



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Northeast Portland entrepreneur Tony Montgomery is the inventor of an electronic ashtray that detects cigarette-related fires.

## Inventor Markets Fire Safe Ashtray

Tony Montgomery, a northeast Portland entrepreneur and president of the Chavers Corporation has developed a cutting edge, stylish and sophisticated, and affordable personal fire safety product engineered and designed to reduce the risk of fire associated with smokers' carelessness.

"Our product is mobile and needs no installation, and by being mobile it goes where traditional smoke detectors don't," Montgomery says. "This places this life saving product closer to the source of ignition thus providing earlier warning to allow that extra layer of safety for our loved ones to get out

safely and stay out until professional help arrives."

Montgomery says most people underestimate the serious nature of residential fires in the 21st century.

The Smokers Alert ashtray will warn users of an unattended cigarette left in the ashtray, warn the user if the ashtray has been accidentally knocked or tipped over; and warn the user of smoke or a smoldering type fire outside of the ashtray in the immediate area.

"People lack the basic necessary tools and education to prevent home fires," Montgomery

says. "By developing new personal fire prevention strategies and awareness we will be able to be in a stronger position to survive home fires should this unfortunate event ever occur."

Cigarette-related fires are the leading cause of fatalities for senior citizens and children under 8 and a major leading cause of all residential fires in the U. S. today.

For more information on this product, visit Montgomery's website [smokersalertashtray.com](http://smokersalertashtray.com) or call Montgomery at 503-901-6103. His E-mail address is [chaversco@comcast.net](mailto:chaversco@comcast.net).

## National Night Out at PCC

Neighbors, local businesses, government agencies and nonprofit groups will converge on Portland Community College's Cascade Campus on the night of Tuesday, Aug. 5 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of National Night Out.

The event, essentially a giant block party, will take place from 4 to 8 p.m. on the campus' Borthwick Mall between North Killingsworth and Jessup streets.

"It's a great opportunity for families to bring their kids down and have a safe environment for them to

hang out and play," said Marissa Johnson, president of Cascade Campus' student government. "And with all these community organizations on hand, there will be plenty of things for adults to do as well."

The celebration is part of the larger National Night Out movement, which takes place simultaneously in neighborhoods across the U. S. The theme for the event's 25th anniversary is: "A Going-Away Party for Crime and Drugs."

## Lents Ice Cream Social

The Lents Homeownership Initiative will host a National Night Out ice cream social on Tuesday, Aug. 5 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Lents Park.

There will be music provided by Portland Metro Concert Band, information on various organizations, free ice-cream and a free raffle for prizes.

National Night Out brings community members together, sending

a message to criminals that neighborhoods are fighting back.

The Lents Homeownership Initiative is comprised of more than 40 nonprofit, public and private sector organizations, and businesses working together to increase homeownership in the Lents Urban Renewal Area of southeast Portland and to improve the overall health of the Lents neighborhood.

## Free College Success Course

Mt. Hood Community College will again offer its college success course this fall. The course is free for new students and geared toward students who are making the transition from high school to college or who are returning to college.

The one-credit course introduces students to strategies for success, including library orientation, educational planning, self-management and team work. Students not only get to meet other students but also caring employees with whom they can connect

throughout their time at the college. Classes are available evenings, weekends and before fall term.

MHCC's course has been lauded nationwide for helping students stay in college. Statistics show at least 50 percent of the students who have taken the course have successfully transitioned from their freshman to sophomore year.

For more information, call 503-491-7432, register online at [mhcc.edu](http://mhcc.edu) or register in person at the MHCC Student Services Center.

## Legal Notices



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The Portland Observer

## Voter Drive Block Party Saturday

### Activists plan upcoming event

On Saturday, Aug. 2, Everyday People and The Bus Project will host a non-partisan voter registration block party at Waterfall Plaza, located at the corner of Northeast Mason Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Food, beverages and music will be provided.

The effort continues the momentum of ensuring that everyday people have an opportunity for their voices to be heard during this election year.

