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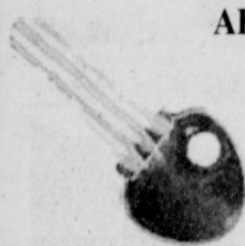
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President Bush welcomes honored youth from the Boys and Girls Clubs of America to the White House on Sept. 15, including Ashley Turner (third from right) of Portland. Also pictured (from left) are Felicia Arriaga of Hendersonville, N.C.; Shonnetta Henry of Denver; Naquasia Pinchback, of Glen Cove, N.Y., and Jamaal Phillips, of St. Louis.

**Youth of the Year Honored**

**Portland girl sets positive course for life**

Portland's Ashley Turner has been named a runner up in Boys & Girls Clubs 2008 National Youth of the Year competition.

She and the other four other honored Boys & Girls Club members got to visit with President Bush in the Oval Office on Sept. 15 and meet

with other elected officials. While growing up in a neighborhood dominated by gangs and the constant threat of violence, Ashley Turner was determined to set a positive course for her life.

Seeking a nurturing environment, she boarded a city bus one day and rode for 1 1/2 hours, away from her neighborhood, until she saw the familiar Boys & Girls Club logo. She rode that same route - 90 minutes each way - nearly every day for the next six

years, immersing herself in all that Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland Metropolitan Area had to offer.

Turner quickly became involved in several Club programs, including Keystone Club, a character and leadership development group for teens with an emphasis on community service, and Junior Staff, which teaches members career skills. She further developed her leadership skills through countless hours leading, teaching and mentoring

younger Club members.

In addition to her Club involvement, Turner is dedicated to giving back to her community. She has volunteered at the local food bank, in clean-up events and for Doembecher Children's Hospital. She also takes time to talk with kids at the Club about the importance of giving back

A graduate of Wilson High School, she currently attends Portland Community College, with plans for a career in youth development.

**Jefferson Plans 100th Birthday**

**Tailgate party to kick off events**

Thomas Jefferson High School is having a birthday. 100 years old but young in spirit.

The north Portland school was first organized in February 1909 with a faculty of five teachers and an enrollment of 125.

"Classes were held in the Shaver Grammar School, but due to overcrowding, were soon moved temporarily to the Williams Avenue Building," so reads the first page of then Principal Hopkin Jenkins hand written "Record of Jefferson High School and its Pupils."



Celebrations are being planned for Jefferson High School 100th year of continuous operation.

Shortly thereafter ground was broken for the new school building on what had been William Killingworth's back pasture. At

the time it was the largest school building of its type to ever be erected in the country. The new building was first occupied in

February 1910 and has been in continuous use ever since.

The Jefferson Centennial Committee is seeking graduates of Jefferson of all ages. They are asking these former students to contact the committee via one of two the web sites: Jeffersoncentennial.com or Jeffalum.com, or that they contact the school at 503-916-5180, Option 7 during school hours with their maiden name, class year, e-mail address, street address and phone number.

Kicking off Jefferson's Centennial Celebration will be a Tailgate Party at Jefferson on Friday, Oct. 3; starting at 4pm. Graduation classes from all years are being asked to decorate their cars for the party.

**Housing Authority Taps Local Leaders**

continued from A14

and outreach for an extensive lead poisoning prevention effort. Currently, she is a government liaison for the Oregon Department of Transportation's Portland Region One.

"Serving on the HAP board helps fulfill my desire to continue to make positive contributions toward building and sustaining healthy communities and to make a difference in people's lives," Romero said.

Smith brings a strong background in business management to the board. After several decades in executive posts in the high tech industry that started at IBM and included guiding startups to success, he now is the CEO of YCHANGE International, a management consulting firm for small and medium-sized companies.



Shelli Romero

He is a member of the city of Portland's Small Business Advisory Committee and serves as chair of the Portland chapter of SCORE, an all-volunteer counseling organization with a mission to help small businesses and entrepreneurs become successful.

On the HAP board, he plans to use his expertise and experience to build bridges between the agency's efforts to help its clients become more self-sufficient



Jim Smith

and the local business community.

"After finding them affordable housing, the next step in the 'hand up' we give many of our clients is helping them achieve economic independence. I would like to focus my efforts on the HAP board on tying this process to the Portland small business economy while making it as relevant as possible to our clients' needs," he said.



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