

Portland **Opinion** Observer

Opinion articles do not necessarily reflect or represent the views of The Portland Observer

The Portland Observer

USPS 959-680

Established 1970

STAFF

EDITOR IN CHIEF,

PUBLISHER

Charles H. Washington

EDITOR

Larry J. Jackson, Sr.

BUSINESS MANAGER

Gary Ann Taylor

ASST. PUBLISHER

Michael Leighton

COPY EDITOR

Joy Ramos

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Robert Parker

4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

Portland, OR 97211

503-288-0033

Fax 503-288-0015

e-mail

news@portlandobserver.com

subscription@portlandobserver.com

ads@portlandobserver.com

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to

Portland Observer

PO Box 3137

Portland, OR 97208

Periodical Postage paid in Portland, OR

Subscriptions are \$60.00 per year

DEADLINES

FOR ALL SUBMITTED MATERIALS:

ARTICLES:

Monday by 5 P.M.

ADS:

Friday by noon

The Portland Observer welcomes freelance submissions. Manuscripts and photographs should be clearly labeled and will be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed envelope. All created design display ads become the sole property of the newspaper and cannot be used in other publications or personal usage without the written consent of the general manager, unless the client has purchased the composition of such ad. © 1996 THE PORTLAND OBSERVER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED.

The Portland Observer—Oregon's Oldest Multicultural Publication—is a member of the National Newspaper Association—Founded in 1885, and The National Advertising Representative Amalgamated Publishers, Inc. New York, NY, and The West Coast Black Publishers Association • Serving Portland and Vancouver.

School Board's Derry Jackson Apologizes

Editor's Note: A Portland school board member who made divisive statements about Jews to The Oregonian newspaper issued a written apology.

Derry Jackson, who is black, said several days ago that Jews run the country and the school board, often at the expense of black students.

Wednesday, Jackson issued the following statement:

First of all, I would like to sincerely apologize to the students served by the Portland Public School District and to the students of the State of Oregon. My first obligation is to the quality of education provided to all of our children and to the importance of the re-

spect for diversity that is our strength.

Second I sincerely apologize to the Jewish Community for any statements that may have been construed as divisive or in any way damaging to the hard work that has already been done to bring the Jewish and African American communities into a cooperative relationship.

Thirdly, I apologize to the Portland Public School Board for the embarrassment and diversion my statements have caused. I absolutely realize the weight of the task we as a Board are charged with. I intend to do my best to fulfill my charge as a Board member toward the quality of education promised to our children.

Finally I apologize to the voters in Portland who placed their trust in me to lead our education system into excellence. I intend to continue to work toward the best standards and practices set out by the state of Oregon and the Portland Public School Board.

Derry Jackson, Portland Public School Board Member

Opinions Issued on Jackson Controversy

Apology Not Sincere

I have read transcripts of Mr. Jackson's interview with The Oregonian. I have read his written apology. I have reviewed the videotaped School Board interaction between Marc Abrams and Derry Jackson that started this situation. All this, in addition to reviewing the media coverage.

I said that Derry Jackson should apologize to the community for the anti-Semitic comments he made.

I have worked in public service over 30 years, and in that time I've have made a few mistakes myself.

I know what it means to apologize. I know a sincere apology when I hear one.

Mr. Jackson's statement does not cut it. His future is now in the hands of the voters.

Vera Katz  
Mayor, Portland

Board Needs Replacement

The Portland New Party, which was in large part responsible for Derry Jackson's election to the school board, condemns his recent anti-Jewish and anti-gay statements.

Because of these and other actions, we believe that Mr. Jackson is unable to effectively carry out his duties as a school board member. The party will begin a search for his successor.

The Portland New Party spoke to thousands of voters and distributed tens of thousands of pieces of literature urging Derry Jackson's election. Jackson helped craft and signed onto a detailed NP platform of the "Progressive Parents."

Now, there is ample evidence that Mr. Jackson has abandoned this platform.

Mr. Jackson's statement — "I see

Jews running everything," running the country and the school board — is classic anti-Semitism. His subsequent apology does not recognize this.

Nor does he recognize the anti-gay bias in his recent statements that gays "choose their behavior."

Derry Jackson is no longer a member of the Portland New Party. Mr. Jackson resigned from our organization after we publicly criticized him for breaking his agreement to uphold the ban on military recruiting in our schools.

However, we recognize our responsibility to the volunteers, voters, and community who expect and deserve better than they got. The New Party is beginning the search for a replacement, someone who will be credible and responsible to the children, parents, and communities who are left out and locked out of quality education in Portland.

