



**New Prices
Effective
May 1, 2008**

Martin Cleaning Service

**Carpet &
Upholstery Cleaning
Residential &
Commercial Services**

**Minimum Service CHG.
\$45.00**

Carpet Cleaning
**2 Cleaning Areas or
more \$30.00 Each Area**
Pre-Spray Traffic Areas
(Includes: 1 small Hallway)

1 Cleaning Area (only)
\$40.00
(Includes Pre-Spray Traffic
Area • Hallway Extra)

Stairs (12-16 stairs)
**\$25.00 (With Other
Services)**

Heavily Soiled Area:
Additional \$10.00

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

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Rug Cleaning
- Auto/Boat/RV
Cleaning
- Deodorizing & Pet
Odor Treatment
- Spot & Stain
Removal Service
- Scotchguard
Protection

UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

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Love seat
\$59.00

Sectional
\$109 - \$139

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\$35 - \$49

Throw Pillows
\$5.00

(With Other Services)



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Additional Prices
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OPINION

Opinion articles do not necessarily represent the views of the Portland Observer. We welcome reader essays, photos and story ideas. Submit to news@portlandobserver.com.

Kennedy's Voice is Missed

Fighting for
jobs, health care
and opportunity

BY MARC H. MORIAL

"To all those who are idle in our cities and industries of America, let us provide new hope for the dignity of useful work." — Sen. Ted Kennedy

Six months ago, the legendary Lion of the Senate, Edward M. Kennedy, lost his courageous battle with a brain tumor. Feb. 22 would have been his 78th birthday.

Today, as we pause to remember Teddy once more, I am especially struck by the void his passing has left in a Congress that too often fails to act on behalf of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our society.



Teddy's big dreams: health care for all, full employment, a hand up for the poor and people with disabilities, are still being debated, but like a sports team that has lost its franchise player, there is a big hole in our game.

If Teddy were here, he would not accept the loss of one player, no matter how pivotal, as an excuse for failure. He would tell us that creating a better, stronger America is a team sport requiring all of us to step up to the plate. He would tell the Senators returning from their President's Day recess that it's time to put partisanship aside. We must pass a jobs bill worthy of the millions of men and women in this country who are struggling to make ends meet and provide for their children in the midst of the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

He would say to those of us

fighting for real, comprehensive health reform, the same thing he said in his 1980 Democratic National Convention speech: "We must not surrender... Let us resolve that the state of a family's health shall never depend on the size of a family's wealth."

Teddy's final gift to us, his memoir, "True Compass," is a compelling read. It describes in honest detail the life of a remarkable public servant whose own personal challenges and setbacks only seemed to strengthen his resolve to make life better for others. In talking about his diagnosis and demise, Teddy's main concerns were for his wife and family, and the unfinished work that meant so much to him.

Before going into surgery, he called a few of his most trusted Senate colleagues, to ask them to shepherd important pieces of legislation just in case he didn't make it through. He survived the sur-

gery, and was even able to speak at the 2008 Democratic National Convention, where he gave a brief, but passionate speech in support of Barack Obama and the cause of his life -- "affordable health care as a fundamental right." I leave you with these words:

"There is a new wave of change all around us, and if we set our compass true, we will reach our destination - not merely victory for our party, but renewal for our nation... And so, with Barack Obama -- for you and for me, for our country and for our cause - the work begins anew, the hope rises again, and the dream lives on."

Teddy Kennedy's voice and leadership are sorely missed. May we all draw strength from his powerful legacy as we continue his fight for jobs, health care and opportunity for all.

Marc H. Morial is president and chief executive officer of the National Urban League.

Rallying 'Rainbow Warriors'

Creating a progressive third force

BY DR. RON DANIELS

With Tea Party activists getting wall to wall coverage by the mainstream media it is clear that the right continues to outmaneuver the left in terms of capturing the limelight to promote the conservative cause.

The cold fact is there has been no equivalent concept or response from a liberal, left, progressive "movement" that is disgruntled, disjointed, disoriented and ineffective. If a return to power of the conservatives is to be blocked, there must be far more innovative thinking, meaningful messaging and creative organizing on the left.

I would not begin to claim to be an innovative thinker, but I could envision rallying "Rainbow Warriors" to vigorously defend the historical legacy of the left in fighting to improve the quality of life for the majority of working people, the middle class, women, people of color and the poor.

Unlike the virtually all white "Tea Party Movement," the "Rainbow" symbolizes the promise of a 21st century "patriotism" rooted in the commitment to a multi-racial and ethnic, multi-religious, multi-cul-



tural, inclusive and expansive democracy with a "socially responsible" economy.

The Tea Party crowd represents a dying order. Rainbow Warriors could represent the birth of a new future. It occurs to me that somehow, minds that are more gifted than mine could take this concept and shape it into a vehicle that could capture the imaginations of millions of Americans who have been wounded by eight years of Bush-Cheney; millions who are focusing their anger and frustration on President Obama and the Democrats rather than the villains whose misguided policies and misdeeds are responsible for the pain and suffering vast numbers of Americans are experiencing.

Redirecting this anger and frustration must be the first order of business for Rainbow Warriors. No matter how distasteful to some, it is imperative that we circle the wagons around the Obama administration and accentuate the positive contributions made despite the grave economic crisis the President inherited.

We cannot allow the American people to have a lapse of memory about who created the mess that is ruining their lives. To expect any

administration to end joblessness in a year is simply unrealistic and we must fashion a message which respectfully conveys this reality while charting a path to recovery that offers hope for the future.

What if the progressive movement were able to rise above its splintered state to develop a popular, populist, progressive agenda centered around "economic common ground" policies, calculated to ameliorate the pain and suffering of millions of Americans and generate jobs and economic opportunities?

Green jobs in a modern 21st century economy with a living wage and benefits should be at the top of the list. Such an agenda might also incorporate proposals to rigorously rein-in and regulate Wall Street; provide meaningful assistance to homeowners victimized by the subprime lending scam; and, increase Pell Grants and low interest loans to students. Some of these proposals are already before the Congress but require robust support from outraged but organized constituencies.

In addition, there is a need to press for enactment of proposals of critical importance to key constituencies within the liberal-progressive umbrella, the base, like a massive jobs program targeted to end depression level unemployment and underemployment in black commu-

nities across the country; immigration reform that creates a gateway to citizenship for millions of undocumented persons in our society; passage of the Employee Free Choice Act; and, re-emphasis on a people-oriented health care system.

What if a million Rainbow warriors, armed with a Common Ground Agenda, mobilized a march on Washington to call attention to a movement dedicated to advancing policies to win the allegiance of ordinary people who are currently alienated and turning to the right for answers?

What if a million Rainbow warriors committed to engaging and registering millions of unregistered and unorganized voters, Congressional District by Congressional District, to counter the attack on wobbly Democrats, oppose conservatives and support liberal and progressive candidates to stem the tide of the Tea Party reactionaries and other rightwing forces?

If the progressive movement could gather itself to meet that challenge, it would be a game changer in American politics.

Dr. Ron Daniels is president of the Institute of the Black World 21st Century and Distinguished Lecturer at York College City University of New York.