

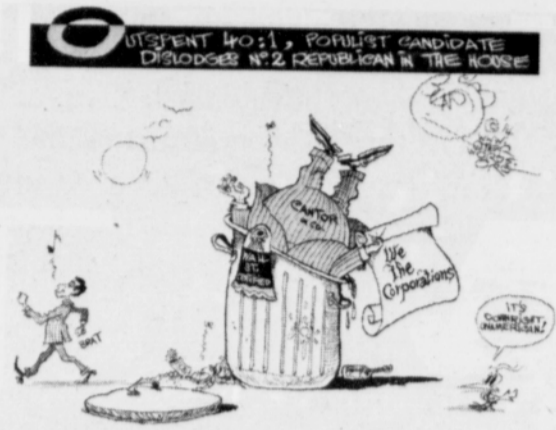
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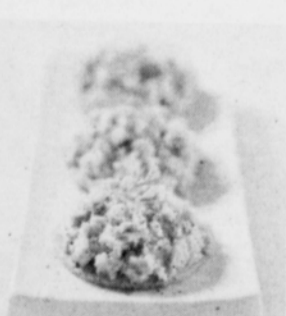
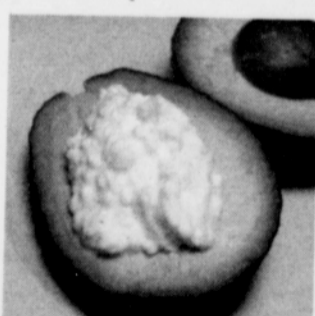
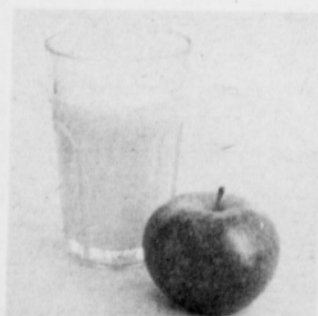


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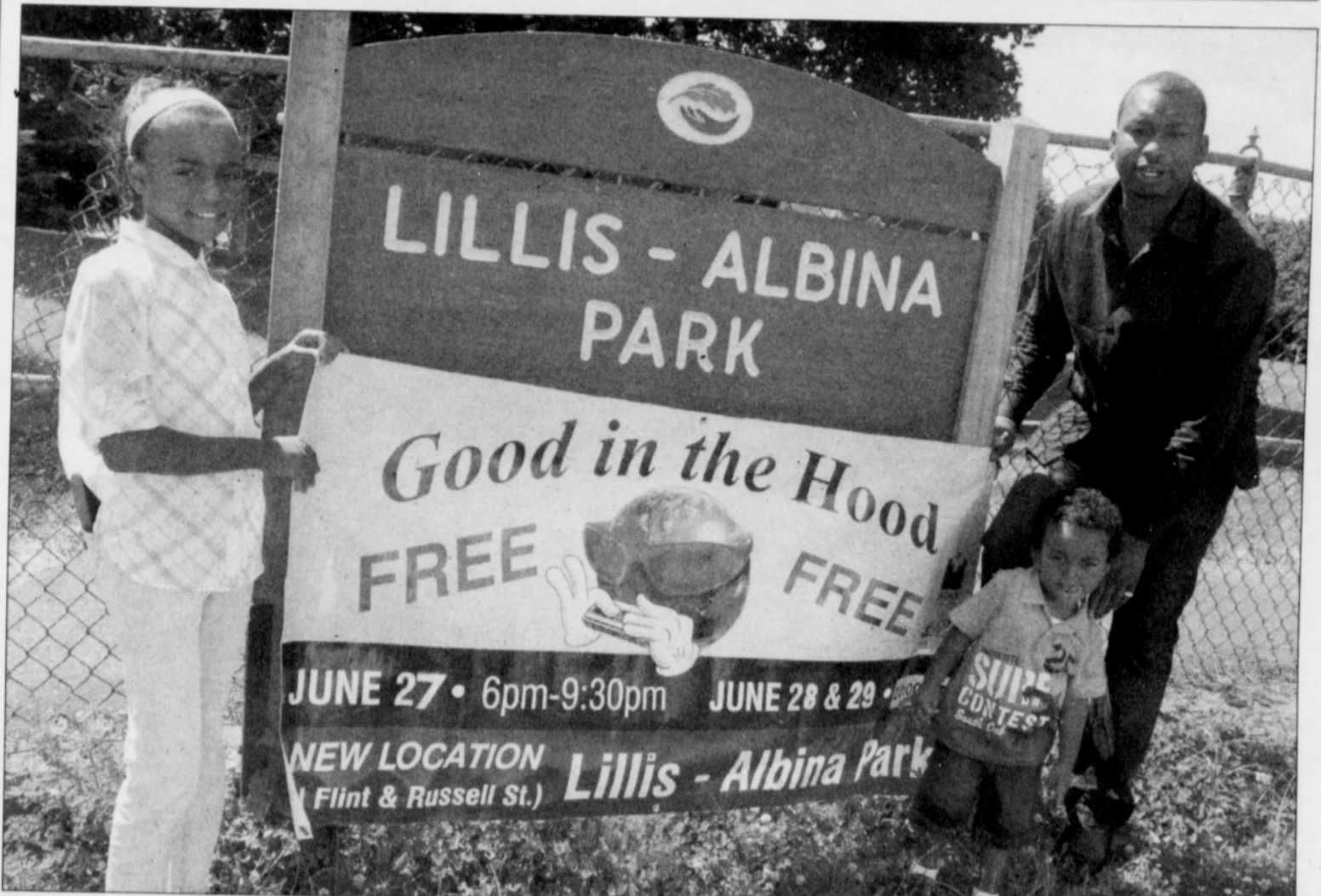
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What's on your list today?

