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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Former Hostages Visit Libya

TRIPOLI, Libya—With their long ordeal in the Philippines behind them, six former hostages arrived in Tripoli on Tuesday and attended a ceremony where official after official lavishly praised Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi's role in securing their freedom.

Ramseys Meet With Investigators

ATLANTA—John and Patsy Ramsey wrapped up two days of questioning from authorities investigating their daughter's death, and their attorney called on police to publicly clear the couple as suspects.

Gore to Bush: Put Up or Shut Up

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.—Al Gore, turning his focus to children's health, says it is "put up or shut up time" for George W. Bush to begin dealing with the specifics of campaign issues.

Firestone Admits Tire Mislabeling

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Some Bridgestone/Firestone Inc. tires supplied to Ford Motor Co. in Venezuela did not have a nylon layer even though they had been labeled as having the safety feature, the tire maker said.

Wen Ho Lee May Be Free Soon

RED LODGE, Mont.—Firefighters and equipment poured in Tuesday to attack a wildfire that had chased 150 families from their homes, as the governor appealed to the president for more federal help.

Russians To Cut Submarine Open

MOSCOW—Russia wants to begin efforts to recover the bodies of 118 men who died aboard the sunken nuclear submarine Kursk in September by cutting holes in the vessel's hull, Deputy Prime Minister Ilya Klebanov said Tuesday.

Clinton Meets Mubarak in Peace Quest

CAIRO, Egypt—President Clinton and Egyptian President Mubarak, emerging as the two main mediators in Mideast peacemaking, committed themselves to finding a solution but indicated no breakthrough was near after meeting Tuesday.

Math SAT Scores Highest Since 1969

High School students' math scores on the SAT climbed this year to the highest level since 1969, while verbal scores held steady for a fifth year.

Pride surges as crime falls in Portland's Northeast

Newly released results of a Portland Police Bureau public opinion poll are the latest positive indicator, showing that Northeast Portland residents give their neighborhoods significantly higher approval ratings than they did four years ago. Not only do residents say those neighborhoods look better maintained, they also feel safer than they have since 1994, marking some of the highest jumps in this year's citywide survey.

Alberta Street Fair 2000 is soon to be upon us

CONTRIBUTOR STORY
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

This year's Alberta Street Fair is coming Saturday, September 16, 2000 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Northeast Portland's premier fair will stretch from NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. to NE 33rd Avenue, the city's longest street fair. With a cacophony of multicultural dance, music, art, poetry, puppetry, food, kids activities, community service and just plain fun, the street will celebrate its cultural diversity.

There will be a dedication of new colorful banners on the street at 11:45 am at the Mainstage. Through a grant from the Regional Arts and Culture Commission (RACC), Alberta Street gets twenty new banners reflecting the streets culture and vibrancy. The banner public art project was designed and constructed by Judee moonbeam and several of the community's students.

Bands and other entertainment such as Boka Marimba (Zimbabwe), Chatta Addy (Ghana), St. James Gate (Irish), Portland Taiko (Japanese drummers), Johnny Martin (jazz) and Gypsy Caravan (Middle Eastern music & dance), African Pride (Nigerian dancers), Neftali Rivera (Puerto Rican music), Candelario Zamudio (Mexican Folk Music), Antonio Centurion (Paraguyan Harp Music), and Elvian Kawulusan (Javanese Mask Dance), will perform on four different stages on the street.

A free horse-drawn trolley from Rocking horse Ranch and a bus from Billy Reed's Restaurant will carry weary fair goers and eager children alike up and down NE Alberta between venues. There will be a gala celebration dance and fundraiser for the Alberta Street Fair the evening of the fair. It will be at the Alberta Station, 1839 NE Alberta, in the ballroom and will feature Palante, a Latin band, and dance

performance by Salsa Con Sabor's Margarita and Erick. Billy Reed's Restaurant, who is also catering the food, is sponsoring the event. The Alberta Street Fair is in the third year and had grown larger and better. This

year there are more merchants, vendors, galleries and restaurants participating, as well as the Northwest Medical Teams Health Van. There will be medical personnel available to provide free children's immunizations.

Volunteers are needed to help set up on the day of the Street Fair. To be a vendor, donate funds or in-kind volunteer on the day of the fair or to get more information, please call (503)972-2206 and leave a message.



A food vender at last years Alberta Street Fair sells food at the event.

PHOTO BY NORM WHITTER/CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Court rules LAPD can be sued for racketeering

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The city's police department can be sued under federal racketeering laws by people who claim corrupt officers from the Rampart station violated their civil rights, a judge has ruled.

The ruling, reported in Tuesday's Los Angeles Times, could make the Los Angeles Police Department the first in the nation to be sued as a racketeering enterprise.

The move also could increase the city's estimated liability of \$100 million for police corruption cases, since the federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act allows damages to be tripled.

The LAPD had no immediate comment on Monday's ruling because it had not been briefed on it, police spokesman David Kalish said.

U.S. District Judge William Rea's ruling stems from a lawsuit filed on behalf of Louie Guerrero, who claims officers from the Rampart station choked, kicked and punched him and then arrested him on trumped up charges in 1997. Guerrero sued the city for alleged civil rights and racketeering violations. The suit was filed on behalf of Guerrero and any others in similar situations. City attorneys argued the case should be tossed out because the one-year statute of limitations had passed. The judge's ruling, however, places the lawsuit under the RICO law, which has a statute of limitations of 10 years.

More than 100 convictions have been overturned since the LAPD corruption scandal was uncovered last year after allegations officers in an anti-gang unit at the Rampart station beat, shot and framed innocent people.



Former Neil Kelly Remodelers building demolished



As N.E. Portland's Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. continues to experience its rapid growth and need for renovation, old landmarks... fall by the wayside to make way for new construction. Such as the former Neil Kelly Remodelers building pictured here on the corner of MLK Jr. Blvd. and N.E. Ainsworth St.