

Say Goodbye to Trader Joe's

Specialty grocer issues final "no" to MLK and Alberta

It's official, Trader Joe's is out of a development deal that would have brought the specialty grocer to a lot on Martin Luther King Boulevard and Alberta Street.

Portland Mayor Charlie Hales made the announcement in a news release Tuesday. He said he got the final rejection from Trader Joe's in a phone call on Friday.

The lot, which has been vacant for around a decade, was picked to be developed by Majestic Realty of Los

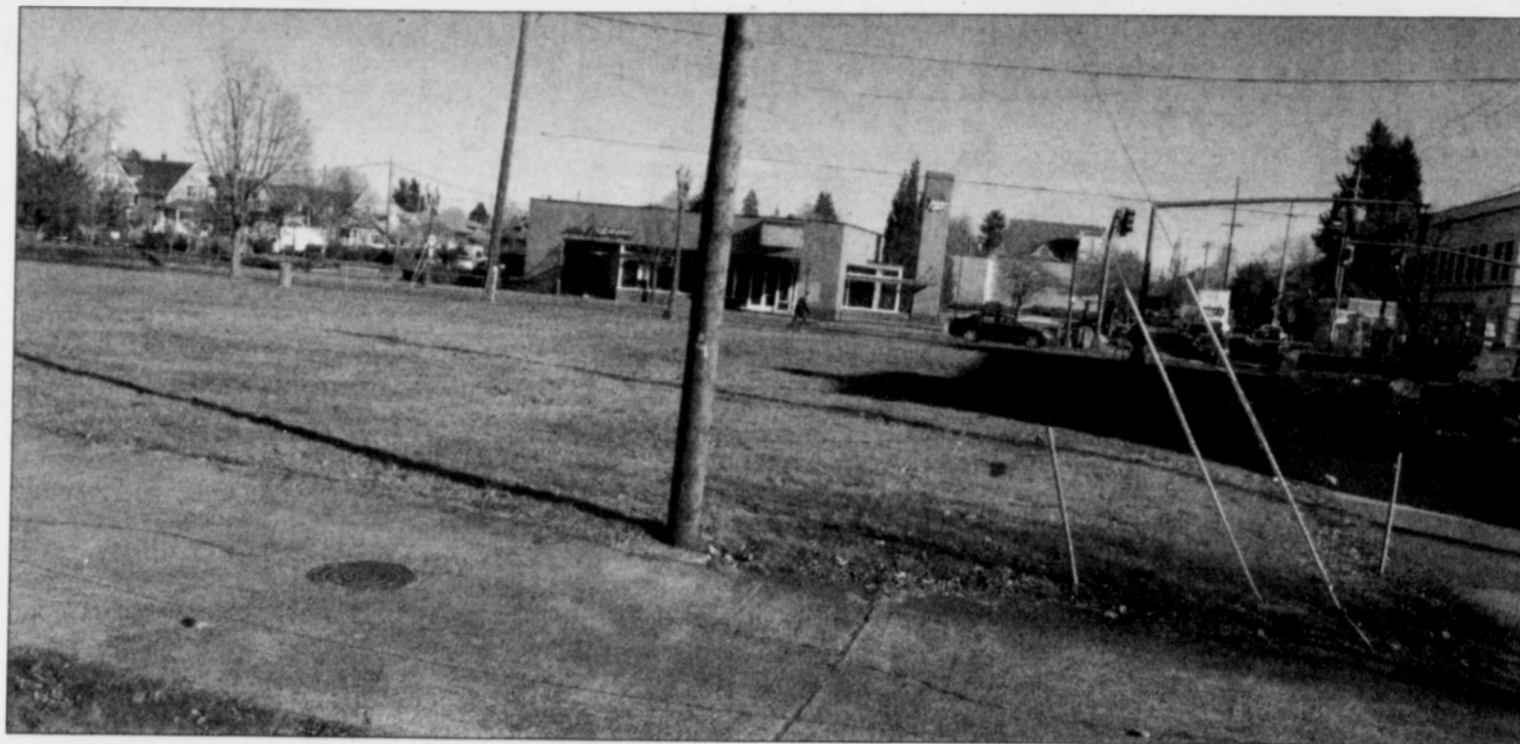


PHOTO BY DONOVAN M. SMITH/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A vacant lot on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Alberta Street awaits development. Mayor Charlie Hales announced Tuesday that he was not successful in an effort to get Trader Joe's to reconsider building a store on the site.

