

50¢



Likely Bid for Governor

Former Gov. John Kitzhaber may come out of retirement to run for the state's highest office
See story, page A2

Ted Kennedy's Life & Times

A timeline from a liberal champion who never wavered in pursuit of his causes
See special coverage, inside



The Portland Observer

'City of Roses'

Established in 1970

Committed to Cultural Diversity

www.portlandobserver.com

Volume XXXIV, Number 35

Wednesday • September 2, 2009

Week in The Review

H1N1 Vaccine Encouraged

With a potentially deadly flu outbreak looming, President Barack Obama is urging Americans to take steps to prevent infection. Obama said the H1N1 or swine flu vaccine would be voluntary, but said the government will "strongly recommend" that people get it.

Vandals Ransack Alberta

Several businesses, including the Tin Shed & Garden Café were vandalized on Alberta Street in northeast Portland on Monday morning. Police said vandals broke out windows, tipped trash cans and destroyed a computer.

Disney Buys Marvel

Walt Disney Co on Monday agreed to buy Marvel Entertainment Inc for \$4 billion in the year's biggest media deal, banking on Marvel's pantheon of superheroes to broaden its lineup of movie franchises that appeal to boys.

Man Shoots Pitbull

Police say a man who shot and killed a pit bull in Vancouver had a permit to carry a gun and acted in self defense. The 73-year-old man was threatened Saturday by two vicious dogs as he was walking near his home.



Firefighters Gain on Blaze

Firefighters set backfires and removed brush with bulldozers across a huge swath of Southern California forest on Tuesday to try to contain a 190-square-mile wildfire that has destroyed 53 homes and threatened thousands more in foothill suburbs.

Coach Gets 15 Years

Former Lake Oswego coach Howard Avery will spend the next 15 years in prison for sexually abusing a teenager he had mentored. The sentence was imposed Thursday after a trial that found him guilty of "forced sex acts against a juvenile."

Middle Schools Improve

Newly released statistics show Oregon middle schools have made significant gains in student performance on state reading, math and science tests. The state's elementary and high schools showed less progress, posting marginal gains or in some cases, losses.

Natural Gas Rates to Fall

Because natural gas prices have fallen significantly, NW Natural Tuesday filed a request with the Public Utility Commission of Oregon for a rate decrease of 14.5 percent for residential customers and 17.5 percent for commercial customers.

39

years of community service

Irvington Village Redo

Providence saves local resource

A local residential facility geared to African Americans and other residents needing quality, compassionate and affordable assisted living and Medicaid-funded services has been saved with a new agreement with Providence ElderPlace.

The nationally recognized residential healthcare program has agreed to assume operations of Covenant Retirement Communities' Irvington Village, a 104-unit affordable assisted-living facility in northeast Portland.

Covenant approached Providence and proposed the agreement to ensure the future success of the seven year old facility on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

"This is the best possible outcome for Irvington Village," said Rick Fisk, Covenant president. "We are grateful to Providence for partnering with us to secure its future for our community."



Irving Village employees Ricky Carter and Edwin Gonzalez join Providence ElderPlace executive Cindy Noordijk (center) outside the northeast Portland assisted living center, a key resource for seniors needing affordable living and Medicaid-funded services.

The agreement follows several months of conversations between Covenant, Providence and the state of Oregon.

"Irvington Village is an important resource for the people of northeast Portland, and we're glad Providence can take part

in making sure that it serves the community for years to come," said Jerry Hunter, chief executive of home and community

services for Providence Health & Services in Oregon.

continued ▼ on page A3

Reflections on Kennedy's Advocacy

Portland residents grateful

By AMANDA GREAR AND JAKE THOMAS/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
U.S. Sen. Edward Kennedy may have hailed from Massachusetts and fought battles in a capital far away, but the legacy left by the "Lion of the Senate" had a big impact for local residents.

A champion for the poor and downtrodden, seniors and the disabled, Kennedy was the last surviving brother to civil rights heroes John F. Kennedy and Robert Kennedy, when he died

last week at age 77.

Sitting at a bus stop in north Portland, Dee Wilson remembers the senator's deep-seated concern for the disadvantaged and his commitment to make life better for those too often locked out and left behind.

"He was someone who dealt with everybody," she said before scurrying off to catch her bus.

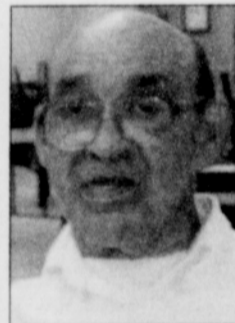
Walking along the North Killingsworth Street, Robert Ingram simply remembers



Dee Wilson Kennedy for his steady support for good causes.

"He was a good guy," he said.

Shelia Ashdowell, walking along the same stretch of street,



Jim Unthank added, "I hope that there's someone who will pick things up."

At the Urban League of Portland's Multicultural Senior Services Center, Jim Unthank



Robert Ingram was saddened to hear about Kennedy's death, while grateful for his work on civil rights and ardent support for minorities.



Shelia Ashdowell was saddened to hear about Kennedy's death, while grateful for his work on civil rights and ardent support for minorities.

continued ▼ on page A2

Senator Kept Dream Alive

Death marks end to a political era

(AP) -- Sen. Edward M. Kennedy was laid to rest alongside slain brothers John and Robert on hallowed ground at Arlington National Cemetery on Saturday evening, celebrated for "the dream he kept alive" across the decades since their deaths.

Crowds lined the streets of two cities on a day that marked the end of a political era — outside Kennedy's funeral in rainy Boston, and later in the day in humid, late-summer Washington, D.C. With flags over the Capitol flying at half-staff in his memory, his hearse stopped outside the Senate where he served for 47 years.

"Go now, to your place of rest. And meet the Lord, your God," said the Rev.



A makeshift shrine is seen during a candlelight vigil in memory of Sen. Edward Kennedy at Dupont Circle in Washington, D.C.

Daniel Coughlin, the House chaplain. A few miles away, Kennedy's freshly excavated gravesite was on a gently sloping Virginia hillside, flanked by a pair of maple trees. His brother Robert, killed in 1968 while running for president, lies 100 feet away. It is another 100 to the eternal flame that has burned since 1963 for John F. Kennedy, president when he was assassinated.

Kennedy died Tuesday at 77, more than a year after he was diagnosed with a brain tumor.

One son, Patrick, wept quietly as another son, Teddy Jr., spoke from the

pulpit of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Boston. Teddy Jr. recalled the day years ago, shortly after losing a leg to cancer, that he slipped walking up an icy driveway as he headed out to go sledding. "I started to cry and I said, 'I'll never be able to climb up that hill,'" the son said.

"And he lifted me up in his strong, gentle arms and said something I will never forget. He said, 'I know you can do it. There is nothing that you can't do.'"

Rain beat down steadily as Kennedy's coffin was borne by a military honor guard into the Basilica of

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, and again when it was brought back out for the flight to Washington and the military cemetery in Virginia just across the Potomac River from Washington.

In life, the senator had visited the burial ground often to mourn his brothers, John and Robert, killed in their 40s, more than a generation ago, by assassins' bullets.

"He was given a gift of time that his brothers were not. And he used that time to touch as many lives and right as

continued ▼ on page A2