

Lasting^{the} Summer

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rowdy crowds loitering after-hours, litter, illegal parking and public urination.

To ensure the party doesn't get out of hand, Friends of Last Thursday will manage the logistics of street closures, security, trash pickups, recycling and visitor information. They meet with the city every month to keep updated with city guidelines.

High costs for police officers to work extra hours in the event's past have led the friends group to acquire their own paid security or "neighborhood ambassadors," as they call them.

During peak summer months, nearly 17,000 people flock to Last Thursday to experience its wild gamut of food vendors, artists and entertainers, from the psychedelic painters and crochet crafters that line the sidewalks to the street acrobats, jugglers and bands who fill the center.

New this year, starting in May, Friends of Last Thursday is asking fees for all non-artist vendors. The goal is to put more emphasis on art and less on other money-making ventures.

"I moved to this neighborhood because of Last Thursday," said Maquette Reeverts, a volunteer with the organization and artist-owner of Six Days Gallery on Alberta. "We thought it was very important to keep it free for performers and musicians and keep that history of keeping it free and a low-barrier entrance for artists and creatives," she said.

The sizes of booths will determine the final fees paid as well as any extra support. Food carts will be corralled into designated nooks in an effort to clear out the street and allow more space for street performers. Non-profit organizations servicing the immediate neighborhoods are allowed a 4 foot table space.

Each month, it costs Friends of Last Thursday just below \$4,000 to run the event. The group says it often has to scrounge for the revenue.

To earn a little money, the group is kicking off an Alberta Bar Crawl to take place between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Last Thursday, April 25. Teams of four (anyone 21-and-over can sign up), distinguished by their team costumes, will travel down Alberta Street to get stamped at each of 10 participating bars, which will offer drink specials, live music, entertainment and prizes.

Each participating merchant will also donate a share of their night's proceeds to help service future Last Thursday events. Sign up early at Black Cat Café, 1203 N.E. Alberta St., or Al Forno Ferruzza, 2738 N.E. Alberta St.

Friends of Last Thursday will also hold a fundraiser from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Last Thursday, this week on March 28 at Bernie's Southern Bistro, 2904 N.E. Alberta St.

Reeverts said the group is also looking for summer volunteers to help with security and street operations.

"We are trying to let artists know this is their event and we want them to be a part of it," she said.

For more information, email Info@LastThursdayonAlberta.com.

Victim Remembered One Year Later

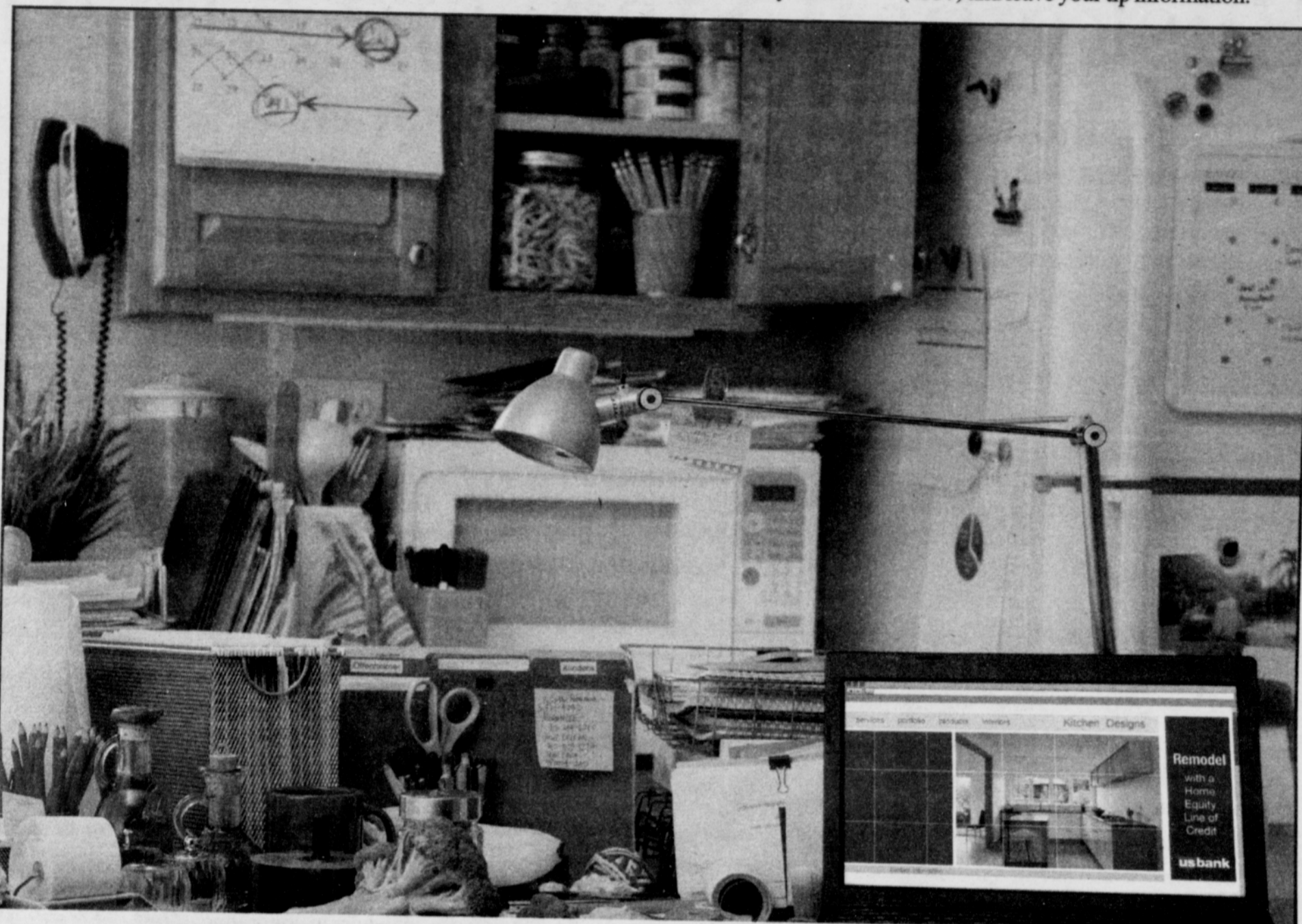
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Luther King Jr. Boulevard and San Rafael. His uncle and a woman friend of the uncle were driving him to the hospital, authorities

said.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, that leads to an arrest in Taylor's case. Informants can remain anonymous.

Leave a Crime Stoppers tip online at crimestoppersoforegon.com, text CRIMES (274637) and in the subject line put 823HELP, followed by your tip, or called 503-823-HELP (4357) and leave your tip information.



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