

### City Seeks Comment on Park Improvements

Portland Parks and Recreation will be hosting a series of open houses next month to get input on how park improvements should be sorted into funding categories of 0-5 years, 5-10 years and 10-20 years.

The proposed improvements are part of the Parks 2020 Vision Plan, adopted by City Council in July.

For more information, contact Mary Rose Navarro at 503-823-5589.

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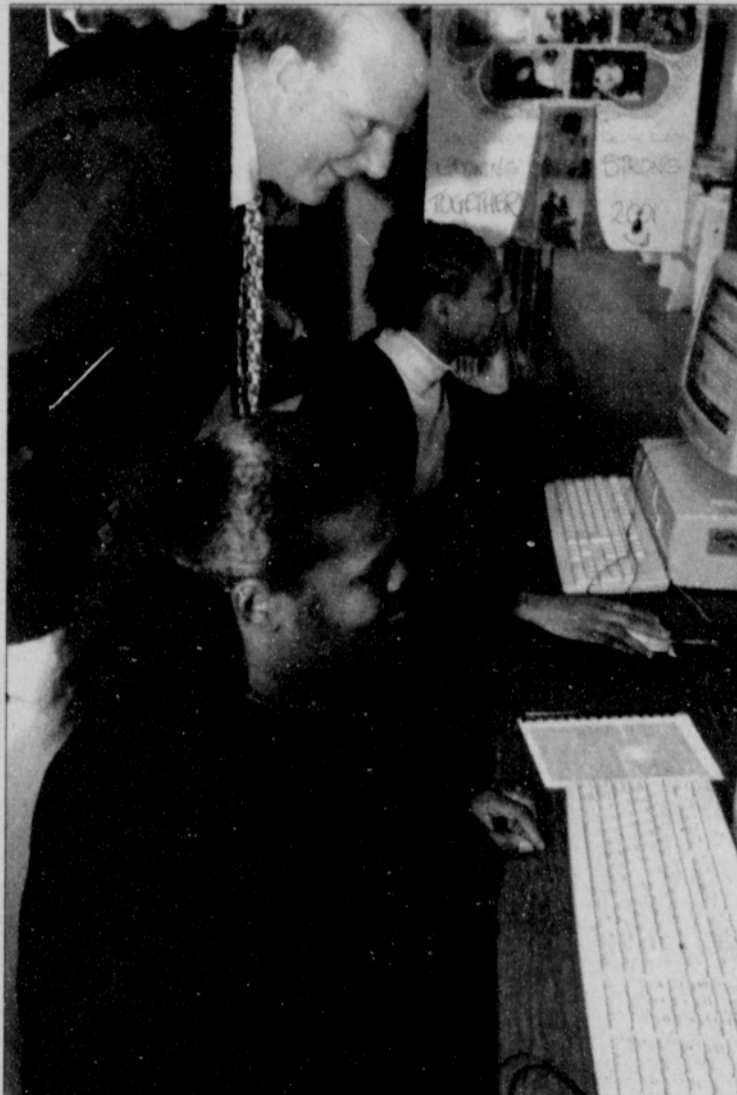


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## Support for Urban League to Tackle 'Digital Divide'



New Microsoft software to make Urban League offices function as high tech centers

Urban League students Vanita Taylor-Fultan (front) and Liesha Steward join Microsoft Chief Executive Officer Steve Ballmer, during an announcement at the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle.

Microsoft Corp. is donating \$2.7 million in computer software to the National Urban League to increase access to high technology in disadvantaged communities, including Portland.

The Technology Leadership Grant was announced last week at the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle by Microsoft Chief Executive Officer Steve Ballmer and Hugh Price, president and CEO of the National Urban League.

"This grant from Microsoft will enable the National Urban League to enhance its delivery of important programs and technology training in every Urban League community," Price said.

In 1997, Microsoft made a \$2.5 million software grant to the National Urban League to support the Urban League's 56 "Digital Campus" technology centers. Since 1997, the number of Digital Campus centers has grown to 90.

Each center provides online courseware, Internet access and technology training for children and adults. The latest grant will enable the Urban League to offer access and training in the most current software applications to residents in all 111 affiliate communities and allow the Urban League to function at the highest levels of technological capacity.

"Microsoft is excited to be able to help the National Urban League deliver greater digital opportunities to underserved communities nationwide and to reach its organizational goals," Ballmer said. "This meaningful way that the Urban League will use these resources exemplifies the spirit of the Technology Leadership Grant program."

The oldest and largest community-based movement devoted to empowering African Americans to enter the economic and social mainstream, the Urban League offers state-of-the-art computer training for adults and children in its Digital Campus facilities. The organization also uses Microsoft products to operate preschools and administer youth development programs.

"Technological literacy and ready access to technology are essential in the era of the information economy," Price said. "If we are to close the digital divide and prevent low-income communities from being frozen out of an increasingly technological society, comprehensive measures must be taken to fully educate African Americans, Latinos and members of other low-income communities about hard-wired and wireless technologies."



## Looking For a Smart Move?

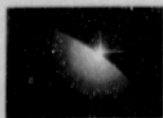
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## The Purple Parlor: A Mississippi Avenue Café Debuts



Dan and Molly Sadowsky welcome area residents into their neighborhood café, a renovated Victorian home at 3560 N. Mississippi Avenue.

The Purple Parlor, a new neighborhood café featuring a flavorful all-vegetarian menu in a renovated Victorian home, recently opened at 3560 N Mississippi Ave.

First-time restaurateurs Molly and Dan Sadowsky say their mission is to "nourish the neighborhood" with healthy food and a place to gather.

"We want to contribute to our community by providing an welcoming space and serving wholesome food that is part of a healthy diet," said Dan Sadowsky.

Located across from the Rebuilding Center in the historic Mississippi District, the restaurant serves breakfast and lunch, Tuesday through Sunday.

Dishes are freshly prepared, low in fat and high in nutritional value. Organic ingredients are

used whenever possible.

Breakfast items include distinctive toasted-grain pancakes, a vegetable-laden egg or tofu scramble, rosemary-roasted potatoes and creamy rice porridge. The lunch menu is an eclectic, multiethnic mix of selections that include sautéed vegetables with pesto served over polenta, black-eyed peas and greens, red lentil dal and a housemade bean burger.

"Offering our neighborhood high-quality, healthy and affordable food is one of our main goals," explains Molly Sadowsky.

The owners believe strongly that they have a responsibility to their customers' good health — as well as their taste buds. "Our customers don't have to forfeit good flavor for a healthy, satisfying meal," Molly says.