# The Portland Observer

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The Week in Review

#### **Fireworks Sales Begin**

Fireworks sales officially began in Oregon Monday in preparation for Independence Day on July 4. Legal fireworks in Oregon are required to stay on the ground, reducing their risk of getting out of control. Illegal types include aerial fireworks and explosives, like bottle rockets.

#### Women's Rights on Ballot

A proposed equal-rights amendment for women has qualified for Oregon's November ballot, the secretary of state's office said Monday. An Oregon Supreme Court ruling provides protection against gender-based discrimination, but amendment advocates say it's important for women's rights to be enshrined in the constitution.



Seattle's First Female Chief Monday, the Seattle City Council gave final approval to hiring Kathleen O'Toole as the city's new police chief, making her the first female to hold the position. The 59-year-old former Boston police officer and police commissioner, will be overseeing about 1,300 officers in Seattle.

# 'Back in the Day' Reunion Carwash

#### **50 Pounds of Cocaine Found**

A motorist from Vancouver, B.C. was arrested Friday on I-5 near Delta Park after police discovered 50 pounds of cocaine in his rental vehicle during a pullover. Police said the street value of the cocaine was about \$420,000 in the U.S. and around \$920,000 where they "believe the drugs were going."

#### Journalists Imprisoned in Egypt

An Egyptian court Monday convicted three Al-Jazeera journalists and sentenced them to seven years in prison each on terrorism-related charges. Media groups have called the trial political, part of a fight between the government and the Qatar-based Al-Jazeera network, which authorities accuse of bias toward the Muslim Brotherhood and Morsi.

#### **No Progress for Missing Girls**

Nigeria reportedly closed its investigation Friday of the kidnapping of more than 200 schoolgirls, with little progress made in recovering the young women, who were kidnapped by Boko Haram militants from their secondary school in northeast Borno State last April.

#### **Illness Ends Player's NBA Hopes**

Just days before the 2014 NBA draft, Isaiah Austin the 7'1" center from Baylor announced he has been diagnosed with Marfan syndrome, a career-ending illness caused by a genetic mutation that leads to problems in connective tissues throughout the body. Austin was projected to be the first player to play in the NBA while partially blind.

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## **To Place Your Classified Advertisement**

Contact: Phone: 503-288-0033 Fax: 503-288-0015 e-mail: classifieds@portlandobserver.com "Back in the Day Reunion" volunteers will wash cars to help raise donations for their third annual celebration of Vancouver's black families later this summer. The carwash will take placer Saturday, June 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the parking lot of Lord's Gym, 2410 Grand Ave. at Fourth Plain Boulevard. The public also is welcome to attend the reunion, set for noon to 5 p.m. on Aug.
9 at Marshall Park, 1510 McLoughlin Blvd. Watch for more details to come. Former classmates from Vancouver's first African American families, who were drawn to Vancouver in the 1940s by wartime jobs and made the city their home, planned the first reunion in 2012 after a book of family memories was published by the Vancouver branch of the NAACP.

The book, "First Families of Vancouver's African American Community: From World War Two to the Twenty-First Century," is currently available at Vintage Books in Vancouver, with plans unde way for an online version.

For more information, contact Ralph Griffin at 360-980-6203 or Juanita Young at 360-521-4890.

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