

Curfew sweep citations questioned

Youths | Portland Copwatch is concerned that only minority parents were cited

By **ELIZABETH SUH**
THE OREGONIAN

When Portland police cracked down on curfew violations over spring break under a pilot project aimed at making parents accountable, all seven citations issued went to African American mothers.

Deputy District Attorney James Hayden said the intent was to cite parents whose children 14 and younger were out after the curfew as part of a program to educate parents and protect young people.

A few at Tuesday's meeting of the Citizen Review Committee questioned a process that netted only minority children. Dan Handelman, founder of Portland Copwatch, suggested the curfew rules had been applied more to people of color. Sherelle Owens, a review committee member, wondered how the rules would affect parents with more challenges, such as single parents who worked long hours.

Hayden said police went to Northeast and downtown Portland during spring break because that's where teens have gathered in the past.

After the meeting, Handelman and Owens asked why the police focused on areas where mostly minority teenagers col-

Teens, parents, ACLU fight Lake Oswego curfew

By **WENDY OWEN**
THE OREGONIAN

LAKE OSWEGO — Facing a crowd of television cameras and reporters Wednesday, four Lake Oswego teenagers explained why they want to revoke Lake Oswego's curfew law.

"We're being targeted just because we're young," said Hanna Piazza, 17.

It's a case the American Civil Liberties Union has been waiting years for, said David Fidanque, executive director of the Oregon ACLU, during the news conference in Lake Oswego.

The organization filed a federal lawsuit against the city Wednesday on behalf of five

Lake Oswego teenagers and their parents, saying the city's curfew law violates the constitutional rights of parents and children.

If they win the local case, the ACLU plans to target the state curfew law, Fidanque said.

The Lake Oswego ordinance, based on a statewide curfew law, forbids children younger than 14 to be on the streets between 9:15 p.m. and 6 a.m. Those 14 to 18 can be out for another hour Sunday through Thursday and until midnight on Friday and Saturday and during the summer.

It allows children to be exempt if they are attending night school, have late-night

jobs or are "engaged in any entertainment."

The lawsuit says the curfew law violates parents' right to raise and control their children because it punishes the parents of kids who are out after curfew, even with parental permission.

The lawsuit says the curfew law also violates the constitutional rights of children to due process, freedom of expression and equal protection of the law because it punishes them for being in a public place during curfew hours, even with parental permission.

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lect. Hayden said police probably will expand enforcement citywide, which should result in a more racially balanced result.

The nine-member Citizen Review Committee meets regularly to discuss community concerns about police services.

Portland's curfew for children 13 and younger starts at 9:15 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and at 10:15 p.m. Friday and Saturday. For ages 14 to 17, the curfew is at 10:15 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and midnight Friday and Saturday. Police can

cite the parents of children 14 and younger who violate curfew.

During the sweep, officers spoke with the parents of 14 children 14 and younger who were picked up after curfew and issued citations to seven of those parents, Hayden said. All the youths were African American, he said, except for one white girl picked up downtown. Her guardian was unable to pick her up from the precinct. The police report didn't explain why no citation was issued in that case.

Most parents were unaware of

the curfew but were cooperative, he said.

Cited parents must appear before a juvenile court judge, who may suspend a sentence for first offenders but order the families to participate in a federally funded anti-gang program.

If parents are cited a second time, a Multnomah County Circuit Court judge could sentence them to community service or a fine of up to \$720, Hayden said.

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Portland

More teachers possible in Parkrose

Parkrose Public Schools could add 11 positions next year under preliminary budget figures for the 2007-08 school year submitted Wednesday night to the district's budget committee.

The \$35.7 million general budget proposal, up from \$32.5 million in 2006-07, would hold services steady and allow for some additions, said Mary Larson, director of budget services and operations.

The new positions could include a part-time administration staffer, two high school math teachers, one elementary special education instructor, one technology staffer and six full-time and one part-time kindergarten teachers. The addition of kindergarten teachers would hinge on whether the state Legislature approves all-day kindergarten, Larson said.

English language education, school improvement, remediation and other programs could also see budget increases, Larson said.

The school board will hear public testimony June 25 before formally adopting the plan. For more information, go to www.parkrose.k12.or.us or call Larson at 503-408-2100.

— Darren Freeman, Special to The Oregonian

Lake Oswego

Volunteers collect initiative signatures

Supporters of a petition seeking to force the city of Lake Oswego to secure voter approval before buying property valued at more than \$2 million have begun gathering signatures, a crucial step before an initiative can be placed before voters.

