

# The INSIDE

The Week in Review Page 2

CALENDAR Page 4

HOUSING page 6 

RELIGION page 7

OPINION pages 8-9 

METRO Page 11 

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT pages 12-16 

ALL STAR CLASSIC pages 16-17 

CLASSIFIEDS pages 17-19

This page Sponsored by: **Fred Meyer**

What's on your list today?

## LOCAL NEWS

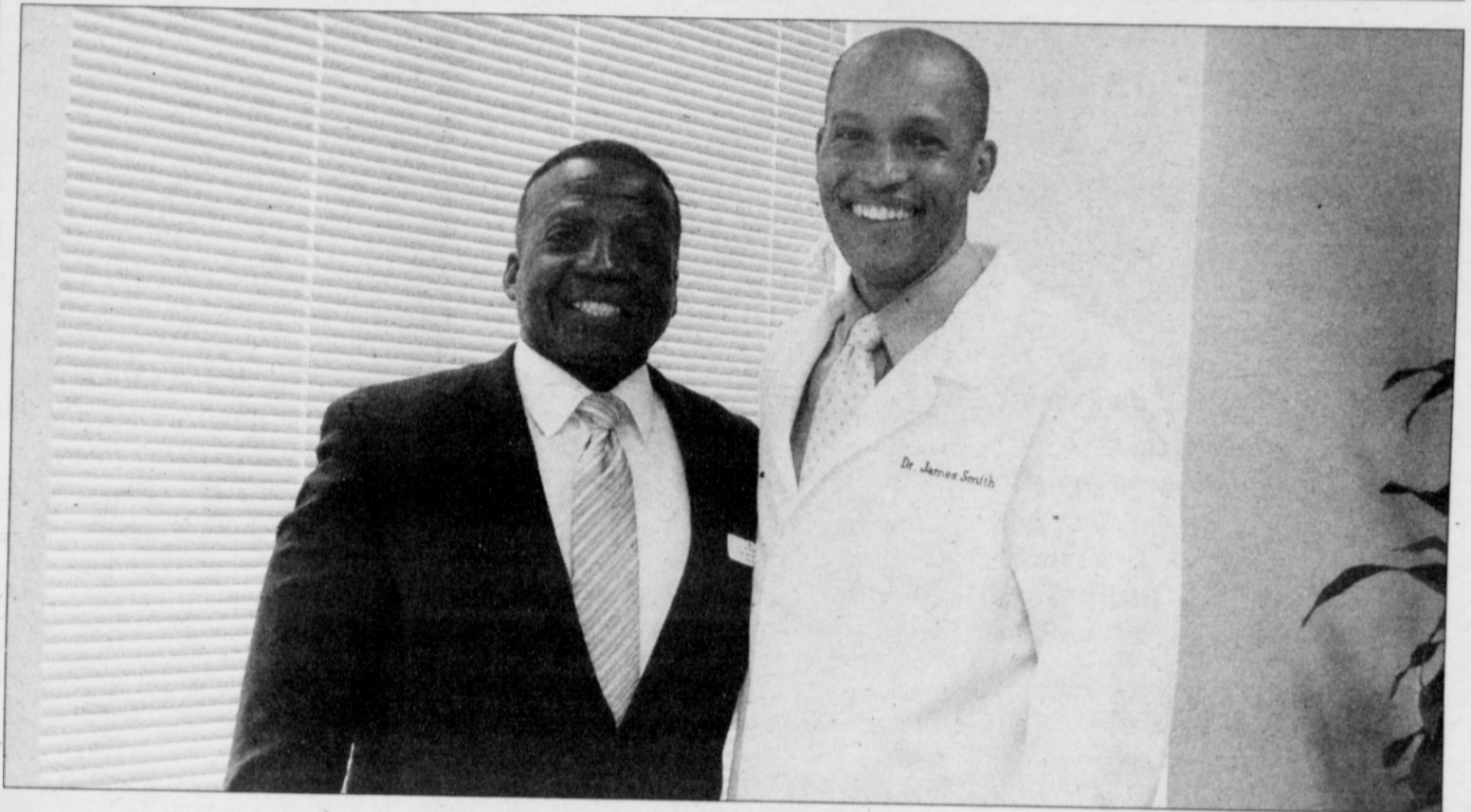


PHOTO BY DONOVAN M. SMITH/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Dentists at Kaiser Permanente, Dr. Kenneth Wright (left) and Dr. James Smith, are united in their support for a ballot measure that would permit the city of Portland to add fluoride to the water supply.

### Worth Fighting For

#### Portland dentists add their voices to the debate

BY DONOVAN M. SMITH  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Dr. Kenneth Wright and Dr. James Smith make no quarrel about it, they want Portland's water supply fluoridated. The two Portland residents who have over 60 years of dentistry between them are voicing their support for Ballot Measure 26-151.

Being two dentists who also happen to be African-American they are not only an anomaly in their profession, but they are also dead center on one side of heated arguments that has divided minority groups in Portland. The dentists say fluoridation is worth fighting for as part of the effort to deliver much needed dental care to the public.

Dr. Smith knows the city well; he has walked the halls of Humboldt and Jefferson alike reflecting on those days with a particular fondness. Becoming a dentist was not what he had envisioned for himself, but when a former Jefferson teacher he admired in-

quired to him why not, the possibility became tangible to him until it seemingly became his only option.

After receiving his degree from Jefferson High, he successfully pursued an education in dentistry at OHSU. Smith says the opportunity came from the encouragement from those around him, "There was a lot of community support to do that, and to do things I didn't know if I was able to achieve; people were very supportive and influential in that.

Smith recalls his first time participating in "Mission of Mercy" where dentists deliver much needed dental care to some of the city's most vulnerable citizens, completely free of charge.

"That just really brought to the forefront the fact there's so many people who don't have dental care, who suffer tremendously," he said.

Dr. Wright originates from New York City. Flashing back to early childhood, he remembers standing in the welfare lines with his mother to receive blocks of government-funded cheese. But he says it was having fluorinated water as a child that gave him a good start

continued ▼ on page 5

### Help Growing Area Businesses

The Portland Developmental is aiming to help small businesses in Portland achieve success by tapping into the power of partnerships.

On Thursday, May 30, the North/Northeast Economic Development Summit will include sessions with local experts, and provide access to some vital resources for any small business or community organizations. Topics include properly focusing your investments, and the



Michael C. Bush

best way to promote the advantages of your small business.

The event will be held at the Convention Center and will feature Michael C. Bush, serial entrepreneur and founder of The 8 Factors. Other speakers will include Mayor Charlie Hales and Patrick Quinton, executive director of the PDC. To register or for more information, visit [NEDsummit2013.eventbrite.com](http://NEDsummit2013.eventbrite.com).