

# Mr. Portland



The Portland Oregon Visitors Association presents Roy Jay with the prestigious Member of the Year award.

continued ▲ from Metro

recognized the native Portlander for the past six consecutive years as one of the nation's most influential African Americans in the convention industry.

It was just last November that he was also surprised by his peers at the National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners Conference in Dallas with their most prestigious award.

As one of the best ambassadors that this city has had in promotions, Jay, single handedly organized familiarization trips to attract minority meeting planners, media and others to take a first hand look at the City of Roses. While some were first skeptical, they were won over with his savvy charm and persuasive style of marketing.

The National Forum For Black Public Administrators, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Officials, American Association for Affirmative Action, TD Jakes Crusade, and Neighborhood

USA are just a few of the national touring events and conventions that Jay as racked into the "sold" column.

In fashionable Roy Jay style, he spins the credit to his hospitality partners, POVA and the local hotel industry.

Described as the entrepreneur's entrepreneur, Jay was also featured last year in Oregon Business Magazine as one of the State's Top 50 leaders. He owns, operates or has business interest in at least 10 business enterprises.

"He is always a pleasure to work with," says Betty Davis of Vancouver, who has been in the hospitality and tourism business for the past 30 years.

"He's quite the guy and has never let the fact that he is African American ever hold him back from accomplishment anything. People like Roy because his is genuine, caring, sharing and calls everyone his friend, neighbor or cousin."

## Youth Treatment Center Expands Reach

continued ▲ from Metro

youth from all economic backgrounds.

"The new center addresses the critical shortage of evidence-based drug and alcohol treatment for youth in our region," said Sheila North, executive director of De Paul.

The expanded program includes an array of services, including residential and outpatient treatment, mental health services, youth and family support groups and informational presentations.

Multnomah County Commissioner Serena Cruz said the De Paul Youth Treatment Center will help erase the stigma of addiction treat-

ment. "Too often, shame prevents people from seeking help from their children or for themselves," said Cruz. "The center will be a visible, welcoming place encouraging a pro-active approach to alcohol and drug problems."

The location of the expanded center builds upon the St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church Parish, and incorporates the former elementary school for classroom space and outpatient offices.

Contributions are still needed to establish an endowment fund.

For more information, call 503-535-1161 or visit [www.depaultreatmentcenters.org](http://www.depaultreatmentcenters.org).

# EL OBSERVADOR

## Families Shorted on Tax Credits

(AP) — A federal program that can boost a low-income family's tax credit by thousands of dollars, is not reaching some of the neediest households.

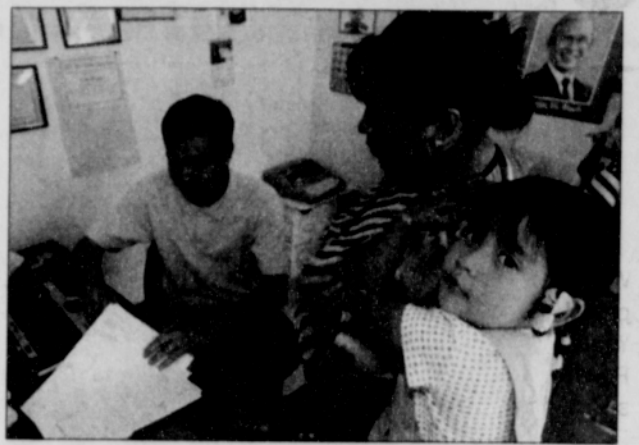
Only 36 percent of the eligible Hispanic families surveyed in California's San Joaquin Valley received the EITC they were entitled to last year - even though the credit can provide up to \$4,000 for households headed by the working poor.

The disparity was evident in the partial results of the Rural Families Speak Project - a five-year survey by universi-

ties around the country into the financial well-being of rural families.

Volunteers helping taxpayers in isolated communities say their clients' inability to access agencies that could tell them about the credit, along with language differences and cultural assumptions, often keep Hispanics from receiving the credit.

EITC is often considered the most successful federal anti-poverty program. More eligible families get the EITC than traditional assistance programs like Medicaid or food stamps. In the last tax year, it gave \$36.9 billion back to qualifying families.



Wifredo Rodriguez goes over the taxes of Natividad Alcoceer as her daughter Iris Hernandez, 3 looks on. (AP photo)

## RELIGION

### Benson Grad Remembered

Aaron Allen Crews

A memorial service was held on March 26 in the Cathedral of Praise in Portland for Aaron Allen Crews, who died March 20 of homicide at age 34.

Crews was born Jan 14, 1970 in Portland. He graduated from Benson Polytechnic High School, received a certificate in bricklaying from the Job Corps and was a brick mason. He had lived in Tacoma before returning to Portland.

Survivors include his daughters Ayanna Jones and Aaliyah Jones-Banks; mother, Dolores Jones; father, Larry Shephard; sisters, Angela Golden, Traci Crews, Sheri Hamilton and Velaida Harris; and brothers, Uhuru Crews, Karanja Crews, Zawdie Crews, Enrique Shephard, Emile Shephard, Mike Shephard and Tony Shephard. Arrangements were made by Rose City.

### Spiritual Development Pursued

The Center for Spiritual Development at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 147 N.W. 19th Ave. is holding a retreat and workshop aimed to realign participants with their spiritual selves from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 24 at the Elk Rock Garden at Bishop's Close.

The day includes an ecumenical service with scripture, prayer, journal writing, conversation,

music, silence and quiet reflection in the garden.

The cathedral is also sponsoring a lecture and workshop with Rabbi Lawrence Kushner, a brilliant storyteller, author and Rabbinic scholar, on Friday and Saturday, May 14 and 15.

For more information, call 503-478-1218.

## Living Faith Ministries

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## Allen Temple C.M.E. Church

### Spring Revival

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Habakkuk 3:1

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Senior Pastor  
Carter Temple  
Orlando, Florida

**When:** 7:00 pm - Wednesday, April 21, 2004  
7:00 pm - Thursday, April 22, 2004  
7:30 pm - Friday, April 23, 2004

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