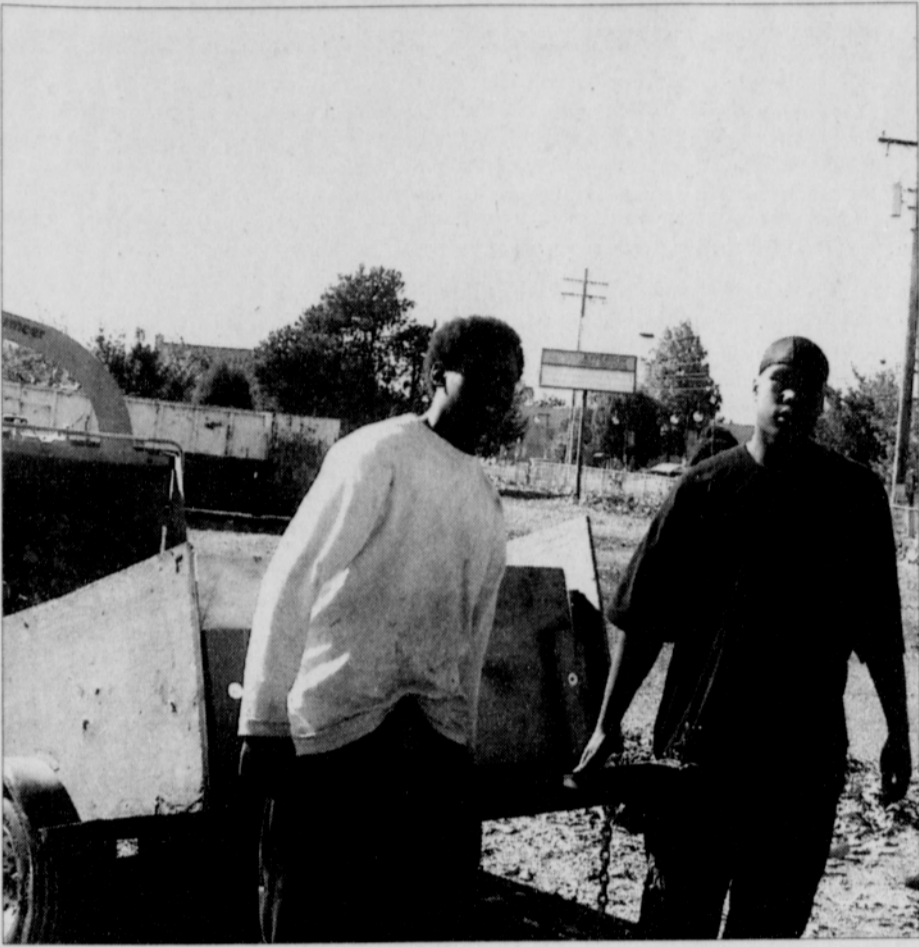


Volunteer Work Clears View to School



Jefferson High School students Markhuri Sanders (left) and James Mason hold a trailer filled with mulched laurel bushes. Local contractors and landscapers donated equipment for the 3-day long removal process. The goal is to develop streetscape improvements that the high school, business, educators and the neighborhoods can be proud of.



Pedestrians on North Killingsworth walk past Jefferson High School after 12-foot high laurel bushes were cut down over the weekend. Members of the Humboldt Neighborhood Association joined school staff, students and administration in the effort to reconnect the campus to the surrounding community.

PHOTOS BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Public School Fair Expects Hundreds

Event to provide information on district's alternative programs

About 2,000 parents are expected at the Portland Public School District's annual School Fair, held Oct. 22 and 23 at Benson High School.

The event is headlined as a celebration of local schools, giving students and parents information about choices available within the public school system, including alternative, magnet schools and special focus programs.

On Tuesday, Oct. 22 educators will lead discussions on what to expect in elementary school and provide advice to parents on helping their children succeed. Special information will be geared toward pre-school parents and families that are new to Portland.

The next evening, parents will be given the chance to visit and ask

specific questions of representatives from every middle school and high school in the district.

Other topics include helping children prepare for the transition to middle school or high school.

Programs highlighted each night include the district's talented and gifted program, English as a second language program, special education, nutrition services, counseling and more.

Both fair events take place from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Benson's large gym at 546 N.E. 12th. Free childcare will be available. The Lloyd Center MAX train stop is three blocks away from the school.

Additional information on individual Portland public schools or on district-wide programs can be found at www.pps.k12.or.us.

Job Opportunity Fair

The Oregon Employment Department will hold its 25th Job Opportunity Fair on Thursday, Oct. 3, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at its north Portland office at 30 N. Webster, one block north of Alberta, between Williams and Vancouver.

There is no charge for the public to attend.

The event gives employers access to dozens of potential employees in an informal setting at no cost to them. Job seekers can network with several

potential employers, interview, leave resumes, and learn about career opportunities.

It is recommended that those attending the opportunity fair come dressed appropriately to meet employers. A copy machine is available to make copies of resumes.

For more information, including fair job descriptions, access the employment service website at www.workinginoregon.org and click on 'job fairs and more.'

Supplies Help Kids

Children attending 25 area elementary schools received school supplies from Kaiser Permanente this month.

Staff and Kaiser members donated more than 200 boxes of supplies, including 165,000 sheets of notebook paper, 4,700 pens, 15,400 pencils and

32,000 crayons.

