set out to kill the tourists. Rather, its statement said, the attackers were trying to take hostages to use as a bargaining chip.

Atlanta bombs similar

The five bombs used in three unsolved Atlanta explosions used similar components, including the same brand of wind-up clock and steel plates to direct the blasts, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported. The newspaper said it obtained an internal list from the Atlanta Bomb Task Force showing the bomb components.

Consumer prices rise

Consumer prices edged up a modest 0.2 percent in October, matching the inflation rate of the previous three months. For the first 10 months of 1997, the Consumer Price Index has risen at an annual rate of just 1.8 percent, compared to a 3.3 percent increase during 1996.

Carl Talton: A man of influence

Assignments just keep growing for Northeast leader

By LEE PERLMAN

Looking for a mover and shaker in northeast Portland or the city as a whole?

Look at Carl Talton's resume: Vice-president of Pacific Power and Light. Chair of the Portland Development Commission. Charter board member of the Northeast Community Development Corp., northeast's largest low-income housing developer; and of the Northeast Economic Development Alliance.

Talton also serves on the Urban League of Portland board of directors, Emanuel Hospital board of Trustees, United Way of the Columbia-Willamette board of trustees and the governor's Board of Management.

How did Talton achieve this level of influence? "It was more through circumstances than anything else," he says.

Born in Vancouver and raised in northeast Portland, he did a hitch in the army and worked in a military power plant. After mustering out and studying at Lewis and Clark College, "I bumped into a man I knew who worked in human resources for PP&L," he says.

Talton went to work for the company, became their lobbyist, and worked his way up from there.



The decisions Carl Talton make have impact on the future of Portland.

He now lives in northeast Portland with his wife, his son and daughter, students of Grant and Benson high schools, respectively.

Talton steers an agency, the Portland Development Commission, that has always been a "mover and shaker," but not always well-regarded by community residents.

Some recall it unfondly as the author of urban renewal projects in northeast and downtown that uprooted people from their homes, and in general a law unto itself.

"Most of PDC's history has been dictated from an office downtown and deciding what's best for the community," Talton ad-

best for the community," Talton admits. However, he adds, "There's been a new direction for some time now. We've been much more active in community affairs."

'We're letting the community decide what it wants, and trying to implement that,' - Portland Development Commission Chair Carl Talton

We're letting the community decide what it wants, and trying to implement that."

Talton himself has played a large role in such community-shaping efforts as the Alliance's Visioning Project, the resulting Albina Community Plan and the current Martin Luther King Main Street Project.

Of the alliance project vision he says, "What I liked about that was it was all-inclusive; it looked at the community's total needs." The project became the foundation for the three-year Albina Plan process. "There was a lot of give and take there."

"A lot of things were agreed to. The question is, if we follow the plan, do we get to the vision? For the most part we do, but it needs some adjusting. It's in concrete and some of it needs to be broken up," he says.

Specifically, Talton feels there may have been too much emphasis on affordable housing and not enough on business development, especially on Northeast

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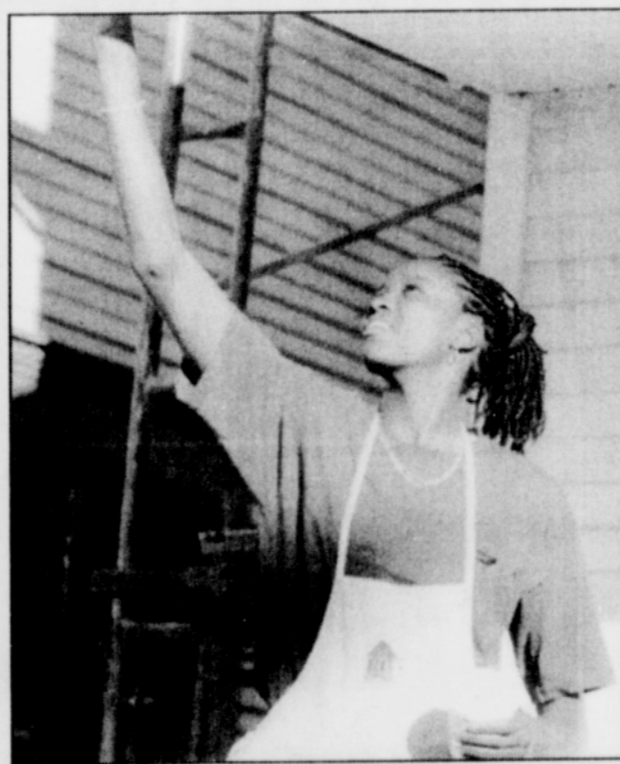
Hispanic conference opens Thursday

