



New Native American Center

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Coco, out on her own with her new solo album

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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Wilt Chamberlain Dies at 63

LOS ANGELES - Wilt Chamberlain, the 7-foot-1 center who dominated the NBA in the 1960s, died at the age of 63. Chamberlain's body was found by authorities who were called to his Bel-Air home shortly after noon PDT, said the Los Angeles Lakers. A fire department spokesman said there were signs that Chamberlain might have had a heart attack. Chamberlain played from 1959 to 1973 for the Philadelphia (later the San Francisco) Warriors, the Philadelphia 76ers and the Lakers.

Pakistani Coup

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN - Pakistani troops staged a coup against the democratically elected government, seizing state-run media and confining the prime minister to his home in a move that raised tensions in the world's newest nuclear region. In a TV address, Army Chief Gen. Pervez Musharraf accused the government of "systematically destroying" state institutions and driving the economy toward collapse.

Pinochet Ruling

LONDON - Mary Robinson, U.N. high commissioner for human rights, recently called a ruling that Chile's Gen. Augusto Pinochet should stand trial on charges of torture, "a signal of hope to those fighting for justice for victims of human rights violations." A London magistrate ruled that the former dictator should be extradited to Spain to stand trial on charges he ordered the torture of political opponents during his 17-year rule.

London Crash

LONDON - The crash of two packed commuter trains that killed at least 30 people could have been prevented by a warning system that would have stopped one train from passing through a red signal, explained recently in an official report. Authorities confirmed the identities of 11 victims, but remained far from determining how many people died in Britain's worst train crash in a decade or more.

Helping the World's Poor

WASHINGTON - President Clinton says the world's nations must work harder to erase the grinding poverty in which many people spend their lives. He was responding to estimates by the United Nations that the world's population hit the 6 billion mark. "We must refuse to accept the future in which one part of humanity lives on the cutting edge of a new economy, while another part lives on the edge of survival," Clinton said.

U.S. Has \$1 Billion Surplus

WASHINGTON - The federal government ran a \$1 billion surplus excluding Social Security in the last fiscal year, the Congressional Budget Office had estimated. It would be the first such surplus since 1960. The fiscal 1999 surplus would have been larger had congressional Republicans and President Clinton not agreed to \$21 billion in "emergency" spending for defense and domestic programs, including \$15 billion for Kosovo and aid to U.S. farmers.

Mayor Katz Co-Chairs Evaluation of Progress of Albina Community Plan

-Five years have passed since the adoption of the Albina Community Plan. Now, Mayor Vera Katz and City Planners want to evaluate how the Plan's challenges have been met and to recognize the progress led by residents and community and civic leaders.

On October 11, the public, along with community and private sector organizations and agencies identified to implement the Plan, reviewed how the Plan's original 1993 vision, goals, policies, and strategies for revitalization of this inner city area have

been met. The meetings will also identify opportunities for future attention and application of resources for improved public safety, business growth, and education.

Mayor Vera Katz co-hosted the meeting on October 11 with the public and community leaders from the North/Northeast Economic Development Alliance, Portland Public Schools, Multnomah County, and civic organizations.

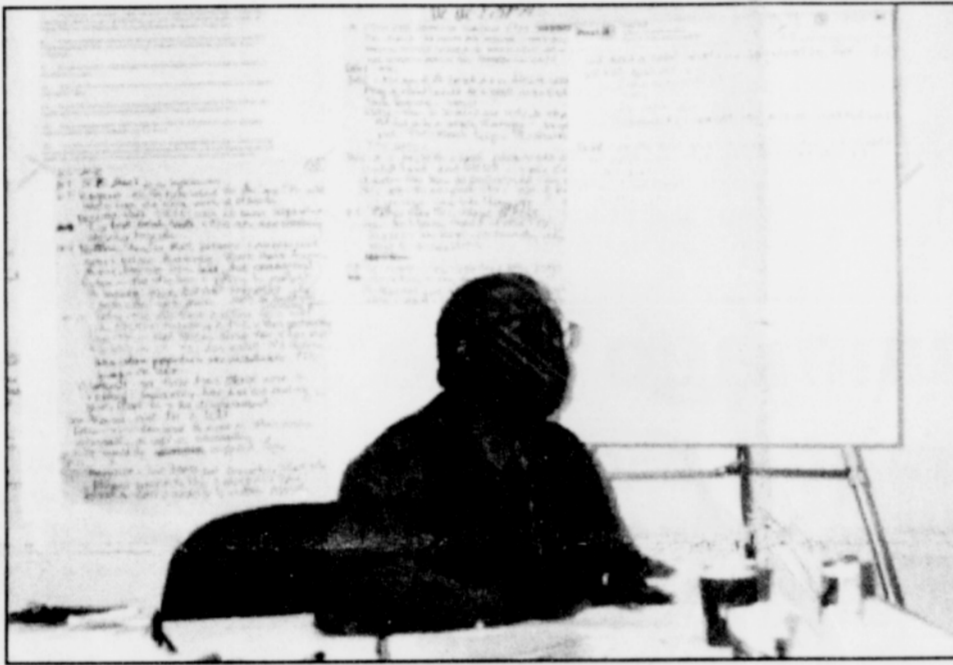
The Alliance recently completed a preliminary review of the performance of the Albina Community Plan and its action charts. This report is available by calling Portland's Bureau of Planning at 823-7700 or the Alliance at 249-7744.