The annual drive began in 1998 when volunteers at Kaiser's campus in north Portland collected school supplies for children at four nearby low-income schools. That year, 60 boxes of donated supplies were delivered.

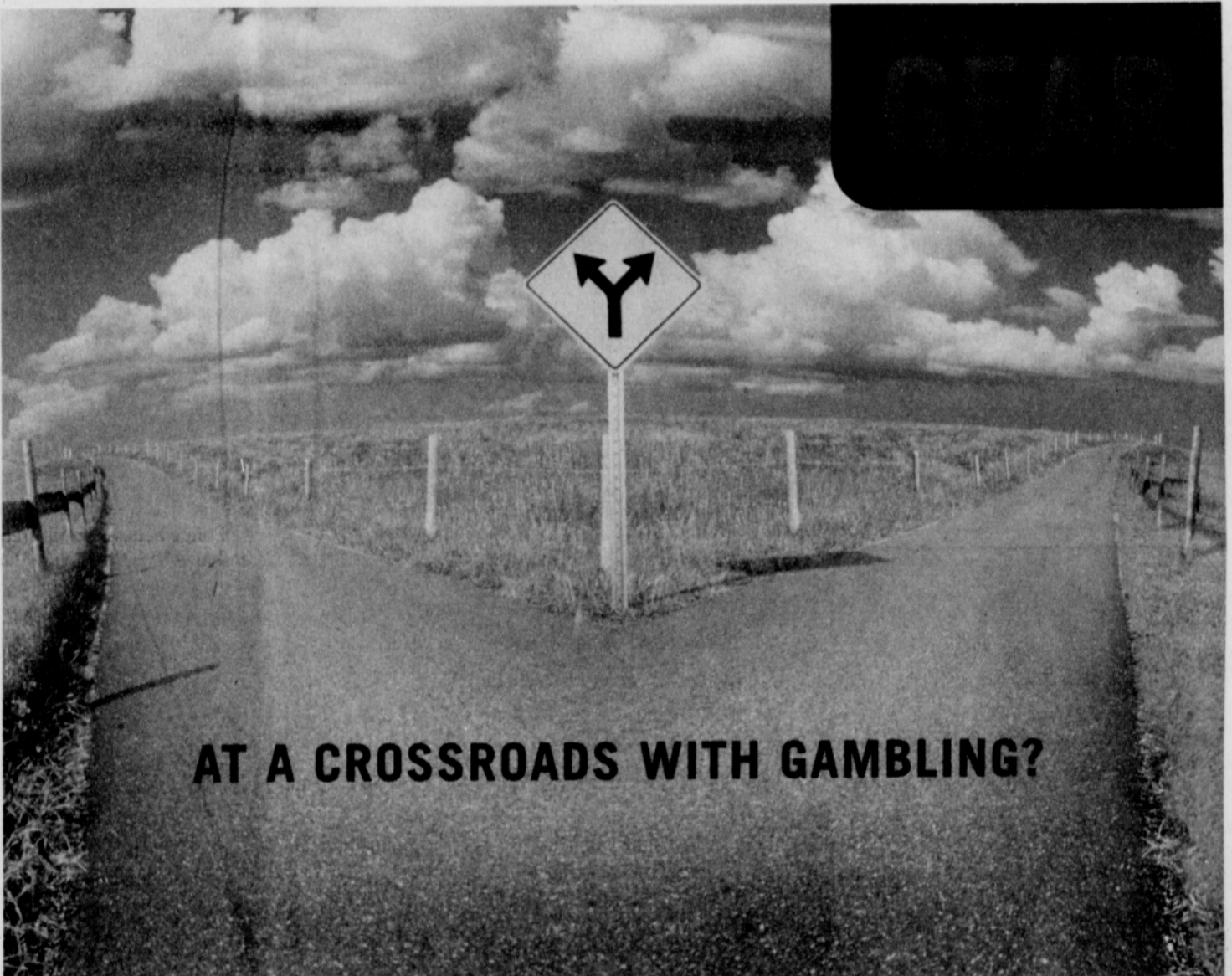
New Principal Welcome

Ockley Green Middle School is introducing their new principal to the community during an open house celebration at the school.

Joseph Malone was named principal of the north Portland school this summer. He previously was principal

at King Elementary School.

The open house pizza party is scheduled Wednesday, Oct. 9 at 6 p.m. Ockley Green teachers and staff will man information booths and explain volunteer opportunities for the upcoming school year.



AT A CROSSROADS WITH GAMBLING?

If your gambling is getting out of hand, there is a new program that can help you take it in a different direction.

The Gambling Evaluation And Reduction Program (GEAR) is an educational, phone-based counseling program designed for people who want to steer away from potentially dangerous gambling patterns – without traveling to a treatment center.

GEAR is free, confidential and it's easy to enroll. Call the toll free problem gambling help line at 877-278-6766 today and an advisor will help determine if GEAR is right for you.

Choose the road to a brighter future.

**PROBLEM GAMBLING
HELP LINE (877) 278-6766**

Sponsored by the Oregon Lottery in conjunction with the Department of Human Services.

Advertise in *The Portland Observer*
call 503-288-0033 or email: ads@portlandobserver.com