



The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

Volume XXXVIII, Number 25

Established in 1970
Committed to Cultural Diversity

www.portlandobserver.com

Wednesday • July 2, 2008

Week in The Review

Forecasts say Expect Higher Power Bills

Already faced with higher food and gas prices, economic forecasters now say consumers can expect to pay more for electricity as regional utilities buy expensive wholesale electricity to meet rising customer demand while investing in renewable energy.

Obama's Asian-American Sister Hits Campaign

Presidential candidate Barack Obama's Asian-American half sister, Maya Soetoro-Ng represents another aspect of Obama's identity that makes him unique as a presidential candidate, although it has been underplayed amid the excitement surrounding his shot at becoming the first black president. See story, page A2.



Abortion Protest Too Much for MLK Builder

A construction company set to help build a Planned Parenthood clinic on northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard has dropped the project, citing pressure from anti-abortion activists. But the developer has assembled a new team of builders. See story, page A2.

Mother Killed for Baby

Kennewick, Wash. police report that a pregnant woman was fatally stabbed multiple times in the chest and her nearly full-term baby was cut from her womb. Police have arrested a 23-year-old woman.

Hezbollah Trained in Iraq

Hezbollah instructors trained Shiite militiamen at remote camps in southern Iraq until three months ago when they slipped across the border to Iran — presumably to continue instruction on Iranian soil, according to two Shiite lawmakers and a top army officer.

GM Holds off Toyota

General Motors Corp. soundly beat Toyota Motor Corp. in June to retain its traditional U.S. sales lead, but GM sales still dropped 18.2 percent during a dismal month for large automakers.

Trends Show Hispanic Voters Gaining Strength

Voting by Hispanics surged in the last congressional elections, showing strength that could swing this year's presidential vote in closely contested states Luis Vera of the League of United Latin American Citizens, said the debate over illegal immigration has energized Hispanic voters, a trend he expects to continue this year.

Seattle-based Starbucks to Close 600 Stores

Starbucks Corp. has announced it's closing 600 underperforming stores in the United States. The Seattle-based premium coffee company says it will try to place workers from closed stores in remaining Starbucks.



The downtown waterfront fills with spectators and the Willamette River gets crowded with boats for the annual Safeway Waterfront Blues Festival supporting the Oregon Food Bank.

Blues Benefits Food Bank

Stage set for July 4th weekend

Blues artists from throughout the world, including Isaac Hayes, Charlie Musselwhite, Phoebe Snow, Canned Heat, The Mannish Boys, Joe Bonamassa, James Hunter, Elvin Bishop and more will support the fight against hunger at the 21st Safeway Waterfront Blues Festival, July 3-6.

The renowned festival, which benefits the Oregon Food Bank, takes place on the grassy banks of the beautiful Willamette River at Tom McCall Waterfront Park, downtown.

Now in its 21st year, the event is the largest blues festival west of the Mississippi and the sec-

ond-largest blues festival in the nation. It annually attracts more than 120,000 blues fans from throughout the world.

Touted as one of the best-run festivals anywhere, it remains a grassroots festival, operated by the



Phoebe Snow



Legendary trombonist Fred Wesley & Groovesect will star in a 'Battle of the Bones' during Thursday's lineup at the Waterfront Blues Festival, a four-day 4th of July extravaganza.

nonprofit, charitable Oregon Food Bank with the help of more than a thousand volunteers.

The festival raises food and

plus two cans of food per person, per day.

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Local Intern Goes to Washington

PCC grad serves in Ted Kennedy's office

Students have graduated from Portland Community College and gone on to momentous things, but rarely has it happened as quickly as it has for Marneet Lewis, a northeast Portland resident.

The 2008 graduate from the Cascade Campus on North Killingworth Street is serving as an intern in Sen. Ted Kennedy's office for the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions in Washington, D.C.

Lewis' selection as a community college student is rare — she is one of only eight students selected for the summer congressional internship program and only community college student in a very competitive field of candidates.

"It is phenomenal," she said of her D.C. experience. "I'm having the time of my life."

Lewis and her fellow interns are housed at George Washington University, just a short distance from the National Mall. She gets around on foot and on the Metro, a subway system for the region that she calls "fantastic."

Her days are spent doing the business of the senate committee, which involves everything from reading and answering constituents' mail, speaking with them on the phone, attending committee hearings, obtaining signatures (often from high-ranking senators, she said), running errands and keeping abreast of political news by watching a bank of televisions constantly tuned to C-SPAN, CNN and the House and Senate floors.

The culture of Washington, she said, is as exciting as it is demanding.



Northeast Portland resident Marneet Lewis works as an intern for Sen. Ted Kennedy in Washington, D.C.

"I appreciate every morning seeing all these young interns, all of them dressed to the nines and excited about working in D.C.," she said. "We have a great sense of community. And the work is challenging."

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Transit Riders Hit Hard

25-cent fare increase offsets high fuel costs

Record-high diesel prices have prompted a 25-cent increase for fares for TriMet commuters beginning Sept. 1.

The TriMet Board of Directors approved the increase last week after holding off any major fare increases by dipping into its reserves, making its fleet more fuel-efficient and cutting staff positions.

When the new rate goes into effect, an adult cash fare for a 2-zone ticket will cost \$2, up from the current \$1.75, while an all-zone ticket

will soon set you back \$2.30 compared to today's \$2.05. A youth or student ticket will increase 10-cents to \$1.50 while an honored or senior citizen ticket will go to 95-cents, also a 10 cent increase.

TriMet officials say the agency's fuel prices have increased 67 percent over budget during the current fiscal year ending June 30, up from a budgeted \$2.31 per gallon to topping \$4 per gallon.

The transit agency expects to buy seven million gallons of



Get ready to pay more when boarding TriMet.

sel in the next fiscal year, which includes additional bus and LIFT service and the start of TriMet Westside Express Service Com-

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