

# The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

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## Native American Center Nears Completion

PSU expands to serve growing Native American population  
See story, Metro section, inside

### Week in The Review



Former Iraqi ruler Saddam Hussein's sons, Odai, left, and Qusai. (AP Photo)

#### Saddam's Sons Dead

Saddam Hussein's sons Odai and Qusai were confirmed dead Tuesday in a raid by U.S. forces who surrounded the home of a cousin, a senior U.S. official said. Two other Iraqis also were killed.

#### NAACP Lawsuit Dismissed

A federal judge threw out the NAACP's case against the gun industry, despite findings that the manufacturers have put the public at risk with careless marketing practices. Affirming a jury verdict in favor of the gun makers, a judge ruled that the NAACP failed to show that its members were uniquely harmed.

#### Tongue Transplant Performed in Austria

Doctors in Vienna have carried out the first successful tongue transplant on a human. An unidentified 42-year-old man suffering from a malignant tumor affecting his tongue and jaw underwent a 14-hour operation at Vienna's General Hospital on Saturday in which doctors removed the tumor and attached the new tongue.

#### Devil's Highway Sign Stolen

The main stretch of asphalt that cuts across northwestern New Mexico's desolate mesas is living out its final days as the Devil's Highway, but drivers wouldn't know it. Not a single sign remains labeling it as the infamous U.S. 666. "Since the reports that we were changing the name, we had everything stolen. It was a feeding frenzy," said S.U. Mahesh, spokesman for the New Mexico Department of Transportation.

#### Fighting in Liberia Leaves 70 Dead

Heavy fighting engulfed the Liberian capital Monday, killing at least 70 people as mortars pounded the city in an all-out battle between rebels and forces of President Charles Taylor. It appeared to be the bloodiest single day of fighting in three rebel attempts to take the city in the last two months.

## Villa Move-Out Nearly Complete



The streets and homes of the Columbia Villa in north Portland show signs of desertion after the relocation of hundreds of residents. The site will re-open to both former and future residents in a totally new "mixed economy" neighborhood in 2005.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

## More than 450 families relocate for housing renovation

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

With Portland leading major cities as a model for public transportation, it's not surprising that the city set its own standard when it came time to revamp a major housing project in north Portland.

Portland is joining other locales such as Chicago, San Francisco and Detroit that have torn

down housing projects and moved in the direction of "mixed economy" communities.

After being awarded a \$35 million Hope VI grant in September 2001, the Portland Housing Authority plans to transform Columbia Villa into New Columbia. But where others came up short—relocation of residents during construction—Portland Housing Authority insiders say they will prevail.

Jacob Fox, the project's relocation manager, said the PHA is not using relocation as a chance to weed out tenants and that anyone wanting to return to New Columbia will be readmitted.

"Re-occupancy has been one of the most

controversial things about the project," said Fox. "If someone commits a crime that would have gotten them kicked out of Columbia Villa, we can't readmit them, but petty issues about late payments on rent or Little Johnny spilling paint on the rug won't be an issue for returning."

The Uniform Relocation Act protects the rights of Columbia Villa residents and pays for their move, since the project is supported by federal dollars. The relocation team follows families through every step of relocation, from finding new homes to enrolling kids in new schools to

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## Residents old and new bid farewell

Columbia Villa has a long, rich, 60-year history of providing comfort and security. At one time, it provided temporary housing and welcoming homes to shipbuilders, medical students, recent immigrants and a wide array of families representing communities of color, youth, disabled people and seniors.

People who came and went have fond memories of the community they were a part of at Columbia Villa.

Residents old and new are invited to bid farewell to the community on Saturday, July 26. You're invited to share your memories at the Villa and learn more about the new neighborhood that will replace it.

A commemorative ceremony begins at 9 a.m., followed by a history fair at 10 a.m. and an open house at 11 a.m. Activities are across the street from the Housing Authority of Portland building at 8920 N. Woolsey Ave. Look forward to a day of free storytelling, memory sharing, memorabilia, refreshments, tours and entertainment.

Removal of existing streets and aging structures will begin in September to make way for the innovative mixed-income neighborhood termed "New Columbia."

The mix of home types, architectural styles, new street grid connections, services, parks and educational opportunities are all planned to integrate New Columbia into the surrounding neighborhood.

