

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION **B**

Community Calendar

Bewitching Corn Maze

Celebrate the Halloween season roaming the twists and turns of the corn maze at Kruger's Farm Market. This year's maze features a witch on a broom, along with other spooky surprises. Call for details. Kruger's Farm Market, 17100 S.W. Sauvie Island Road, 1 1/2 miles straight across the Sauvie Island Bridge. Call 503-621-3489.

Urban League Dinner

The Urban League of Portland is having their annual dinner and auction on Tuesday, Oct. 8 at the Portland Hilton Hotel. This year the league honors Senator Margaret Carter for her past two years of service as the League's President. Keynote speaker is internationally known author Mark Mathabane from South Africa. Call 360-892-7675 or 360-910-0216.

Gumbo Extraordinaire

Everyone is invited to a grand opening celebration for "Rice in the Middle," a new restaurant on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 2-4 p.m. There will be free cajun gumbo samples, prizes, face painting and balloons. The event will be located at 4711 N. Interstate Ave. Call 503-260-6877.

Beaverton City Library

This fall, the Beaverton City Library is sponsoring a series of programs to address areas of concern for consumers. On Tuesday, Oct. 8, the Wells Fargo Home Mortgage and Open Door Counseling Center in Hillsboro is giving a talk on "Home Buying: Understanding Mortgage and Finances." It will be from 6-8:30 p.m. Call 503-644-2197.

Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center is "roasting" Roy Jay, Director of the African American Chamber of Commerce, celebrating this popular Entrepreneur's accomplishments and featuring complimentary champagne, coffee and great desserts. This is a major fundraiser for IFCC's 20th anniversary season. The event is on Tuesday, Oct. 29, from 7-9 p.m., located at 5340 N. Interstate Ave. Call 503-823-2070.

Multnomah County Library

Multnomah County Library will expand its Cyber Seniors classes to six libraries throughout the Portland area in November and December. The classes are designed for senior citizens with little or no computer experience and are offered free of charge. The November series of classes at the Capitol Hill Library, located at 10723 S.W. Capitol Way, Nov. 6, 13 and 20.

Portland Farmer's Market

Celebrate Halloween at Portland Farmers Market's "Great Pumpkin Evnet" on Saturday, Oct. 26, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. This event coincides with the market's final day of the 2002 season and features free pumpkins, on-site carving lessons, a chef demonstration and a pumpkin pancake breakfast. A Halloween parade starts at 11 a.m. Call 503-241-0032.

Fire Station Opens to Neighborhood Acclaim

Sandy Boulevard location to shorten reaction times for emergency calls



Firefighters and neighbors alike are present Friday at the dedication of a new fire station at 8655 N.E. Sandy Blvd.

PHOTO BY WYNDE DYER/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

BY DAVID PLECHL AND WYNDE DYER
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The Portland Fire Bureau celebrated the grand opening of a new fire station in northeast Portland Friday, with bagpipes, a barbecue and a dedication to fallen New York City firefighters.

Fire Chief Ed Wilson, numerous emergency workers and city officials joined neighbors for the dedication, post-ceremony festivities and station tours.

Station No. 12, a 9,300-square-foot "superstation" links state-of-the-art design

with a community room and offices for Central Northeast Neighbors.

Located at 8655 N.E. Sandy Blvd., it is the first new station to open in eight years. The Fire Bureau hopes its location will result in quicker reaction times for fire and medical emergency calls on the east side of Portland.

"This is one of the holes in the city where we've had long response time," said Neil Heesacker, public information officer for the Fire Bureau. "We were having 15 to 20 minute running times out here."

The 12 firefighters who will work in rotat-

ing 24-hour shifts will be one of the first units to respond to calls at the airport.

Neighbors are pleased about the location of the new station and the incorporation of offices for Central Northeast Neighbors, a non-profit coalition that assists local neighborhood associations.

"Sometimes people think the city ends at 82nd Ave," said Bonnie Webster, a Summer Neighborhood Association member and community volunteer for 20 years. "I'm glad to see the city is finally recognizing we exist out here."

Karen Knauss brought her two children Finn, 3, and Oliver, 6 mos., to the opening. Her kids love fire trucks and she appreciates the addition of a positive public building into a portion of Sandy Blvd. she describes as neglected and overrun with strip clubs.

"These firefighters will be positive role models amidst things that are not so positive," Knauss said.

Station No. 12, built on the site where City Auto Wrecking once stood, is dedicated in honor of the New York City Firefighters lost on Sept. 11, 2001.

