

"Do The Right Thing Day"

Reading day for young people in grades pre-school to eighth grade and their families.



See Metro, inside.

Why Do Fools Fall In Love

This New Movie has the box office raving about the late singer/songwriter Frankie Lymon.



See Entertainment, page B3.

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Dow Back Up

The Dow Industrial is back up by nearly 200 points after sharply declining close to 1,000 points in the past three sessions. The recent 6.4% plunge by the Dow was only the 25th largest percentage drop and well behind the 22.6% collapse of "Black Monday" which happened on October 19, 1987. Oregon's high tech industry lost half a billion dollars in market value from recent stock events.

Boris Yeltsin

President Clinton is in Russia for a two-day summit with President Boris Yeltsin. Yeltsin announced that he would serve out his remaining term while opponents are calling for his resignation and a reversal of free-market reforms. Clinton has been trying to reassure Americans lately that the U.S. economy is sound despite global financial crises.

Lady Diana

Britain marked the first year anniversary of the death of Princess Diana. Thousands mourned in London's great cathedrals. Many mourners in Paris paid their respects at the site where Lady Diana died in a car crash. Hundreds also headed to Harrods department store to sign condolence books for owner Mohamed Al Fayed, whose son also died in the car crash.

Hurricane Bonnie

Hurricane Bonnie has hit the Virginia coast hard with winds of 75 mph that have left thousands of people without electricity. The heavy wind and rain created severe flooding and ruined properties along the coastline.

Hurricane Bonnie has cost North Carolina \$1 billion to \$2 billion in damages.

Thurston High School

Thurston High School students are preparing to return to school while Kip Kinkel, is awaiting trial on his shooting spree at the Thurston High School cafeteria that occurred on May 20. Kinkel is charged with four counts of aggravated murder of his parents and two fellow students.

Keiko Mission

The U.S. Air Force rehearsed for the upcoming transport of Keiko the killer whale from Newport Beach to Iceland which is set for September 9. Their practice involved loading the 28 foot long steel and fiberglass crate that Keiko will ride in. The rehearsal is a four long day event to familiarize the crew with procedures.

King Statue

Over a thousand people gathered at the Oregon Convention Center to witness the unveiling of the Martin Luther King statue entitled "The Dream". The statue symbolizes Dr. King's message of equality, freedom and justice to the world. Michael Florin Dente was the sculptor who spent a dozen years preparing this project that required support from local government, corporations, communities and church circles.

Airline Layoffs

Northwest Airlines began laying off workers on the fourth day of strikes that had shut down the airline.

More domestic flights have been canceled while contract negotiations are underway.

Northwest Airlines has 50,000 employees and 1,700 flights daily. A listing of canceled flights can be viewed on Northwest's web site (www.nwa.com).

Jackie Joyner Kersey A Giant In Many Ways



Jackie Joyner Kersey, Super Star, Guest Speaker at S.E.I. Community Golf Tournament.



James Winters, Chair, Golf Tournament

Urban League Golf Tournament to Benefit Youth Programs

The Urban League of Portland will hold a charity auction and golf tournament on September 13-14 to raise funds for its youth programs. The first annual "Do The Right Thing" Charity Auction and Golf Tournament will be held at Columbia Edgewater Country Club, a private course in Northeast Portland which is hosting the LPGA's Women's Golf Championship in September. A charity auction and dinner will be held on Sunday, September 13 and the golf tournament is Monday, September 14.

Up to 36 four-player teams will compete in the scramble tournament. Tickets may be purchased for the golf tournament and auction/dinner, or to the auction/dinner only, with discounts for current Urban League members. For individuals the golf/dinner package is \$225 for members, \$275 for non-members, and the auction/dinner only is \$40 for members, \$50 for non-members. For corporate supporters, a four-player golf team and eight-person dinner package is \$1,000 for members, \$2,000 for non-members.

The event chair is James Winters, treasurer of the Urban League's board of directors, and founder of Oregon's largest minority-owned business, United Energy. A native Portlander, he is a graduate of Benson High School and Oregon State University. United Energy is one of three minority-owned firms that are event sponsors. The others are Gresham Dodge (Dorian Boyland, President) and Total Staffing Solutions (John Chandler, President). Other primary sponsors are U S West and American Airlines.

