

Health Disparities Research at OHSU

The Northwest Center for Health Disparities Research is a program at the Oregon Health and Sciences University, providing health care for racial, ethnic and underserved communities. The location and sponsorship was regrettably omitted from a story about the program in last week's edition.

The Portland center, on the OHSU campus in southwest Portland, has joined community-based agencies, foundations, academic institutions, local and state public health agencies and health care systems with the mission of developing culturally competent research.

Corliss McKeever, president of the African American Health Coalition, is the program's co-director with Dr. Nancy Glass from OHSU's School of Nursing.

For more information, call 503-494-6740.

Girl Escapes King School Kidnapping



Portland Police Officer Ron Cash and Lew Frederick of Portland Public Schools discuss kidnapping as they watch parents collecting their children afterschool.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Become a Teacher

- Earn a teaching license/master's degree
- Part-time schedule for working adults
- Offered in Portland, Salem, and Redmond
- Bachelor's degree required

Conveniently Located!

INFORMATION MEETINGS AT 6:30 P.M.

Monday, April 5

Maywood Park Center: 10100 N.E. Prescott, Room 125, Portland

Tuesday, April 13

Portland Center: 12753 S.W. 68th Ave., Room 260, Portland



503-554-2264
mat.georgefox.edu

continued ▲ from Front

way at Kellogg Middle School and raped her in a nearby motel.

According to Frederick, one of the changes in school security may include implementing a "buddy system," so students are not alone while out of class.

No suspects are in custody, but the girl has provided police

with a detailed description of the man and his car. The suspect is described as a white man in his 20s with brown and blond hair and a thin build. He has a scar on the left side of his chin. The car is described as an older, black four-door.

Police knocked on doors after the kidnapping, questioning neighbors surrounding the school, and

are continuing the investigation, according to Sgt. Cheryl Robinson, spokeswoman for the Portland Police Bureau.

"We encourage parents to talk to their children about stranger danger," Robinson said. "You want to bring attention to yourself."

Anyone with information about the abduction is asked to call police at 503-823-0446.

Urgency on Vanport Project Grows

continued ▲ from Front

According to knowledgeable sources, the Vanport team is negotiating with two grocery chains as an anchor tenant for the project, with Albertson's mentioned most prominently. So far, the team has won sales agreements with the owners of four of six homes that are needed to provide the necessary real estate.

Leary says that part of the problem in pushing the project forward is that investors and potential retailers have an old perception of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard that's not true today. Woolley notes that demographic data for the area reflects the presence of "six or seven" large low-income housing projects and doesn't take into account the

Robinson and being the first one out of the box."

Still, success is critical and not just to the people involved.

"If this is the primary commercial node on MLK, and it remains undeveloped, where will development occur?" Leary asks.

He notes that the project "has had some victories. We have sales agreements from four property

If this is the primary commercial node on MLK, and it remains undeveloped, where will development occur?

—Ray Leary, a local entrepreneur

presence of increased housing values in the area.

"No developer can force the market to do what it's not prepared to do," Leary says. Further, he says, creating an "urban commercial space" of this size on MLK is "an unprecedented effort, still uncharted waters. There are very few things more difficult than establishing something for the first time. It's no small task to being Jackie

owners. In our meeting with the neighbors, there was general appreciation and satisfaction. We've been in negotiations with some potential anchors for quite some time; there's something about the project that still has them at the table."

"Clearly there's an urgency to put the deal together, but we deserve support because progress is being made."

Vancouver NAACP President Named to State Commission

Ford to lobby African-American concerns

NAACP members began to lobby the commission about five years ago to become actively involved in issues in southwest Washington,"



Earl W. Ford

Earl W. Ford, president of the Vancouver Branch NAACP, has been named to the Washington State Commission on African American Affairs, the first member of the commission from southwest Washington.

Ford received notification of the appointment by Gov. Gary Locke on March 5.

"I am excited about the opportunity to serve Vancouver and Clark County in this capacity. I hope to be of service to African Americans throughout southwest Washington," Ford said.

An executive order established the commission in 1989, but state law didn't formally establish it until 1992. The panel is charged with providing a focal point in state government for the interests of African-American citizens.

"Sidney Clark, President, USDA Coalition of Minority Employees and I along with several other

Ford said. "I consider this appointment to be the culmination of our efforts. Now we have to roll up our sleeves and work twice as hard to focus some of the commission's interest on Southwest Washington issues that we believe need critical attention."

Ford cited several issues that will draw his attention as a member of the commission.

"There are many employees who are suffering the pain of discrimination in agencies that are taxpayer supported in Southwest Washington and that must change, he said.

Ford said other issues include failing public schools, state testing standards, and increasing employment and business development opportunities for people of color.

Regina J. Jones, who is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the governor, administers the commission as executive director. The panel consists of nine governor appointed members.



You pick the car.

Let us close the deal.

Ready to purchase a car? Want to lower your current car payment?

4.9% APR*
5 YEAR FIXED RATE

Auto loans from U.S. Bank feature:

- A \$25 gas card with auto loan!**
- No payments for 90 days, and...
- **Great low rates!***

To apply, see a U.S. Bank representative or call us at 1-888-444-BANK (ext. 4100) today!



You've got somewhere to go. We'll help you get there.

*Minimum \$10,000 loan amount and automatic payments from a U.S. Bank checking account required. Interest rates range from 4.39-4.695% depending upon state of origination. 4.90% APR is available on new or used autos, 2002 models and newer, with repayment terms up to 60 months. Rates for longer terms and older vehicles are slightly higher. Depending upon state of residence, Loan Fees up to \$150 apply. In the states of Washington and Oregon, Loan Fees are 1% of vehicle purchase price with a minimum Loan Fee of \$100. Loan payment and Interest Rate will vary based on the loan amount, the term, and any fees. For example, a \$10,000 loan for 60 months at an interest rate of 4.39% with a \$125 processing fee will have an APR of 4.8990% and a monthly payment of \$188.25. This offer cannot be combined with any other discounts. Offer is subject to credit qualifications. Rates are subject to change. Some additional restrictions may apply. Installment loans are offered through U.S. Bank National Association. © 2004 U.S. Bancorp, U.S. Bank. **The Gas Card will be issued in the form of a U.S. Bank Visa Gift Card. To qualify for the U.S. Bank Visa Gift Card, the customer must apply and qualify for a new or used auto loan by March 31, 2004 with loan closing by April 15, 2004. Gift cards will be awarded in increments of \$25. All gift cards will be mailed within 7-10 days of loan closing to the primary borrower's address. Member FDIC.