

Rider Advocates Lose Mission

TriMet plans to eliminate safety team because of budget cuts
See story, page A3

Concordia Library Opens

Northeast educational center will serve campus neighbors
See story, page A2



The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

Established in 1970

www.portlandobserver.com

Volume XXXIV, Number 34

Committed to Cultural Diversity

Wednesday • August 26, 2009

Week in The Review



Draw in Mayoral Vote

A near dead heat in last week's Washington Primary sets up a November battle between the current mayor of Vancouver, who supports tolls to pay for a new I-5 bridge and his opponent who doesn't. See story, page A3.

Teacher Talks Stalled

Portland Public Schools asked the state for mediation services Tuesday to help the district reach a contract with more than 3,000 teachers, counselors, librarians and school psychologists. The current agreement expired last year.

Rock Hall of Famer Dies

John E. Carter, a member of the Flamingos and the Dells and a two-time inductee into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, is being remembered after his death at the age of 75. See story, page A10.

Jackson Death Ruled Homicide

The Los Angeles County coroner's office determined Monday that the death of Michael Jackson was a homicide. The decision could mean criminal charges for Jackson's doctor, who told investigators he administered a mix of powerful drugs to treat the pop star's insomnia hours before his death.

Gresham Suspect Shot

A man wanted for robbing a Gresham bar was shot by Portland police Monday night. It happened after the SERT team was activated to find the suspect. See story, page A2.

Gang Suspect in Shooting

Police believe a shooting around the K&C Market on North Killingsworth Street Thursday was gang related. Witnesses reported seeing four young men walk toward and another man about 11 a.m. and then gunfire erupted. The victim survived.

Promoting Healthy Foods

Food activist and cookbook author Bryant Terry visits Portland this weekend to build a more just and sustainable food system and illuminate the ties between poverty, racism and food insecurity. See story, page A2.

Earthquake Strikes Coast

A moderate earthquake has struck deep in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Oregon. The U.S. Geological Survey says a 4.1 magnitude temblor hit late Monday about 133 miles west-northwest of Bandon.

State prepares for H1N1

BY JAKE THOMAS
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

State and local government officials are expecting the H1N1 virus to re-emerge with a vengeance this fall. The potentially deadly flu also could cause serious disruptions in the economy and peoples' daily lives.

Better known as "swine flu," H1N1 gave the country jitters last spring when it crept into the U.S. The virus hospitalized over 6,000 Americans and caused 477 deaths before steadily tapering off as the summer approached.

In Oregon and across the country, officials are now planning for a resurgence of the virus during the upcoming flu season. About 800 healthcare and government workers gathered in a convention room in Salem on Friday to hear from experts about how to respond to the potential health crisis.

H1N1 could infect up to 40 percent of Oregon's population and stunt the state's fragile economic rebound, the authorities warned.

"As you can imagine, this is a monumental task and government cannot do it alone," said Gov. Ted Kulongoski at the summit.

Unlike past flu virus scares, like the avian flu or SARS, relatively little is known about H1N1 virus and peoples' immune systems are largely unprepared for it, explained State

Pandemic!



PHOTO BY JAKE THOMAS/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Brigadier General Mike Caldwell (from left), Superintendent of Public Instruction Susan Castillo and Gov. Ted Kulongoski lead a summit on the H1N1 virus, also called the swine flu. Oregon joins governments around the globe working to contain the pandemic before its expectant resurgence this fall and winter.

Public Health Director Mel Kohn.

At worst, H1N1 could be as deadly as a virulent strand of flu that killed over 500,000 Americans in 1918, he said, before adding, "is it going to fizzle? It could."

Katrina Hedberg, state epidemiologist, said seniors are typically the most vulnerable during a pandemic, but this virus is proving to be particularly deadly for younger people. She cited numbers showing that of the Americans who have died

from H1N1 this year, 124 were between the ages of 25 and 49.

Hedberg doesn't expect the virus, which so far has killed 11 and hospitalized over 90 Oregonians, to be as bad as the 1918 flu pandemic which was commonly referred to as the "Span-

ish flu" and was subtype H1N1 strain.

The rest of the summit outlined the government's plan for dealing with the pandemic, and how the public can prepare.

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Fight *for* Equity

Fairness drives high schools do over

BY JAKE THOMAS
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Portland's public high schools seem to groan with problems.

The dropout rate is a staggering 8.4 percent. Black and Hispanic students are less likely to graduate as their white counterparts. The same courses aren't available to all students, and embattled neighborhood schools continue to hemorrhage students at a staggering pace.

However, Portland Public Schools has a plan to radically revamp the high school system, which will have a weighty impact on the neighborhoods they serves

In order to get a better handle on what this will mean for the city, the Portland Observer sat down with Sarah Singer, the project manager for the high school redesign, and PPS spokesperson, Sarah Carlin Ames.

After mulling over three different high school design options, Superintendent Carole Smith settled on a model that offers students three school options: a neighborhood school, a magnet program, and alternative and charter schools.