Proceeds from the auction and golf tourney will benefit Urban League programs serving youth, including many children and teenagers in North and Northeast Portland. Youth programs include Big Brother/Big Sisters, E. Shelton Hill Achievers Corps Leadership Program, Portland Street Academy alternative school, Saturday School, Whitney M. Young Jr. after school tutorial program, and the Youth Investment Program.

To reserve tickets for the auction or golf tournament, please call Connee Devers at 280-2647. The Urban League encourages anyone with an item to donate to the auction to contact Donald Chalmers at 280-2626.

"Why a Gang Mother Needs to Tell Her Story"

Grieving From an Oregon Women's Prison, Monica Alexander Tells Her Story

How did things get so out of hand? I tried to be the best mother I could be. I've raised five beautiful children while feeding a drug addiction. My drug of choice was "crack cocaine" which was supported by shoplifting merchandise.

One day while I was sitting in front of a computer at Oregon Women's Correctional Center with absolutely nothing particular on my mind, an officer approached me requesting that I be escorted to North Hall interview room. I was feeling a bit uncomfortable by all the attention; standing by to receive me were the chaplain and several officers. For years I've been coming in and out of prison for the mistakes I've made; nothing could have turned me around as it did this day, October 9, 1997.

I looked into the faces of those who stood around me as I was asked to have a seat. This didn't look good. I wasn't expecting to hear the awful news that would shatter all my tomorrow: I was being notified of my son's sudden death. At that moment my whole world crashed. Lil Anthony had been shot and killed. A cold chill ran through my body. I couldn't swallow. I forgot to breathe. I needed a phone. I needed to call my mother. Answering the call were the screams and cries of family members confirming the officers' report.

From that moment on I didn't care if I lived or died. My Lil Anthony was gone. My firstborn out of five beautiful children. How could I turn back the clock? How could I change this? Silently torn apart, I found myself balled up in a corner, phone gripped tightly in my hand, overwhelmed in disbelief. I felt so empty, so helpless. At that moment my prison time began to be the hardest I've ever experienced.

Funeral arrangements needed to begin immediately. The Department of Corrections would not lend a hand with phone preparations. All out-going calls had to be made collect. A lifetime of memories swelled up inside of me. I wanted to be ill, though the family needed me to be strong in helping with difficult decisions. The impact of viewing the photos and video of the funeral made a devastating change deep within me.

I sit here in a cell retracing history: my parents divorced at an early age in my life. At five years old I sustained large burns from climbing a cabinet too close to the stove. Right after that, in September 1977, my father was shot and killed by a Sears and Roebuck security officer.

Enduring through many struggles of life, at 17 I was blessed with a miracle. My firstborn

son Lil Anthony was soon followed by my second child. The brightness of my life continued through the years as I delivered three more children, all girls. Two of my daughters have graduated from high school and the youngest, my baby, she's well on her way. I need help reaching my fourth child; she's headed in the wrong direction. God forbid I should lose her too.

I believe I can reach her as well as others, if I could just get some community action. The justice system is not set up for those who have fallen in society. I'm just a voice seeking to share my life's story as an example for better tomorrows. Don't let this happen to your family.

Turn off the TV news drama. Open the curtains to your hearts. Quit turning away. Say this: "I want to help towards a non-violent community." We need intervention. It's too late when the coroner's office contacts you.

Family and friends hold cherished memories of Lil Anthony. His unique vivacious personality and happy-go-lucky character brought sunshine to the lives of many. He always seemed to joke, bringing a smile to others. My Lil Anthony was also labeled as a notorious gangster who wore a bulletproof

vest.

My interest in sharing with you this family's story is to reach out: bring an awareness to those of you who have children active as gang members, or are witnesses to gang activities. Let's come together. My question is, do the children feel they have to protect themselves by violence? And what can we give them to ease their path to becoming productive citizens?

I fell through the cracks of the system. Now I'm speaking to the women in prison church about the pain and losses endured throughout a lifetime. If I reach just one person then Lil Anthony will not have died in vain. And like so many others whose cries for help were not heard, my grieving comes from long roots.

Take a good look at what's happened here. Another case is still pending in the courts, one I am unable to attend. My son's killer, another family torn apart because of violence. A true concern develops: how could this have been prevented? Please write with your suggestions, opinions, and concerns for a non-violent community.

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