



The PO

Portland Observer

40 years of community service

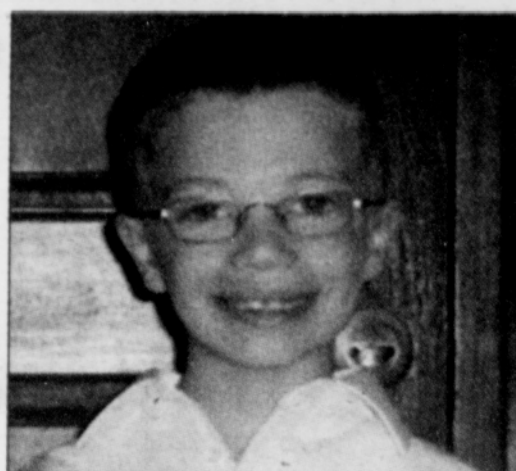
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Second Grader Vanishes

Desperate search widens
See story, page 3



Jefferson Closure Mulled

Board chair suggests downsize
See story, page 3

Making a Difference

Future leaders join fight against human trafficking

BY JAKE THOMAS
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Advocates taking aim at Portland's human trafficking and domestic violence issues have received some welcome support from students in a leadership class at Roosevelt High School.

Pressed with researching social, cultural or health issues and deciding how to best use an allotment of monies from a community foundation, the 25 students chose to bolster the front lines of some local groups helping victims.

Senior Ilena Allen had completed an internship the summer before with Multnomah County Commission Diane McKeel where she worked on issues of human trafficking and pitched the idea to others in the class, who were interested in tackling an issue the class hadn't looked at before.

"It was pretty straight forward choosing it," said Allen, who plans to go into nursing after graduation.

The students did some research

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Roosevelt students Jerome Smith (from left), Angel Gutierrez, Eddie Reyes, Angel Lezo, Jaime Duenas and Cristian Orozco tackle the issues of domestic violence and human trafficking as part of a leadership class.

Parole on Wheels

Pilot program aims for better supervision

BY JAKE THOMAS
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

It's about 10 a.m. in Old Town, when parole and probation officers Lisa Lewis and Ron Kates hit the streets. This time of day is when many of their clients are waking up in their single occupancy rooms in transitional housing buildings, or wherever they've bedded down for the night.

The officers want to check up on them to make sure they're not drinking, using drugs, and are generally keeping on the straight and narrow.

But during the last month, the routine of Lewis and Kates, along with three other probation officers with the Multnomah County Department of Community Justice, has been a bit different. Instead of spending hours pounding the pavement on foot or searching for parking spaces to get to tucked-away places their clients have sequestered themselves, they've taken to a new means of transportation.

In April, the Multnomah County Department

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PHOTO BY JAKE THOMAS/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Parole and probation officers Lisa Lewis and Ron Kates make their rounds in Old Town on bicycles, a pilot program to reach clients tucked-away in places not easily accessible.