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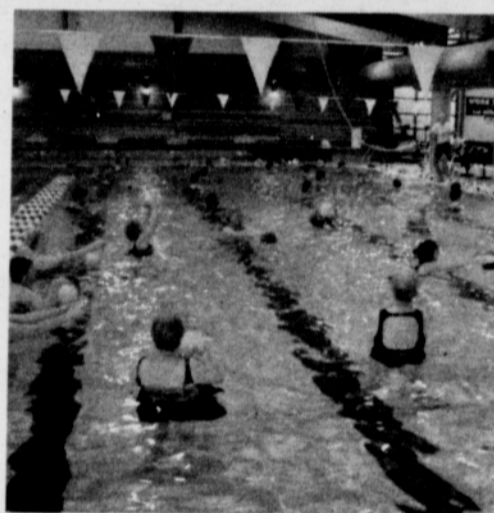
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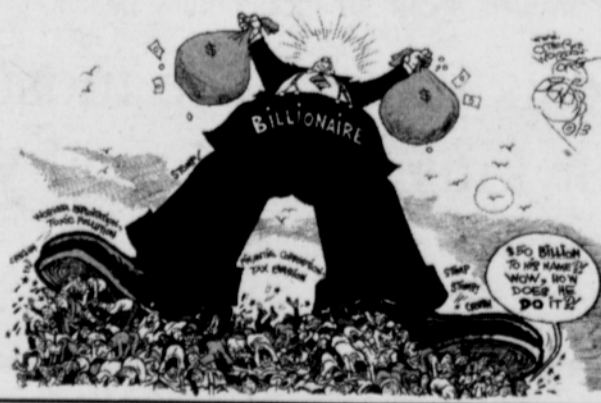


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What's on your list today?

LOCAL NEWS

Severe Flu Cases Hit

Officials say it's not too late for flu shots

Influenza is currently circulating in our community and causing serious illness even in healthy people.

Dr. Jennifer Vines, health officer for Washington County and deputy health officer for Multnomah and Clackamas counties, says the number of people being hospitalized for influenza is rising.

"The numbers are increasing and we are seeing more severe

cases of the flu," she said. "We are seeing healthy persons require hospitalization."

As of Monday, seven people have died from the flu in the Portland metro area. There have been 179 flu-related visits to the hospital this flu season.

Officials said the H1N1 virus is the predominant strain of flu that's been detected, hitting the young and the middle-aged hard.

Small actions can make a big difference in keeping you and others from a serious infection.

Dr. Vines recommends you get a flu shot, which is available at your primary care provider or pharmacies. You are also advised

to stay home if you become sick; cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or your arm when you cough or sneeze; and throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.

Prevention also comes with washing your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are also effective. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way. And try to avoid close contact with sick people.

For more information, call the Oregon Flu Hotline at 1-800-978-3040 or go to flu.oregon.gov.

Community Leader Nominated

Mayor turns to Tom Kelly to fill vacancy on PDC

A longtime north and northeast Portland business owner known for his community activism has been nominated to serve on the board that directs the city's economic development and urban renewal initiatives.

Portland Mayor Charlie Hales Thursday nominated Tom Kelly, president of the Neil Kelly Co., to serve on the Portland Development Commission. The appointment requires approval of the Portland City Council.

Kelly would serve a four-year term. If approved, he replaces Steven Strauss on the five-member commission. Strauss, whose term was set to end this summer, is leaving the position early to focus on his

work as president of Glumac. "Tom is a great example of a Portlander who lives his values, including in his business," Hales said. "He has credibility and is knowledgeable, both statewide and right there in his company's neighborhood base in north and



Tom Kelly

Northeast Portland."

The Neil Kelly Co. is a design-build-remodeling firm founded by and named after Tom's father. It is the largest

remodeling firm in the Pacific Northwest, with 180 employees.

Tom Kelly would be a second-generation PDC commissioner. His father, Neil Kelly, who died in 1995, was also very active in public service work and served on the PDC from 1985 to 1990.

Tom Kelly won the 2012 Hope and Liberty Award from the Oregon League of Minority Voters; the 2011 Fred Case Entrepreneur of the Year Award; and the 2010 Dean's Award for Family Business Leadership from Oregon State University. He has chaired the board of Loaves & Fishes; is a past chairman of Volunteers of America of Portland; co-chaired Oregon Solutions effort to build a new school in Vernonia after flooding in 2007; was founding chairman of Oregon Business Association; and served on the Habitat for Humanity capital campaign committee.

Correction: Black Pioneers Honors

Five Portlanders were recently honored by Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives in their work to make for a better community. In last week's coverage of the awards (Honoring Black Pioneers, Jan. 1 issue) we mistakenly indicated that the honored individuals were deceased. Charles Jordan and Pauline Bradford, both 87, are in fact still living and continue to reside in Portland. The Portland Observer regrets the error.