Gov. John Kitzhaber and Dr. David Abalos of Seton Hall University will headline the 13th annual conference sponsored by the Oregon Council for Hispanic Advancement and joined by other nationally respected Latino leaders and an estimated 1,200 Oregon and Southwest Washington Hispanic adult and student leaders.

Governor Kitzhaber opens the two-day conclave which includes twelve sessions running from noon Thursday to Friday at 5 p.m. at the Double Tree - Jantzen Beach.

Issues to be addressed include, understanding the influence of Hispanics in the community; health, youth violence, immigration, culture and education; tapping into the Hispanic consumer buying power and managing Oregon's diverse workforce more effectively.

Speakers will examine the broad spectrum of social, economic, political, health, finance, youth and educational issues challenging Oregon's largest minority population and the growing Latino community throughout the United States.



Portland professional basketball stars Delisha Milton (left) and Laticia Morris join volunteer forces on Women's Build Habitat for Humanity home. (Photos by M. Washington)

Pro basketball women power Habitat build

The staff and players of Portland Power, Bridgetown's own women's professional basketball team, pumped up the energy on the Portland Habitat for Humanity Women's Build construction site Wednesday when they exchange their hightops for workboots and

help build a house for a day.

The worksite, located at 3428 N. Commercial Ave. is active from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and the dynamic Portland Power women fit in perfectly. Women from the construction trades have worked alongside volunteers, as well as the future homeowner,

since the project began in June. Now in the siding stage, the single-family house will have hosted more than 1,000 women workers by the time it is completed early next year. The future owner of the Women's Build house is a single mom who will buy the house at cost through a zero-interest, long-term Habitat mortgage.

Paris called true hero of the Community

By NEIL HELPERN

"It is rare in life to know someone of Emmanuel Paris' quality and commitment," said Portland Commissioner Grethchen Kafoury when she handed the late mediation leader's family a recognition plaque at the Nov. 12 Spirit of Portland Awards ceremony.

Paris, director of the Portland Neighborhood Mediation Center for 20 years, died in his sleep Nov. 5 from a massive heart attack.

He was one of several people and groups scheduled to be recognized at the annual event, "true heroes of this community," according to Mayor Vera Katz.

Widow recalls when armed man was calmed, violence defused by mediator's words

While accepting the award, Paris' widow Kathleen Bell remembered how he "constantly tried to provide better services and thought of other people."

"I place him among giants like Martin Luther King," said his mother, Mary Paris. "I can't explain what loss I have and what gains we all had from him."

Paris, 48, a native of Port Au Prince, Haiti, was director of the Neighborhood Mediation Center.

He was known to find potential smoking

guns and prevent shots from being fired during neighborhood disputes.

Kathleen remembered a woman coming to the mediation office, seeking sanctuary during a domestic dispute. When the husband showed up with a gun, Paris talked with him until the man calmed down.

Another time, she told The Portland Observer, "some people were threatening to shoot each other over a cement wall that was two feet over a property line. He got them to calm down, avoiding name calling during the

mediation process."

"Most of this work dealt with property boundary lines, hedges, and apartment complexes."

Paris made the center a "true community place, for people to heal their conflicts," said fellow mediation specialist David Little, calling it a "non-violent, peaceful and safe environment."

The family said Paris was in good health, but was under a great deal of stress after learning the center would close Dec. 30, after 19 years of operation. The city's budget cuts will turn over the center's du-

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