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## Parade Celebrates Friends of Trees

Portland General Electric will team up with Friends of Trees for a float for Saturday's Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade.

The float's theme - Right Tree, Right Place, Right On! - celebrates Friends of Trees' "Plant It Portland!" campaign, a three-year project with a goal of planting 16,000 street trees in neighborhoods on the east side of the Willamette River.

Friends of Trees supporters will ride on the float, including north Portland resident Mary Harrell who has worked as the Friends of Trees office manager since 1995.



Mary Harrell

Harrell said the tree plantings improve both the look and health of communities.

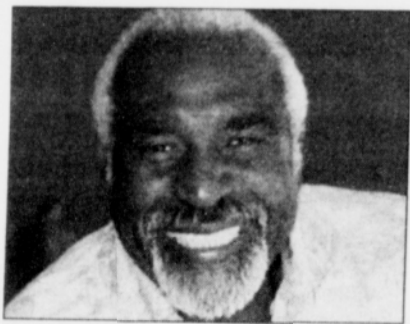
"The trees we plant may be small, but they grow up and make

a big difference," she said.

The "Plant It Portland!" campaign helps change the city from grey to green by bringing awareness to the need for street trees. The message is delivered through both whimsical graphics and grassroots efforts, including: yard signs, door hangers and community outreach.

According to Friends of Trees, PGE and its employees have supported the organization since its inception 22 years ago, volunteering thousands of hours and supporting their several neighborhood plantings and watershed restoration projects.

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## Law Supports Doulas in Childbirth

### Birth companion can improve pregnancy outcomes

Infant mortality among African-Americans in Oregon is two times higher than that of Caucasians. Studies show that this population group is less likely to receive adequate maternal care, and as a result, have higher incidences of infant mortality and premature births.

Monday, lawmakers in Salem passed a measure to direct the Oregon Health Authority to investigate how doulas can improve birth outcomes for women with disproportionately poor birth outcomes. The law, sponsored by Rep. Tina Kotek and Rep. Lew Frederick, Democrats from north and north-

east Portland, was sent to Gov. Kitzhaber's desk for signing.

"Doulas provide critical support for moms before, during and after birth," said Kotek. "Doulas help bring down costs in the health care system, by helping moms stay healthy and keeping their babies healthy."

Ilesha Johnson, who gave birth to her daughter on May 24 says she learned of a volunteer doula program at the International Center for Traditional Childbearing, a Portland group which helped pass the new law.

"My doula helped during my

pregnancy with transportation, foot massages, a listening ear and resources. She provided labor support, advocated for my birth plan and she stayed with me until the birth of my daughter. And she helped me after the birth with breastfeeding and parenting assistance. I highly recommend working with doula," Johnson said.

The legislation defines a doula as "a birth companion who provides personal, nonmedical support to women and families throughout a women's pregnancy, childbirth and post-partum experience."

## Housing Authority Changes Name

### 'Home Forward' promotes mission

The Housing Authority of Portland (HAP) has embarked on a new name, Home Forward, which it believes better reflects the organization identity as the largest housing provider for low income and disadvantaged populations in the state.

"During our strategic planning process last year, we found that our name was confusing to some partners," said Lee Moore, chair of the HAP Board of Commissioners.

"There was strong support for changing our name to strengthen relationships we currently have and establish those we want to develop."

The organization said its former name also was no longer a geographically accurate title because the agency serves all of Multnomah County, including the cities of Gresham, Fairview, Troutdale and other east county communities.

The public corporation has served the community for 70 years, providing safe, decent and affordable housing for individuals and

families who are challenged by income, disability or special needs.

The organization hopes the name Home Forward will better portray the organization's progressive, mission-based attributes and connect it with the community in a more meaningful way.

Steve Rudman, executive director, explained, "In developing the new name and identity, we are harnessing that momentum and re-emphasizing our commitment to engage our residents in moving their lives forward. Homes are just the beginning of that process."

## No Federal Charges in Campbell Case

continued **▲** from page 3

criminal civil rights laws, prosecutors must establish, beyond a reasonable doubt, that a law enforcement officer willfully deprived an individual of a constitutional right, meaning with the deliberate and specific intent to do something the law forbids. Neither accident, mistake, fear, negligence nor bad

judgment is sufficient to establish such a criminal violation, justice department officials said.

After a careful review of the facts, a team of federal prosecutors determined that the evidence was insufficient to prove, beyond a reasonable doubt, that the law enforcement personnel who fired at Campbell acted willfully, meaning with the deliberate and specific in-

tent to do something the law forbids.

The Justice Department said it was committed to investigations of allegations of excessive force by law enforcement officers and will continue to devote the resources required to ensure that all allegations of serious civil rights violations are fully and completely investigated.

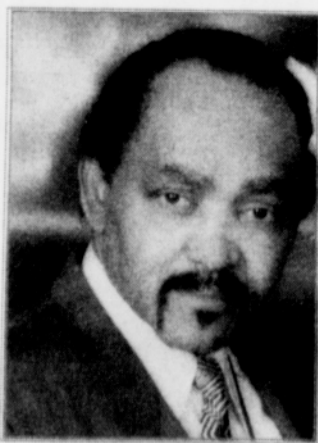
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