



Advocate for Youth

David Miller can't say no to helping kids
See story, page A3

Summer Film Festival

OMSI features the best of the best IMAX films for summer

See Arts & Entertainment, page A7



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'City of Roses'

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Week in The Review

Switched at Birth

Two women switched at birth have met after 56 years and a lifetime of mix-up rumors. DNA tests proved that Kay Rene Qualls and DeeAnn Shafer were given to the wrong parents after they were born in 1953 at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner, Ore.

Soldier Kills 5 Comrades

An American soldier opened fire at a counseling center on a military base in Iraq Monday, killing five fellow soldiers. President Barack Obama said he was "shocked and deeply saddened" by the report. See story, page A2.

Unemployment Security

President Obama wants unemployment insurance to become a stepping stone for future work by making it easier to enroll in school or job training and keep your benefits. See story, page A2.

Health of Social Security, Medicare Takes Plunge

The financial health of Social Security and Medicare has worsened because of the severe recession, and Medicare is now paying out more than it receives. Trustees of the programs said Tuesday that Social Security will start paying out more in benefits than it collects in taxes in 2016, one year sooner than projected last year.

You're Not Fired

Miss California USA can retain her crown after questions arose about semi-nude photographs taken of her as a teenager and her association with a conservative advocacy group for marriage, pageant owner Donald Trump said Tuesday.

Clemens Denies Drug Use

New York Yankees baseball pitcher Roger Clemens broke his silence Tuesday, again denying that former personal trainer Brian McNamee injected him with performance-enhancing drugs. Clemens said he chose to speak out because it was the release date of a book about his alleged drug use.

Alleged Nazi Hears Charges

Sitting in a wheelchair and breathing through a nasal tube, retired American auto worker John Demjanjuk listened silently Tuesday as a German judge read a 21-page warrant accusing him of acting as an accessory to the murder of 29,000 people at a Nazi death camp.

Cheaper Gas for Summer

After a plunge in gas prices, Americans are expected to hit the highways in larger numbers this Memorial Day, giving a boost to the traditional start of the summer driving season, AAA said Tuesday.

Dynamic Artist 'Coming Home'

Art Hop pays tribute to Thelma Johnson Street

One of Portland's most dynamic and historical artists is coming home during the annual Art Hop celebration sponsored by the non-profit community organization Art on Alberta.

Saturday's 10th annual event will feature works by the internationally acclaimed artist and dancer Thelma Johnson Street (1911-1959), the first African American woman to be collected by the prestigious Museum of Modern Art in New York City.



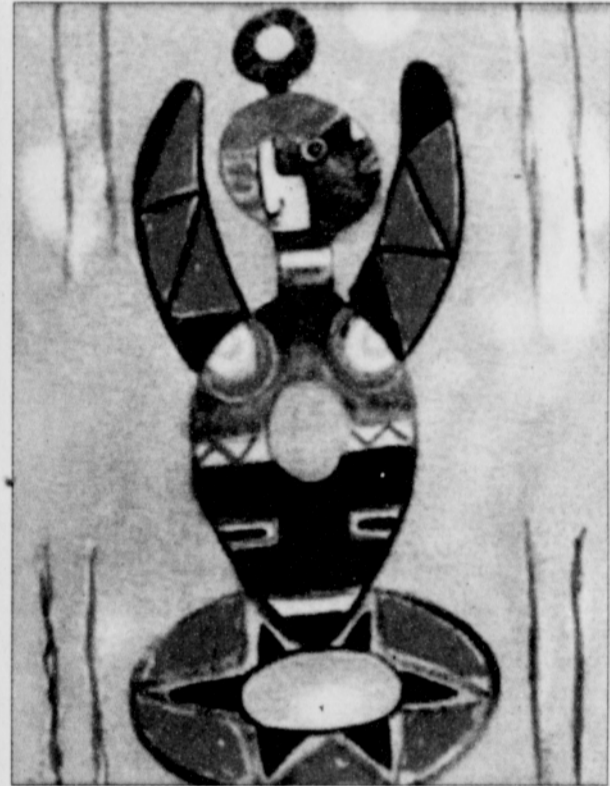
Thelma Johnson Street



Up to 50 of Street's original works, on loan from the Thelma Johnson Street Project in Salem, will be on display for this one day celebration. Participating Alberta Street galleries showing Street's artwork are Ampersand, Black United Fund, Grow, Guardino Gallery, and Talisman. In addition, Urban Arts Dance is incorporating Street's dance routines