The collaboration between neighbors, families, business owners, and individuals is the

brainchild of community activist the Rev. Renee' Ward, who with the help of 'Everyday People' and community partnerships, has already registered over 500 potential new voters from under represented populations (i.e. homeless, ex-offenders, people in recovery, minorities, women, students, seniors

and new addressees.)

'All ages are encouraged to participate because everyday people count,' Ward said.

For more information about other voter registration activities, call Ward at 503-548-7537 or email her at [nichepdx@live.com](mailto:nichepdx@live.com) or visit the PolitiCorps website at [politicorps.org](http://politicorps.org).

## BES Stewardship Grant

The North/NE Minority Youth and Young Adults Being Connected for the 2008-09 year received a BES Stewardship Grant-City of Portland. N/NE Minority Youth is working to reach out and positively connect young people of color between the ages of 14-25 yrs. old by raising awareness of the stewardship on the Columbia Slough, science education workshops, trail walking, biking, and other recreational events. For more information Contact: Marion Lane 503-720-6240 or visit our website: [www.neminorityyy.wilderness.com](http://www.neminorityyy.wilderness.com).



## Oregon Department of Transportation Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goals for Federal Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009

This will serve as notice of proposed changes to the Oregon Department of Transportation's FFY 2008 annual Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal of 11.26 % for Federal Highway Administration contracts and grants, and the proposed FFY 2009 annual DBE goal. Currently program participation is achieved through entirely race- and gender-neutral means, but as a result of the recently completed statewide Disparity Study, ODOT has requested a waiver from FHWA to allow contract goals for specific groups identified as having a significant contracting disparity. The annual goal has been calculated as 11.5%, of which 1 % would be a race-conscious goal for Black American owned DBE firms and Asian American owned DBE firms. The remainder of the annual goal, 10.5%, would continue to be race- and gender-neutral. This calculation is made in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26 to comply with U.S. DOT requirements.

Public comments are being requested in the development of ODOT's overall goal. Submit written comments to:

ODOT, Office of Civil Rights  
355 Capitol St NE, Room 504, Salem, OR 97301  
Phone: (503) 986-4350  
Fax: (503) 986-6382  
Attn: C Jill Miller

ODOT will consider all comments and quantitative and anecdotal data in determining its final DBE goals. ODOT will post its analysis and final goals at <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/CS/CIVILRIGHTS/>

## Construction to Close Steel Bridge

continued ▲ from Front

will be posted to help direct riders to shuttle buses and pedestrian/bike paths.

The bridge is expected to reopen to vehicle traffic and MAX service on Monday, Aug. 25.

The construction work will connect existing MAX tracks with new tracks that will carry commuter trains to Union Station and the downtown mall. Work will also include the installation, maintenance and repair of the overhead wires that power MAX; the replacement of existing rail expansion joints; new asphalt paving and permanent bridge repairs to the approach structure on the east side of the bridge.

TriMet's fifth MAX line will add light rail between Gateway Transit Center and Clackamas Town Center, and to Fifth and Sixth avenues in downtown Portland between Union Station and Portland State University.



The Steel Bridge will be closed to MAX Light Rail trains from Saturday, August 2, through Sunday, August 24, 2008, as crews connect existing tracks to the new MAX Green Line tracks on 5th and 6th avenues.

During the closure, you have several options for getting across the river:

### Shuttle: 15-30 minutes

Shuttle buses will be running frequently between the Rose Quarter/Convention Center stations and Old Town/Chinatown Station. Please allow an extra 15-30 minutes for your trip (including waiting and travel time).

### Walk: 15 minutes

We recommend walking across the bridge, if you can. On average, it will take you 15 minutes to walk between the Rose Quarter and Old Town.

### Bike: 7 minutes

If you bring your bike on MAX, you should ride across the bridge. (It only takes about 7 minutes.)

TriMet staff will be on hand to help, and signs will direct you to shuttle buses and pedestrian/bike paths. For details, visit [trimet.org](http://trimet.org).

