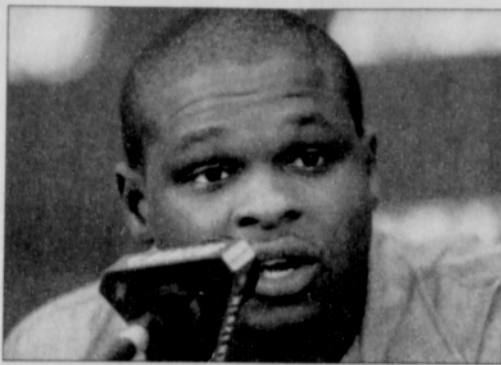


METRO

The Portland Observer



Putting Stock in Zach Randolph

NBA's Most Improved signs new \$84 million contract extension
See Sports, page B3

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Learn to Swim

Fall Swimming Lessons are available at Columbia Pool, 7701 N. Chautauqua Blvd and Matt Dishman Pool, 77 N.E. Knott. For information, call the Portland Parks Aquatic Division at 503-823-5130.

Piece of Italy

St. Charles' 54th annual Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner and all the fixins' is Sunday, Nov. 7 from noon to 6:30 p.m. at Northeast 42nd Avenue and Emerson. Prices are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children. Takeout is available. For questions, call 503-281-6461.

For Freedom

The Freedom Socialist Party is holding a study group to discuss Marxist African-American liberation on Thursdays, Nov. 11 and 18 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and Fridays, Nov. 12 and 19 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Bread and Roses Center, 819 N. Killingsworth. Free. For more information, call 503-240-4462.

Women in NAACP

Women in NAACP meets from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Saturday of each month at the American Red Cross Building, 3131 N. Vancouver. For questions, call 503-249-6263.

Forces of Nature

OMSI presents Forces of Nature, National Geographic Chases Mother Nature's Dark Side, at Omnimax through March. For more information, call 503-797-4000.

Fox Chase Artwalk

The businesses of Fox Chase Corners, at Northeast 30th Avenue and Killingsworth Street, sponsor Artwalk for the entire family, Sunday, Nov. 14 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, e-mail milagros@milagrosboutique.com.

Gallery of Visual Arts

View art from talented local artists of all ages throughout the month of November at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center; 5340 N. Interstate Ave., from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., free.

Get Fit, Stay Healthy!

Sankofaa Health Institute offers a free diabetes support group from 6 to 7:30 p.m. every third Thursday at Alberta Simmons Plaza, 6707 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. For more information, call 503-285-2484.

Creative Space For Dance

Aurora dance studio, 5433 N.E. 30th (& Killingsworth), offers an array of classes for children, teens and adults at all levels of ability. Call 503-249-0201 or visit online at www.hevanet.com/auroradance for additional information.

Getting Creative

A creative development networking group meets on Nov 10th. Led by professional creative development consultant. Call 503-490-8751 for details.

Work For Change

Community Advocates invites those interested in protecting children from abuse to become an event volunteer, event outreach, technology expert, graphic artists or office support team member. For more information, call 503-280-1388.

Birth Ready

Whether you need childbirth preparation classes, or just a refresher, Providence Health Systems has a workshop for you. Prepare for pain, take a weekend seminar or prepare big sisters and brothers-to-be throughout the summer by visiting www.providence.org/classes or call 503-574-6595.

Preserving our Heritage



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Essie Murray stands proudly before her 1911 home after the exterior of the home was completely refurbished. The home is one of a dozen identified as significant to preserving Portland's African-American history.

Historic African-American homes rescued

BY LEE PERLMAN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Essie Murray has lived at Northeast Rodney Avenue and Shaver Street since 1958. The house is rich in African-American history, dating back to 1911, and the paint left on it was more than a generation old.

The Bosco Milligan Foundation, together with the Portland Development Commission and the Northeast Workforce Center, were able to change that. Under a \$47,000 grant from the Interstate Urban Renewal District, the house

