

## Cooks Prepare for Barbecue Competition

See story, Metro, inside.

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## THE WEEK IN REVIEW

### Accused Pharmacist May Face Serious Charges

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Wealthy pharmacist Robert Courtney remained held without bond after a judge ruled the man accused of purposely weakening chemotherapy drugs is a flight risk. Courtney has admitted he diluted expensive cancer treatments "out of greed."

### 'Living Wage' to Some, 'Business Killer' to Others

SANTAMONICA, Calif. — The tourist industry in this seaside city is fighting a new ordinance that forces employers to nearly double the wages of the workers who make the beds and wash the dishes. The \$10.50-an-hour wage mandate, approved last month, is at the cutting edge of a nationwide campaign for a "living wage."

### Five Dead in Sacramento Shooting Spree

SACRAMENTO — A 27-year-old man stabbed his wife to death and then drove to a home in a nearby suburb where he killed four other people, authorities said. The man and a 3-year-old child believed to have been at the home were being sought.

### Sharpton to Explore '04 Presidential Bid

WASHINGTON — New York civil rights activist Al Sharpton said he will form a committee to explore a possible bid for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2004. Sharpton said that his campaign, if he runs, would focus on reforming the criminal justice and election systems.

### Dems Plan Attack on Bush's Budget

WASHINGTON — Democrats will try to use the shrinking budget surplus to shrivel President Bush's political support this week. Opponents charge that President Bush's income tax cut is to blame for a budget that may already be tapping Social Security reserves to pay for other government programs.

### Fujitsu Will Slash 16,400 Jobs

TOKYO — Determined to stop its losses amid a worldwide electronics slump, Japanese manufacturer Fujitsu is slashing 9% of its global work force. Fujitsu will cut 16,400 jobs from its work force of 180,000. About 11,400 of the cuts will be at overseas operations.

### Study: Smoking Deaths Rising in China

LONDON — One-third of all the young men in China will be dead from smoking within the next few decades unless habits there change, new research forecasts. The study, published this week in the *British Medical Journal*, tracks the rising death toll from smoking in China.

## Vote Could Resolve Church Conflict

By MICHAEL LEIGHTON  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A north and northeast Portland church congregation should be able to vote on whether to retain the services of its pastor.

The Oregon Attorney General's office and state Department of Justice made that recommendation after an investigation of the First Avenue Baptist Church on North Vancouver Avenue and its pastor, Amzie Bailey.

The one-year long inquiry focused on whether general principles of governance were being upheld at the church and whether Bailey should remain in his position as leader of the organization.

Investigators said the church appears to be performing adequately in the financial area. However, department officials said much of the information requested was never provided, more than likely because it was not kept, and that the church's financial controls are deficient.

The department found no evidence that money intended to benefit the church was deposited in accounts other than church accounts, or that money was spent on purposes other than those benefiting the church.

One of the most critical parts of the investigation found that Pastor Bailey has been unresponsive to the church membership, with a disregard for church bylaws that has disrupted the church to the point that it threatens its survival.

"Pastor Bailey appears to be governing the church from a position of sole authority rather than as a leader responsive to the members of his organization," the report said.

