

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

"Bridging Portland's Communities"

Community Calendar

Who's the Weakest Link?

The Weakest Link game show is looking for contestants from the Portland area. They will be holding tryouts on Thursday, Oct. 18 at 9 a.m. at the Vintage Hotel Plaza, located at 422 SW Broadway. If you are intelligent, enthusiastic and articulate, here's your chance to play. Call 503-228-1212.

National College Fair

Get a head start on your college search at the Portland National College Fair! This free event will be held on Friday, Oct. 26 and Saturday, Oct. 27, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Oregon Convention Center. Meet with college representatives from over 250 colleges and universities nationwide. Call Donna Rhinevault at 503-359-8137, ext. 236 or visit www.nacac.com.

Motivate Your Teen

Teens can learn powerful, self-help tools to break through their emotional barriers. Dr. John Oda, a psychologist and certified NLP instructor will be holding a 7-week workshop called "The Seven Techniques of Highly Motivated Teens" which is guaranteed to bring immediate results. The workshop will begin on Saturday, Oct. 20 at 2325 E. Burnside. To register, call 503-963-9495.

Catlin Gabel Rummage Sale

The 57th annual Catlin Gabel Rummage Sale kicks off on Thursday, Nov. 1 at the Portland Expo Center. Shoppers will find a vast selection of high-quality goods. Proceeds from the Rummage Sale go to Catlin Gabel student financial aid. The sale goes from Thursday, Nov. 1 - Sunday, Nov. 4 at the Portland Expo Center in Halls A & B. Call 503-297-1894.

Silent Auction

The Council for the Homeless will be having an auction and dinner on Saturday, Nov. 3 at the Pearson Air Museum, located at 1115 E. Fifth Ave. in Vancouver. The Master of Ceremonies will be Mike Donahue of KOIN-TV. The event starts at 5 p.m. For more info, go online to www.icfth.com or call Betty Johnson at 360-993-9571.

"Bridges 101" Tour

Portland Parks & Outdoor Rec's bridge walking season concludes with Sharon Wood Wortman's annual bridge VAN teaching tour. This one-a-year riding and walking look at Portland takes people into the operator's tower and down three stories into the pit of the Morrison Bridge, and to other unusual "bridge" destinations. The tour will be on Saturday, Oct. 27, from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Call 503-823-5132 to register.

The Great Pumpkin Chase

The third annual Great Pumpkin Chase offers adults and children a festive and safe way to celebrate Halloween while contributing to a good cause. The event will be held on Sunday, Oct. 28 and features several walks and runs for all ages. Pre-registration is encouraged. For more info., call 503-408-8303 or go online to www.bradleyangle.org.

St. Charles Spaghetti Dinner

The St. Charles Church, located at NE 42nd and Emerson will be having their 51st Annual St. Charles Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner on Sunday, Nov. 4, Noon - 6:30 p.m. Take-outs are available.

Friends of Trees "Bowl-a-Rama"

Teams of costumed tree lovers will be "bowling for trees" as they raise money to support Friends of Trees' community tree-planting projects. The event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 27, from 9:30 a.m. - Noon at the AMF Pro 300 Lanes, located at 3031 SE. Powell Blvd. Call 503-282-8846, X17.

Devices Shave Minutes Off Bus Travel

High tech holds a green light a bit longer for buses that are running behind schedule



Riders on the No. 72 Killingsworth/82nd Avenue line will soon experience high tech features that keep traffic lights green for late running buses. The devices have already been installed on the Tri-Met's No. 4 Fessenden route, serving north and northeast Portland.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Tri-Met is adding high-tech features to several bus lines that will save time for riders, improve on-time performance and lower operating costs for the agency.

Transit Signal Priority holds a green light a bit longer for buses that are running behind schedule. Those extra seconds are often enough to get a bus through an intersection and help it get back on schedule.

The first line to receive the added tech-

nology is the No. 4 Division and Fessenden line, serving north, northeast, and southeast Portland.

Riders have saved about five minutes each way since the technology was added to 60 traffic signals, Tri Met officials said.

The No. 12-Barbur Boulevard line also has 10 transit priority signals along its route.

