The Portland Observer SECTION B

"Bridging Fortland's Communities"

Calendar

Free Vehicle Law Class

A class on Oregon's vehicle laws from a bicyclist's perspective with Bike Lawyer Ray Thomas will be given on Wednesday, Nov. 14, from 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Bicycle Transportation Alliance, located at 717 SW. 12th. This is a free class. To pre-register, call 503-226-0676.

Boosting Minority Representation

On Thursday, Nov. 15, Detroit Mayor and national leader Dennis Archer will join the leaders of Oregon's legal community in a Convocation on Equality from 7:30 p.m. – noon at the Portland Hilton. The topic will be what Oregon can do to improve diversity among the legal profession.

Assistance with Utility Bills

Utilities and social service agencies have planned an event to help low-income families pay their utility bills this winter. In an effort to prevent emergencies later on in the heating season, utilities and social service agencies are co-sponsoring the Energy Fair 2001 on Saturday, Nov. 17 at the Memorial Coliseum, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Call 503-612-3790 or go online to www.oregonheat.org.

Thanksgiving Dinner

Brothers on the Move will be having their 4th annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday, Nov. 17, from 11 a.m. -3:30 p.m. Free rides are available for the dinner. Everyone is invited to attend at the Cornerstone Community C.O.G.I.C., located at 2216 NE. Killingsworth St. Call 503-281-4587.

Auction & Fashion Show

Diana's Fashion Boutique, located next to Billy Reed's Restaurant at 2808 NE. MLK Blvd., will host a Gala Auction & Fashion Show on Saturday, Nov. 17, from 7p.m. – 10p.m. to benefit victims of the September 11th tragedy. Clothing for the holidays, ethnic jewelry, African artifiacts and other fine gifts will be offered during a silent auction starting at 7:30 p.m.

Flx-It-Fair

The 15th annual Fix-It-Fair is a City of Portland sponsored neighborhood event presented to help residents solve common household problems. It features many free services like free insulation for qualified homes, how-to classes and more. The fair will be held at the Land Middle School, located at 7200 SE. 60th on Saturday, Nov. 17, from 8:30 p.m. – 2 p.m. Call 503-823-7590.

New Party Addresses Terrorism

The New Party will be having their bi-monthly chapter meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 20 at the Marie Smith Center, 4616 N. Albina, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Zaher Wahab will be speaking on "The War on Terrorism & Human Rights, at Home and Abroad." Other topics will be discussed. Childcare available. Call 503-281-3951.

Turkey Trot

Join the Oregon Road Runner's Club on Nov. 22, from 8 a.m. – 11 a.m. in their annual Thanksgiving fun run through the zoo. For registration information, call the Oregon Zoo at 503-646-7867.

The Juvenile Rights Project

Parents and guardians of schoolage children can receive training to educate their own and their children's rights in Suspension and Expulsion procedures and in Special Education issues at the Matt Dishman Community Center, located at 77 NE. Knott on Tuesday, Nov. 27, from 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. Call 503-823-3179.

Decorating the Oregon Way

The Oregon Garden offers "Home for the Holidays: Decorating the Oregon Way." The class will be on Tuesday, Nov. 27, from 5 – 8:30 p.m. Call 503-874-8100.

Closures Coming to Broadway Bridge



Transportation officials are preparing area residents for a 26-day closure of the Broadway Bridge to start early next year. This is so crews can repair mechanical parts that open and close the bridge. In addition. Multnomah County wants to hear from the public regarding repair plans for 2003. Officials say an important choice needs to be made soon whether to close the bridge during those repairs, or keep it partially open, extending the length of the project. Call 503-988-5465 for more information.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/ THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Neighbors Demand Clean, Safe Bus Stops

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Tri-Met officials are responding to complaints that litter, graffiti and broken glass are common sights at many neighborhood bus stops.

Last week, the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, held an accountability session with a Tri-Met representative to demand that cleanliness and safety be a priority at all bus and Max light rail stops.

Monday, Tri-Met General Manager Fred Hansen admitted that more needs to be done, but denied an allegation by the reform group that the transportation agency spent more money on maintenance in more affluent neighborhoods.

Hansen said "transit equity" was one of Tri-Met's highest priorities.

Tri-Met spokesperson Mary Fetsch added that the agency has cleanup crews in north and northeast Portland daily, but that it's difficult to keep up with the problem.

Hanson says Tri-Met is also working with SOLV to adopt bus stops for garbage collection and cleanup efforts.

Litter across the sidewalk detracts from the experience of using the bus at a shelter at Albina and Killingsworth.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



Trees of Hope Honor 9-11 Victims



City Commissioner Jim Francesconi, Fire Bureau Operations Division Chief Rich Grace, Urban Forestry Director Brian McNerney, staff from Friends of Trees, and Jason Seivers, citizen, plant the first "Tree of Hope" at Fire Station 14, 1905 N.E. Killingsworth.

A "Trees of Hope" project is giving area residents an opportunity to come together in an act of healing after the sadness, anxiety and helplessness that followed the tragic events of Sept. 11.

Portland resident Jason Seivers, whose brother is an Alaskan firefighter, decided to plant a tree in memory of all those who lost their lives in the East Coast terrorist attacks on Sept. 11 and as a way of "looking forward to something positive in the future," because "trees are a symbol of hope."

He approached City Commissioner Jim Francesconi to see if his vision would resonate with others, and the "Trees of Hope" project was born.

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City Council Approves Freightliner Wind Tunnel

Freightliner facility would jettison out 60 feet over Swan Island Lagoon

(AP)—The Portland City Council has given tentative approval to Freightliner's effort to build a 2.2-acre wind tunnel research laboratory along the Swan Island Lagoon.

"It's an important case not just because it's a vote of solidarity with Freightliner, but because it calls the question of whether we're going to have an industrial waterfront," Commissioner Charlie Hales said. "It's nice to say warm and fuzzy things about the river, but we've got to figure out whether there's any place you can put a crane and a loading dock anymore."

Freightliner officials say the tunnel will help improve the aerodynamic drag of its trucks, leading to fuel savings.

Wednesday's vote gave the truck manufacturer and city regulators three weeks to work out some environmental concerns.

Gregory Frank, a city land-use hearings officer, had recommended that the council deny Freightliner's application to extend the wind tunnel 60 feet into and over the Willamette River lagoon. Frank said he wasn't convinced that a wind tunnel was an appropriate use of scarce waterfront property under state and local land-use laws.

The tunnel would extend into the Willamette River Greenway, an area protected from development by Oregon land-use laws. The city's land-use goals allow industrial development in the greenway as long as it doesn't reduce land available for river-dependent uses.

Freightliner officials say wind tunnels work most efficiently when they are near water because they pick up less dust and debris.

Freightliner has laid off about 1,850 employees locally and plans to cut 781 more jobs as demand for its trucks slows. The company had considered closing its Portland truck-manufacturing plant. Instead, it announced a restructuring plan last month that called for the shutdown of its parts plant in 2002.

Company officials say the wind tunnel won't create many new jobs, but will help make Freightliner's trucks more competitive.