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Diversity
in the Workplace
See special coverage, inside

Tolls Divide Vancouver Officials

Mayoral candidates take opposite views to charging tolls on a proposed new I-5 bridge

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The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

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Week in The Review

Global Tribute Coming



A tribute in September to Michael Jackson on the grounds of a 17th century palace in

Vienna will feature a three-hour, star-studded show to be televised live to a global audience of 1 billion people, the event promoter said Tuesday.

Crash Kills 4 Teenagers

Four teenagers from Ridgefield High School were killed and two other people were seriously hurt Monday when their SUV tried to pass another vehicle on Highway 30 to the Oregon Coast. The teen driver lost control of the SUV after passing a slow moving vehicle and hit a van.

Kennedy Sister Dies

President John F. Kennedy's sister, Eunice Kennedy Shriver,



who carried on the family's public service tradition by founding the

Special Olympics and championing the rights of the mentally disabled, died early Tuesday. She was 88.

Volt Gets 230 MPG

General Motors Corp. said Tuesday its Chevrolet Volt re-



chargeable electric car should get 230 miles per gallon

(98 kilometers per liter) of gasoline in city driving, more than four times the current champion, the Toyota Prius. The Volt is powered by an electric motor and a battery pack.

Sharks on Oregon Coast

It was a big weekend for shark sightings off the Oregon coast, from the 12-foot great white shark that apparently got snared in a fisherman's crab pot at Depoe Bay to a shark warning that Seaside police issued to beach crowds.

39
years of
community service

First Hispanic on Supreme Court

Another ceiling tumbles down

(AP) -- Sonia Sotomayor was sworn in Saturday as the Supreme Court's first Hispanic justice and only third female member in the top court's 220-year history.

She is President Barack Obama's first appointment to the influential court, which has shaped many of the country's laws on polarizing issues like abortion and the death penalty. As a successor to liberal Justice David Souter, who retired, she is not expected to alter the nine-member court's ideological balance.

Sotomayor took the second of two oaths of office Saturday from Chief Justice John Roberts in an ornate conference room, beneath a portrait of the legendary Chief Justice John Marshall.



Judge Sonia Sotomayor takes the Judicial Oath of the Supreme Court with her mother, Celina, holding the Bible and her brother, Juan Luis looking on. Sotomayor becomes the first Hispanic and just the third woman on the highest court in its 220-year history. (AP photo)

Her left hand resting on a Bible that was held by her mother, Sotomayor pledged to "do equal right to the poor and to

the rich."

Minutes earlier, she swore a first oath in a private ceremony in the room where the justices

hold their private conferences.

Her 60 or so guests included Justice Anthony Kennedy, White House Counsel Greg

Craig and other members of the Obama administration team that helped prepare her for her Senate confirmation hearings, family and friends.

Roberts, wearing his black judicial robe, said that once the oaths were done, Sotomayor could "begin work as associate justice without delay."

Obama scheduled a White House reception for Sotomayor on Wednesday.

The 55-year-old Sotomayor has been a federal judge for 17 years. Obama nominated her for the lifetime appointment in May, and the Senate confirmed her on Thursday. The vote was 68-31 with Democrats unanimously behind her and most Republicans lining up in a show of opposition.

She will join Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg as the only other woman currently serving on the court.

Sotomayor is the daughter of Puerto Rican parents who was raised in a housing project in New York City's gritty South Bronx neighborhood and educated at the elite universities

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Community Rallies Against Hate

Denouncing case of racial, sexual attack

BY JAKE THOMAS

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Bao Vuong, a 22-year-old Vietnamese-American, waited out one of the longest stop lights in his life at Northeast Freemont Street and 41st Avenue when four young men began yelling racial and sexual slurs at him.

Vuong ignored them but the white males became even more aggressive. Bagels were thrown at his car and one of the agitators approached him and punched a dent in the passenger side of his car.

A diverse group of Portlanders that included neighborhood and other civic leaders assembled on Friday across from the intersection at Beaumont Middle School to denounce the Aug 2 attack, and hopefully extract a teachable moment from it.



PHOTO BY JAKE THOMAS/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Hate crime victim Bao Vuong (center) draws support from Portland City Commissioner Nick Fish (left) and Ronault "Polo" L.S. Catalina, a lawyer and columnist for the Asian Reporter.

Vuong, spoke to the crowd of about 60 supporters. He said was determined not to accept being threatened in his own neighborhood.

"Although I come from a different origin, this is where I was nurtured, and this is what I know as home," he said.

Vuong said that the emotional harm inflicted on him during the violent episode was real, and he encouraged people to better understand each other and why events like this occur.

City Commissioner Nick Fish also spoke. He pointed that even though the nation has just confirmed its first Hispanic Supreme Court Justice, there are still pockets of bigotry, even in a progressive place like Portland.

"Regardless of where we come from tonight, we speak with one voice," he said. "We are here to say 'no. No to hate and no to violence.'"

Fish then thanked Vuong for

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Governor Proves Chef's Mantle

Expanding nutrition for women, children

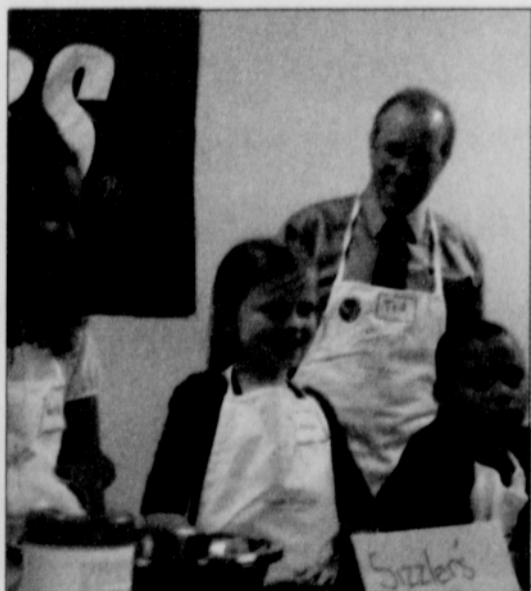


PHOTO BY JAKE THOMAS/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Gov. Ted Kulongoski swaps his sports jacket for an apron Thursday during a cooking competition to promote good nutrition at the Blazers' Boys and Girls Club in northeast Portland.

BY JAKE THOMAS

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Gov. Ted Kulongoski proved his mantle as an 'Iron Chef' at the Blazers' Boys and Girls Club in northeast Portland.

In order to stir up interest for an expansion of a state nutrition supplement program for women and children, Kulongoski, state Sen. Margaret Carter, D-Portland, and Janette Kaden of the Tin Shed Garden Café, joined local kids Thursday in a cook off.

They were charged with whipping quesadillas made from healthy, fresh ingredients that are now included under an expansion of the WIC nutrition program, which provides food supplements for women, infants and children. Bruce Goldberg,

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PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

'Neverland' at the County Fair

Mercedes and Darren Harper-Taloff take in the thrills of the 'Lolly Swing' during the Clark County Fair. The ride was purchased last year from Michael Jackson's Neverland Ranch and has generated a lot of public interest since Jackson's untimely death. The fair, located in Ridgeview along I-5 north of Vancouver, continues through Sunday.