

Portland Observer **Family**

# Caldwell to Guide Blazer Boys and Girls Club

Jason Caldwell is the new director of the Blazer Boys and Girls Club at 5250 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Caldwell previously served as a community school outreach coordinator for the Salem-Keizer School District and as an outreach coordinator for the Boys and Girls Club in Salem.

His work coordinating parent involvement and family activities made him the perfect choice for the Portland position, club officials said.

"Caldwell's dedication and service to youth and families are a tremendous asset to the Blazers Club," say Virginia Hensen, executive director of the Boys and



Jason Caldwell

Girls Club of Portland.

Caldwell currently provides volunteer leadership for the American Leadership Forum, Young Leaders Forum, Salem Transit District Budget Committee and the Governors Legislative Task Force on Search and Seizure.

"I am proud to be a member of Boys and Girls Club of Portland

team," Caldwell said. "Boys and Girls Clubs is a great organization because it gives every child across cultures the best advantage possible." Since 1947, Boys and Girls Clubs of Portland has provided high-quality after-school and summer programs designed to give kids what they need most to become responsible citizens and community lead-

ers. Clubs offer kids safe, clean fun places to go when they are not in school; caring adults who respect and guide them; and challenging programs that teach them life skills.

The clubs are dedicated to helping all youth reach their maximum potential, with special concern for those from disadvantaged circumstances.

# Fairs Take Precautions for Foot-And-Mouth Disease

The furor over an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in the United Kingdom has died down. But animal health officials are not going to relax—especially with this summer's county fair season.

Without alarming exhibitors or fairgoers themselves, a set of recommended guidelines has been issued to fair managers in hopes of diminishing the risk not only of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth, but other communicable livestock diseases as well.

Foot-and-mouth is a severe, highly communicable viral disease of cattle and swine. It also affects sheep, goats, deer and other cloven-hoofed animals. Most affected animals recover, but the disease causes severe losses in meat and milk production. It is not a food safety problem, nor is it a

human disease concern.

Animal health officials are hoping county fairs can provide some opportunity this summer for proper biosecurity and disease control.

Although humans are not susceptible to foot-and-mouth disease, they can serve as carriers. The virus can exist on a person's clothing or hair or even respiratory system for many days. That's why anyone who has recently traveled to affected countries needs to be aware that they can unwittingly transmit the disease.

A special task force of veterinarians and industry officials has developed a series of recommendations issued to Oregon's fair managers in preparation for the upcoming season.

The first recommendation is the

posting of signs at ticket booths and around all animal holding areas. The signs would warn people who had traveled overseas within the previous two weeks to not visit animal exhibits.

A second recommendation has to do with the placement and use of footbaths—containers holding a sponge soaked with disinfectant. Fairgoers would be asked to step into those footbaths before entering animal holding areas.

While footbaths can raise consciousness about biosecurity, they actually could enhance disease transmission if not kept clean. Unless footbaths can be scrupulously maintained, the task force recom-

mends against their use at fairs. In relation to general disease control management, the task force reinforces the

concept that all animals entering the fair be checked by the fair veterinarian and that fair boards and managers

support the vet's decisions. The treatment and reporting of sick animals is important. Animal housing should be

# Walks to Set Priorities

## Public input to shape Northwest development

Community members are joining city planners for a series of four neighborhood walks this month and next through Northwest Portland.

Public input from these walks will help shape the city's Northwest Area Plan.

The project comes at a critical point in the development of Northwest Portland, now faced with dynamic new opportunities and

challenges provided by several converging trends.

Not only has the area recently seen the emergence of Northwest 23<sup>rd</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Avenues as Portland's most bustling "main streets" but development in the Pearl District is booming.

The Portland streetcar now runs through the area and historically industrial areas north of Northwest Lovejoy may be on the cusp

of a transformation that will include new commercial and residential development.

"These walks will take planning to the people who live in the neighborhoods to ensure they will have a say about their future," said Mayor Vera Katz.

Planners will record participant's ideas in writing and volunteer architects will sketch

# Alcohol, Drugs Linked to Student Failure and Crime

A new state survey says Oregon students who use alcohol or drugs are more likely to fail school, commit crimes and behave violently.

"This report confirms what teachers, police officers and social workers see every day," says Gov. John Kitzhaber. "There is a strong correlation between drinking alcohol or taking drugs with trouble at school, and juvenile delinquency

The Oregon Department of Human Services released "Oregon Public School Drug Use Survey 2000," a biennial poll of 12,000 Oregon 6th, 8th and 11th grade students conducted last spring in 159 schools.

Survey respondents were asked about recent alcohol and drug use, academic performance, and criminal and vio-

lent behaviors.

Barbara Cimaglio, administrator of the departments' Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs, says the resulting data show the stark consequences of substance abuse by young people in each of the three grades surveyed. Respondents who recently used alcohol or drugs skipped classes, earned failing grades or received suspensions at far higher rates than those who did not use such substances.

The same pattern occurred with criminal and violent acts. For example, a disproportionate number of recent alcohol or drug users brought handguns to use as weapon in a fight, or stole a car.

Every two years, the state survey also collected information about the use of alcohol and drugs among Oregon's

students. With a few exceptions, substance use fell slightly in each of the three grades polled.

"The good news is that our anti-drug and anto-alcohol messages are working," says Cimaglio. "The bad news is that substance abuse remains a major problem for young people and society as a whole."

According to the 2000 report, 41.8 percent of 11th graders, 26.4 percent of 8th graders (up from 26 percent in 1998), and 7.8 percent of 6th graders reported drinking alcohol recently.

Significant numbers of Oregon students also continued to use marijuana in 2000. Almost 18 percent of 11th graders reported using the drug in the 30 days prior to the survey.

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# Oregon Gallery Guide Available

The Oregon Arts Commission has released the 2001 Oregon Gallery Guide, a directory of nearly 400 gallery listings from across the state.

"The Arts Commission is committed to promoting the work of Oregon artists and supporting the arts as an eco-

nomie development strategy," said Christine D'Arcy, commission director. "The Oregon Gallery Guide focuses attention on the visual arts in our state and the vitality of the art market here."

The gallery guide is available on-line at the

commission's Web site at <http://art.econ.state.or.us> and at art galleries, convention and visitors bureaus, welcome centers and Oregon's regional arts councils. To request a copy, call 503-986-0082 in Salem or e-mail [oregon.artscomm@state.or.us](mailto:oregon.artscomm@state.or.us).

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