

50¢

38 years of community service

### Killing Found Unnecessary

\$500,000 settlement ends police-sniper case  
See story, page A2



### Roosevelt Theatre Reborn

First shows and classes in a decade  
See story, Metro section



# The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

Volume XXXVII, Number 44

Established in 1970

Committed to Cultural Diversity

www.portlandobserver.com

Wednesday • November 14, 2007



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

## Harvest at the Rose Garden

KOIN Channel 6 Anchor Kelley Day volunteers with players, coaches and staff of the Portland Trail Blazers, along with other media and community partners on Monday for the annual Harvest Dinner at the Rose Garden. Free meals were served to about 5,000 homeless or critically low-income residents. See related photo, page A3.

## Movement for U S Peace Department

As alternative to war

BY CHARITY PRATER  
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland activists have joined a nationwide movement to foster non-violent solutions to wars and other violence by creating a U.S. Department of Peace.

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PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
Community activists Clare Cleveland (left) and Peggy Mala gather materials in their grassroots effort to create a U.S. Department of Peace. The proposed government agency would provide practical, non-violent solutions to the problems of domestic and international conflict.

## Store Regulations Keep Spray Paint Out of Reach

In attempt to control graffiti

BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

If you want to buy spray paint within Portland's city limits, you now have to ask a store employee for the product and submit information from your driver's license for record keeping.

The restrictions went into effect this month as part of an ordinance to fight graffiti; they follow a 50-percent increase in graffiti complaints over the past year, according to city records.

City commissioners hope that the new spray-paint regulations will have the same effect on taggers that state and federal laws to remove cold remedies from store shelves had for meth users.

The spray-paint ordinance requires stores to keep a two-year log of who buys spray paint, similar to how pharmacy logs must track people who purchase cold medicines that can be made into methamphetamine.

By making stores keep the spray cans out of reach, the regulations are an



PHOTO BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

To comply with a city ordinance effective this month, employees Madina Chakisso and Aaron Dyer retrieve cans of spray paint from behind the counter at Hankins Hardware on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

attempt to make it harder to steal the cans. Police say taggers often boast of easily shoplifting their materials.

At Hankins Hardware on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, spray-paint theft was never a problem, according to store manager Wendy Hankins. The owners and staff initially expressed opposition to the ordinance when they were faced with the prospect of installing expensive lock cases for an item already within view of cashiers.

The store figured out a way to not spend anything by reusing shelves and placing them behind a restricted area but remains skeptical about the measures.

"I'm all for things that will help," Hankins says, "but this just seems like doing restrictions without a solution at the core of the problem."

Seeing that the ordinance has no provisions for increased police enforcement or penalties, Hankins suggests that offenders should automatically endure community service cleaning up graffiti rather than just a few hours in jail for booking.

Hankins wonders if the ordinance sets a bad precedent for locking up all types of items, and employee Aaron Dyer sees the potential for identity theft if someone nabbed a store's notebook detailing spray-paint transactions.

Particularly disturbing for Hankins is the potential for \$25,000 fines against a store that doesn't comply with the ordinance. She points out that it would take 15 minutes or less for most people to go outside the city limits to purchase spray paints without restrictions.

"Now that we're doing this, let's see some action on the other side," she says.

*I'm all for things that will help, but this just seems like doing restrictions without a solution at the core of the problem.*

—Wendy Hankins, Hankins Hardware store manager

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### Week in The Review

#### Winds Slam Power Grid

Gusts of more than 40 miles per hour hit Portland Monday, splintering trees and severing power to more than 100,000. See photo, page A2.

#### Growing Racial Disparities

The income gap between black and white families has grown, according to a new study released Tuesday that tracked the incomes of some 2,300 families for more than 30 years. The data shows that incomes among

black men have declined when adjusted for inflation.

#### Veto on Health, Education

President Bush, escalating his budget battle with Congress, on Tuesday vetoed a \$606-billion spending measure for health and education programs sponsored by congressional Democrats and 50 Republicans.

#### Standing with Pakistan

Criticizing a widely condemned crackdown on basic freedoms but standing up for an ally against terrorism, the White House offered a measured response Tuesday as Pakistan's opposi-

tion leader Benazir Bhutto, placed under house arrest once again, demanded that embattled President Gen. Pervez Musharraf resign.



#### Sabathia Cy Young Winner

C.C. Sabathia beat Josh Beckett at last — albeit a few weeks later than he hoped. Sabathia won the AL Cy Young Award on Tuesday, topping Boston's

ace and two other worthy contenders by a comfortable margin to become the first Cleveland Indians pitcher in 35 years to earn the honor.

#### Public Challenges FCC

Despite a public-comment meeting scheduled just five days in advance, hundreds of people in Seattle showed up to a hearing Friday to criticize the Federal Communication Commission's proposal to expand media consolidation.

#### Police Shoot Teenager

A mother's frantic 911-call Monday evening resulted in the shoot-

ing of an unarmed, mentally-ill teenager by 20 bullets in Brooklyn, N.Y. Police say they mistook the black hairbrush Khil Coppin, 18, was holding for a gun, sparking outrage from civil-rights leaders comparing the incident to past killings.

#### European Labor Unrest

French rail workers began an open-ended strike over pension reforms on Tuesday, the first step of a major challenge to President Nicolas Sarkozy's plans for economic reform. Widespread unhappiness over issues such as the cost of living may fuel broader discontent.