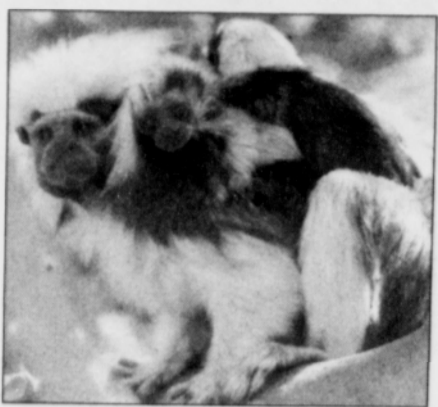


The Week in Review

Six Monkeys Die at Zoo

During quarantine at the Oregon Zoo, six monkeys died on May 25. The cotton-top tamarins all arrived at the zoo just a few days earlier and died of unknown causes, a zoo spokesman said.



TriMet Driver Saves Toddler

While driving in Gresham, TriMet bus driver Bill Clark saw a barefoot toddler wandering in traffic on a busy road and quickly pulled over. He took the boy's hand, brought him on the bus, and called authorities; the child was later returned to his father.

Street Fee Protest

Citizens packed into Portland City Hall on Thursday to protest of a proposed street fee; one that could cost homeowners up to \$144 a year. Mayor Hales and Commissioner Steve Novick say the fee is needed to

keep up with maintenance and is a safety issue.

Man Killed By Tree

A 72-year-old Klamath Falls man died while cutting down a tree. He was about 20 feet from the tree's base which was about a foot in diameter.

Chicago Gunfire Goes Silent

During the Memorial Day weekend, Chicago and its 2.7 million residents went 42 hours without a single gunshot reported. The peacefulness is credited in part to Chicago-bred artist Chance the Rapper launching a viral campaign with his father promoting community with the hashtag #SaveChicago.

Spelling Bee Tie

For the first time in 52 years, the Scripps National Spelling Bee found two boys sharing the title last week. Sriram Hathwar of Painted Post, N.Y., and Ansun Sujoe of Fort Worth, Texas, got back-to-back words wrong, each giving a reprieve to the other. Neither stumbled again, and a dozen words later, they ended up as co-champions.



New Grocer Bids for MLK Lot

PDC updates plans at open meeting

Plans by the Portland Development Commission to develop a long-vacant lot on Martin Luther King Boulevard and Alberta Street are moving forward with many of the same players involved before a community protest caused grocer Trader Joes to pull out of the bidding.

PDC Executive Director Patrick Quinton announced at an open community meeting at the adjacent Curious Comedy club last Wednesday evening that California developer Majestic Realty Co. and local minority contractor Colas Construction would be staying on board as participants in the venture.

Negotiations are currently underway among unnamed grocers that PDC is purposely keeping under-wraps. Quinton says it's not a definite deadline, but PDC is giving Majestic Realty Co. about 90 days to come back with a desired proposal for the land that would include another grocer as anchor tenant.

He said the plans respond to past and present calls from the King Neighborhood to bring an anchor tenant grocer to the site for the small businesses in the adjacent Vanport

Square, many of whom have been struggling financially for years.

The agency will continue to offer a \$2.4 million reduction in price for the land as an incentive.

Protests erupted from some in the African American community after the deal with Trader Joes was announced expressing concerns on how the deal was formulated and that it could cause further displacement of blacks in the area.

These protests are likely what caused Trader Joes to later pull out. Subsequently, Mayor Charlie Hales convened about 50 leaders from the local black community, business owners, and stakeholders in April to discuss the lot's future and future plans for affordable housing. Hales pledged an additional \$20 million towards affordable housing at the end of that meeting.

As PDC looks to break ground within the next 10 to 12 months, Quinton also said he wanted to put together a 20 to 30 person "project working group" that would create a community benefits agreement with Majestic and Colas.

The Portland Observer will provide more updates as they come.

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Correction: Students from Grant

The schools of two of 21 outstanding students featured in our May 28 issue (Young, Gifted and Black) were not correctly identified. Both Javon Carter and Taylor Hall-Debnam attend Grant High School. The Portland Observer regrets the errors.

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