Instead of reforming each individual school, the sweeping redesign effort will alter all of the city's public high schools.

One of the primary reasons behind the do over is the inequity among the city's high schools. For instance, advanced placement classes, which are essential to landing a spot at a good college, have been absent for years at Jefferson High School, the north Portland school serving the most African-American students.

These inequities have caused students to transfer from their neighborhood schools, resulting in lopsided enrollment numbers.

A data analysis conducted by PPS shows that between 1996 and 2008, enrollment at Wilson, Cleveland, Grant, and Lincoln increased by 665 students between 1996 and 2008, while Marshall, Madison, Roosevelt, Franklin,

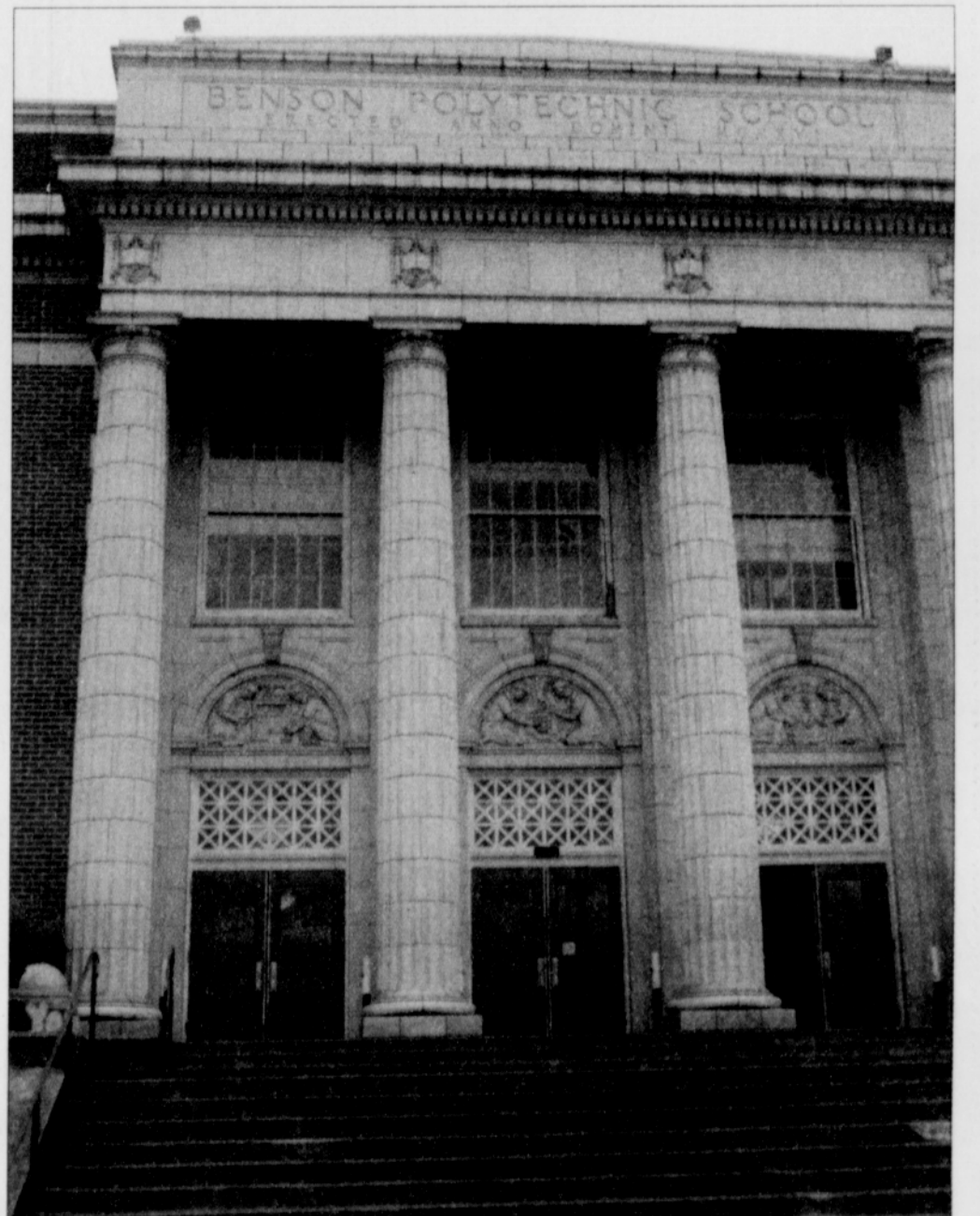


PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Technical and other career-driven education programs make Benson High School a popular magnet program. But the mission at Benson and every other Portland high could change with proposals that try to achieve equity between each high school in the city.

Jefferson, and Benson decreased their enrollment by 2,724.

"We don't have equity in opportunity right now," said Singer. "Let's get that in place."

Singer explained how racial and economic stratification has been accentuated in the recent past, and diversity would be greatly enhanced at every neighborhood school if students didn't transfer out.

"You don't undermine one community by building up another community," said Carlin Ames.

The plan envisions six or

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39
years of
community service