## Governor Proclaims Mildred W. Ollee Day

Gov. Ted Kulongoski proclaimed Tuesday as Mildred W. Ollee Day around the state of Oregon.

Ollee, who has served as the executive dean of Portland Community College's Cascade Campus in north Portland since 1995, was honored for her accomplishments.

Sen. Margaret Carter read the proclamation on the Senate floor in Salem.

"Mildred W. Ollee has been an outstanding citizen in the Oregon community, bringing over 25 years of experience in the community college sector forward to the benefit of the people of Portland and our state; and has conducted such work and enterprise with vision, warmth, extraordinary insight and a special joy," the Governor's proclamation stated.

Ollee recently announced that she would be leaving the college to become president of Seattle Central Community College.

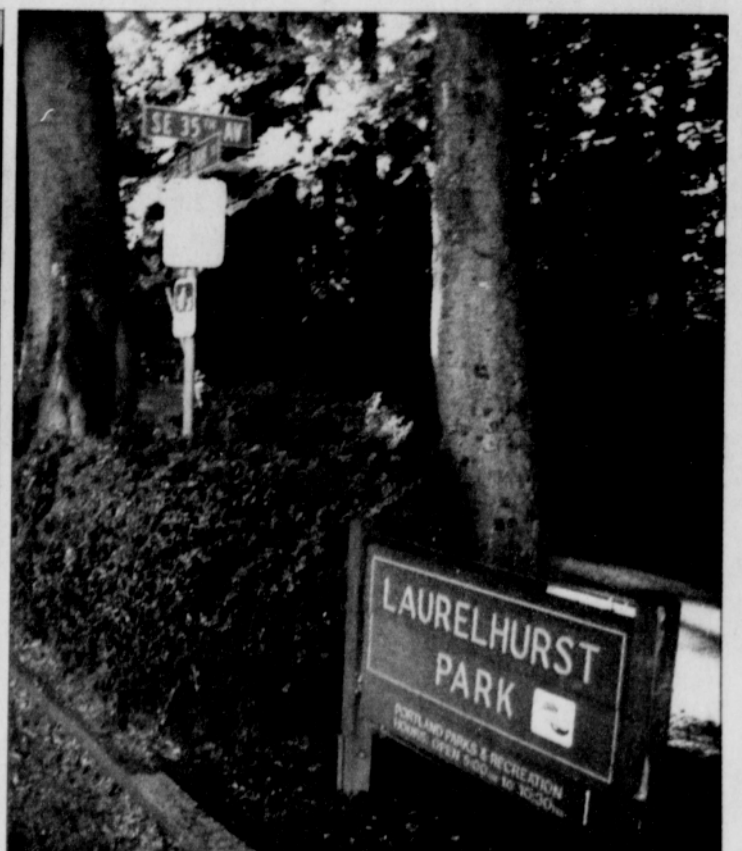
While at PCC, she managed a campus that doubled in student enrollment, from 8,400 to 15,500 students, nurtured the largest capital expansion project in the history of the Cascade Campus and has been a tireless promoter of the school's north-northeast neighborhood.

Ollee has received numerous commendations, including the Earl Norman Leadership Award; the Central Alumni Award of Seattle University; the Award for Excellence in Administration from the American Association of Women in Community and Junior Colleges, the Benefit Guild Outstanding Service Award and a listing in the Who's Who in Black America.



Mildred W. Ollee

## Park Dog Deaths Rise to 12



Twelve dogs have died after eating tainted meat sometime between July 3 and July 9 at Laurelhurst Park in southeast Portland. Dog owners, like Casey (left) at Fernhill Park are much more watchful of their pets.

PHOTOS BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland Police and Crime Stoppers are asking for the public's help in identifying and apprehending the individual or individuals responsible for the poisoning of dogs at Laurelhurst Park on Southeast 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue and East Burnside Street.

The number of dogs killed by poison reached 12 on Tuesday. The dogs were sickened sometime between July 3 and July 9. They appear to have ingested sausage or some kind of meat laced with what veterinarians believe is

paraquat, an industrial herbicide.

Some believe that the poisonings are part of an ongoing leash-law controversy. Laurelhurst Park has generated a high number of complaints about off-leash dogs.

A reward totaling \$15,000 has been collected from a series of community fundraising events, donations to the Oregon Humane Society, Crime Stoppers and others for information that leads to an arrest in this case.

Call Crime Stoppers at 503-823-HELP.

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