Angeles for bringing in a major retail anchor that would serve as an adjacent commerce hub to Vanport Square.

The proposed deal was brokered by the Portland Development Commission and announced last November, but pushback came primarily from the Portland African American Leadership Forum, a group of local activists who called for affordable housing to be included in the 2-acre site.

Citing negative community concerns, Joe's announced in February that they would not continue with the plans. Hales tried to revive the deal.

He says Majestic Realty Co. will stay on for future plans to develop the space in some capacity saying, "Majestic knows the site, they know the players, and they know the issues of concern. If we want to fast-track a development that meets the needs of the neighbors, the business community, and the city, then Majestic should take the lead."

Sheriffs Pivot on Immigration

Multnomah and others pull back on jail holds

Sheriffs in Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington counties announced last week that they will immediately suspend the practice of honoring requests from federal immigration enforcement to hold individuals in their jail without probable cause.

This is in response to the Miranda-Olivares decisions set forth by the U.S. District Court of Oregon.

An Immigration Customs Enforcement "ICE" detainer is used by fed-

eral government to apprehend individuals who come in contact with local and state law enforcement agencies. The detainees are written requests that a local jail or other law enforcement agency hold a person for 48 hours after his or her release date for the government to decide whether to take him into federal custody and begin formal deportation proceedings.

Marion County Sheriff Jason Myers released this statement in response to his decision, "the Marion County Jail will no longer hold inmates pursuant to an Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainer alone. ICE may issue or forward a federal judicial warrant or order au-

thorizing a suspended alien's detention, and the jail will honor such warrants and orders. Jail staff will continue to collect and submit information to ICE regarding foreign-born arrestees, but will not place holds upon such arrestees unless a judicial warrant or court order is received authorizing detention."

Carmen Madrid, the organizing director for the Center for Intercultural Organizing in Washington County, says this policy changes move the region in the "right direction."

"This will undoubtedly improve the relationship between each of these offices and immigrant and refugee communities," Madrid says.

The Week in Review

Fired Administrator will Sue

Portland's former chief administration officer, Jack D. Graham, announced last week that he plans to sue the city for racial discrimination, defamation, and a lack of due process tied to his firing. Mayor Charlie Hales fired Graham in November because of controversies involving the Office of Management and Finance that Graham supervised.

Easter Sunday Assault

Police were called when two women who attended an Easter Sunday service at Oliver Elementary School in southeast Portland, where the Life Restoration Church holds church service, got into an altercation Sunday. The victim was cut with a knife. The suspect was arrested for assault.