On NE ALBERTA Street

into their Saturday performances. Art Hop will close 17 blocks of Northeast Alberta Street from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. to accommodate over 150 artists,



Thelma Johnson Street's 'Rabbit Man' (above) and 'Black Kings' (left) are works considered prime examples of abstract expressionism.

craftspeople, music, dance and theater performances, interactive art events with food and other vendors. Two stages are being sponsored by Binks and Siren Nation.

Street was internationally known in the mid-twentieth century for her visual and performance art. She also pioneered work to promote inter-cultural understanding with a

focus towards youth.

She was fascinated with the power of indigenous cultures to teach understanding, tolerance, and appreciation of diversity. With humble beginnings in Yakima and Pendleton, she moved to Portland and graduated from Washington High School in

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Rough Patch for Social Services

County chair goes to the drawing board

BY JAKE THOMAS
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Multnomah County provides government services that are so bread-and-butter they're often overlooked. But with the county's budget ensnared in the sagging economy it's looking at a 15 percent across the board cut.

Multnomah County Chair Ted Wheeler is hoping to turn the crisis

into an opportunity by goading the Legislature into enacting tax revenue reform.

He recently outlined the issue before the Eastside Democratic Club, a civic organization that provides a progressive forum to discuss issues and candidates. During his 45 minute talk, Wheeler explained the situation the county is in, and what he's doing to get it out of a rough patch.

Even Wheeler admits that most things the county does are "not very sexy."



Ted Wheeler

"But in the absence of them, you notice it," he added.

The county government provides social services for the city's most vulnerable citizens, such as the mentally ill, senior citizens, and domestic violence victims, said Wheeler.

It also provides other services like jails, prosecutors, health clinics, and re-entry services for

Wheeler said he's trying to get the Legislature to change how the county is funded.

He explained that the tax "kicker" law, which requires the state to partially refund income taxes if the amount collected is above what is projected, is problematic. If the state collects more revenue than it expected that money should go into a "rainy day" fund for times like these, argued Wheeler.

"That may have been great for a short term pop," said Wheeler of the kicker. "But now here we are a couple years later in a very tough economy with no meaningful reserves to fall back

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Child Actor Gets a Taste of Hollywood

Roles come after move to L.A.

BY JAKE THOMAS
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Charles Lott Sr. always knew that his son had a flair for the theatrical, but didn't foresee his fast rise as a child actor.

Lott remembers his son, Charles Lott Jr., always wanting to put on a show in church. He would mimic the preacher and would sneak on the stage when dancers were performing. It annoyed his parents, but delighted everyone else.

Lott's comfort being on stage and natural talent for acting have quickly catapulted the career of the 9-year-old Portland native. He's relocated to Los Angeles, and is slated to appear in big name films, like Iron Man 2.

Lott Jr.'s start in acting occurred suddenly. His family heard about a local acting competition last year, where the winner would have a chance to compete with over 200 other youths in the 6 to 10-year-old

age range in Phoenix, Ariz.

He easily won the competition, which came with a cool \$10,000 prize. He wowed the judges with a monologue on how he tries to avoid becoming exactly like his father who shares his same name. His modeling, and cold reads on the spot



Portland child actor Charles Lott Jr.



Child actor Charles Lott Jr. poses next to a stunt car at Universal Studios in Los Angeles.

also impressed the judges. "Pop! Cameras everywhere I went," exclaimed Lott of the attention he got at the competition.

Most families who take their kids to auditions can hope to get maybe one call back. But

Lott was getting them in droves from headhunters. After carefully considering the slew of offers by talent representatives Lott's family chose an agency, Hines & Hunt, they felt they could trust. They quickly got a deal for a national food chain,

followed by a Vitamin Water commercial featuring Kobe Bryant and LeBron James.

But Lott's rising star inevitably meant a big change for him and his family. There's just not

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39 years of community service