

Cool Nutz teams up to bring hot Northwest artists to Portland's airwaves
See story, page A9



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The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

Volume XXXVIII, Number 37

Established in 1970

Committed to Cultural Diversity

www.portlandobserver.com

Wednesday • September 17, 2008

Week in The Review



Texas Coast Devastated

Grim scenes greeted rescuers as they penetrated the areas hardest-hit by Hurricane Ike, two days after it thrashed the Texas Gulf Coast over the weekend and left thousands homeless. See story, page A2

82nd Avenue Prostitution

People who live near Northeast 82nd Avenue packed a public meeting Monday to say they're fed up with the prostitution in their neighborhood and they shared ideas with the city on how to combat the problem.



Economy Fixes Eyed

Barack Obama took dead aim at John McCain's economic philosophy Tuesday, charging that the Republican presidential candidate would extend Bush administration policies that helped foster Wall Street's turmoil, while McCain proposed creating a blue-ribbon commission to study the nation's deepening financial crisis. See story, page A2

Oregon Jobless Jumps

Oregon's unemployment rate jumped to 6.5 percent in August, up from 5.9 percent in July. The state Employment Department reported Monday that Oregon lost 7,400 jobs in August.

Portland House Prices Fall

House prices in the Portland area are starting to become a little more affordable. The Regional Multiple Listing Service reports that the median home price in August was \$280,000 — a 7.3 percent decline from the more than \$300,000 median price in August 2007.

Oregon Gas Prices Fall

Oregon has dodged the gas price bullet from Hurricane Ike, with a slight drop in prices against a nationwide average increase of about 20 cents a gallon.



Los Angeles-Rail Service Resumes after Deadly Wreck

Rail service resumed Tuesday along the tracks where a Metrolink train from Los Angeles collided head-on with a freight train and left 25 people dead. Federal investigators were continuing to look into whether the engineer of the commuter train was text messaging on a cell phone before Friday's deadly wreck.

Alaska Cuts Local Service

Alaska Airlines and Horizon Air say they will reduce flights from Portland International Airport as a part of larger cutbacks. Horizon will trim daily departures from 94 to 68 while Alaska will reduce departures from 35 a day to 29. See story, page A2

FOOTPRINT JITTERS



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland Community College wants to build more facilities on its Cascade campus in north Portland to serve a growing student population and demands for workforce training. A desire for more greenways and parking could also push the campus further into the adjacent Humboldt neighborhood.

PCC Levy Hints at Expansion

Cascade would get money for land, parking

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

More homes and businesses will likely give way to an ever expanding Portland Community College campus in north Portland no matter what voters decide in a proposed property tax levy for PCC facilities in November.

Extending the reach of the Cascade campus in the Humboldt neighborhood

is the current, past and future history of the school which took over a tiny private college in the 1970s in a landlocked urbanized residential and business district.

A Portland Observer investigation has revealed how the college district has continued to purchase neighborhood properties on an annual basis since the last big build-out, mostly for additional parking, but also for speculation, leaving some businesses and residences vacant or demolished.

A bond levy in 2000 provided finances for PCC Cascade to almost double its size, but the PCC district board has spent an additional \$3.89 million in prop-

erty acquisitions in Humboldt since 2002, mostly along North Killingsworth Street and somewhat into residential neighborhoods.

The new bond levy would provide PCC additional funds for real estate in the neighborhood and pay for the development of more campus parking, possibly a parking garage.

College officials argue that a growing student population continues to cause parking shortages on campus that spills cars into the adjacent neighborhood. But the district has not analyzed how approximately 130,000 square feet of new college parking lots in the past six years has relieved those transportation woes.

The college district also won't speculate on where future buildings will be sited, even though a college impact mitigation plan approved by the city of Portland makes the promise that the existing surface parking lots would be used for future campus buildings. The lots were created by demolishing mostly low income housing.

PCC District President Preston Pulliams said there "is no secret plan" on where the college campus will expand next. He said both the Cascade campus and the PCC Southeast Center are located on sites that are landlocked by

continued ▼ on page A5

Proposal to serve more students, train workforce

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland Community College hopes to position itself for the future with a proposed bond levy that will add new facilities and modernize campus programs.

The \$375 million property tax measure before voters in the Nov. 4 General Election would give PCC the facilities it says it needs to serve an expected surge in population over the next few years and help meet the demands of employers for more skilled workers.

"The key emphasis is work force,

work force, work force," said PCC District President Preston Pulliams. "We need to grow to fill a larger pipeline of skilled workers."

The college expects those challenges to increase because of the estimated 370,000 people projected to move into the greater Portland metropolitan area, including Washington, Yamhill and Columbia counties, the region served by PCC through the year 2020.



Preston Pulliams

A downturn in the economy is also making community colleges popular choices for people looking to get a leg up, to retrain and seek a new career, Pulliams said.

"Our student population is exploding," he said. "We're expecting a 12 percent increase in enrollment this fall."

Pulliams said many of PCC's educational facilities are already outdated with not enough laboratory

space to serve students' needs and pointed to a lack of modern, up-to-date technology in many classrooms.

He said some of the most pressing needs are in nursing, engineering and diesel mechanics programs.

At the PCC Cascade campus in north Portland, the bond levy would pay for a new building to expand instruction for careers in pre-kindergarten through high school education, add classrooms, add a child-care facility for students, increase parking and add a simulation lab for first

continued ▼ on page A5

Meals on Bicycle Wheels Deliveries to Seniors go green

BY LAURA MEEHAN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Kyle Lyles, 65, has reinvented the concept of meals on wheels.

Three times a week, he loads a bicycle trailer with coolers containing up to 15 meals, and brings them to local recipients of the Loaves & Fishes meal site at the Martin Luther King Jr. Multicultural Senior Center.

Lyles originally bought the trailer to trans-

continued ▼ on page A11



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Kyle Lyles loads his bicycle with meals for seniors and the disabled through the Loaves & Fishes meal site at the Martin Luther King Jr. Multicultural Senior Center.