



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
Sgt. Harry Jackson discusses increasing gang violence in the neighborhood surrounding Peninsula Park at North Albina Avenue between Portland Boulevard and Ainsworth Street with student Anuj Ezekiel, as part of a ride-along activity for Environmental Middle School.

# TURF WAR

continued ▲ from Front

ately, they're less likely to do that. We're not there to exclude anyone from the park, but we're trying to keep it safe."

"We're working very closely with the Police Bureau," Park Bureau public safety manager Mark Warrington told the Portland Observer.

"We're meeting with them on a weekly basis, and we're matching their resources with ours. There have been threats, intimidation, the use of weapons, and that's a great concern to us."

Last week the police pulled back their presence in the park.

"We've seen improvements, and we've received lots of good comments," Northeast Precinct Lieutenant Robert Heimbach told the Portland Observer. The gangs are "not there right now. If we leave, they may come back."

In that event, Jackson says, anyone who witnesses such gang activity should call 911.

Warrington said his bureau was "monitoring" the situation. He was reluctant to concede that Peninsula had become a magnet for gangs.

"All parks are vulnerable to misuse," he says. "There have been two shootings in that neighborhood recently, and we harbor no illusions that we're somehow exempt from what's going on there." He conceded, "Young people are mobile. This is not a localized phenomenon."

In response to questions at the Piedmont meeting, Jackson said neighbors should not abandon the park, but to be wary of what is happening there. To emphasize the seriousness of the problem he told one nearby resident, "Do you know how far a bullet can travel if it misses? It can go through the walls of your house."

## Shooting Inquest to Air on TV, Radio

The public inquest into the police shooting death of James Jahar Perez, an unarmed black motorist killed in a traffic stop in north Portland, begins Wednesday, April 28 at 9:30 a.m. Less than 30 seats are available to the public at the Multnomah County Courthouse, available on a first come-first serve basis.

Officials from the district attorney's office are looking into reserving an

overflow courtroom, accommodating 100 people to view the inquest on closed-circuit television.

The inquest can also be seen on Northwest Cable channel 49 and KBOO radio station 90.7 FM. Oregon Live is carrying a continuous stream of the inquest at [www.oregonlive.com/special/policeshooting/](http://www.oregonlive.com/special/policeshooting/).

Arrangements also were being

made Tuesday for Portland Community Media to air a delayed tape of the inquest in its entirety.

"Between the internet, radio and cable television, every citizen wishing to follow the proceeding will have access to it. This will be the most accessible public inquest ever held in Portland's history and that's a good thing," said Scott Farris, a spokesman for the mayor.

Inquest proceedings will continue Thursday, beginning at 8:30 a.m. with a video demonstrating police training techniques. Witnesses will testify for the rest of the day and continue into Friday, beginning at 9 a.m. and possibly spill into Monday.

After all testimonies are given, the jury will convene and return with the manner and cause of death.

## Boy Killed in Dog Attack

(AP)—Two dogs attacked and killed an 8-year-old Vancouver area boy on Saturday.

John Streeter was found dead in the back yard of a neighbor's home in Sifton, a small community east of Vancouver.

Sgt. Steve Shea of the Clark County Sheriff's Office said the dogs' owner was away from home on vacation at the time.

Police and animal control authorities had no record of any complaints about either dog, both a mix of bull mastiff and German shepherd.

Both dogs are females estimated to be 3 or 4 years old, said Kate Dulemba, a spokeswoman for the

Humane Society for southwest Washington, where the animals were being held.

One dog, Precious, weighs 135 pounds. The other, Diamond, weighs 98 pounds, Dulemba said.

Sgt. John Horch of the sheriff's office estimated Streeter weighed less than 100 pounds.

Authorities identified the dogs' owner as Edward Miller, who lives next door to the home where Streeter lived with his mother and two sisters.

Once detectives complete their investigation, information will be sent to the prosecutor's office, which will decide whether any criminal charges are warranted, Shea said.

## Multicultural Health Administrator Hired

James Mason has been hired as administrator of the Office of Multicultural Health in the Oregon Department of Human Services.

Since 2002, Mason has been multicultural development officer at Chemeketa Community College in Salem.

He is also a senior project consultant at the National Center of Cultural Competence at Georgetown University.

"The Governor's Racial and Ethnic Task Force has identified persistent, significant health problems unique to Oregon's racial and ethnic communities," said Barry Kast,

assistant DHS director for Health Services. "Mason is well prepared to organize our efforts and work with our public health programs to

confront these problems."

Kast said that key factors in Mason's selection were his ability to relate cultural issues to health policy, along with his experience in behavioral health, an ability to engage communities of color and organizational and man-

agement skills in bringing people together to produce change.

During the past 20 years, Mason has been a lecturer and instructor at PSU.



James Mason

## Hiring for Summer Youth Litter Patrols to Begin

The Oregon Department of Transportation has jobs for youth wishing to work outdoors and help keep Oregon clean.

This summer, ODOT expects to hire about 245 youth statewide to clean up litter along state highways as part of the Youth Litter Patrol program. While the crews primarily pick up litter, other duties may also include graffiti removal and general landscape maintenance. A typical crew includes a crew leader and two or more members.

To be considered for the job, register with your local Employment Department office. A list of these offices is available at [www.workinginoregon.org](http://www.workinginoregon.org). Depending on the area, interviews for selected applicants may be-

gin as early as May. Youth Litter Patrols may work up to 12 weeks this summer.

Litter Patrol Workers are temporary employees paid on an hourly basis starting at \$7.49 for crew members and \$8.08 for crew leaders. Crew leaders must be at least 18 years old with a valid driver license and good driving record. There is no maximum age for a crew leader. Crew members must be 16 to 20 years old.

The Youth Litter Patrol program was founded in 1971 to help in cleaning up highway rights-of-way and is funded through the sale of custom license plates available through Driver and Motor Vehicle Services.

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