Petitioner John Surret is a member of Ask Lake Oswegans, which questions the City Council's \$20 million purchase of the Safeco Insurance building last year for a community center. The initiative would be retroactive to April 1, 2006, which covers the time that the Safeco building was purchased.

If voters back the initiative, a vote on the Safeco purchase would have to take place during the next available election. If voters then reject the purchase, the building would have to be put up for sale within six months.

Ask Lake Oswegans must gather 3,445 signatures from registered voters who live in the city before the petition can qualify. Surret said the group, which isn't paying its signature gatherers, is aiming for the November ballot.

determining which nonresident should be removed.

Nystrom, who had served since early 2006, could not be reached for a comment.

— Robin Franzen

Portland

City promises careful approach to project

In an attempt to reassure residents, city Water Bureau officials said they will take unprecedented precautions during water and sewer line construction this summer on Southeast 59th Avenue.

"We're doing more on this project than we have ever done on any project because of the concerns you have expressed," Mary Ellen Collentine, the bureau's principal engineer, told about 50 residents who peppered her with questions Tuesday at Mount Tabor Presbyterian Church.

Collentine said the bureau and its contractors will stage work in 300-foot intervals; monitor vibration and ground movement; survey and videotape homes before and after construction; use small equipment; pump out any water that collects; backfill holes; and use 28-foot lengths of steel pipe rather than standard 40-foot links.

Music to recyclers' ears

Students look over musical instruments made from throwaway items — "wastruments" — Wednesday at Sellwood Middle School in Southeast Portland during the third annual Conservation Celebration: It's Not Hard Being Green. Students include Dannielle Perkins (clockwise from left), 12, Kristina Brown, 14, Tommy Moore, 10, Malia Salu, 12, Jackson Marsh, 12, Reid Williams, 12, and Dane Brady, 12. Moore is from Markham Elementary, and the rest are from Sellwood Middle. Four other middle schools and six elementary schools took part.

DANA E. OLSEN/THE OREGONIAN



School chief changed deficit into healthy reserve

Oregon Trail | Clementina Salinas had seven challenging years

By **KIMBERLY MELTON**
THE OREGONIAN

SANDY — Clementina Salinas inherited a nearly \$2 million deficit when she joined the Oregon Trail School District as superintendent in 2000. In the next three years, secretaries, administrators and programs were cut.

Now as she prepares to leave um employees last week has been transferred to a Portland hospital for a mental health evaluation, Yamhill County authorities said.

Police said Gerald Joseph Lahey, 19, broke into the museum, smashed a glass display case, removed a World War II uniform and put it on, pulled a fire alarm, climbed into a plane and smashed a television set.

Phillip Jaeger, 33, of McMinnville and Cheryl McKay, 62, of Sheridan encountered the intruder when they arrived for work. He is accused of punching Jaeger and biting McKay. Neither employ-

In her message to the budget committee Tuesday, Salinas outlined about \$700,000 in additions. The changes include adding a coordinator of English Language Learner programs, a director of human resources, reinstating middle school basketball and setting aside money to plan a 2008 bond campaign.

Tim Belanger, Oregon Trail's business manager, said the district wants to be cautious in adding programs so they will be sustained. During this school year, the district spent about another

in downtown Vancouver. Eugene E. Nerton, 26, no town given, was held on accusations of fourth-degree assault, unlawful display of a weapon and urinating in public.

Jesse K. Goncalves, 20, of San Juan Island was held on accusations of fourth-degree assault and being a minor in possession of alcohol.

Both men are scheduled to return to court April 9.

The two were arrested shortly after the 8:40 p.m. beating of Peter Franzen, 31, at Sixth and Main streets. Franzen suffered a black eye, sore back, cuts and

The 2007-08 proposed budget increased from this year's \$33 million to \$36 million. The increase also includes additional money for salaries, transportation and benefits. Belanger said the district expects to spend down some of its \$5 million reserves, which make up about 14 percent of the general fund budget.

At Tuesday's meeting, Salinas also asked the committee to consider a new proposal: vice

"Since I've been here, the administration and the staff have sacrificed to get us where we are at," Salinas said. "I don't feel we are adequately placing administration where it should be, where it should have been. They do it all. But it doesn't make it right."

The proposed budget is based on the district expecting the state to distribute \$6 billion during the next two years to schools.

