

# Observing

## Vancouver Police invite community to Central Precinct open house

The Vancouver Police Department will celebrate the opening of its new Central Precinct facility at 2800 Stapleton Road with an open house Saturday, June 20, from noon to 3 pm.

The event will feature tours, a free hot dog barbecue, refreshments and Fun Wagon activities for the kids. Visitors will also have a chance to meet with their community police

officers. Mayor Royce E. Pollard and other local officials are expected to be on hand to formally open the facility to the community.

The Central Precinct building, in the former Pan Terra School, officially opened for service on June 1. It serves the area between Grand Boulevard and I-205 with around the clock patrol shifts. It features a community room which can be used by

neighborhood associations for their meetings.

The Central Precinct was established as part of the police department's community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (COPPS) program in an effort to decentralize the department and bring local law enforcement services closer to the area being served.

## Summer camp will focus on literature and art

Vancouver-Clark Parks & Recreation Department will offer a Lit/Art camp June 22-26 for children ages 6-12. The camp runs Monday-Friday, 9 am to 3 pm at Image Elementary, 4400 NE 122nd Ave. The cost \$130 per camper.

LitArt Camp will blend award winning children's literature, creative arts, and drama projects. This year's camp theme is Newberys and Caldecotts: Award Winning Literature. Camper's will experience over 80 years of the best in children's literature

and create art projects "in the style of" award winning illustrators. On the last day of camp, participants will have a LitArt festival where they will display finished projects and perform scenes from these acclaimed books. For more information call 696-8065.

## Half-day science camps offered for children ages 6 to 12

Vancouver-Clark Parks & Recreation will offer two half-day Mad Science Camps from June 22-26, for children ages 6 to 12. Campers will enjoy interactive science experiments, learn earth awareness and secret codes, build a space shuttle, and much more. Cost for the camp is \$105 per child. There are two sessions to choose from:

**Firecrest Elementary**  
12001 NE 9th St.  
Monday-Friday  
9 am to noon

**Bagley Community Center**  
4100 Plomondon  
Monday-Friday  
1:30-4:30 PM

For more information please call 696-8065.

## Fire marshal issues hazardous vegetation caution

Extremely wet weather during May and the resulting plant growth has raised concerns about potential hazardous vegetation fire danger in local fields and lots.

Vancouver Fire Marshal Rick Atkins reminds residents to cut and maintain tall grass and weeds to prevent potential fire hazards as drier summer weather ap-

proaches.

"We require property owners with open spaces to cut them to prevent development of a hazardous vegetation situation," says Atkins.

He adds that the fire department will follow up on complaints and will vigorously enforce the fire code, which allows for fines and other civil and criminal action. Atkins says,

"We typically receive voluntary compliance in about 98% of the hazardous vegetation cases."

Complaints about hazardous vegetation situations inside the Vancouver city limits should go to the Fire Prevention Bureau at 696-8166. Residents in other locations should contact their local fire service authority.

## First Open House Scheduled For June 25 to Discuss Road Improvements

Clark County citizens are again being asked to help decide which road improvements will be built in the next 6 years.

The Clark County Public Works Department is continuing the process of developing the 1999-2004 Transportation Improvement Program, which identifies and prioritizes the county's transportation improvements for the next six years. The development of the Six Year Program includes an extensive public involve-

ment Team (TIPT). TIPT is a 15 member group comprised of private citizens, business representatives, school districts, city representatives and county staff. They will be meeting several times over the next 3 months to assist in the development of the 1999-2004 Transportation Improvement Program.

The public will have an opportunity to learn more about Clark County's Transportation Improvement Program and discuss potential

projects within the Six Year Program at a public open house scheduled for Thursday, June 25, 1998, 4:00-7:30 PM at the Jason Lee Middle School Cafeteria, 8500 NW 9th Avenue, Vancouver, WA.

If you have any questions pertaining to this matter, please contact KEVIN GRAY-TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM MANAGER AT 360-737-6118, EXT 5358 OR RYAN LOPOSSA-TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ENGINEER AT 360-737-6118 EXT. 4572.

## Vancouver Fourth of July public safety sheet

Vancouver's renowned Fourth of July celebration is again expected to draw thousands of people to festivities at the Vancouver National Historic Reserve.

Official holiday fun begins with arts and crafts vendors at 10 am Saturday, July 4. The fireworks display is at 10 PM. Participants are strongly encouraged to use mass transit to get to the site. Several roads will be closed and parking will be restricted around the event site.

Public safety for the Fourth of July celebration is coordinated by the Vancouver Police Department.

Fireworks sales, music, concessions the fireworks display are coordinated by the non-profit Fourth of July Committee.

Festival officials suggest visitors leave their cars at home or Park & Ride sites and take advantage of a very good deal-free C-TRAN bus service.

Express service to the festival site starts Saturday at 2 PM and runs every 30 minutes from the park and ride lot at Salmon Creek on 134th Street, from the Evergreen Transit Center on NE 18th Street, and from Vancouver Mall (upper north park-

ing lot near Mervyn's). Most regular routes will run on an extended Sunday/Holiday schedule. Express bus service will also run before and after the fireworks display. Portland's Tri-Met buses will offer service to and from the fireworks at regular fares.

After the fireworks show, C-TRAN and Tri-Met buses will be parked along Fort Vancouver Way between Evergreen Boulevard and Mill Plain. For more information, call 360-695-0123 or 360-695-2760 (TDD hearing impaired), or visit C-TRAN's website at www.c-tran.com.

## SWIFT to grant \$350,000

Applications are now available for 1998-99 SWIFT grants. The Southwest Washington charitable organi-

zation raised \$350,000 this fiscal year in cumulative fundraising events, including the spring gala auction.

