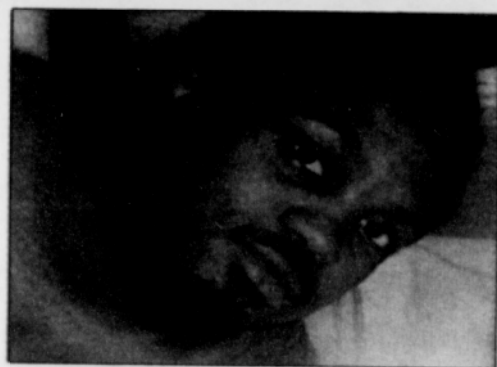




## Insufficient Evidence

No federal charges in Campbell shooting  
See story, page 3



## Keeping Theater in View

Housing plans raise issues in Hollywood  
See story, page 3



# The Portland Observer

41 years of community service

'City of Roses'



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## Emanuel Tower for Pediatric care Children's Hospital Rises

BY CARI HACHMANN  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A blur of neon orange and yellow illumine across giant glass windows that adorn the new lobby of Legacy Emanuel's soon to-be Children's Hospital as a group of construction workers file off-site for a lunch break.

Rising behind them, adjacent to the Legacy Emanuel Medical Center along North Gantenbein Avenue is the near complete, nine-story, 334,000 square foot and future 165-bed sustainable sanctuary of pediatric medical care.

Set to open in February, construction on the \$245 million-dollar hospital began after plans were made in 2005 to replace Legacy's current two-floor, 145-bed windowless children's wing.

"Our new home will be able to accommodate our region's children well into the future," said Dr. Molly Burchell, Legacy clinical health vice president of pediatrics. Receiv-

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PHOTO BY CARI HACHMANN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The sky reflects in the light-filled windows of Legacy Emanuel's new Children's Hospital in north Portland. Construction of the nine-story, \$245 million facility is near complete, with an opening due this February.

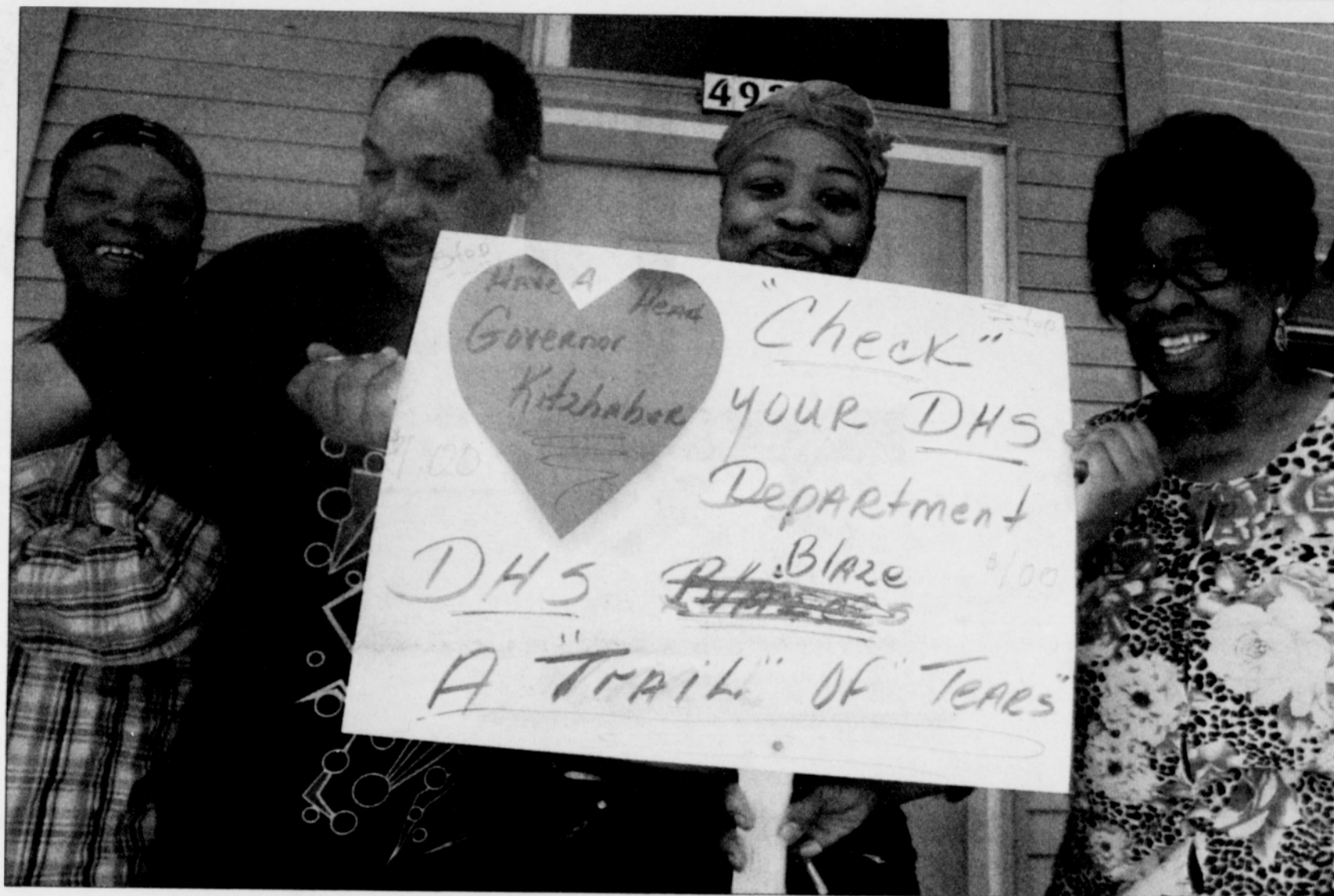


PHOTO BY MINDY COOPER/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A local family gathers on the front porch of their northeast Portland home to bring awareness to the issue of children in the state foster care who remain separated from their loved ones despite family members who want to care for them. Pictured from left are Wanda Griffin, Ricky White, Jawanda Griffin and Margaret Curtis.

## Family's plea: 'Give Us Our Children Back'

### Relatives pushed aside despite laws to keep families together

BY MINDY COOPER  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Demanding action, a small group of parents, grandparents and friends have gathered for weeks on the busy corner of Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Alberta Avenue to raise money to hire a lawyer and fight for their children who are in the custody of Oregon's foster care system.

In both rain and shine, the message is delivered on protest signs that read 'Give us our children back' and 'Do you know where your children are? We don't'.

Although both federal and state statutes exist to ensure reasonable efforts are made to keep children with their relatives and out of the foster care system, one Portland family explained their frustration with the efforts of Oregon's child welfare system, which they believe isn't giving them a fair chance.

Margaret Curtis, 67, the mother of six children, the great

grandmother of eight kids, and the adoptive parent of three of her grandchildren, has been working tirelessly to adopt or at the very least have regular visitations with her youngest great-grandchild Aveana, who has been in and out of foster homes since she was born almost three-years ago.

"We are protesting because the Department of Human Services has taken kids out of their homes, and most of them aren't returned from their foster or adoptive care," said Curtis. "If we could just see the baby twice a month, even that would be okay."

Baby Aveana was put into open adoption at the end of April against the consent of the family, and since then they have no idea where she is since visitation rights have been terminated.

Curtis, along with several of her adult family members, have offered to adopt the child and have completed several

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