



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

North Portland Streets Turned to Pathways

Portland Police Officer Mark McLaughlin keeps North Kerby Avenue near Jefferson High School clear from cars and trucks as it fills with cyclists Sunday for 'Sunday Parkways,' an experiment by Portland Parks and Recreation to ban automobiles on six miles of north Portland streets from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. to provide space for non-motorized fun. A series of neighborhood events at local parks and other venues encouraged exercise and new community connections.

Imus Explains Race Remarks

Says he was misunderstood in latest rant

(AP) -- Don Imus said Tuesday that he was trying to "make a sarcastic point" with his latest on-air remarks about race, but that they had been misunderstood.

Imus resurrected his radio career six months ago with a pledge to mend the wounds caused by a racist and sexist comment he made about the Rutgers women's basketball team.



Don Imus

On Tuesday he said he was following the spirit of that promise by calling attention to the unfair treatment of blacks — in this case the arrests of suspended Dallas Cowboys cornerback Adam Jones.

"What people should be outraged about is that they arrest blacks for no reason," Imus said Tuesday. "I mean, there's no reason to arrest this kid six times. Maybe he did something once, but everyone does something once."

He called the flurry of criticism surrounding the comments "ridiculous" and said that his program's cast is now more diverse than ever — and includes a black producer and two black co-hosts, a man and a woman.

The latest comments by Imus to come under scrutiny were aired on Monday's broadcast. During a conversation about Jones' run-ins with the law, Imus asked, "What color is he?" Sports announcer Warner Wolf said Jones — formerly known as Pacman — is "African-American." Imus responded: "There you go. Now we know."

The on-air exchange came months after Imus' return to work on a new show on WABC-AM following his firing from MSNBC and CBS Radio for calling the Rutgers University women's basketball team "nappy-headed hos."

When he returned to work, Imus gave a lengthy on-air apology and pledged to use his new show to foster an open dialogue on race relations.

Bill Clinton Offers Support to Obama

(AP) -- Former President Clinton said through a spokesman Tuesday that he is committed to helping Barack Obama become president, his first comments in support of his wife's former rival since their primary ended three weeks ago.

"A unified Democratic Party is going to be a powerful force for change this year and we're confident President Clinton will play a big role in that," said Obama spokesman Bill Burton.

Hillary Clinton spokesman Mo Ellefthoe said, "Senator Clinton is very pleased with how quickly the party is coming together after the primaries, and she will continue to do everything she can to unite Democrats behind Senator Obama as our nominee."

Bill Clinton was an outspoken critic of Obama during the primary race. He said Obama's opposition to the Iraq war was a "fairy tale" and raised questions about whether the first-term Illinois senator had the experience to lead the country. President Clinton has been the most valuable personality in the Democratic Party, but his angry outbursts while campaigning for his wife tarnished his image. Obama prizes a tightly controlled image and lack of drama in his campaign, which are not President Clinton's hallmarks.



In this Sept. 5, 2005 file photo, former President Bill Clinton carries a young girl as he and Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., visit with Hurricane Katrina evacuees in Houston. The former president said through a spokesman Tuesday that he is committed to helping Barack Obama become president. (AP photo)

Ridership Grows Again

TriMet MAX and bus ridership is breaking new records. Weekly rides on MAX and buses were up 4.4 percent last month from a year ago, averaging 2,064,800 rides. The mass transit agency also experienced a 3.3 percent increase over April's weekly figures.

Overall, more commuters are

riding during both morning rush hour and evening rush hour.

"This continuation of record ridership shows that riders are looking for alternatives to driving and ways to help offset high fuel prices, and TriMet is a great alternative," said TriMet General Manager Fred Hansen.

Community Activist Honored

Charles Ford contributions noted

Mayor Tom Potter and the Portland City Council will honor longtime African American community activist Charles Ford with a proclamation honoring his more than 40 years of service making Portland a better place for everyone.

Ford -- a resident of Portland for

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods; on the Gang Violence Task Force; the Portland Internal Audit Committee.

"Charles Ford has made an immeasurable contributions to Portland, helping create a lasting link between residents, public service agencies and non-profit organizations," said Mayor Potter.

The honor will be made during a special ceremony at 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 26 at Portland City Hall.

Good in the Neighborhood presented by **WaMu**

Free Admission

2008 Multicultural Music & Food Festival

King School Park
4800 Block of NE 6th & Humboldt Streets

Friday, June 27
6:00 - 9:30 pm
Networking Opportunity, Meet the sponsors and Live Music!

Saturday, June 28
Noon - 9:30 pm

Sunday, June 29
Noon - 7:30 pm

Featuring: The Linda Hornbuckle Band, Patrick Lamb, Norman Sylvester Band, Soul Vaccination, Chatta Addy & Susuma, Asa and many more....

Good in the Hood Community Parade
Saturday, June 28
11:00 am
Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. To King School Park

Come Join The Fun!

Enjoy great food multicultural entertainment & great music

Portland Parks & Recreation presents

Great Parks Great Cities

SPEAKER SERIES

Reinvigorating the 21st century city through the greening of our urban environment

Shirley Franklin

Mayor of Atlanta, Georgia

Tuesday, July 8

First Congregational Church, 1126 SW Park Ave. • 7:00 p.m.



"The Greening of Atlanta: the Revitalization of an Urban Landscape"

Named one of the nation's top five big city mayors by *Time Magazine*, Shirley Franklin is the first woman mayor of Atlanta and the first African American woman to lead a major Southern city. She'll discuss how her initiatives to increase Atlanta's parks and greenspaces have contributed to the city's revitalization and economic development.

order tickets on-line
at www.PortlandParks.org

tickets are also available at the door

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