

## POLICE NEWS

### Crime Stoppers: Assault And Robbery

The Vancouver, Washington Police Department, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, is asking for your help in solving an assault and robbery case that occurred at the Carpenters' Union Hall, 612 E. McLoughlin, in Vancouver.

On Friday, January, 8, 1999, at approximately 6:50 in the morning, a 36-year-old Union Organizer, for the Carpenters' union,

arrived and was unlocking the front door to the hall, when he was attacked from behind and knocked unconscious by an unknown suspect or suspects. Approximately an hour later another employee, arriving at work, found the victim still laying on the floor.

Stolen was the victim's black wallet, containing identification and \$200 in cash, and a black briefcase

containing union related information and material.

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 need not give your name. Call either the Vancouver Police Department at (360) 696-8116, or Crime Stoppers at (503) 823-HELP.

### Portland Man Has Pleaded Guilty

A Portland man has pleaded guilty in Multnomah County Circuit Court to theft in the second degree resulting from his failure to report wages while receiving workers' compensation benefits for a job-related injury.

Ronald W. Walsh entered the guilty plea October 16, 1998. He was sentenced to two years probation and ordered to pay SAIF Corporation \$126.85 in restitution. Walsh is currently serving prison time in the State of Washington on an unrelated charge and also faced other

unrelated felony charges in the State of Oregon.

Walsh was employed as an installer of heating and cooling equipment for a Portland company when he suffered a work-related injury in January 1997. SAIF accepted the claim, which entitled Walsh to receive disability benefits while off work recovering from the injury. A subsequent investigation by SAIF's Fraud and Investigation Division revealed that Walsh had returned to his job, but failed to inform SAIF or to

report his wages as required by law.

SAIF is Oregon's largest worker's compensation insurer with 35,000 policyholders. SAIF's anti-fraud program has saved the company and its policyholders an estimated \$23 Million since 1990. SAIF maintains a confidential toll free telephone number (1-800-282-8822) which the public may use to report fraud cases. Fraud can also be reported over the internet by e-mailing: fraud@saif.com.

### Get Tough on Crime: Focus on Victim's Rights

The paramount customer of the justice system is the victim, claims Dennis Maloney, Director of Deschutes County Community Justice, in Fall 1998 issue of *Oregon's Future*, a participation public affairs magazine. "To get tough on crime we must focus on victims' rights and community justice. It is more cost effective to hold the offender directly accountable to the victim, rather than pay for incarceration."

In Deschutes county the primary content of offender supervision is restitution and support of the victim. Victims help determine appropriate restitution and meaningful community service. Offenders pay restitution approaching 90 percent

compared to a national average of 33 percent. This actually "helps build a bond between the offender and the community while restoring victims," says Maloney. Citizen involvement in the justice system occurs at all levels. In the case of person-to-person crimes, the county assures that a supportive volunteer will be by the victim's side within minutes.

Sentencing in Deschutes county reserves prison space for dangerous person-to-person offenders and chronic, unstopable property offenders. Savings are used for crime prevention through community projects. This money is managed by a citizens' commission on Children and Families. Community service projects have in-

cluded building a child abuse center with the local rotary club and building a community park. Offenders will build an entire house for habitat for Humanity.

The community has demonstrated overwhelming support for a community justice approach and officials maintain that community justice and due process are entirely compatible. "We will be tough on crime," states Maloney, "when we make sentencing decisions that work and this includes making offenders responsible to their community."

Maloney's article "Justice and the Community" can be read in the forum on criminal justice in the Fall of Oregon's Future. To subscribe to Oregon's Future, call (503) 731-9938.

### GRIEF RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP

Beaverton Christian Church announces the formation of a Grief Recovery Support Group for

those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. It will begin meeting on Tuesday Jan, 19, 1999

at 7:00 p.m. For more information please call 646-2151, ext. 240

## Observing Vancouver

### Public forum will address aquatics issues

The Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation aquatics program invites interested community members to visit our public forums. The forum will provide an opportunity for residents to discuss programming, personnel of facility issues with the aquat-

ics staff. Participants are encouraged to bring questions, suggestions and concerns. This is the first of four meetings set in 1999. The forum is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, at 6 p.m. at Marshall Center.