Lyon's To Make Way for High Rise Housing Complex

BY LEE PERLMAN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

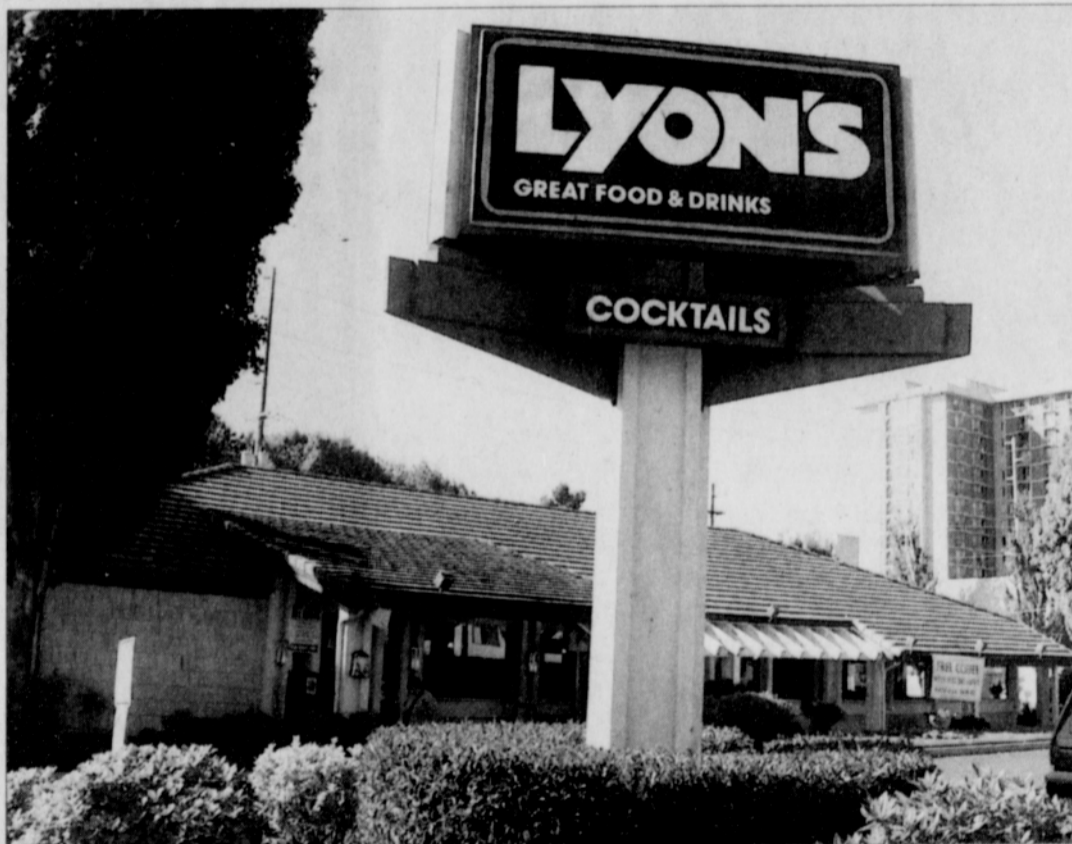
Lyon's Restaurant, a mainstay of the Lloyd District area entertainment quarter, will serve its last meal on Sunday.

The restaurant chain's lease on the property at 1215 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard expires on Oct. 10.

The C.E. John Company, owner of the property, and residential developer Trammel Crow plan to demolish the building and replace it with a six-story structure housing 184 market-rate rental units, ground floor retail and underground parking.

The Portland Design Commission will hold a hearing on the proposed structure's design, and five requested code adjustments, at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 17, at 1900 S.W. Fourth Ave.

Trammel Crow's Rob Hinnen told the Lloyd District Community



A popular local restaurant will be demolished for the construction of new housing.

Association last month that the company expects to rent the units for \$750 to \$1,300 a month.

"Given that this is right next to light rail, two stops from downtown within the fareless zone, it's very viable," he said. "There's a desire for living downtown without dealing with their traffic levels."

C.E. John is considering leasing a restaurant in the lower level of the new building, but spokespeople say they are looking for something "more upscale" than Lyon's.

Manager Rick Luger says Lyon's staff will be offered positions at other restaurants in the chain. However, one staff member says those who do will be treated as new hires, losing all accrued benefits.

"I've spent 25 years with this company, and 23 of them have been at Lloyd Center," Luger says. "I grew up there. I'm sad to see it go, but I'm glad I'll be there at the end."

Vote Would Remove Racist Language from Oregon Constitution

(AP) — "No free negro, or mulatto, not residing in this state at the time of the adoption of this constitution, shall come, reside, or be within this State, or hold any real estate," reads a provision in the Oregon Constitution from 1857.

A century and a half later, the passage is still there.

On Nov. 5, Oregonians will vote on whether to remove it and other discrimina-

tory language.

Oregon state Sen. Avel Gordly of northeast Portland, one of three African American legislators, led the effort to delete the offending passage from the Oregon Constitution.

Gordly said there had been discussions about removing the language since she took office in 1991, but only in recent years has it received enough attention to prompt law-

makers into action.

About 56,000 blacks live in Oregon, less than 2 percent of the population. Prominent African Americans include James DePreist, conductor of the Oregon Symphony, and Jim Hill, former state treasurer who came in second in the 2002 Democratic primary for governor.

Gordly said no money will be spent to promote the measure, since little resistance

is expected from voters.

"These words reflected a time of white supremacist thinking," she said. "Hopefully that time is behind us."

Over the past four years, about a half-dozen states have taken steps to expunge racist constitutional wording and statutes that had been virtually forgotten over the decades.

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