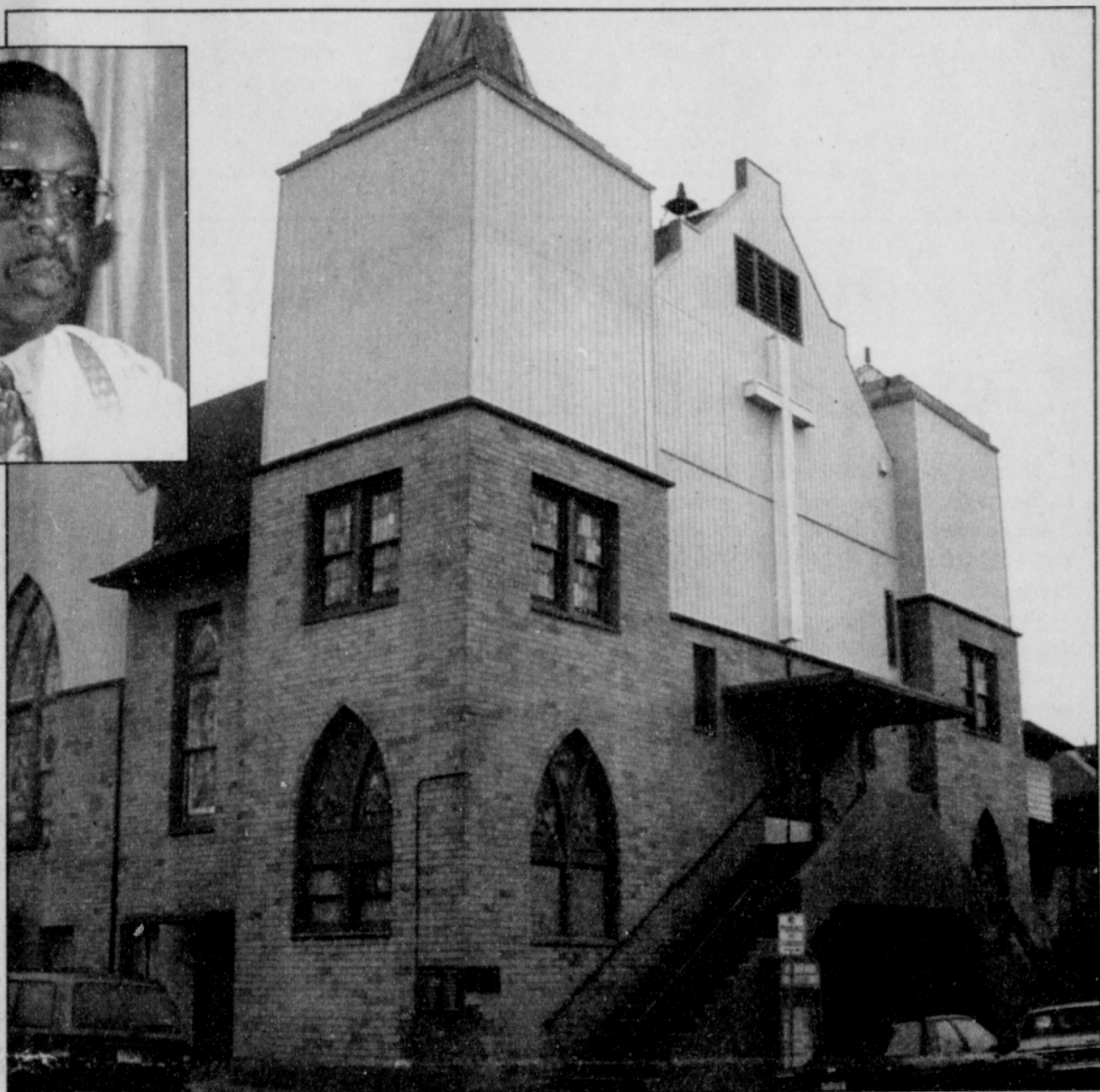
It said Bailey has not allowed church members to exercise their rights over four years.

"The bylaws have either been abolished or are being treated as abolished," the report said. "In short, general prin-



Pastor, Amzie Bailey (above) and the First Avenue Baptist Church (right).

PHOTOS BY  
MARK  
WASHINGTON/  
THE PORTLAND  
OBSERVER



ciples of good governance are not being upheld."

The department recommends that the church schedule a ratification election of Pastor Bailey, who should then accept the decision of the church body as to whether to continue serving as pastor.

The church should also adopt bylaws and procedures that will aid the church in dealing with governance issues in the future, along with better internal financial

controls, the report said.

The Vancouver Avenue Baptist Church is registered with the state Corporation Division as a "religious corpo-

ration with members."

It was originally incorporated in 1982, although it has been operating as a church for over 50 years.



## Business Groups Sponsor Cleanup

A "Clean Team" takes to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard Monday to pick up trash and help create a thriving and livable neighborhood and comfortable business environment. The week-long effort, sponsored by the North/Northeast Business Association, SOLV, Tri-Met, YO, Youth Opportunity Center and YEI Graffiti Removal Program, also includes cleanup work along Lombard, Broadway, Killingsworth, Interstate, Mississippi, Alberta and Fremont.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

## Ainsworth Church Honored for Diversity, Justice



National religious leaders have presented Pastor M. Lynne Smouse-Lopez a justice award for ministering to a multi-racial, multi-cultural, open and affirming church.

PHOTO BY  
MARK WASHINGTON  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The leader of a northeast Portland congregation is being honored for her work ministering to a multi-racial, multi-cultural, open and affirming church.

The Rev. M. Lynne Smouse-Lopez of the Ainsworth United Church of Christ, 2941 N.E. Ainsworth, received a Local Justice Award from the United Church of Christ's 23rd General Synod.

Ainsworth UCC is a diverse and growing congregation that embodies the Christian imperative to do justice, love, kindness and walk humbly with God.

A remarkable multi-racial, multi-cultural congregation, Ainsworth's church family speaks 11 different languages.

The congregation has been an aggressive advocate on many justice-related issues, including global warming,

farm worker justice, union organizing, handgun violence, third-world debt forgiveness and protecting the salmon.

Its diverse ministries include outreach to gang members, the elderly, abused women and persons with HIV/AIDS.

In 1997, the congregation declared itself to be open and affirming and has been a strong religious advocate for sexual minorities.

"They are a powerful witness for justice, strongly grounded in the Biblical vision of inclusivity and liberation," national church leaders said.

In the last five years, Ainsworth UCC has nearly doubled in membership. It has blended language, culture, music, dance, liturgy and art into a powerful experience of worship and community.

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