

# POLICE

## CRIME STOPPERS Help Sought in Murder

Portland Police Bureau Homicide Investigators, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, are asking for your help in solving a murder.

On Tuesday, June 10, at about 4:20 a.m., a security guard found the body of 43-year-old Christine "Chris" Ione Lawson on the sidewalk of Northwest Second Avenue between Burnside and Couch. An autopsy determined she died from strangulation.



Christine Ione Lawson

Authorities said Lawson lived a transient lifestyle and frequented the downtown area.

At the time of her death, she was wearing a black leather waist-length jacket, purple sweater and

blue jeans. She may have also been carrying a black purse, black wallet and miscellaneous identification that were not found at the crime scene.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, that leads to an arrest in this case, or any unsolved felony crime, and you need not give your name. Call Crime Stoppers at 503-823-4357.

## Loved Ones Help Transition to Freedom

The Multnomah County Department of Community Justice and Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants are sponsoring a series of orientations for family and friends of inmates who will be released within six months to post-prison supervision in Multnomah County.

The sessions cover conditions for release and supervision, successful transition and how friends and family can help someone recently released from prison. They are designed to help friends and family members understand the goals and requirements of post-prison supervision so that their loved ones will have a better chance of succeeding

after they are released.

"We know that having positive social relationships can help reduce the risk that an offender will commit new crimes," said Joanne Fuller, director for the Department of Community Justice. "The Friends and Family group gives inmates a firm footing back home and the chance to get support as they start their lives over."

The orientations will be held on Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on June 26, July 24, Aug. 28, Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 13, and Dec. 11 at 501 S.E. Hawthorne Blvd. For more information, call 503-988-3081, extension 22103.

## Calls for Healing Follow Michigan Riots



Tim Buels (left), Patrice Allen, Patrick Drake, Kirk Ward, and Brian McKinney talk about the mood of the community in Benton Harbor, Mich., Thursday, after two nights of rioting. The death of a black motorcyclist during a police chase ignited the violence in this city that for years has struggled with poverty, high unemployment and racial tensions. (AP photo)

### Fatal police chase touched off racial unrest

(AP) — The Rev. Jesse Jackson said residents of Benton Harbor, Mich., even those responsible for nighttime rioting last week — need to come together for a period of healing.

"People need healing. They need hope, and they need faith," the civil rights activist said Friday morning after a closed-door meeting with police and community officials. "Faith has sub-

stance. Those who are torching the buildings, they, too, need help."

Jackson's visit came after the second relatively peaceful night in this southwestern Michigan city of 12,000, following two nights of riots and high tensions.

He spoke later at a Benton Harbor community center, telling about 200 people that they should "turn tragedy into triumph."

"We'll turn this crisis into an opportunity," Jackson said.

Apparent arson fires burned five buildings Friday morning near the site of the riots that erupted earlier this week after a motorcyclist was killed in a crash while fleeing police.

On Thursday, the city began

demolishing 40 vacant buildings, including some that were burned during the riots, sheriff's spokesman Deputy Chris Corteville said.

Several hundred officers patrolled streets for the third night in a row. Some local officers were given a break after officials decided it would be safe and state troopers stayed on duty, Corteville said.

Benton Harbor, a city of 12,000 people about 100 miles northeast of Chicago, is 92 percent black. Since the rioting, many residents have said they distrust police officers, particularly white officers.

The motorcyclist who died, Terrance Shurn, 28, was black. The police officers from neighboring Benton Township who

pursued him into Benton Harbor, where he lost control of his bike and crashed, are white.

The subsequent rioting involved hundreds of people roaming a six-to eight-block area, setting fires and attacking passers-by, police officers and firefighters. At least 11 people were hurt, and nine people were arrested.

On Thursday afternoon, Gov. Jennifer Granholm had what she called powerful, frank meetings with community leaders, and also met separately with police and Shurn's family.

She called for reconciliation and healing. "The state must wrap its arms around this community," she said.

## Burlingame Grocer Guilty of Arson

(AP) — A grocery store owner has been convicted on one count of arson and faces seven years in prison for torching his southwest Portland business almost two years ago.

The jury deadlocked on a sec-

ond arson charge against Thomas Calkins, owner of Burlingame Grocery.

A fuzzy store surveillance tape was recorded shortly before the fire broke out. Prosecutors said the videotape showed Calkins in the store.

But defense lawyers maintained the identity of the person was less than certain.

Prosecutors contend Calkins was facing financial problems and intentionally set the blaze to collect a \$1 million insurance policy.

## Fires Destroy Montavilla Businesses

(AP) — Investigators are searching through the debris of two commercial fires in the Montavilla neighborhood of east Portland that happened one day apart from each other, within blocks from each other

— and at about the same time of day.

A three-alarm fire gutted a furniture store, an adult video store and a night club housed on 79th and Glisan streets June 18. The

day earlier, a four-alarm fire gutted a toy and gift shop about six blocks away.

Both fires occurred about 5 a.m. and both had engulfed the buildings when firefighters arrived.

## Teacher Charged with Sexual Misconduct

(AP) — A Skyview High technology teacher in Vancouver is accused of having a sexual relationship with a 16-or-17-year-old female student.

One count of sexual misconduct with a minor has been filed against 24-year-old James Harris of Vancouver.

He is scheduled to appear in Clark

County Superior Court July 24th.

Harris was placed on administrative leave from the Vancouver School District in March when the accusation first surfaced.

## Rodney King pleads innocent in PCP case

(AP) — Rodney King, whose videotaped beating by police officers sparked the Los Angeles riots of 1992, has pleaded innocent to charges stemming from an April car crash.

King pleaded innocent to one misdemeanor count each of reckless driving, driving under the influence of PCP and being under the

influence of PCP.

Police said King raced through a Rialto intersection at more than 100 mph on April 13 before losing control, striking a utility pole, careening into a fence and hitting a house. King suffered a fractured pelvis and cracked ribs.

Authorities said tests revealed he had PCP in his system.

He was ordered to return to court July 9 for a pretrial hearing.

Outside court, King acknowledged he "may have been speeding a bit" but denied being under the influence of drugs or alcohol. He said he lost control of the car when he hit potholes on a poorly maintained street in Rialto, where he now lives.

## Police Review Board Seeks Volunteers

The Independent Police Review Division of the Portland City Auditor's Office is seeking volunteers to serve on the Citizen Review Committee.

The principal duties will include making objective decisions when citizens appeal the results of police misconduct investigations, partici-

pating in orientation and training about policing, advising on complaint handling, working with IPR staff to conduct in-depth policy reviews related to the Police Bureau and gathering community concerns about police policies and procedures.

Applications are available at

[www.ci.portland.or.us/auditor/ipr](http://www.ci.portland.or.us/auditor/ipr). Call IPR Deputy Director Michael Hess with questions at 503-823-4126.

Officials in the auditor's office said every attempt would be made to select qualified persons representing the demographic and ethnic diversity of Portland.

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