

INSIDE

LOCAL NEWS

pages 3 and 5

NATIONAL NEWS

page 4



Year in Review

pages 6-12



OPINION

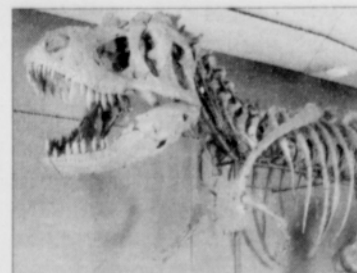
pages 14-15



Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Beatles Tribute Band

page 16



T. Rex at OMSI

page 19



Queen of Hip-Hop Soul

page 17



FOOD

page 20

LOCAL NEWS

Police Critic Runs for Council Mental health advocate on a crusade

Jason Renaud, the co-founder of the Mental Health Association of Portland, has been outspoken critic of the city's handling of the 2006 death of James Chasse, a schizophrenic man who died after a confrontation with police.

Renaud is now taking his crusade further by running for the City Council against Police Commissioner Dan Saltzman. He is trying to secure public financing before a Jan. 29 deadline.

Renaud spoke to the Portland Observer. His remarks have been edited for brevity and clarity:

Portland Observer: At what point did you say, 'I'm going to run for this office?'

Jason Renaud: I was the co-founder of the Mental Health Association, and we had been patiently waiting for the police to finish their internal investigation of the James Chase case, and three years had gone by. We went to City Hall and asked, 'Where is the investigation?' We got an immediate negative response from the police and from the police commissioner.

PO: When you say you got a negative response what do you mean?



Jason Renaud

JR: We called a press conference and said, 'Listen we really need this investigation now.' People may be in danger we don't know what the status of these officers are. The public deserves a public answer and not some sort of confidential memo to the HR department. Police Chief Rosie Sizer immediately came out and said she would not release it. She

had not finished the internal investigation. A week later when she finished the internal investigation she sent out a press release saying here it is.

JR: There was no internal investigation attached to the press release. We still don't know what happened in the internal investigation, other than the fact that they then had a fight about discipline for the token discipline for these two officers. A man lay dead on the street corner and they're arguing about whether the sergeant should have made a transport decision for a human being. It sort of missed the point. It missed the

continued ▼ on page 5

Free Rides on New Year's Eve

All rides on TriMet's MAX and buses will be free beginning at 8 p.m. on New Year's Eve, Thursday, Dec. 31.

TriMet will provide extra ser-

vice on MAX Blue, Green and Yellow lines, which will run more often and later into the evening for late-night revelers. Buses will run on regular weekday schedules.

For complete TriMet schedules and trip planning, visit trimet.org or call 503-238-RIDE (7433) weekdays between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Portland Observer's New Look

Editor's Note: The Portland Observer enters the New Year with a new look.

We have adopted a magazine-style format to keep the Portland Observer cutting-edge and sophisticated in a changing world. Gone are the cumbersome folds and mega-size broadsheet pages that can frustrate readers in smaller quarters, on mass transit, and at the coffee shop.

We also expect the new look to save money on printing and create less demand on a vital natural resource. In addition, the Portland Observer is now better positioned for improving our Internet coverage on PortlandObserver.com, [Twitter.com/PDX_Observer](https://twitter.com/PDX_Observer), and the Portland Observer on Facebook.

Please be assured that our news coverage and award-winning journalism will not change.

After 40 years in business as Oregon's largest minority-owned publication, we remain committed to diversity and being the best source of news important to people of color and all residents in our multicultural communities.

We want to hear what you think. Email us at news@portlandobserver.com or write to the Portland Observer at PO Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208.

The Portland Observer Established 1970

USPS 959-680
4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Portland, OR 97211

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, PUBLISHER: Charles H. Washington

EDITOR: Michael Leighton

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER: Mark Washington

CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Paul Neufeldt

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Portland Observer,
PO Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208

CALL 503-288-0033 FAX 503-288-0015

news@portlandobserver.com

ads@portlandobserver.com

The Portland Observer welcomes freelance submissions. Manuscripts and photographs should be clearly labeled and will be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed envelope. All created design display ads become the sole property of the newspaper and cannot be used in other publications or personal usage without the written consent of the general manager, unless the client has purchased the composition of such ad. © 2008 THE PORTLAND OBSERVER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED. The Portland Observer—Oregon's Oldest Multicultural Publication—is a member of the National Newspaper Association—Founded in 1885, and The National Advertising Representative Amalgamated Publishers, Inc., New York, NY, and The West Coast Black Publishers Association

subscription@portlandobserver.com