Marshall Center is at 1009

E. McLoughlin Blvd. Call 696-8239 for more details.

City of Vancouver Department of Information Services - (360)696-8016 - FAX (360)696-8942

e-mail: Vaninfo@ci.Vancouver.wa.us  
swimforum

### Tri-Met tests new yield signs

Tri-Met is testing yield signs that will help buses and traffic flow more safely and smoothly.

The signs, backed by a new state law, gives buses the right-of-way when pulling back into traffic after serving bus stops. Making it easier for buses to merge back into traffic enhances safety for passengers and motorists, and helps keep buses on schedule. To

serve bus stops, Tri-Met bus operators typically pull in and out of traffic some 400 times during an 8-hour shift.

Tri-Met will test the signs through February on six buses traveling throughout the metropolitan area. The flashing, illuminated signs are located near the left taillight. After completing the test and making any necessary

modifications to the prototype signs, Tri-Met will order enough signs for all buses and hopes to install them by July. Transit agencies throughout the state will also order the same signs for their buses.

Failure to yield right-of-way to the buses in these circumstances is a Class D traffic infraction, subject to a \$75 fine.

## Multnomah County Library's North Portland Branch Library To Close For Year Of Renovation

Public meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m.

Multnomah County Library's North Portland Branch Library, located at 512 N. Killingsworth Ave., will close for renovation on Sunday, Feb. 28 at 5 p.m. Once construction begins, the project is expected to take one year to complete at an estimated cost of \$1,884,000.

A public meeting to discuss the renovation project will be held Tuesday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. at the library.

"The North Portland Branch Library was built in 1913 and is a beautiful classic Carnegie library with a brick exterior and open-beamed wooden ceilings inside," says Ginnie Cooper, director of libraries for Multnomah County. "It's also an unreinforced masonry building that needs extensive renovation work, while preserving its historic quality."

When the 9,500-square-foot building reopens, it will meet modern day seismic codes in addition to receiving a new roof, plumbing upgrades, and elevator to provide disabled access to the second floor meeting room, and additional public restroom and new electrical and telecommunications improvements to support public computer stations. New interior lighting and furnish-

ings will reflect the historic nature of the building.

In addition to providing library services to library patrons in north and northeast Portland, the North Portland Branch Library is also home to the Multnomah County Library's Black Resources Center, a special collection of materials relating to the African-American experience. The center also contains works by African and Caribbean writers. Additional collections include Spanish and Vietnamese language materials.

While the North Portland Branch Library is closed, library users will be urged to use the St. Johns Branch Library, located 7510 N. Charleston, or the Hollywood Branch Library, located at 3930 N.E. Hancock.

Voters approved general obligation bond funding to finance Multnomah County Library's branch renovation project in 1996, responding to problems caused by long-deferred maintenance, new seismic codes, new Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) standards and the need for electronic infrastructure to support new technology. The multi-year project, expected to be

completed in 2002, includes improvements to nine libraries and the replacement of the Woodstock, Hollywood and Hillsdale branch libraries. Central Library, which opened in April 1997 after an extensive renovation, and the Midland Regional Library, which opened in September 1996, are not part of the project.

North Portland Branch Library patrons and others who would like to receive ongoing informational mailings about the project may register at any branch of the Multnomah County Library or by calling 248-5402. Ongoing information about the project is also available via home, office or in-library computer on the library's web site (<http://www.multnomah.lib.or.us/lib/>).

A "garage" sale, featuring shelving, furniture and miscellaneous items that will not be used in the renovated North Portland Branch Library or in other Multnomah County Library branches will be held at the library from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday, Mar. 13. Items that are purchased at the sale must be removed from the library at the time of purchase.

## Attention: All Gladys McCoy Academy Alumni

The Gladys McCoy Academy Alumni is hosting a meeting on forming an alumni association and fundraising on Friday, February

12, 1999, at 3 PM.. The Gladys McCoy Academy is located at 3802 NE MLK Jr Blvd., Portland, Oregon. All alumni are welcomed

to attend. Contact Miss Darrina Muhammad, Class of 1997 at 281-9597 or by fax 281-8817 for more information.

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