

The Week in Review

Lowest Jobless Since 1976

Oregon's unemployment rate dropped to a record low of 4.5 percent in March, the lowest point since comparable records began in 1976. A year ago, Oregon's unemployment rate was 5.7 percent.

Rent Freeze Demanded

A large group of protesters disrupted a meeting of the Multnomah County commission Thursday to demand that the local governing panel declare a housing

disaster and immediately enact a one-year rent freeze and eviction moratorium. The commission took no action on the proposal by Portland Tenants United.

Glass Maker Adds Controls

Bullseye glass, the southeast Portland company believed to be one of the sources of heavy metals detected in the city's air, indicated in a letter released Monday by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality that it will start

using cadmium again after installing a pollution control device in a controlled furnace.

Student had Zest for Life

Her zest for life was contagious and it's what friends of 18-year-old Haruka Weiser are trying to focus on as they struggle with grief over her murder. The first-year student at University of Texas in Austin was found dead on the school's campus last Tuesday. She was a native of Portland and attended the Arts and Communications Magnet Academy in Beaverton.

NFL's Will Smith Killed

Former New Orleans Saints player Will Smith was killed Sunday night in a case of road-rage by a Humvee-driving man who rear-ended his Mercedes and then shot him in the back and side, according to a police warrant. Smith, 34, was beloved by fans for helping the Saints win the 2009 Super Bowl.

Navy Accommodates Portland

After Portland Mayor Charlie Hales refused to travel to Mississippi to commission the USS Portland because of the state's new anti-gay law, the Navy Tuesday announced the commission-

ing will take place in Portland. The law signed by the Mississippi governor earlier this month allows churches, religious charities and privately held businesses to decline services to people whose lifestyles violate their religious beliefs.

Neal, Iverson to Naismith

Shaquille O'Neal and Allen Iverson will be inducted into the 2016 Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame later this year, officials announced last week. Iverson was an 11-time NBA All-Star and O'Neal was a four-time NBA Champion in 19 years in the NBA.

We're Master Planning Madison High School and we need your help!



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Arts Tax Due and Many Confused

Paying it isn't as easy as it seems

BY CERVANTE POPE
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
We get it; statistically speaking, Portland is one of the biggest creative hubs in the United States. That isn't news to anyone, but the Portland Arts Tax is, to some.

a ballot back in November 2012 and to date has raised a combined \$24 million for the Regional Arts and Culture Council and Portland area schools. Yet, four years later, residents are still either uninformed of the Arts Tax, or uninformed on how to pay it.

The goal of the tax is to provide an artistic outlet for young kids in schools by bringing art teachers into 70 elementary schools across six Portland school districts, as well as supporting the city's artistic organizations.

Aware of this issue, Elders in Action has sought to help those perplexed by the process by breaking down the details and providing a streamlined outline of the tax's

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The Portland Observer

HOUSING

special edition

Portland has become a very popular place to live, attracting buyers/renters from within the Portland region and from other parts of the country. It is one of the most beautiful cities in America, the rivers, mountains, and its resources are one of the country's finest.

The Portland Observer believes that an adequate supply of affordable housing is the foundation of healthy communities. Living in decent housing provides a safe environment and an opportunity for people to hold jobs, succeed in school and contribute to their communities.

It is an on-going effort to respond to housing needs, the Portland Observer has developed a Housing Special Edition full of information available affordable rental information and homeownership programs. Depending on your income, you could be eligible for home repair, down payment assistance, rental housing assistance and other affordable housing assistance.

This year's Housing Special Edition will be published on April 27th with the ad deadline on April 20th. Join in our annual special, showcasing your organization.

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