The No. 72-Killingsworth/82nd Avenue line will get the signals over the

next six months, while the No. 12 Sandy Boulevard line will get devices within a year.

The signal devices work through global positioning technology. Buses are equipped with transmitters that send signals to satellites and allow computers to compare where they are with where they are scheduled to be. Only buses that are behind schedule will trigger traffic lights to stay green.

Signal priority for emergency vehicles will not be interfered.

Tri Met says the technology will not change lights from red to green, and because an extended green light returns to normal within seconds, it's unlikely to be noticed by other motorists.

"Signaling devices are another way Tri-Met is using technology to make transit more convenient for its riders," said Fred Hansen, Tri-Met general manager.

Smith Center Now Serves Children and Seniors



Community volunteer Kenneth Johnson opens the door for Lennis Grubles as she leaves the Marie Smith Center, a north Portland facility serving both children and seniors. PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A unique neighborhood center is now serving the needs of both children and seniors.

The Marie Smith Center, 4614 N. Albina, combines a Volunteer of America adult day care program for frail residents with Common Bond, the non-profit group's program, promoting healthy emotional, social, and cognitive development for children from birth to the age of five.

The resulting Intergenerational Center creates an environment in which children and older adults can form relationships by sharing and learning together.

The goal is to enhance the lives of both the children and the seniors by strengthening the connections and understanding between the generations, maximizing the benefits at both ends of the spectrum.

"We know of no other program in Oregon that offers such unequalled benefits of interaction between adults and children," said Kay Toran, Volunteers of America Oregon President and CEO.

"The Intergenerational Center model is a multicultural approach to day care that provides opportunities for young children and seniors to interact on a daily basis," Toran said.

School Advocate to Address Achievement Gap



Cory Booker

The minority achievement gap in Portland Public Schools persists despite concerted efforts to eliminate it.

To address solutions, Cascade Policy Institute will host "Quality education for all," a free evening event on Oct. 25 for parents, educators and interested citizens.

The featured speaker is Cory Booker, a board member of the Black Alliance for Educational Options.

Booker is the elected representative of one of America's poorest communities, Newark's Central Ward in New Jersey. At age 29 he was the youngest person ever elected to serve on the Newark City Council. In just three years this young Democrat has earned a reputation as an ardent community activist, innovative problem solver, and passionate advocate for social justice.

Booker does not limit himself to traditional approaches to improve education. He believes that families need both public and private school options in order to secure a high quality education.

"I don't necessarily want to depend on the government to educate my children; they haven't done a good job in

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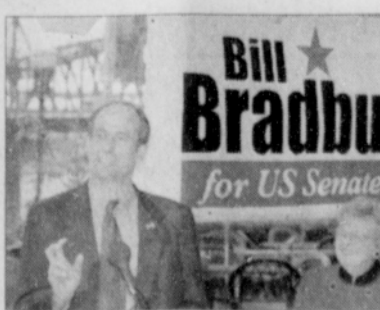
Bradbury Picks Up Smith Challenge for Senate

(AP) - Secretary of State Bill Bradbury says he will run for the U.S. Senate, challenging Republican incumbent Gordon Smith.

He says the framework of his candidacy will include "strengthening the economy, ensuring high quality public education and striking a balance between protecting the environment while maintaining jobs for working Oregonians."

Bradbury, 52, was encouraged to run by Gov. John Kitzhaber, who last month decided against challenging Smith despite months of wooing by the Democratic Party.

The Democrats viewed Kitzhaber as a potent candidate against the freshman senator. Kitzhaber has said he turned down their



Former Gov. Barbara Roberts lends her support to an announcement by Democratic Secretary of State Bill Bradbury (left) that he will run for the U.S. Senate. (AP Photo)

recruiting effort out of consideration for his family.

U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio has been toying with the idea of running against Smith. But his staff last week said he has been busy handling airline security issues following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, and hasn't had the time to fully contemplate a bid.

Bradbury was appointed secretary of state in 1999 to fill a vacancy, and was elected to a four-year term in 2000.

He had told Kitzhaber he planned to serve out his term after he was elected secretary of state, but the governor said changed circumstances justify Bradbury seeking the Senate post.