



9 year old Yolanda and 8 year old Josue' Trinidad attend a Say Hay reception along with their parents and other newcomers to the city. PHOTOS BY KHAYA DARKO/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

## Gulf Coast Evacuees Introduced

### Newcomers welcomed at 'Say Hay'

BY KHAYA DARKO  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Say Hey, Northwest is a semi-regular informal and fun reception for new arrivals to the greater Portland area.

Sponsored by major organizations that support diversity in the workplace and working together in the enhancement of our community, the newcomers are matched with potential employers and assisted in finding jobs.

Over a 100 people showed up for the fun filled event Thursday as over 30 new residents were introduced and each presented with a beautiful fresh rose and New Orleans style

beads to commemorate the Gulf Coast disaster.

Aside from some delightful hors d'oeuvres and beverages served, the evening was topped off by a live performance by a band consisting of Gulf Coast evacuees known as "Devin Phillips and New Orleans Straight Ahead."

This band is bound to be a hit with the City of Roses with their soothing melodies, while maintaining a steadfast spirit of true New Orleans jazz.

Khaya Darko is a new resident of Portland and is staff member for the Portland Observer. She is from South Africa.



Saxophonist Devin Phillips, a hurricane survivor from New Orleans who plans to make Portland his home along with the rest of his band mates, performs Thursday at 'Say Hay,' a welcome reception for new residents.

## Leader Hired for Health Initiatives

State Sen. Avel Gordly will involve the community in two broad policy initiatives: community emergency preparedness and eliminating racial health disparities in a new position with Multnomah County.

Gordly, who represents southeast and northeast Portland in the Legislature, will focus on engaging a broad array of community members in local health initiatives that promote community



Sen. Avel Gordly

emergency preparedness, improve birth outcomes, reduce sexually transmitted disease, and improve indoor air quality in low income housing.

"We are honored to welcome Senator Gordly to Multnomah County," says Multnomah County Chair Diane M. Linn. "Her distinguished career has exemplified a commitment to social justice and public service."

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2005  
TIFFANY CENTER ■ 1410 SW MORRISON ST

AFRICA  
AIDS  
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AIDS  
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PROJECT  
NORTHWEST

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4:30 PM EDUCATIONAL RECEPTION  
5:30 PM AAPNW MEMORIAL SERVICE  
RECEPTION & MEMORIAL ARE FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

4TH ANNUAL BENEFIT  
CONCERT & DANCE

FOR PORTLAND'S SISTER CITY, MUTARE, ZIMBABWE

7:30PM CLASSIC SOUL, CAJUN & R&B WITH

URAL THOMAS AND  
THE BONNIE LEE BAND

AFRICAN GOSPEL ACAPPELLA



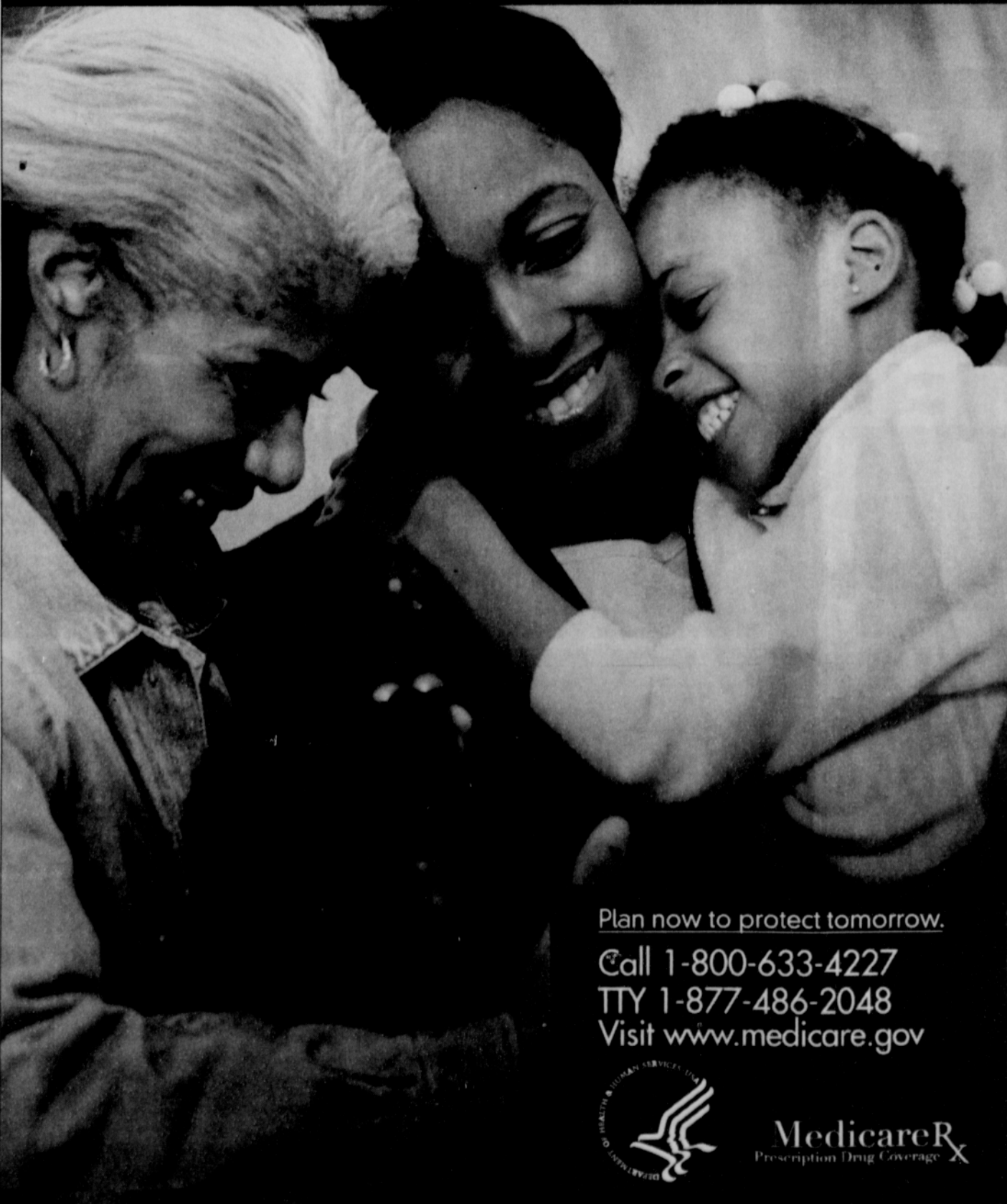
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