The North/Northeast Economic Development Alliance was one of the critical community-based originators, drafters, and implementers for the Albina Community Plan.

Other partners included the Audubon Society, Portland



Community College, Tri-Met, the Port of Portland, and Habitat for Humanity. The inner north and northeast neighborhood and business associations were also key members in the drafting of documents and actions and identifying action implementers for the plans.



Help Available for Humboldt Property Owners

There is government help available for new and would-be businesses in north-northeast Portland's Humboldt neighborhood, and more is on the way. Such help is available through the Humboldt Target Area program.

The program is a partnership between the Humboldt Neighborhood Association, the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods and the Bureau of Housing and Community Development.

It is available to businesses and property owners along North and Northeast Killingsworth Street between North Rodney Avenue and the I-5 Freeway, and North Albina Avenue between Skidmore and Ainsworth streets, plus properties within two blocks of either corridor.

One aid available to the target area, through the Portland Development Commission, are Development Assistance Strategy grants. These are matching funds, with PDC picking up 75 percent of the tab, to help businesses and property owners prepare for development or redevelopment. They can cover soils tests, architects' or consultants' fees, or city pre-application conferences.

Often such costs can prevent property owners from proceeding with or even making plans to utilize their properties, Domic Boswell of the Portland Office of Transportation told a recent gathering of property owners called by the Humboldt Target Area program.

"People assume that property owners have a lot of money, and that isn't always the case," Boswell said. "People may have inherited property, or bought it when it was cheap.

Now that property values are rising, they may decide it's time to do something with it. Then they may go

to an architect who tells them that he'll charge \$80 an hour, and often that's where it ends.

To qualify for assistance, property owners must state in writing what sort of assistance they want and to what purpose.

The letter need not be a formal document; it can be a simple sentence declaration Boswell said. It is as much to ensure that the applicant gets the assistance he was promised as anything else, he said.

The applicant need not follow through with a completed project to qualify, he said. "This is what we call dream money," he said. "Suppose after looking into this he says, 'This isn't going to work, I'm not going to make any money out of this, I don't want to do it.' Well, he can pull out, no questions asked."

Another form of help is the Storefront Improvement Program, in which PDC makes 50 percent matching grants to improve the sides of buildings facing public streets.

PDC will provide up to \$5,000 to



business owners, or up to \$15,000 to building owners, PDC's Dana DeKlyen said. Business owners who apply must have either a long-term lease or a long-term presence at the location, she said there are other requirements and limitations to both programs. In both cases, the applicant must secure the money, the matching portion of which PDC will later pay. It is not available to land uses that are religious or wholly residential in nature, although mixed-use projects may apply, or to businesses such as taverns that do not admit minors.

A third source of help, for public improvements, may soon be available through the proposed Interstate Urban

Renewal District.

In urban renewal districts, "tax increment funds," property taxes from the area in excess of those collected at the time the district was created, are reserved for public improvements in the area. The city is considering creating such a district to help pay for the proposed Interstate MAX light rail project. According to PDC's Michael McElwee, the district may be designed to collect additional revenues to pay for additional projects, and could extend east of I-5 into the Humboldt district.

For more information about these programs, or about the Humboldt Target Area, call Carl Flipper at 282-4780.