

**Tough Times in Life Shared**

Local artist, leaders get personal to help teens

See inside, Metro

**The Portland Observer**

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**Week in The Review**

**Freightliner to Cut Jobs**

Freightliner CEO Chris Patterson says a decline in heavy truck demand will mean job cuts. The commercial truck manufacturer offered buyouts Monday to its white-collar work force, including 1,900 at its Portland headquarters.

**N Korea Plans Nuke Test**

North Korea said Tuesday it will conduct a nuclear test in the face of what it claimed was "the U.S. extreme threat of a nuclear war," ratcheting up tensions amid international pressure to return to negotiations on its atomic program.



**Amish School Girls Killed**

An attack on a tiny Amish schoolhouse amid the farm fields of Lancaster County, Penn. was the nation's third deadly school shooting in less than a week. Five children and the 32-year-old gunman died. Five other girls are hospitalized, four in critical condition. See story, page A2.

**Rice Doesn't Recall Alert**

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Sunday that she cannot recall then-CIA chief George Tenet warning her of an impending al-Qaida attack in the United States, as Bob Woodward's new book claims he did two months before the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

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**Ozone Hole Matches Record**

The "ozone hole" over Antarctica has matched the record size of 11.4 million square miles, the U.N. weather agency said Friday. Thinning in the ozone layer, largely due to the chemical compounds chlorofluorocarbons leaked from refrigerators, air conditioners and other devices, exposes Earth to harmful solar rays.

**Hastert Won't Resign**

Speaker Dennis Hastert brushed aside any suggestion of resignation on Tuesday as House Republican leaders struggled to contain the fallout from an election-year scandal involving sexually explicit messages from a disgraced Florida congressman to high school male pages.



**Housing Costs Increase**

Oregon homeowners are spending a greater amount of their income for housing than at the start of the decade, according to Census Bureau, reflecting the national trend of soaring house prices and stagnant paychecks.



Veronica Riley (left) and House of Prayer volunteer Jesse Neal bring comfort and a helping hand to Janice Bradley (right), wife of the House of Prayer's pastor Darrell Bradley, after the black church was vandalized with racist graffiti.

**SWASTIKAS Trail Hate**

**Supporters help church bounce back**

BY SARAH BLOUNT  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Racist vandals keep hitting the small town of Longview, Wash., where for months they have targeted minority places of worship and business, including a weekend incident where a grocery store, city park, skate park and the multicultural House of Prayer were tagged with swastikas and racist messages.

"Everywhere they hire black people they marked 'white power,'" said House of Prayer Pastor Darrell Bradley.

As one of only two African American churches in Longview, the non-denominational, House of Prayer is comprised of about 50 members of two separate congregations, including Hispanic and Latino residents who make up House of Prayer II, which holds Spanish-speaking services each Sunday afternoon.

House of Prayer II hosted a three-day revival that spilled out onto the front lawn Friday night, just hours before the vandals hit.

"It was a jumping revival and I can tell you the devil was mad," said Bradley's wife Janice, who watched from next door where she works as a caretaker for church Bishop E.M. Jackson, also African American.

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PHOTOS BY MARK WASHINGTON/  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

House of Prayer Pastor Darrell Bradley stands over a hopscotch square that used to be a large swastika in Victoria Freeman Park, across the street from the Longview church. The park is named after a local civil rights pioneer.

**A Different Kind of Gentrification**

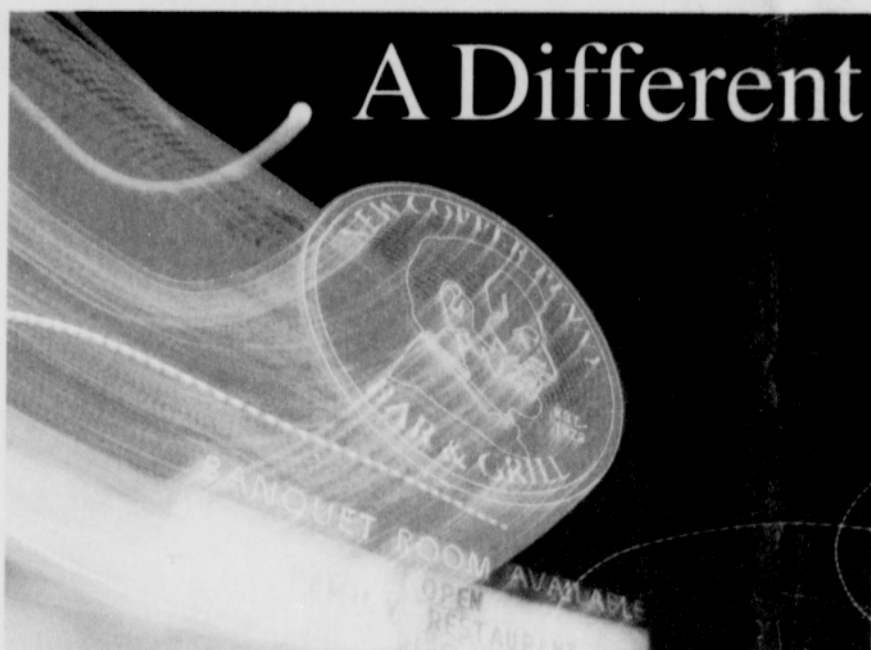


PHOTO BY SEAN O'CONNOR/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

You're in the retail core of the Lents neighborhood when you see the familiar neon lights of the New Copper Penny Bar and Grill.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

New construction and more affordable homes make southeast Portland's Lents neighborhood a magnet for local families.

**Lents is open for business**

BY SARAH BLOUNT  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Southeast Portland's Lents neighborhood has generated a lot of interest for residents looking for affordable housing and existing or aspiring business owners in need of a jumpstart and helping hand.

And unlike Portland Development Commission projects like North Mississippi

Avenue that have people questioning the gentrification or displacement of local residents, there is a strong focus on diversity.

Call Lents the new, new China Town — with a quiet but rising bustle of Vietnamese, Russian, Hispanic and African American populations.

"There is a lot of interest out there," Amy Miller Dowell of PDC said of Lents. "People see it as an affordable neighborhood and there's a real plurality out there for ethnic groups."

Miller Dowell heads PDC's Lents Revitalization Effort, which became an Urban Renewal Area in 1998. The agency will pump a

total of \$75 million into the neighborhood until 2013. The sum seems modest when compared to the Pearl or South Waterfront — which are somewhat of a Disneyland for Portland developers. Renewal in the outer southeast community, rather, is focused on street improvement and affordable ownership.

"Certainly there are buildings needing improvement, and we have programs helpful for people wanting storefront improvements," Miller Dowell said.

A meeting last January between the Gresham Insurance Co. and Assurety Northwest, Inc., PDC representatives and the

Portland Department of Transportation resulted in the first significant redevelopment in Lents in decades.

Assurety plans to build its 30,000 square feet headquarters, bringing 40 jobs by next summer. To help with the initial phase of development, PDC will lease back approximately 3,000 square feet of the space for one year.

That means new retail and commercial space is coming. PDC senior project coordinator Pam Neal said.

A family-owned Russian and Arme-

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