



The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

Volume XXXV, Number 45

Established in 1970
Committed to Cultural Diversitywww.portlandobserver.com
Wednesday • November 9, 2005

Week in The Review

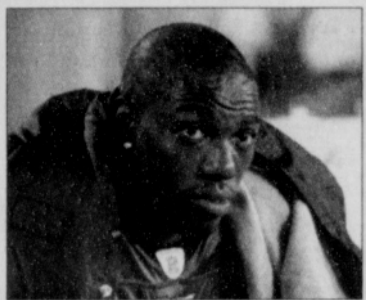
Translator Accused of Treason

An Arabic translator for the Army is accused of secretly helping Iraqi insurgents, a federal prosecutor said at his bail hearing in New York City Monday. The man was ordered held without bail on charges of falsifying his identity.

Second Saddam Lawyer Killed

Three masked gunmen in a speeding Opel assassinated a second lawyer in the Saddam Hussein trial Tuesday, casting doubt on Iraq's ability to try the case and leading a prominent war crimes prosecutor to urge moving the proceedings to another Arab country.

Terrell Owens Apologizes



A contrite Terrell Owens, hoping to overturn his dismissal from the Philadelphia Eagles, on Tuesday apologized to coach Andy Reid, quarterback Donovan McNabb, the team's owner and president, and fans. "I fight for what I think is right. In doing so, I alienated a lot of my fans and my teammates," the All-Pro receiver said.

Student Shoots Administrators

A student shot and killed an assistant principal and seriously wounded two other administrators at a high school in Jacksboro, Tenn. Tuesday. The student was arrested. The motive for the shooting at Campbell County High School, 30 miles from Knoxville, was not immediately known.

France in State of Emergency

President Jacques Chirac declared a 12-day state of emergency Tuesday in an extraordinary measure to halt France's worst civil unrest in nearly four decades. The mayhem sweeping neglected and impoverished neighborhoods with large African and Arab communities is forcing France to confront anger building for decades among residents who complain of discrimination and unemployment.

Gonorrhea Cases Fall

Gonorrhea has fallen to the lowest level on record in the United States, while the rates of other sexually transmitted diseases - syphilis and chlamydia - are on the rise, federal health officials said Tuesday.

No Libby Pardon Urged

The Senate's top Democrats challenged President Bush on Tuesday to rule out a pardon for I. Lewis Libby, a former top White House aide who faces trial on charges of obstruction of justice and perjury in the CIA leak case.

Seniors Face Daunting Options



Lyda Overton (left) and Arleta Christain, activities director for Northeast Multicultural Senior Center, get an understanding of Medicare Part D. Each Wednesday, the center matches people up with a volunteer expert in the new prescription drug coverage by appointment. A group class is also planned on Nov. 30.

Help offered to decipher Medicare Part D

BY KATHERINE BLACKMORE
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

There's a new health benefit plan milling around called Medicare Part D and it brings confusing options for seniors and disabled people.

Starting Jan. 1, everyone on Medicare can voluntarily buy a prescription drug insurance policy from an array of private companies that are subsidized and regulated by the federal government.

But with so many different options and daunting paperwork, the whole thing can be intimidating. To ease the confusion and lessen the chances for a costly mistake, the AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) and SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefit Assistance program) have launched public efforts to help people look at their choices, rather than dismissing the new benefit as something that's too complicated to deal with.

Both organizations are helping out by providing workshops, along with individual, phone and online counseling, beginning Nov. 15, which is also the first day to sign up for the new coverage.

The Urban League of Portland Multicultural Senior Center on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Killingsworth Street will offer individual counseling sessions with a SHIBA volun-

continued ▼ on page A8

Police Profiling Courses Required

New training touches on bias, ethics

All Portland Police Bureau officers are now required to attend a three-hour course in the ethics and constitutionality of stopping vehicles, addressing the issues of racial vs. criminal profiling, protecting the rights of the driver and maintaining ethical standards.

The course "Perspectives on Profiling" was designed by the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Museum of Tolerance and will be part of the bureau's annual 40-hour in-service training going on now through March.

"This training is about how officers

can use their well-developed intuitive skills on the street without intrusion of unintentional bias," said Sgt. Kris Wagner of the Police Bureau's Training Division.

"The importance of this training is that we are taking this issue of profiling to the forefront," said Officer Dana Lewis, who along with seven other bureau officers will facilitate the training. "By incorporating this training, we're letting the community know that we're not sweeping this issue under the rug."

When stopping a vehicle, police officers must be mindful of a number of factors: traffic on the road, looking for a safe place to pull over, the number of people in the vehicle, suspicious move-



Officer Dana Lewis

ments and their own personal safety.

The course teaches officers how to differentiate criminal profiling from racial profiling, when race may be used appropriately as a factor in a profile, how to identify racist undertones within an agency's culture, and how to insulate themselves from its effect.

Other topics include the role of "probable cause" in the practice of racial profiling, how to avoid escalation in racially charged stops, and which statistics would be used as predictors of future behavior and which should not, and why the differences.

The instruction also examines the Fourth Amendment, which protects citizens against

illegal search and seizure, and the Fourteenth Amendment, which guarantees citizens their civil rights. There is also the Whren Decision, a 1996 U.S. Supreme Court decision declaring that any traffic infraction is reason enough to stop a vehicle, regardless of the officer's actual motivation of the stop.

"One of the first issues we discuss in the training is to come up with a definition of racial profiling," said Lewis, who has been with the Bureau for three years, but has been in law enforcement for 14 years. "Just coming up with a definition that is in agreement with everybody opens up the dialogue. Once that is set, we can start breaking down the issue of racial profiling."

Last year, the Police Bureau and

continued ▼ on page A3



PHOTO BY KATHERINE BLACKMORE/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Regena Williams, co-founder of Dew-Angie Services, shows off the loaves of bread in her truck as she makes her weekly drop-offs to local organizations.

THE BREAD LADY

Humanitarian spreads kindness for a living

Every week, Portlander Regena Williams drives over to Franz Bakery and picks up more than 500 loaves of bread. Then, armed with a truckload of nourishment, she stops at senior centers, group homes and shelters around Portland to drop off the donated loaves at no charge. All on her own volition.

"I have a background in giving - that's how I was raised," Williams said.

About seven years ago, Williams started a community volunteer program called Dew-Angie Services with her husband Dwayne. Recognizing her surrounding community as more of a village than a vast city, they've been able to make an impact through

a variety of helpful efforts.

"It feels wonderful. It lights my heart to see families have bread and clothes and giving them shelter and resources," Williams said. "They're very appreciative. They call for me. They know of someone in their community they can trust. I can fill that need."

For Williams, it is necessary that neighbors come together, address their issues and fill the gaps simply by donating their time. Her faith has instilled in her a strong sense of altruism.

"God has given me love for others," she said. "It's our Christian duty to help one another."

Since moving to Oregon from Tennessee as a 17-year-old, Williams has made her own village with her family. Interestingly, her mother was Mary Browne, a niece of pow-

continued ▼ on page A8

PRESORT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND OR
PERMIT
NO. 1610



University of Oregon
Knight Library
1299 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-1205