

Storm Arrives on Katrina Anniversary

Isaac bears down on New Orleans

(AP) - Isaac became a hurricane Tuesday that could flood the coasts of four states with storm surge and heavy rains on its way to New Orleans, where residents hunkered down behind levees fortified after Katrina struck seven years ago this week.

Shelters were open for those who chose to stay or missed the chance to get away before the outer bands of the large storm blow ashore ahead of a forecast landfall in southeast Louisiana on Tuesday night or early Wednesday. However, with the exception of some low-lying areas, officials had not ordered mass evacuations.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami said Isaac became a Category 1 hurricane Tuesday with winds of 75 mph. It could get stronger by the time it's expected to reach the swampy coast of southeast Louisiana.



A motorist drives through a flooded street on Tuesday, Aug. 28 in Bay St. Louis, Miss. (AP photo)

Forecasters warned that Isaac was a large storm whose effects could reach out 200 miles from its center. Water may be worse than wind because the storm could push walls of water while dumping rain to flood the low-lying coast in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and the Florida Panhandle.

So far, the main damage in the United States was political: Republi-

cans cut one day off their presidential nominating convention in Tampa in case the storm struck there, though in the end it bypassed the bayside city. Isaac is also testing elected officials along the Gulf from governors on down to show they're prepared for an emergency response.

Isaac's track is forecast to bring it to New Orleans seven years after Katrina hit as a much stronger storm

on Aug. 29, 2005.

This time, federal officials say the updated levees around the city are equipped to handle storms stronger than Isaac. The Army Corps of Engineers was given about \$14 billion to improve flood defenses, and most of the work has been completed. The levees surrounding New Orleans are designed to withstand far more than the fore-

cast 12-foot surge. And the city's flood control system can pump out an inch of water per hour for the first hour, and a half-inch of water each hour after that.

But with landfall expected near the Katrina anniversary, anxiety was high, especially in the Lower 9th Ward, wiped out by Katrina after floodwalls burst and let the waters rush in.

Mom Saves Child from Abductor

continued ▲ from page 3

him let go.

The struggle got the attention of the neighbors and the man ran away. The mother and neighbors chased him on foot and in a car to 164th and Clinton Street and tackled him and held him down until officers arrived.

The quick thinking of the girl's mom and concerned neighbors made all the difference is getting this dangerous suspect off the street, police said.

The suspect, 17-year-old Joel Miranda, was transported to the Donald E. Long Juvenile Detention Hall and lodged on the charge of Kidnap in the First Degree and Aggravated Harassment.

The Portland Police Bureau reminds parents to talk to their children about "stranger danger" to keep them safe.

TriMet Fares Rise Saturday

Beginning Saturday, Sept. 1, TriMet is eliminating all fare zones, including the Free Rail Zone and raising most fares in order to make up a \$12 million budget shortfall.

This change means that a valid fare will be required on MAX Light Rail in downtown Portland and the Lloyd District. The elimination of zones simplifies the fare system and riders can choose either a two-hour ticket or a day pass.

The price for a 2-hour adult ticket goes up to \$2.50. An adult day pass with unlimited rides is \$5. For some riders, the fares will remain the same.

Honored Citizen fares for those 65 and older or for people who qualify for Medicare and are disabled, the price for a 2-hour ticket remains at \$1.

TriMet is also setting aside \$1 million to mitigate the fare increases on low-income riders. TriMet will partner with social service agencies and non-profits to administer this program.

Beginning Sunday, Sept. 2, some bus routes will be reconfigured to also reduce TriMet costs. Low-ridership trips on eight lines will be eliminated, but extra buses will be added to seven lines to alleviate overcrowding.

Increase the Peace Rally

In remembrance of those who have been victims of violence, everyone is invited to an "Increase the Peace" community march and rally to be held Saturday, Sept. 8.

The march will start at 10 a.m. at Irving Park, located at Northeast Seventh Avenue and Fremont Street, before heading to Alberta Park at Northeast 22nd Avenue and Killingsworth Street. Activities will follow from 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. with motivational speakers, food, poetry and local music performances.

Volunteers are welcomed. For information, call 971-388-5313.

MLK Gateway Unveiled

continued ▲ from page 3

The four themes include: Community; Immigration; Civil Rights; and Commerce and Culture.

Mayor Sam Adams, who concluded the speakers of the ceremony, said although the gateway serves as a reminder of how far Portland has come, he said the new project should also stand as a reminder of how much father there is to go for equity.

This is a fitting tribute, he said. "And it serves as an active reminder of the work left undone. There is still too much separateness."

Other community attendees at the event included neighborhood activist Pauline Bradford, State Rep.

Lew Frederick, and northeast community leader Paul Knauls.

"We are the only city in the county with a statue of Martin Luther King Jr. on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.," said Knauls, a member of the project committee.

"I am very excited to see this important history be available in a public space for anyone to come by and learn what this community has been about for many years," said project historian Janice Dilg, who has lived in northeast Portland since the 70s. "It is great to see it have evolved into reality."

Community resident Brenda Polk agreed. "It is just a wonderful tribute to Dr. King," she said.

imagine yourself working for clean rivers . . .

Green Streets filter stormwater to protect our rivers and streams. The city keeps Green Streets working and welcomes your help with care and upkeep.



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY OF PORTLAND
working for clean rivers

Become a
Green Street Steward
portlandonline.com/bes/GreenStreetStewards