

Lending Visibility to Northeast Portland Needs

Activist runs for Portland City Commissioner

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Woodrow Broadnax, known as "Woody" to the hundreds of Portlanders that know him as a community organizer, is undertaking a new challenge.

Broadnax has joined the city commissioner's race, running against dozens of candidates he says do not understand or care about northeast Portland.

According to Broadnax, he has paid his debt to society, and is now ready to give back by joining the political arena.

A recovering drug addict, Broadnax has been in prison and

been on the streets of northeast Portland, which he sees as an advantage over his opponents.

"The community leaders are so

We're living in a militarized city at this point and because of that, the city and the police are separated.

-City Council Candidate
Woodrow "Woody" Broadnax

A Portland resident for 35 years, Broadnax is best known for chairing annual Juneteenth events in northeast Portland. He is the execu-



tive director of the House of Exodus Association Northwest and is youth commission chair of Juneteenth America.

Broadnax's platform ranges from education to economics to community policing, with an eye on the needs of African Americans in northeast Portland. His ideas, called "half-cocked" by critics, offer innovative solutions to some of the most pressing problems plaguing the city.

For keeping at-risk kids out of trouble, Broadnax proposes a year-round school program where volunteer professionals instruct and inspire kids in the summertime.

Broadnax has a plan to instate a Roosevelt-style welfare system by hiring thousands of unemployed city residents to maintain city roads and infrastructures.

Corporations would foot much of the bills for building new gyms, community centers and paying for uniforms in public schools, to help raise the self-esteem of students

and residents.

Regarding police accountability, Broadnax said, "We're living in a militarized city at this point and because of that, the city and the police are separated."

He said that a citizen-appointed police oversight committee should replace the Citizens Review Committee, which oversees complaints about the Police Bureau.

"The (current) citizen's review board has no power and it has no teeth," he said.

Broadnax says he already con-

siders himself a winner, regardless of the outcome of the hotly contested primary election on May 18.

"I've raised myself up by doing what is right," Broadnax said. "My past has prepared me for my future to walk through adversity and say I've been there and let's move on to help the city."

Broadnax is looking for donations and volunteers to fund and staff his campaign. He can be reached at 503-285-8898 and a Web site will soon be launched.

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Ask Deanna!

Real People. Real Advice
An advice column known for its fearless approach to reality based subjects!

-Undecided; Toledo, Ohio

Dear Undecided:
Men holding condoms for each other is like women holding tampons for each other. He's definitely cheating if he says he's getting sizable condoms from another man. Men don't put their business out there to other men like that unless they're gay. You don't feel anything because you're numb from the lies, cheating and pain. Don't commit yourself to a future of doubt and deceit by marrying this man. If you want to be hard headed and marry him anyway, at least get professional counseling first.

Dear Deanna!
Is there an age limit to letting young girls get acrylic nails? My daughter is 11 years old and she's worrying

me about this and I'm ready to give in. My family and friends say she's too young for the fake nails and need to wait because she'll look too grown. What do you think? - Macie; Washington, DC

Dear Macie:
She's too grown now because if you told her no that should be the end of the discussion. It's understandable if she's a nail biter or has a disorder but evidently this isn't the case. If you have money to burn every two weeks for manicures and can rush this child to the emergency room when a nail breaks to the cuticle, go for it. Otherwise, you need to keep your daughter in a child's place and let her get nails when she gets a job.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or write: Deanna M, P.O. Box 88847, Los Angeles, CA 90009. Website: www.askdeanna.com

Dear Deanna!
My boyfriend of 4 years cheated on me at least 10 times. At first we had an open relationship and we saw other people and later began getting serious about each other. Although he continued to cheat, he showed me love and came home at a decent time. Now he's changed and is always around. I love him but I keep thinking about the phrase "once a cheater, always a cheater."
-In Love and Confused

Dear Confused:
Once is too many times for cheating. You played a part in this drama because of the tone in which this relationship began. He disrespected you but you allowed it. Count your 4 years as a learning experience and find a man that'll respect you like the deserving queen you are. You're too good to be seventh fiddle to a man that's supposed to be yours. No, he won't stop cheating, so suck it up and keep it moving.

Dear Deanna!
A few times I found condoms in my fiancé's pocket. He says they belonged to a friend. I also found the large condoms we've used before and he said his friend gave them to him so he could try them out. When he cheated on me before my instincts confirmed it. I think he's out there doing something now, but I don't have the gut feeling. Should I marry him? -

Plans Begin for Good in the Neighborhood

Plans are getting underway for the "Good in the Neighborhood" multi-cultural music and food festival in June.

The organizers of the event are seeking creative and innovative people to participate in the 12th annual celebration, including food, information and market place vendors, volunteers, parade participants and sponsors.

The festival formerly known as Good-in-the-Hood will celebrate the 12th annual music and food festival on Saturday, June 26 and

Sunday, June 27 at King School Park.

The mission is to promote the positive cultural aspects of the north/northeast corridor and continue to bring positive media attention to our community.

Last year's event attracted over 7,500 residents from neighborhoods throughout Portland.

Anyone interested in participating in one of the above areas or need further information are asked to call 503-282-1288 or e-mail: roberts3911@yahoo.com.

PCC Helps Make Positive Transition to Retirement

Retirement is one of the most significant transitions people will ever face in their lifetimes. Learn how to make it smoothly, and embrace all the opportunities your new lifestyle brings with a special non-credit series offered by Portland Community College.

Patricia Bergman will teach the Transitioning to Retirement Series, featuring in-class exercises, summarized at the end of each class, with ample time for discussion of materials covered. For those who want more hands-on activities, the series also includes two optional three-hour follow up sessions. Highlights are as follows:

Create your ideal retirement by addressing non-financial issues like adjusting to a new lifestyle, enhancing self-esteem and achieving

meaningful use of your time.

What is waiting for you in the wings of your life? What's holding you back? Discover your priorities. Class includes 80-year-old ideas of fun things to do, alternating leisure-time rhythms, an activity checklist, and setting goals.

What is the purpose of work? Discover how work can fit into your life with issues such as budgeting your time, the role of your skills in retirement, work-related values, people environments and more. If you are thinking of going back to school, pick up tips for formal and informal learning options.

The complete series will be offered at Grant High School and PCC's Cascade Campus in north Portland. Call 503-731-6831.

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