

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Marika Zimmerly (from left), Genna Beier and Colleen McCabe look over voter registration materials as they canvass downtown to increase participation in the Nov. 4 general election, especially for younger voters.

# **Power** to Vote

continued A from Front

that they will get out and make their voices heard in the Nov. 4 election.

The Power 2 Vote Day of Action will be the largest voter registration event of the cam-

Midge Purcell of Urban League of Portland, says, "The most common response I get from people who have decided they're not going to participate in the process, is 'because my vote doesn't matter.' Our message over the next month is that it does matter, and that it counts and that they can ensure their voices are heard."

Purcell says that simply participating in the election process sends a strong message.

"Across the board there has been a higher level of engagement than we've seen in many years, and that in and of itself expresses the hunger and the demand for change," she

In other words, the simple act of registering to vote in great numbers has expressed the will of the people.

Saturday's Power 2 Vote Day of Action at PCC Cascade will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and feature inspiring words form community leaders, the low down about ballot measures, music by DJ OG One and people hitting the streets registering voters.

## **Dire Warnings**

#### Congress urged to support bailout

heels Tuesday, pushing back halt. against dire warnings from the government's top economic officials of recession, layoffs and administration's emergency \$700 billion financial bailout plan.

Congressional leaders still pre- those companies' balance sheets,

dicted passage - with significant changes but Wall Street's nerves were hardly soothed. The Dow Jones industrials sank 161 points and now are off more than 500 this week after initially surging on the bailout announcement last week.

Deepening market trouble was just one piece of the also insisted on alterations in the economic havoc that Federal Re- administration's drastic prescripserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and tion. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson

money, and the world's largest spending could be included.

(AP) -- Senators dug in their economy would grind to a virtual

The legislation the administration is promoting would allow the government to buy bad mortgages lost homes if Congress doesn't and other rotten assets held by quickly approve the Bush troubled banks and financial institutions. Getting those debts off their books should bolster

> making them more inclined to lend and easing one of the biggest choke points in the credit crisis. If the plan works, it should help lift a major weight off the national economy that is already sput-

The major presidential candidates

Democrat Barack Obama said told senators would ensue if Con- any plan to rescue Wall Street gress lags in acting on the from its financial woes must enadministration's proposal to res- sure that taxpayers are reimbursed cue tottering financial institutions. and corporate executives are not Without the bailout plan, further enriched for mismanage-Paulson and Bernanke sketched ment. Republican John McCain, out a dire scenario for senators at too, said the legislation must prea contentious daylong hearing: vent executives from winning Neither businesses nor consum- large taxpayer-funded bonuses, ers would be able to borrow and he also said no earmarked





Charles Lott Jr. (left) as a player for the Centennial Eagles and (right) as an actor auditioning for TV shows and film.

# ocal Talent Heads for Hollywood

to win first place in a major talent competition that puts him on a fast track for a major role in Hol-

Lott, 8, won \$10,000 last the most powerful agents and

Charles Lott Jr. is as comfortmonth when he won "The" celeb-casting directors in the entertainkids from all over the U.S. The able on a football field as he is on rity access auditions for aspiring stars in the 6-10-year-old category A natural acting ability and in Phoenix, Ariz. Earlier he won a athletic appeal has helped him regional singing, dance, acting and modeling competition in Vancouver.

> He will be leaving for Los Angeles next month where some of

Hollywood agents credited the young man for being fear- father, Charles Lott Sr. less in his auditions in Phoenix and not holding anything back. He received a standing ovation after competing with over 200

ment business have already ex- agents represented the major pressed hope to match him up for TV networks, Nickelodeon, work in TV shows, commercials MGM, Time Warner Cable and

"I'm so proud of him," said his

Lott's family, residents of Happy Valley in outer southeast Portland, also includes his mom, Roseanna and three sisters.

### Youth Empower Youth Fest

Star Ballroom, 635 N. involved in their community. Killingsworth Court.

couraged to participate through Professor Turiya Autry and long networking with other young Mickens. people at this free event.

Young people will sound off from the United Voices/Beats for and unite at the Youth Empower Peace program with the intention Youth Fest on Sunday, Sept. 28 of showcasing young people and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the North as a vehicle to get more youth

Youth Empower Youth Fest will The participants from Portland include workshops by slam poetry and surrounding areas are en- artist and Black Women's Studies sharing, learning, organizing and time event planning guru Noah

Music performances by hip hop This event is funded in part by artists Line of Fire (Mic Crenshaw a city of Portland's Youth Action and Gen-Eric), electropopduo Crab grant that was written by two youth Cannon and more are planned.

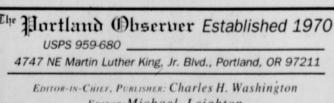
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