continued ▼ on page B6

New Columbia to get Learning Center

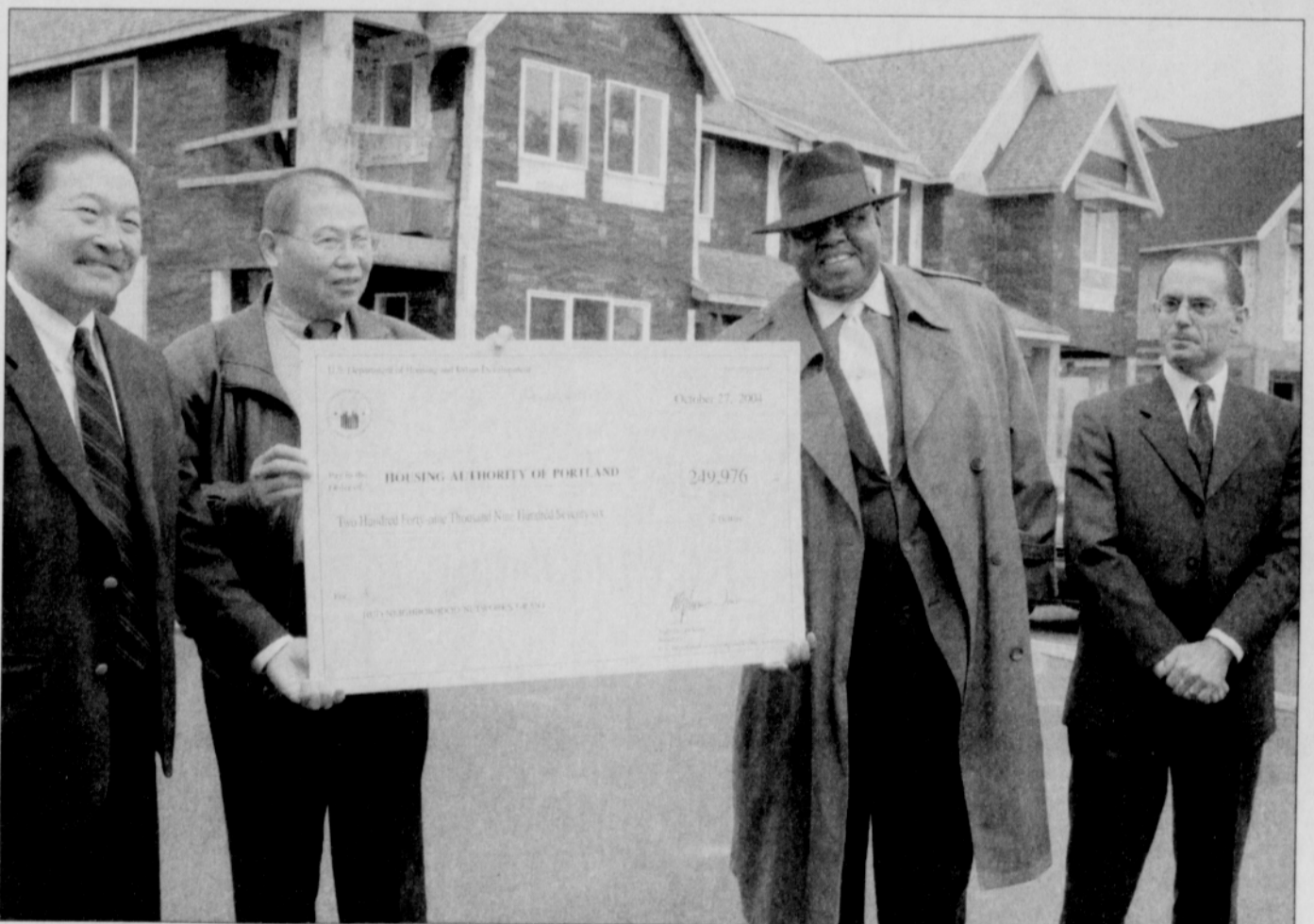
Support goes to new neighborhood

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has presented \$6.75 million in grants in the city of Portland for New Columbia, the entirely new neighborhood under construction as a replacement to Columbia Villa in north Portland.

The non-profit Northwest Housing Alternative, Inc. will receive \$6.5 million to construct 61 one-bedroom units for very low-income elderly persons and a two-bedroom unit for a resident manager. The housing will be located in the heart of the community, an 80-acre mixed-income community being developed using HUD and private and local government funds.

The Housing Authority of Portland will receive \$249,976 to create a new Neighborhood Networks computer-learning center. The center will be designed to make it easier for residents to obtain information on jobs, educational opportunities, as well as information on healthcare, nutrition and other social services, while gaining valuable computer skills.

"Today computer knowledge is essential," said Michael Liu, an assistant secretary for HUD. "When our public housing communities bring computer technology to neighborhoods it opens countless opportunities for residents in the new development and the surrounding community."



A ceremonial check shows federal support for new housing and a community learning center at New Columbia in north Portland. Attending the celebration were Michael Lie (from left), assistant secretary for U.S. Housing and Urban Development; Jaime Lim and Harold Williams of the Portland Community College board; and Jeff Bachrach of the Housing Authority of Portland.

Portland Development Commission Offers Help on Home Repairs

The Portland Development Commission will offer a free public workshop on the topic of how to purchase a home through the Portland Development Commission and finance home repairs or improvements.

The workshop will be offered from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 4 at

the Kaiser-Permanente Town Hall building, 3704 N. Interstate Ave.

Information provided will explain PDC's "purchase with renovation" first mortgage loan program, from the pre-approval process to what takes place after the loan closes and the work begins.

The presentation will also cover the range of homebuyer assistance available to help someone get into a home. PDC loan originator Phyllis Gaines and construction specialist Connie Buckley will lead the workshop and will be available to answer individual questions at the end of the session.

Participants are asked to pre-register by calling 503-823-3004 and to bring their three most recent pay stubs to the workshop. Space is limited, but another workshop is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 2 at the same location and time.

For more information, contact Gaines at 503-823-3386.