LOCAL NEWS



BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Shawn Penny (top right), with son Shawn Jr. and daughter Sydney, encourage participation in the family-friendly Good in the Hood Festival this weekend at Lillis Albina Park, located at North Flint Avenue and Russell Street. Penny serves as president of the multicultural celebration which opens Friday, June 27 and continues through Sunday, June 29. Highlights include live music with among others, will feature a parade, and a host of other activities.

It's Good in The Hood!

Multicultural festival showcases north and northeast neighborhoods

For over two decades, the Good in the Hood Festival has shined a light on the vibrancy of the north and northeast side of Portland, and this year is no different.

The three-day multicultural festival, an official event of the Portland Rose Festival, opens Friday, June 27 and continues through Sunday, June 29. There will be live music consisting of Jazz, Blues, R&B, Latin, and Hip Hop; great food; and a multiple of activities for the whole family, including a 3 on

3 basketball tournament, information village and a beer and wine garden.

A Good in the Hood parade hosted by the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods is held on Saturday, June 28 at 11 a.m. The parade will roll out of King School Park, located just south of Northeast Alberta Street at Seventh Avenue, and end at North Flint and Russell Street next to Tubman Middle School. Children will toss candy out to the audience along the route.

The final day of the festival will begin at 10 a.m. and close out at 7 p.m. The entire event is for all ages and open to the community

For more information, contact Good in the Hood President Shawn Penny at 503-756-1926 or visit goodintheneighborhood.org.

Micro Loans Helping Minority Firms

The Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs was recently recognized by the Small Business Administration as the number one micro lender in the Pacific Northwest, and seventh nationally among 178 micro lenders in the country.

OAME micro loans help women, minority and emerging small businesses in Oregon and southwest Washington access the short term capital they need to become successful.

The award results were announced at the SBA Microloan Pro-

gram Training Conference in Detroit, Mich. OAME President Jorge Guerra and Program Director Matt Rutter accepted the award on behalf of the OAME membership. OAME has been in existence for over 27 years, helping promote and develop minority entrepreneurship and economic development in the State of Oregon. OAME works in partnership between ethnic minorities, entrepreneurs, education, government and established corporate businesses.

"We are extremely proud of the job OAME is doing in providing

small businesses with the capital they need to grow and be successful," said SBA Portland District Director Camron Doss. "Microloans help many entrepreneurs that need what would be considered smaller loans than a conventional business loan or may not qualify for a traditional loan for a variety of reasons."

The SBA's Microloan program provides loans of up to \$50,000 to help small businesses and certain not-for-profit childcare centers start up and expand. The average microloan is about \$13,000.