Application deadline is August 10, 1998. Call SWIFT at 360-694-5941 for an application.

## Tri-Met plans bus stop improvements on seven routes to make boarding easier for everyone

Tri-Met will improve many bus stops on seven routes to accommodate 118 new low floor buses that make boarding easier for everyone.

Low-floor buses represent Tri-Met's fleet of the future by offering easy boarding, video surveillance cameras for heightened safety and air conditioning for added comfort.

Bus stop improvements will begin this month and low-floor

buses will appear this fall on routes:

\*8-NE 15th Ave/Jackson Park  
\*56-Scholls Ferry Road

\*54-Beaverton-Hillsdale Hwy.  
\*75-39th Ave-Lombard

Improvements will begin this fall and low floor buses will arrive by January 1999 on routes:

\*4-Division/Fessenden

\*72-Killingsworth/82nd Ave

\*19-Glisan/Woodstock

Improvements are a cooperative effort involving Tri-Met, the City of Portland and other local governments. Tri-Met will coordinate changes with neighbors, businesses and customers. Those with questions or comments can contact Tri-Met's Pete Taylor at 239-6414, or taylorp@trim-et.org.

# POLICE NEWS

## Wanted Subjects

Portland Police Bureau Detectives, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, are asking for your help in locating and apprehending **Thomas Gifford Curtis**. An arrest warrant is on file in Multnomah County, charging Curtis with multiple counts of Robbery in the First Degree, with bail set at \$750,000. Curtis has been identified as a suspect in a series of armed robberies that occurred between **November 1996 and November 1997**.



Thomas Gifford Curtis is an 18-year-old white male, with a date of birth of October 18, 1979. He is 5'9" tall, weighing 135 pounds with brown hair and blue eyes.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, which leads to an arrest in this case or any unsolved felony crime, and you can remain anonymous. Call Crime Stoppers at (503) 823-HELP.

Portland Police Bureau investigators, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, are asking for your help in locating and apprehending **James Allen Curtis**.

An arrest warrant is on file charging Curtis with **Attempted Murder, Assault, and Robbery**. The charges stem from an incident that occurred Friday, November 14, 1997, at Porky's Tavern, at 835 N Lombard Street. During that incident, Curtis entered the tavern and asked to see a plaque that was behind the bar. The plaque contained the names of members of a moshball team sponsored by the tavern. After looking at it, Curtis demanded to



know why his name was not on the plaque, and walked out of the tavern with it.

When the bartender attempted

to prevent Curtis from taking the plaque, Curtis shot him with a handgun. The bartender, who suffered a gunshot wound to the chest, survived the injury.

James Allen Curtis is described as a 30-year-old black male, with a date of birth of September 1, 1967. He is 6'2" tall, weighing between 240 and 300 pounds, with black hair and brown eyes.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, which leads to an arrest in this case or any unsolved felony crime, and you can remain anonymous. Call Crime Stoppers at (503) 823-HELP.

Crime Stoppers, in cooperation with the Sheriff's Department in Sonoma County, California, and the Police Department in Albuquerque, New Mexico, is asking for your help in locating and apprehending **George Pierre Alonge**.

An arrest warrant is on file in Sonoma County, charging Alonge with Probation Violation and Grand Theft. In addition, investigators in Albuquerque wish to speak with Alonge regarding a series of frauds in the city.

New Mexico investigators have



reason to believe Alonge may be in the Portland area with his 76 year old mother.

George Pierre Alonge is described as a 36 year old white male, with a date of birth of July 6, 1961. He is 5'9" tall, weighing 160 pounds, with brown hair and hazel eyes.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, which leads to an arrest in this case, or any unsolved felony crime, and you do not have to give your name. Call Crime Stoppers at 503-823-HELP.

## Man's Body Found Behind The Troutdale Police Department

Multnomah County Sheriff's Detectives were called to the scene of a man's body in Troutdale, at approximately 1:00 am on (5/26/98). A man walking his dog early this morning found the man, identified as David Bruce Stewart (April 14, 1954), dead.

The body was found behind the Troutdale Police department. Troutdale and Fairview Police cordoned off the area while rescue personnel attempted to revive him with no success. Sheriff's office detectives are investigating the death but do not believe it is a

homicide. Mr. Stewart is from Kalispell, Montana. Detectives believe the death may be drug related and are waiting for the results of an autopsy scheduled for this morning by the Multnomah County Medical Examiner's Office.

## Deputy Holoch Initiated A Traffic Stop

Multnomah County Sheriff's Deputy Jim Holoch is a hard worker and a very courteous driver. Deputy Holoch politely allowed a driver into his lane of travel. The driver immediately made an illegal left-hand turn.

Deputy Holoch initiated a traffic stop at the 39th & SE Gladstone. Sub-

sequently, he found the license plates on the vehicle were switched, the car was stolen, and the driver gave at least three different names to the officer.

Portland Police Officer Utte also responded as cover and noticed property and addresses on that property matched a burglary just reported nearby.

The suspect/driver was lodged at MCDC after interviews with Portland Police Detectives on charges of Unlawful use of Motor Vehicle and First Degree Burglary. At the time of this release he has not been positively identified.

Reported by: Sergeant Brett Elliott

## Study Volunteers Needed HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

African American volunteers are needed for a 30 week hypertension research medication study. If you are 18 years or older with high blood pressure and in general good health, you may qualify. Volunteers will be thoroughly screened by the research team and their private physicians consulted. Study medication, study-related clinic visits and testing will be provided at no charge for those who qualify. Reimbursement for travel will be given. For information call 228-3217, Mon.-Thur. 9 to 4, Fri.- 9 to 1.

**Clinical Research Group of Oregon**  
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