

# Portland Observer Auto Review

News and reviews on new motor vehicles

## 2006 Chrysler Town & Country Minivan

By KATHLEEN CARR

The Chrysler Town & Country is a luxurious minivan with an innovative seating design that adds greatly to its versatility for the entire family. The new seating design "Stow-n-Go" is the most convenient seating on the market. The second and third row seats fold flat into the floor leaving a perfect platform for cargo. The lower floors make easy side-door access for loading and unloading kids, pets, groceries and other cargo. Chrysler has provided many safety features, like numerous cargo nets to secure items. The optional curtain-type airbags protect the occupants

in all three rows of seats, and the inflatable knee blocker adds protection for the driver. When it comes to moving combinations of people and stuff, the Chrysler Town & Country has no peers.

Many features add day-to-day convenience, making life just a little bit easier. A time delay switch leaves the headlights on while you walk from the van to your door. Auxiliary outlets, two up front and one at midship, provide power for gadgets. Four large hooks make picking up the dry cleaning an easy chore. The available overhead console houses power switches for the



180-hp, 3.3 liter V6 or 205-hp Engine; 3.8-liter V6; 4-speed automatic Transmission w/OD; 19 City/ 26 Highway MPG; \$36,000 MSRP.

rear hatch and sliding door, along with the compass and outside temperature readouts. The rear hatch and sliding doors can also be operated by remote control, which is fantastic if you've got both arms full and herding the children into the van. The onboard GPS provides clear, accurate, and audible directions to wherever you need to go, whether on a family vacation or on an adventurous day scouring garage sales.

Plenty of windows provide great visibility all around. The Town & Country delivers enough performance to exercise domination on the highway. It rides smoothly and feels very stable at highway speeds. It is surprisingly nimble for its size, and easy to maneuver and park in crowded lots. With the abundant cabin room you never feel crowded, but you always feel comfortable and safe. The Chrysler Town & Country is in many ways a luxury vehicle, and in every way a very intelligent choice for an active family!

The automotive industry projects that the Chrysler Town & Country will have very little depreciation with proper upkeep and maintenance.

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PHOTO BY STEVE DIPOLA

## Helping Native American Youth

Gary DeStefano, Nike president of global operations, volunteers to give a fresh coat of paint to the Native American Youth Association center, at the former Whitaker school at 5135 N.E. Columbia Blvd. Hundreds of Nike employees participated in the company's recent 8th Annual Nike Community Involvement Day at locations around the metro area.

## Ministry Addresses HIV/AIDS in Seminar

Northwest Voice for Christ Training Ministry Seminar, led by Rev. H.L. Hodge, tackles the subject of HIV/AIDS during a forum on Saturday, Oct. 21 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Alberta Simmons Plaza, 6611 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Titled "The Elephant: The Subject Nobody Wants to Talk About," the seminar is offered to help individuals approach the subject of HIV/AIDS in women and older adults by learning who is at high risk and how to avoid exposure.

Hodge has a medical background in psychotherapy, and worked with chemical dependencies before becoming a full-time pastor. He leads a training ministry for ministers, church leaders and laypersons wanting to become certified coun-

selors in the areas of depression, chemical dependency and post traumatic stress disorder. Seating is limited and donations of \$10 will be accepted at the door. For information or reservations, call 503-334-6284 or 503-202-1371.

## Adoption Transcends Race, Ethnicity

Journeys of the Heart Adoption Services and CH2A, a leading local African-American business organization, are working to establish relationships with adopted children's ethnic community to promote a stronger ethnic identity for children of color.

The issues will be discussed during a public Cultural Confidence & Empowerment Symposium, "A

Child's Building Blocks" from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 23, at the Doug Fir, 830 E. Burnside.

Journeys of the Heart is a non-profit organization established in 1990 in Hillsboro, and the consulting organization CH2A was established in Portland in 1984.

Both organizations are champions of diversity and cultural empowerment.

The forum will provide cultural education and keynote speakers including social workers in the adoption field, politicians, educators, and a cultural panel presentation.

For more information, call Harold Williams Two at 503-490-0755 or email haroldtwoch2a@MSH.com, or email Michelle Mauss at mhairm@hotmail.com.

## Flavored Cigarette Sales to End

R.J. Reynolds will no longer manufacture or sell candy, fruit and alcohol-flavored cigarettes in the United States as part of a settlement agreement with Oregon Attorney General Hardy Myers and 38 other states. Health officials believe the tobacco products were targeted to youth.



The agreement bans cigarette brands that mirror candy, fruit or an alcoholic beverages, and bans terms that evoke imagery of candy, fruit or alcoholic beverages.

Specifically banned are Camel Exotic Blends: Mandarin Mint, Dark Mint, Crema, Izmir Stinger, Twist, Cinnabar, Mandalay Lime, Aegean Spice, Bayou Blast, Beach Breezer, Margarita Mixer, Midnight Mad-

ness, Back Alley Blend, Kauai Kolada, Twista Lime, Winter MochaMint, Warm Winter Toffee, Blackjack Gin, Screwdriver Slots and SnakeEyes Scotch; Salem Silver: Dark Currents, Fire & Ice, Deep Freeze and Cool Myst; and Kool Smooth Fusions: Mintrigue, Mocha Taboo, Midnight Berry and Caribbean Chill.

**Chief's Forum Awards**

**Nominate your community heroes**

The Chief's Forum, a policy advisory group to the Portland Police Bureau's chief of police, honors community and Police Bureau members who, through their exceptional performance of community policing activities, have distinguished themselves above and beyond the call of duty in the year 2005.

**Award Categories**  
Nathan Thomas Award • Community Policing Problem Solving Award  
Youth Recognition Certificate • Certificate of Appreciation


**Deadline for nominations**  
Monday, Nov. 13, 2006

**Awards Ceremony**  
Monday, Dec. 11, 2006  
9 a.m., Portland Building Auditorium

Award category descriptions and nomination forms are available at [www.portlandpolice.com](http://www.portlandpolice.com). For more information, call 503-823-0264.

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*Who is at high risk for HIV/AIDS infection?*  
*How can I avoid exposure to HIV/AIDS?*



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1:00 pm-3:00 pm  
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