



# The Portland Observer

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Committed to Cultural Diversity

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## Bishop Hardy Mourned

Pastor was spiritual community's 'Little King'



Bishop W.G. Hardy

A prominent religious leader whose influence was felt in Portland's spiritual community for nearly five decades, has died.

Bishop W.G. Hardy Senior, known affectionately as Little King, for his international faith-based career, died on Nov. 15 at the age of 75.

Two memorial services were held for Hardy; one at Freedom Assembly Church, his home church, on Thursday, Nov. 20 and another at Maranatha Church of God on Friday, Nov. 21.

Wilbert Gail Hardy was born July 25, 1928 to Elder D.J. Hardy and Msn. Esther Hardy in Enid, Okla. He moved to San Bernardino, Calif., where he graduated from San Bernardino High School and attended San Bernardino Valley College and Redland University.

On July 25, 1949, he enlisted in the United States Army as a combat chaplain in the Korean War. He was decorated and honorably discharged, receiving the Three-Bronze Star award.

Also in 1949, Bishop Hardy met and married Anorvia Louise Campbell. They moved to Portland in 1955, where he was a pastor at Freedom Assembly Church of God in Christ, 936 N.E. Beech St., formerly known as Mt. Sinai Church, for 47 years.

Hardy's life accomplishments were recently celebrated on his last birthday when Mayor Katz and Gov. Ted Kulongoski honored Hardy with a Day of Appreciation, presented by Sen. Avel Gordly.

A bishop with the Oregon Northwest Jurisdiction of the church, Hardy was a prolific multi-media

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PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

## One BIG Family

Globe reflects school's multiculturalism

Atkinson Elementary School in southeast Portland proudly added an eight-foot tall metal sculpture to its landscape last month.

The sculpture, depicting the same world's cultures and diversity that the school reflects, is made from old rebar and other recycled materials.

Atkinson Elementary School students and teacher Jennifer O'Donnell pose before a metal sculpture that represents the diversity of their school and the world.

With the urging of teacher Jennifer O'Donnell, Cracked Pots, a local nonprofit business specializing in "garden art," donated the sculpture, called "One Big Family."

Students and staff wanted diversity to be the theme of the sculpture, but left details to the artists.

The sculpture's title came from the Atkinson school song. Images of various peoples and animals from around the world and "helping hands" are seen in the piece.

Principal Deborah Peterson said 12 different languages are represented at Atkinson, a school that takes strides in embracing multiculturalism.

## Reservoir Burying Alternative Offered

Group says water safety concerns exaggerated

Editor's note: The following is a counterpoint to a story published in our Nov. 5 issue on the proposal to bury the reservoirs at Mt. Tabor to protect the city's water supply.

BY FLOY JONES  
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

As citizens and water users, the Friends of the Reservoirs are concerned about water quality and safety. However, we believe that the city is exaggerating concerns about intentional contamination and misrepresent-

ing water quality issues in order to justify replacing the historic open reservoirs at Mt. Tabor with buried storage.

There is simply time to look for cheaper and better solutions.

Perhaps our local government's actual level of concern is demonstrated by its passive actions.

The alternatives to burial have never been adequately explored. In addition, there's a conflict of interest when the engineers who studied the issue are the same ones who were hired to design and oversee

new construction.

In an article on bio-terrorism, even U.S. Sen. Bill Frist, a medical doctor, downplayed threats on water safety saying, "Most experts have concluded that it would be vir-

tually impossible to cause widespread health problems by contaminating a major public water supply."

We also question why the city has emphasized open reservoir concerns while

ignoring more immediate and realistic issues of backflow contamination.

Perhaps our local government's actual level of concern is demonstrated by its passive actions. Since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 the city has added just two security guards to monitor water supplies. No additional setbacks, lighting or other intrusive measures have been deemed necessary to keep our water safe.

Portland's water quality is excellent. It flows from the Bull Run, one of the world's most pristine and protected watersheds. The water meets or exceeds all state and federal guidelines.

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## Week in The Review

### Sniper Mastermind Sentenced to Death

On the day a jury in John Allen Muhammad's murder case decided he should be executed for his crimes, defense attorneys for his alleged accomplice opened their case in an attempt to ensure their client avoids Muhammad's fate.



John Allen Muhammad

### Stress Relief for Turkeys

The National Farmer's Union of London is trying to relieve some holiday stress—for

turkeys! Relaxed birds are happy birds, so the organization sent 114 farmers a compact disk of sounds including birds twittering, gobbles, whale sounds and wind chimes, to soothe the birds.

### 'Springer' Beats Up Competition at London Theater Awards

"Jerry Springer - The Opera," a raucous British musical satire of the trashy American TV show, was named best musical Monday at the 49th Evening Standard Theatre Awards.

### Rare Gorilla Dies

Snowflake, an extremely rare albino gorilla and the most popular resident of Barcelona Zoo, died of skin cancer early Monday morning, zoo officials said. Zoo officials put the elderly gorilla to sleep after his health deteriorated in recent days, zoo officials said.

Snowflake had been dying of skin cancer since 2001.

### Chi-Chi's Faces 5 Lawsuits Over Hepatitis

Five lawsuits have already been filed against the Chi-Chi's restaurant chain over a hepatitis A outbreak that has killed three people and sickened more than 600, and scores of other lawsuits are likely to follow.

### Jackson Addresses Fans on Web Site

Michael Jackson, addressing his fans directly via a new Web site, says the child molestation allegations made against him are "predicated on a big lie" and he will be exonerated in court. The entertainer's spokesman, Stuart Backerman, had said last week that Jackson was putting

the site together so he could communicate with the news media and fans.

### Medicare Bill Approved

The Senate gave final congressional approval Tuesday to the most sweeping changes to Medicare since its creation in 1965, including a new prescription drug benefit for 40 million older and disabled Americans. The 54-44 vote sends the bill to President Bush, who is eager to sign it into law.



Michael Jackson

### Burger King Adopts Breast-Feeding Policy

Burger King adopted a corporate policy Friday allowing women to breast-feed their babies in restaurants - a day before a threatened "nurse-in" at the fast-food chain's facilities.

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University of Oregon  
Knight Library  
1299 University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403-1205