

The INSIDE

YEAR IN REVIEW pages 4-8

OPINION pages 6-7



METRO



page 9

HEALTH pages 10-11



Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

pages 12-15

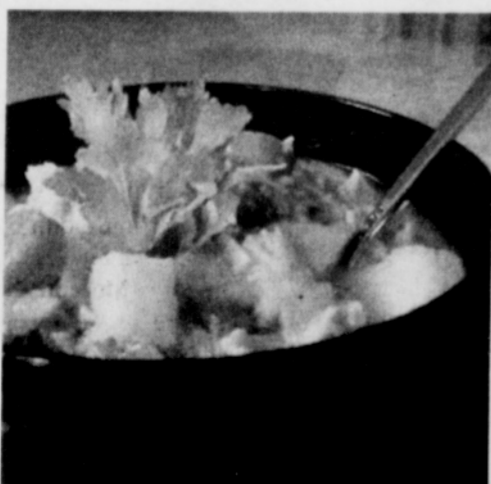
CLASSIFIEDS

page 16

SPORTS

pages 16-17

FOOD page 20



This page Sponsored by:

Fred Meyer

What's on your list today?

LOCAL NEWS

Activist Empowers Families

Helps Somali refugees build community ties

A local activist from the Somali-American community has been recognized by the Portland FBI for his many years of work promoting positive relationships between immigrants and law enforcement.

Musse Olol, chairman and spokesperson for the Somali American Council of Oregon, has been instrumental in organizing and leading efforts within the Somali community to build strong and positive relationships with public officials.

He is also known for his work as a volunteer in assisting new Somali refugee families as an interpreter, facilitator, counselor and co-sponsor.

"Mr. Olol has worked to empower Somali families," said Greg Fowler, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI

continued ▼ on page 8



Community activist Musse Olol (left) receives thanks for his work on promoting public understanding and collaboration between law enforcement and the Somali community from Greg Fowler, special agent in charge of the FBI in Oregon.

Church Lot Camping Test Passes

Homeless people in Portland will be allowed to camp in their cars in the parking lots of religious and nonprofit organizations under a test program approved last Wednesday by the City Council.

City commissioners voted for a one-year test of the idea, which is

much like a car camping program in Eugene.

Organizations could allow up to four cars, RVs or trailers, but not tents, provided they also follow several other rules, including displaying signs that tell neighbors they gave permission to the camp-

ers to sleep overnight; ensuring access to toilets and garbage pickup; and disallowing hookups to electricity, water and sewer service.

Portland Commissioner Nick Fish

continued ▼ on page 8



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Lifting Spirits this Season

The Portland Police Bureau and the new Randall Children's Hospital at Legacy Emanuel team up this year to provide sick children with toys and smiles to help lift their spirits this holiday season. Pictured (from left) are Sgt. Greg Pashley, David Yandell, Officer Jason Mills, Officer Chris Kulp, Officer Kevin Frazier, and Officer Mike Marshman.

Free Rides on New Year's Eve

A holiday tradition will return on New Year's Eve when TriMet offers free rides on buses and MAX.

Beginning at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Dec 31, riders can board buses and MAX at no cost. The transit system will run on regular Saturday schedules, and MAX will provide extended late-night service until about 3 a.m.

For complete TriMet schedules and trip planning visit trimet.org or call 503-238-RIDE(7433).