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See El Observador Miracle Theatre presents Baile Romantico

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# The Portland Observer

## MLK Jr. Safeway struggles with possible closure

BY LEE PERLEMAN OF THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Safeway wants community support to retain its package store liquor license at its Martin Luther King store after OLCC violations and is seeking help from the community.

The King Neighborhood Association and the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods are willing to consider it, but in return they want a substantially different store. Such was the substance of two community meetings on the issue last week.

According to Safeway publicist Bridget Flanigan and regional manager Mark DiGregorio, the store at 5920 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. has sold liquor to Oregon Liquor Control Commission agents.

This has occurred despite the fact that the store has tightened its liquor sales procedures, requiring clerks to ask for identification from anyone who appears to be under 40, to copy information from identification onto the sales slip, and summarily firing anyone who violates these procedures.

The store is now threatened with the loss of its license, they said, and this could affect its future.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/PORTLAND OBSERVER

"The store is in serious jeopardy," Flanigan told the Northeast Coalition board. "We've never had a store that didn't have a basic license. It could cost us a lot of money and make the store unprofitable."

DiGregorio, while not directly linking a liquor license to continued operation, said, "Safeway doesn't run unprofitable stores. We only run stores that are profitable or show that they will be." He added that of supermarkets that used to operate in this area, "Safeway is the only one left."

The store is hoping to enlist support from the community for retaining its license. Such support proved crucial recently when OLCC chose not to revoke the license of Zupan's Market on Southeast Belmont Street despite several violations.

Several people present, including two women from the Concordia neighborhood to the east, said they considered the store's continuation essential.

Others, including King Association leaders, were critical of the way the store was run. They asked why it hadn't received the sort of makeover

(Please see 'Safeway' Page 7)

## Black History Month



Backstage at the Apollo Theatre during the night of the National Deliverance of Prayer lead by Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. on March 28, 1956. Clara Ward of the Ward Singers leads a prayer service while her mother, Mrs. Gertrude Ward, Apollo employee Russell Cooper and Ward Singer Katherine Parham, eyes closed, join in prayer.

## PSU wants option to arm security officers

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Portland State University is advancing a proposal to allow state universities to arm their campus security officers, even though school leaders say they have no plans to do so.

PSU President Dan Bernstine said Monday that the plan doesn't mean he considers the campus unsafe. But he said universities should have the option to arm officers if they choose.

"Portland State is a very safe campus, but times change," he said. The proposal would require a change in state law, which prohibits campus security officers from bearing arms.

But the idea of giving guns to campus cops is drawing questions from some campus leaders.

"I'm not comfortable with it," said Tim Young, student body president. "I'm not convinced guns are the answer to safety."

The Oregon Board of Higher Education is expected to discuss the issue later this spring.

Any change, however, is a long way off. The higher education board would need to approve the idea, then ask the Legislature to change state law. If the Legislature approves, a campus would need to petition the board before taking up arms.

PSU officials say Oregon is the only state with a law prohibiting campus officers from carrying weapons.

Police are called in some cases. PSU employs an unarmed force that has the power to make arrests. However, when there's a potential for violence or if other circumstances warrant, it calls in Portland police to handle the situation.

Other campuses have their own arrangements. Oregon State University, for example, contracts with the state police for campus security.

(Please see 'Weapons' page 7)

### Correction

There was an error in the February 16 issue of The Portland Observer. Anise Perry was the first Black Princess in 1968 and Robin Marx was the first Black Queen of Rosaria.

### Weather

Through the weekend

Today		47°F/9°C
Mostly cloudy		38°F/3°C
Thursday		51°F/10°C
Partly cloudy		41°F/5°C

Friday		52°F/11°C
Partly cloudy		43°F/6°C
Saturday		55°F/13°C
Mostly cloudy		41°F/5°C
Sunday		55°F/13°C
Showers		41°F/5°C

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### This Week in History

February 23, 1954, the first mass inoculation of children against polio with the Salk vaccine began in Pittsburgh.  
 February 25, 1870, Hiram R. Revels, R-Miss., became the first black member of the U.S. Senate as he was sworn in to serve out the unexpired term of Jefferson Davis.  
 February 26, 1993, a bomb exploded in the garage of New York's World Trade Center, killing six people and injuring more than 1,000 others.  
 In 1993, a gun battle erupted near Waco, Texas, when Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents tried to serve warrants on the Branch Davidians; four agents and six Davidians were killed as a 51-day standoff began.