

In Loving Memory Frenzella Newsom Berry



Frenzella Newsom Berry died March 14, 2006 in Portland. She was born in Marshall, Texas on Aug. 14, 1940 to the union of Jesse and Valrie Newsom. Her family relocated to Oakland, Calif. when she was a small child.

On Dec. 14, 1958 she entered into holy matrimony with Clarence Douglass Berry; to this union three children were born. She was a second and third grade teacher's aide at Elliot Elementary School. She also worked for Coast Janitorial, retiring in 2000 after 30 years of service.

She was a dedicated, loyal, and active member of the Mallory Avenue Church of Christ for 42 years. Her love of people was demonstrated by her many community activities.

Frenzella enjoyed traveling, entertaining, and most of all, cooking. Her famous Banana Nut Bread was enjoyed by so many that it prompted Sunset Magazine to seek her out, featuring her recipe in their Thanksgiving 1999 issue.

She would always have treats from her kitchen for the delivery and postal workers who served her neighborhood and it is rumored that they would playfully fight among themselves to get that route.

Frenzella is survived by three children, Fredrick Berry, Annette Berry, and Jonathan (Kolaj) Berry, of Portland; two adopted sons, Kenneth Ray Ellison and Thomas Martin; nine grandchildren, one great grandson, many foster children and a host of extended family and friends. She will be missed by all.

A memorial service was held at the Mallory Avenue Church. Memorial contributions can be sent to a foundation established in her memory in care of the F.F.A.J. Corporation, 2828 N.E. 11th Ave., Portland, OR 97212.

LAW & JUSTICE

Sketch Used in Portland Manhunt

Girl escapes kidnapping

Police have released a sketch of a man accused of trying to kidnap a 14-year-old girl last month in the area of North Lombard Street and Catlin Avenue.

He is described as a 40-year-old white male of medium to heavy build, about 5 feet 7 inches tall with brown hair and a full beard and mustache. He was wearing a navy blue polo-type shirt and

jeans and was suntanned on his forearms and face, suggesting he may work outside.

The suspect's car was described as a late 90's red-colored Chevy Blazer sport utility vehicle with an Oregon "tree" license plate. The fourth digit of the license plate was possibly the letters L, I, or the number 1.

The victim, a female student at Roosevelt High School, told officers that she was walking west-bound on the north side of Lombard Street when the man pulled up alongside her and of-



A police sketch of a man accused of trying to kidnap a 14-year-old girl.

ferred her a ride. After she refused and continued walking, he drove past her and parked his car further down the street.

The man then got out of his car and approached the girl on foot, ordering her to get into his car. When he grabbed for her arm, she kicked him, causing him to fall. She then fled, notifying her parents and the police.

Anyone with information is asked to call Detective Mike Weinstein, of the Portland Police Bureau's Missing Persons Unit, 503-823-0446.

Gunfire Near Police Station Hurts Teen

A local teenager was arrested at his home March 15, about three hours after an argument that ended with another teenager being shot in the leg.

Police said the incident followed

an argument between a group of juveniles in the vicinity of Northeast Emerson Street and Garfield Avenue, just one block from the Blazers Boys and Girls Club and the Northeast Police Precinct.

The 14-year-old taken into custody is accused of pulling out a .22 caliber, semi-automatic pistol and firing several rounds, striking the other teen behind his right knee.

The victim rode his bicycle to the police station, where he was trans-

ported to a hospital with a non-life threatening wound.

The shooter was charged with assault with a firearm, menacing with a firearm and unlawful use of a weapon and was lodged at the Juvenile Detention Center.

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Mother, Children Killed

East Precinct officers discovered the bodies of two adults and two children on March 16, during a "welfare check" at an apartment near Northeast 162nd and Fremont.

Police believe 31-year-old Somkith Soulinho committed suicide after murdering his 24-year-old girlfriend, Souphaphane Homsombath, and her two children, eight-year-old Lionel Homsombath

and six-year-old Leana Homsombath.

Soulinho was Homsombath's former brother-in-law. Police said he had a history of violence. In 1999, he shot his older brother, Tia Soulinho, in the arm. He spent five years in prison for the crime. He has also spent time in the Oregon State Hospital for mental health issues.

Gay Rights Study Begins

Gov. Ted Kulongoski has created a task force to study whether new laws are needed to guarantee equal rights for gays and lesbians.

The governor assembled the group after a failure to gain approval of a new state law outlawing sexual-orientation discrimination in the Legislature last year.

Kulongoski said the issue involves basic fairness and making Oregon "a better place for everyone to live."

The governor said the task force would make recommendations to

the 2007 Legislature on what changes are needed to "assure equal protection" for gays and lesbians.

In particular, he said, the task force will look for ways "to ensure that Oregon law provides an appropriate legal pathway for grievance, enforcement and resolution if Oregonians experience unequal treatment or discrimination in either the public or private sectors."

Last November a judge upheld Oregon's voter-approved ban on gay marriage.

Racist Past Ends Monument Plan

Gresham City Council will not reconsider a proposal to erect a historic monument to former Mayor Dr. Herbert H. Hughes.

The proposal will not be revisited due to concerns brought forth by Gresham's Japanese American Community as well as examination of information that further links Dr. Hughes to an organization that sought to prevent the return of

residents of Japanese decent to Gresham after World War II.

"It is clear that while the original research was well-intentioned it was not complete. We appreciate the members of the community that came forward to share their concerns," said Council-President Shane Bemis. "This proposal should not have come forward to begin with."

Deputy Robbed for Drugs

A Clackamas County sheriff's deputy who resigned in disgrace in January pleaded guilty March 15 to armed robbery and other charges, telling a judge that an addiction to pain medication led him to commit the crimes.

David Verbos, 36, told U.S. District Judge James Redden that he was guilty of robbing two pharmacies, a bank and a quick-cash outlet late last year.

Verbos was charged in federal court with stealing about \$5,000 worth of cash and drugs, including hundreds of tablets of the painkillers Oxycontin and morphine.

Verbos, the father of two teenagers, is scheduled to be sentenced May 23. In a plea agreement, the prosecution is recommending 15 years in prison.

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