

The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

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Week in The Review

Bush Confident of Justice Probe

President Bush, under pressure from Democrats to name a special prosecutor, said he is confident the Justice Department can thoroughly investigate the leak of an undercover CIA officer's identity.

Roy Critical After Tiger Attack

Famed performer Roy Horn of the Siegfried and Roy duo remained in critical condition Tuesday after being mauled by a tiger, and their Las Vegas show has been canceled indefinitely, officials said.

Californians Vote in Recall

Californians headed to the polls Tuesday for a historic decision on who'll govern the state, and watching them were hundreds of Republican and Democratic party lawyers looking for any irregularities. The final days of campaigning focused on character rather than issues, largely because of sexual misconduct allegations against Republican Arnold Schwarzenegger, the leading contender to replace Gov. Gray Davis, a Democrat.

Iraq Aid Package Advanced

House Republicans released their own \$86.7 billion legislation for Iraq and Afghanistan, mostly tracking President Bush's plan, but erasing his proposed expenditures for ZIP codes and garbage trucks for Iraq.

Turkey May Lend Troops in Iraq

Turkey's government voted Monday to ask Parliament to send soldiers to Iraq, a move that could ease the burden of U.S. operations there and help mend frayed relations with Washington.

Task Force to Oversee Reconstruction

The White House, facing setbacks and growing casualties in Iraq, is asserting a larger role by opening a special task force to oversee reconstruction efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan. The panel will monitor the tens of billions of dollars being spent by the United States.

Michelle Kwan Living Well

Michelle Kwan has made it to Broadway. The champion figure skater will appear on a Times Square billboard as part of the "Pass It On" campaign promoting positive values. The campaign is run by The Foundation for a Better Life.

Leaving a Wonderful Legacy



Friends of Trees volunteer Nikki Blake plants a tree in her northeast Portland neighborhood with her daughter Taylor.

PHOTO BY CHIU TAKEDA

Friends of Trees reverses city's course with plantings

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

While the green space in most cities has been replaced by drab asphalt, Portland has reversed the trend by increasing its greenery over the past 30 years.

The results of a study by students at Portland State University, documenting the increase in trees, gardens, shrubs and wildlife preserves, marked a triumph for a local group dedicated to increasing the green in Portland communities.

Friends of Trees, which formed in 1989, plants about 30,000 trees and shrubs each year, mostly in north and northeast Portland neighborhoods, where the natural setting is desperately lacking.

The non-profit plants nearly every weekend through the planting season spanning from November to April, with the help of 2,000 volunteers donating 36,000 hours.

This season begins with a crew leader training from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 15, and the planting of 80 large shade trees along Northeast 72nd Avenue in the heart of the Roseway neighborhood.

Planting trees brings neighbors together, says Teri Ruch, communications director of Friends of Trees. Aside from the environmental benefits that trees provide, Ruch says planting day is sometimes a spark to ignite future projects.

"People come out for these plantings and finally meet their neighbors. The first neighborhood tree planting sometimes inspires more community projects," she said. "People feel so positive about it because they can see such an immediate change, but

also feel they are leaving a legacy that benefits people in neighborhoods to come."

Friends of Trees focuses on three main environmental-enhancing projects.

Trained volunteers organize neighborhood tree plantings and select trees and shrubs providing the most canopy for the space available; schools plantings engage kids, teachers and faculty in creating a living laboratory for students to learn as well as to beautify their grounds; and natural area restorations mobilize crews to return habitats to their former condition, with benefits to the wildlife residing there.

"For me and a lot of volunteers, it's the desire to return a landscape to the way it was before we mucked it up," said Anil Devani, the group's natural area restoration manager.

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PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland Community College is in the process of purchasing the former Renaissance Market on North Killingsworth Street for a public services education building as part of the college's expanded Cascade Campus.

Renaissance Market Building Annexed PCC expansion grows with new purchase

BY LEE PERLMAN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland Community College is in the process of purchasing the former Renaissance Market on North Killingsworth Street for a new Public Services Education Building, expanding a Cascade Campus expansion further than earlier plans.

The site will be made into a center for fire protection sciences, emergency medical services and criminal justice classes, making Cascade a magnet school for the college's public services education offerings, PCC public affairs spokesperson Susan Hereford said.

Architect Ben Hufford says the plans will extend the existing structure at 909 N. Killingsworth St., by seven feet on its southwest end and increase the size

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Urban League Salutes Charles Jordan

Annual event also to feature
National Urban League president

The Urban League of Portland will present its Equal Opportunity Day Award to honoree Charles Jordan, former Portland City Councilman and retired director of the city's Parks and Recreation Department. The award is given in appreciation for and in recognition of his important contributions to equal opportunity.

This year's theme: "Building Economic Empowerment through Equality and Education" reflects the Urban League's ongoing commitment to the community. The dinner and silent auction, which begins at 5:45 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 15, is at the Portland Hilton Hotel, 921 S.W. Sixth Ave.

National Urban League President and Chief Executive Officer Marc H. Morial will serve as the event's keynote speaker. Morial was appointed to lead the national organization in May, prior to which he was the former mayor of New Orleans and the president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Local businessman Matt Hennessee, president and CEO of Quiktrak, Inc., will be the night's master of ceremonies. Hennessee is an active public speaker both




Marc H. Morial

nationally and internationally on topics from business management to social responsibility.

"We are very excited about this year's event and the opportunity to honor Charles Jordan," said Barbara West, Urban League board chair. "With the Urban League's long-standing reputation for advocating empowerment to all individuals, this year's theme will continue to build on the League's efforts to foster economic empowerment through equality and education."

Proceeds from the dinner and auction will directly benefit the programs of the Urban League of Portland. For more information, call 503-280-2600.

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