Affirmative Action Repeal

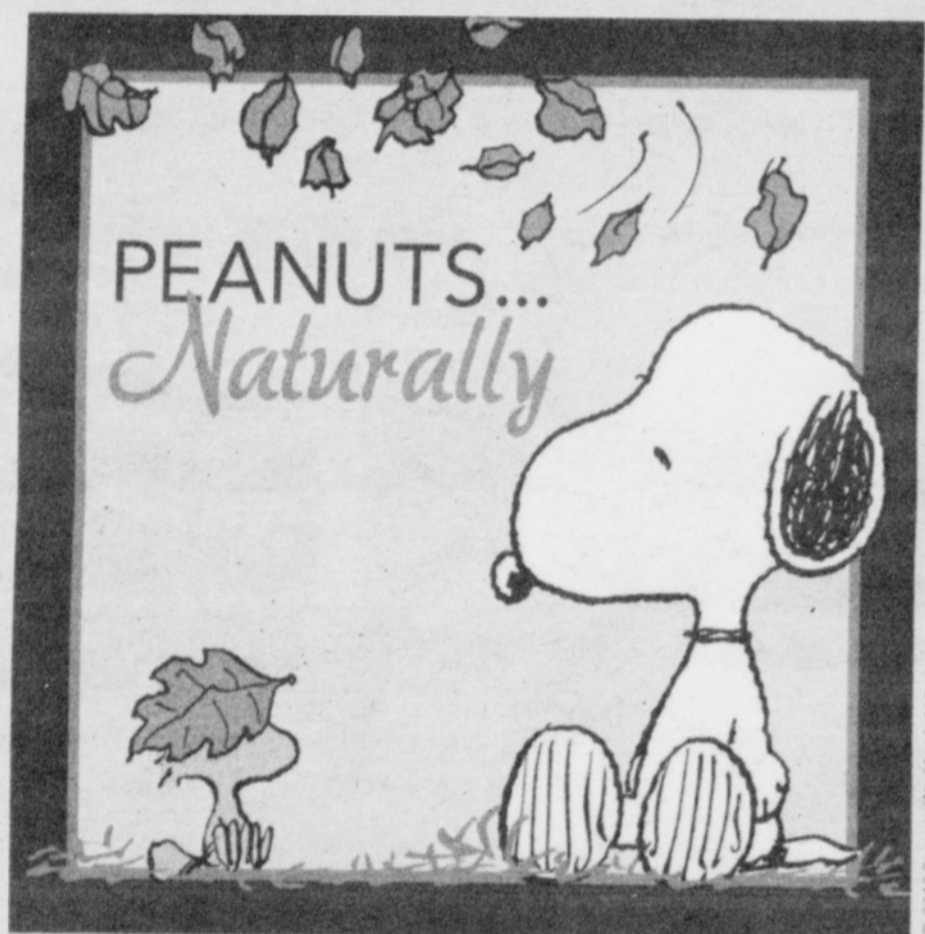
The Supreme Court on Tuesday ruled by a 6-2 vote that Michigan voters had a right to ban affirmative action in their state via a ballot initiative. The decision is a blow to the use of racial preferences in higher education but not an outright ban.

K9 Shooting Suspect

A 20-year-old man accused of shooting a Portland police officer in the legs and killing the officer's K9 dog made his first court appearance on Monday. Police say the man and two other suspects were on a crime spree preceding last week's shooting.

TriMet Ticket Forger Busted

Efren Escarsega Jr. was arrested April 16 accused of forging more than 1,000 TriMet passes with stolen ticket stock. He faces multiple crimes, including first-degree theft and conspiracy to commit forgery.



A light-hearted look at Charles Schulz's exploration of the natural world.

Delighting us all through May 4

DISCOVERY MUSEUM



www.worldforestry.org

The Portland Observer Established 1970

USPS 959-680

4747 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Portland, OR 97211

PUBLISHER: Mark Washington, Sr.

EDITOR: Michael Leighton

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Rakeem Washington

CREATIVE DIRECTOR: Paul Neufeldt

OFFICE MANAGER/CLASSIFIEDS: Lucinda Baldwin

ADVERTISING MANAGER: Leonard Latin

REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER: Donovan M. Smith

The Portland Observer welcomes freelance submissions. Manuscripts and photographs should be clearly labeled and will be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed envelope. All created design display ads become the sole property of the newspaper and cannot be used in other publications or personal usage without the written consent of the general manager, unless the client has purchased the composition of such ad. © 2008 THE PORTLAND OBSERVER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED. The Portland Observer—Oregon's Oldest Multicultural Publication—is a member of the National Newspaper Association—Founded in 1885, and The National Advertising Representative Amalgamated Publishers, Inc, New York, NY, and The West Coast Black Publishers Association

CALL 503-288-0033 FAX 503-288-0015

news@portlandobserver.com

ads@portlandobserver.com

subscription@portlandobserver.com

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Portland Observer, PO Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208