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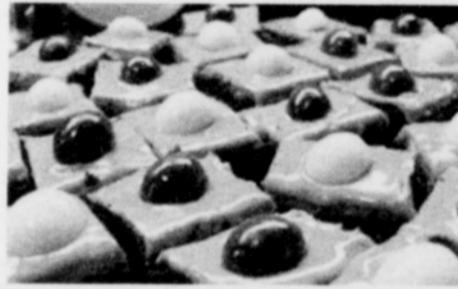
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What's on your list today?

LOCAL NEWS



PHOTO BY CARI HACHMANN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Paul Harris (left) and James Griener, a couple for almost 40 years, were first in line to receive a marriage license in Clark County Thursday, the first day same-sex marriages became legal in the state after Washington voters approved a ballot measure in November to enact the law.

Freedom to Marry

Same-sex couples line up for licenses

BY CARI HACHMANN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A rare jubilation was in the air Thursday at the Clark County auditor's office in Vancouver, where for the first time in history, same-sex couples could legally apply to be

married in the state of Washington.

Several couples arrived the night before, braving the cold for a midnight celebration and waiting in line until the doors opened at 8 a.m. By midday, 40 same-sex couples had provided the necessary documents

and paid the \$64 to bind them in legal matrimony.

The first in line was Clark County Marriage License Manager Paul Harris. After 27 years of issuing

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Young Males Armed with Guns

Three incidents in recent days raise concerns

A 7-year-old and 11-year-old used a gun in an attempted carjacking at a southeast Portland church Saturday, adding to separate incidents in the past few days of a young male arrested with a gun at Jefferson High School, and another teenager arrested with multiple firearms at his home in north Portland.

Ami Garrett was sitting in her

vehicle outside the Freedom Four-square Church at 16000 S.E. Alder St. when the two boys approached her vehicle and threatened to shoot her if she didn't give them something.

She told police that when the younger male told the older one to "show her your piece," the boy lifted his shirt and showed her a gun.

The woman refused to give them anything and drove away, calling 9-1-1. As she pulled away she saw the 11-year-old pull the gun from his pocket.

Police were able to make contact with the pair. The 11-year-old was ordered to keep his hands out of his

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