



Rev. E. William Beauchamp, University of Portland president, blesses a new childcare facility for those working and attending the north Portland college.

Childcare Center Opens

A new childcare center for the University of Portland was celebrated Friday with a blessing of the facility by campus president, Rev. E. William Beauchamp.

Parents, children, university staff and professors and employees of the center, located in a renovated house located at 5414 N. Willamette Blvd., gathered for the grand opening.

Beauchamp said the center fits into the mission of the Catholic Church, which places a strong emphasis on family. It also ties into the university's emphasis on sustainability, potentially reducing the amount

of energy staff and students will spend commuting to their children's childcare facilities.

The center opened Monday and will provide supervisory care for small children (three months to five years) for students, faculty and staff.

Portland-based Vermont Hills Family Life Center is the care provider for the facility. A few slots remain available for children age 30 months to five years. Priority is given to university employees and students, but the general public is encouraged to inquire at vhflc.org or 503 452-7078.

Jackson's Doctor Posts Video Says truth will prevail

(AP) -- The doctor who was with Michael Jackson when he died and is now the center of a manslaughter probe posted a short video Tuesday thanking his supporters.

In the one-minute video, posted on YouTube, a weary-looking Dr. Conrad Murray thanks friends and patients and refers to his two interviews with Los Angeles police detectives. It was the first time Murray had spoken publicly since Jackson died June 25.

"I have done all I could do," a solemn-sounding Murray says as he looks into the camera. "I told the truth and I have faith the truth will prevail."

Since Jackson's death, Murray has not worked and has closed his Las Vegas practice.

The doctor was in dire financial shape when he signed on with Jackson earlier this year at \$150,000 a month, owing at least \$780,000 in judgments and outstanding payments.

Gregory D. Lee, a retired supervisory agent with the Drug Enforcement Agency, said he thought Murray wanted to improve his image.

"This doctor has been demonized," Lee said. "This is an attempt to humanize him and possibly sway any potential jury pool out there."

Murray told investigators



A video frame shows Michael Jackson's personal physician, Dr. Conrad Murray, speaking for the first time publicly about the singer's death on June 25.

he administered Jackson a powerful anesthetic along with multiple sedatives in the hours before the singer died, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press. Inves-

tigators think Murray left the room where Jackson was sleeping for a few minutes to make phone calls and returned to find the pop icon not breathing.

Jobless Numbers Level Off in Oregon

Officials say full recovery will take time

(AP) - The recession may finally be hitting bottom in Oregon with another month of unemployment figures that have barely budged.

The bad news was the jobless rate is still hovering around 12 percent but the good news was that things have not gotten worse, economists said.

"We've more or less leveled off," said state employment economist Art Ayre, who presented the monthly figures for July at a news conference on Monday.

The 11.9 percent unemployment rate for Oregon in July was essentially unchanged from a revised figure of 12 percent for June - roughly the same rate the state has reported since March.

But even though the rate has hardly changed in the past five months, the state lost fewer jobs in July than in previous months.

Oregon lost 700 nonfarm payroll jobs in July after losing thousands of jobs each month in previous months.

Over the past three months, the state has lost an average of 1,900 jobs each month, compared to a decline of about

10,300 jobs each month over the previous nine months, economists said.

"On average it's a better report," said Tim Duy, a University of Oregon economist who compiles a monthly index of the state economy.

"What you're getting is a much smaller decline in unemployment in the past few months, and that's good because it suggests we're bottoming out," Duy said.

Still, the jobless rate and the number of unemployed workers in Oregon are nearly double what they were a year ago.

In July, 232,782 Oregonians were unemployed, compared with 120,582 for the same month a year ago, when the jobless rate was 6.3 percent.

Gov. Ted Kulongoski said Monday the latest figures show it likely will be a slow recovery. But he said he would continue to use federal and state stimulus funding to create jobs while protecting unemployment benefits.

"While it is good news that the number of Oregonians out of work is not getting worse, the report serves as a reminder that the road to a full recovery is going to take time," Kulongoski said in a statement.

The national jobless rate also stayed about the same for July, 9.4 percent compared to 9.5 percent in June.

Saturday Market Celebrates Relocation

continued from Front

in 1974 when Saturday Market was in its infancy.

This weekend's celebration will include numerous activities, daily give-aways, artist demonstrations, as well as all the market's talented artisans selling their original handcrafted wares. An international food court along with a main stage of multicultural performances is planned.

Portland Saturday Market is



Saturday Market celebrates its new home with a weekend grand opening.

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vendors generating \$8 million in sales and attracting over one million visitors to the historic

Old Town district each year. It is held every Saturday and Sunday from March through Christmas Eve.

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Cutting Edge Displacement?

continued from Front

units, 800 of which are considered affordable for people of average or modest incomes.

Debbie Thomas, of Debbie Thomas Real Estate, knows first hand what a boon the streetcar has been to development after she shrewdly invested in the Pearl District just as it was taking flight.

"It's been fabulous for urban commercial development," she said of the streetcar. "It's been a very positive impact on the community and the city."

Garrison Selliker, the owner of Mreatly, said that streetcars add to a perception of quality of life for people looking to buy a piece of property or set up shop. They like the idea of being able to walk out of their condominium and hop on the streetcar, he explained.

"It's really important to have every positive you can get," said Selliker.

The city is also mulling over putting even more lines in other parts of the city.

Planning documents related to the streetcar stress that the city wants to preserve the character of each neighborhood it passes through, but there are few concrete plans on how to do this.

The Portland Streetcar System Concept Plan explicitly states that the development of the streetcar could increase

property taxes, change neighborhood density, cause gentrification, and displace local small businesses.

Chris Smith, chair of the Streetcar Citizens' Advisory Committee, said his group looked at how streetcars create "nodes of activity" that will benefit small businesses in the long term.

John Miller, the executive director of HOST, an affordable housing non-profit, hopes that future streetcars will actually help people of more modest incomes because they won't have to rely on their cars as much.

Miller provided input on the streetcar's System Advisory Committee.

While preventing people from getting priced out of the area wasn't a hot topic before his group, he hopes that additional affordable housing is incorporated into neighborhoods where new streetcars are added.

Kay Dannen, communications director for Portland Streetcar, Inc., said that she's been in contact with neighborhoods to mitigate their concerns during construction, but her agency is really looking at the long-term effects of the streetcar.

Regardless, Leinberger points out that Portland has a very straightforward set of options when it comes to streetcar development: accept displacement or "stay poor."