Rev. Cecil Prescod  
Chair, Portland New Party

Multnomah Commissioners Urge Resignation

The Multnomah Board of County Commissioners sent a letter to Derry Jackson Thursday, urging him to resign from his post on the Portland School Board. Commissioner Lisa Naito was on vacation and not present.

A copy of the Board's letter is below:

Dear Mr. Jackson:

The Board of Multnomah County Commissioners, along with many other Oregonians, are gravely concerned about your recent comments about Jewish people. We condemn such comments against any group in our community. We

are especially disturbed that in your apology statement, you failed both to accept personal responsibility for your remarks and to recognize the severity of your statements.

Those of us serving in elected office have a responsibility to adhere to the highest standards of conduct. This is particularly true when it comes to the execution of our duties related to the office in which we serve.

Your remarks about Jewish people — and your earlier remarks concerning gay people — fall utterly below this standard. These statements (and more importantly the opinions behind them) have irrevocably damaged your credibility. These types of remarks have no place in our community.

While you have stated that you have nothing against Jewish people, your statements were deeply offensive, regardless of the context in which they were made. The vast majority of those who espouse racism do not believe themselves to be racist. If you look at your words and see no anti-Semitism, we would urge you to look again. Whatever reflection might be appropriate on your part, the needs of the community are a different matter. If this community does not stand up and separate itself from your statements, we are sending the wrong message to our children.

We cannot tolerate racism, hate and divisiveness in our community. We join others and ask that you resign your school board position. The stakes here are high — meeting the needs of our community's children must be paramount.

Diane M. Linn  
Maria Rojo de Steffey  
Serena Cruz  
Lonnie Roberts



OUR IDEA OF A BEAUTIFUL DAY AT THE BEACH.

On October 6, hundreds of PGE employees and their families will once again volunteer to pick up tons of trash during the SOLV Fall Beach Cleanup.

We also signed on to sponsor two days of SOLV's inaugural Oregon Legacy Walk, which will raise funds to support volunteer efforts. And there will be at least one PGE employee

walking every mile. Dumpsite cleanups, graffiti removal, planting projects—PGE employees are there.

PGE is proud to support SOLV because we share their goal: to leave a clean, beautiful legacy for our children.

For information about SOLV, or to volunteer, log on to solv



Portland General Electric  
WWW.PORTLANDGENERAL.COM

**Attention SENIORS**

NEW FOR SENIORS ONLY... Safeway Senior Shuttle Service!

Introducing a great new service for our neighborhood senior citizens. FREE grocery shopping "shuttle service" to your nearby Ainsworth & MLK Blvd Safeway Food & Drug and Renaissance Market. TWICE a Month! On or around the 3rd and 15th of each month. This Service is FREE to seniors age 60 and over. Please Seniors... Grandchildren and adults WILL NOT BE PERMITTED on the Shuttle at any time.

LOOK FOR OUR SPECIAL "TRAZ TRANSPORTATION" TROLLEY SERVICE SCHEDULE FLYER AT YOUR MLK BLVD SAFEWAY and RENAISSANCE MARKET FOR COMPLETE DETAILS!

Sponsored by: SAFEWAY FOOD & DRUG

Renaissance Market  
AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF OREGON

For More Information Call 503-572-0812

Visit Safeway's Web site at www.safeway.com

Available at Safeway:

PRICES EFFECTIVE AUGUST 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5	6	6	1	2	3	4

Items & prices in this ad are available at your local Safeway store. No sales to dealers, restaurants or institutions. Sales in retail quantities only. Quantities of some items may be limited and subject to availability. Not responsible for typographical or pictorial errors. We reserve the right to correct or amend this ad. Buy One Get One Free pricing determined by retail or lower value of the item. The lowest priced item is then free. ©2001 Safeway Stores, Inc.

# 20% Meat Sale

Pick Up Your Bag at Your Local Safeway!

**Lucerne Butter**

1-lb. Quarters. Regular or Unsalted. Limit 2 (Includes 1 Free). SAVE up to \$3.43 on 2

**BUY ONE GET ONE FREE**

Safeway Club Price

**Hermiston Sweet Seedless Watermelon**

Whole Melons. Grown in Oregon. SAVE up to \$4.98 on 2

**2 for \$5**

Safeway Club Price

**Lucerne Yogurt**

8-oz. Assorted Regular, Fat Free or Light varieties. SAVE up to \$2.00 on 10

**10 for \$3**

Safeway Club Price

**Now the savings are in the Card!**

ALL LIMITS ARE PER HOUSEHOLD PER DAY!