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Application materials and formal job announcements are available at: [www.multcojobs.org](http://www.multcojobs.org); in person at 1120 SW Fifth Avenue, 1st Floor lobby; or by mailing a self-addressed stamped envelope requesting application forms to: Multnomah County Human Resources Division, PO Box 14700, Portland, OR, 97293-0700. Assisted access to Multnomah County job information and web site is available at Multnomah County Libraries.

Multnomah County is actively recruiting candidates from various ethnic and cultural backgrounds to enhance services to our diverse community

**OREGON LEGISLATURE SESSION POSITIONS**

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For application information contact:  
Karen Hupp  
Legislative Administration  
900 Court St NE Rm 140-B  
Salem, OR 97301  
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As a nationally recognized health and research university, OHSU strives for excellence in education, research, clinical practice, and community service. The Office of Consumer/Survivor Technical Assistance (OCTA), a small, busy organization that is part of OHSU, exists to give mental health consumer/survivors technical assistance via training, drop-in center support, dissemination of information and attendant care delivery. OCTA's Training Coordinator will be responsible for statewide training to public mental health clients and providers. Job includes preparation of training materials, follow-up and support of consumers subsequent to trainings, and other duties as assigned. Excellent written, verbal, and organizational skills a must. Experience working with diverse populations is necessary. Good sense of humor and ability to work independently a plus. Must have good driving record and valid drivers license. Requires basic computer skills and occasional overnight travel. **Past or current recipients of mental health services strongly preferred.** Salaried, full-time position with benefits. Position closes December 16th. Send resume and letter of interest to: OCTA, 1528 SE Holgate Blvd., Portland, OR 97202. Fax - 503.231.1949. **NO CALLS PLEASE.**

**CITY OF West Linn**

**Job Opportunity**

**PARK MAINTENANCE**  
\$2278 - \$2961/mo DOQ Position performs groundskeeping, landscaping and facility maintenance duties, including: fertilizing, mowing, pruning and the installation and maintenance of irrigation systems in city parklands. Must have a high school diploma or GED certificate and 2 years of work experience in landscape groundskeeping. Requires knowledge of plant care, carpentry, plumbing and field maintenance and the safe operation of small tools, motor vehicles and power equipment. Must have a valid Oregon Driver's License at time of appointment and requires ability to obtain governmental pesticide applicator license within 6 months. Experience in tree work, new landscape construction, and irrigation, preferred. Any combination of education or work experience that demonstrates proficiency in one of these related fields may be acceptable. Successful candidate must pass background check and pre-employment drug screen. Application packets are available at West Linn City hall, 22500 Salamo Road, West Linn, OR 97068; or call (503) 722-3427 (voice mail) or (503) 657-7845 TDD. Completed application must be returned to City Hall by December 20, 2002, 4:00 PM EEO

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**Police Medal Dispute Threatens Business**  
**Mexican Consulate warns that city could lose conventions and trade**

(AP)—The Mexican Consulate in Portland has joined Latino activists in warning the city could lose convention business and trade because of medals given to two police officers who killed a mentally ill Mexican immigrant.

Latino leaders also said that Police Chief Mark Kroeker's role in awarding the medals undermines confidence in community policing. Mayor Vera Katz met with a dozen Latino and African American leaders for an hour Monday, and later conferred with Kroeker.

Katz later released a statement saying that she would not ask Kroeker to resign, saying the chief recognized the anguish created by giving the medals to the two officers. But she added that the chief will meet with Latino leaders and has agreed to review the awards process.

The awards provoking the controversy came after the April 1, 2001, shooting of Jose Santos Victor Mejia Poot at a psychiatric hospital.

Officers Jeffrey M. Bell and Christopher A. Davis said they tried to stop Mejia from advancing with a 40-inch metal bar. They tried verbal commands in English and Spanish, a police baton and pepper spray. Davis also fired beanbag rounds before Bell fired the fatal shots.

A grand jury cleared the officers of wrongdoing, and also found significant safety lapses at the hospital.

On Monday, critics of the mayor's decision not to seek Kroeker's resignation came away from their meeting with Katz angry and disappointed with her response.

"It just feels like we're stuck," said Multnomah County Commissioner Maria Rojo de Steffy.

They are unsure what their next steps will be but pledged to keep up the crusade. Last week, more than 100 people protested outside City Hall.

Reporting of the controversy on national and international Spanish-language television can't help Portland's image with minorities, several leaders said.

Gale Castillo, executive director of the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, said the dispute has become an "international incident."

In a statement, the Mexican Consulate said it hopes there is no damage to trade opportunities but that "unfortunately, the aspects of this tragic case and its aftermath will most likely cast a negative shadow on future business relations between Portland and Mexico and could dissuade potential investors and importers from trading with Portland."

**Miracle on 42nd Street**



Missionary turned teacher Paula Nesmith gets the students in her pre-kindergarten class at the Community Learning Center to line up for their lunch break.

**continued from Metro**

provides educational and day care services for pre-kindergarten children through first grade. Classes are always small, with five to ten students to each instructor.

"We can really give attention to the needs of each child," Parker said. "In a public school you will find rooms with 25 to 30 students to each teacher, or at best 15-20 students. Compare that with 5 to 10 students and you can see how we are able to give more of ourselves."

Teachers at the learning center agree that small classes allow them to keep communication open with students and parents.

Paula Nesmith was a missionary before Parker recruited her to teach from him. She said her job is hard sometimes, but the effort she puts forth comes back in multiples.

"When kids are happy, they give me a hug and tell me they love me," Nesmith said. "I'm teaching these kids but at the same time I'm learning so much. I see a lot of how I want to be inside the kids. I know I'm in the right place."

Parents said they feel confident their children are also in the right place.

Damion Johnson said he wanted his daughter Savannah, 4, to start off her education in a positive light by learning about God. He said the one-on-one attention she receives at the Community Learning Center makes it worth the small tuition he pays.

"If she was in public school she would have missed a whole week of school last week," Johnson said. "It's an overall better education."

Shirlene Carson has brought her son Shawn "Papa" Carson, 5, to the center for two years. She said she can tell he has been learning a lot.

"He has the best teachers," she said. "If he didn't, I wouldn't bring him back."

Parker said his school serves a three-fold function. Students get their education and bible study and the community is invited in for weekly bible study classes. The center also hosts quarterly health and wellness events to help neighborhood locals detect and prevent illnesses.

"We like to focus on giving the best foundation to stand on," Parker said. "Once we provide that, we can send them off from there."

A good foundation can be had at a low cost. Tuition at the Community Learning Center is \$280 a month for a full day of pre-kindergarten education and day care. Half-day packages are also available at lower rates. Parker hopes to expand his services to meet the needs of older students if he can find the demand and financial support to do so.

"It's truly affordable," Parker said. "We're one of Portland's best kept secrets."

For more information, call 503-281-8596.