

# METRO

## History floats into Portland



FREDRICK D. JOURTHE OREGONIAN

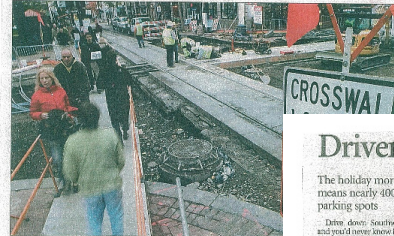
A flotilla of vintage boats launches the second annual Maritime Heritage Festival Friday on the Willamette River in downtown Portland. Beaty Lay is one of five World War II veterans riding on FT 65B, a rare functioning craft from that war, as it glides under the Burnside Bridge. The free festival, which celebrates the city's 150 years of nautical history, will continue from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today and Sunday. Features include boat displays and rides, water sports demonstrations and children's events. For more



## DESTINATION DOWNTOWN

DECEMBER 16, 2007

### TRAFFIC



Navigating around downtown has been a huge challenge for pedestrians and motorists, as this view of Pioneer Courthouse Square shows. The city has raised work on the light rail project, but construction starts up again primarily in 2008.

## Drivers get break from construction

The holiday moratorium also means nearly 400 more on-street parking spots.

Drive down Southeast Fifth Avenue today and you'd never know it was a sea of orange traffic cones and bulldozers only a few weeks ago.

The once and future transit mall is wide open, thanks to the city's holiday moratorium that halts construction downtown from Nov. 16 through Jan. 1.

The transit mall project is taking a rest. All light rail work will stop by Dec. 31. South Avenue is open from east to east, and Fifth is open from Northwest Irving Street to Southeast Harrison Street. Both streets have plenty of on-street parking, temporarily installed during the light-rail

project.

In all, the city claims to have installed or freed up nearly 400 on-street parking spaces. During the mall project, lanes are narrowing primarily on Third and Fourth streets, and spaces have been removed there to make room for bus stops.

Spreading of parking, during the holiday shopping season, the city hopes to have an electronic sign on the Morrison Bridge that will tell you which of the city's street-level garage blocks has the most spaces available. No more circling.

There will still be some construction work downtown. The Burnside Bridge will be open, but work could be constrained as the rehabilitation work continues. And several private development projects downtown and in the Pearl District will remain under construction.

And of course, the light-rail project will start up again promptly in 2008. So, get downtown while you can.

James Maynor

### Check it out!

**Downtown relief:** For a complete list of traffic impacts, visit [www.ci.portland.or.us/transportation/](http://www.ci.portland.or.us/transportation/). The web site lists various traffic conditions each week.

**Highways:** Call the downtown traffic hotline, 503-865-6688, to report a traffic problem or to find out what's going on right now. Operators are available around the clock to answer questions about street closures, where closed and what may be restricted.

**Mass Transit:** Check out TriMet's Transit Viewer at <http://www.tri-met.org/interior/index.cfm?topic=10> to find out exactly when your bus or rail will arrive.

**Highways:** To check out conditions and highway traffic, visit ODOT's Trip Check at [www.oregon.gov/odot/tripcheck/](http://www.oregon.gov/odot/tripcheck/).

### PEOPLE

## Favorite holiday traditions

From an Advent wreath to a Hanukkah menorah

**Paul King**  
owner, Paul King & Sons, 2000  
White Swan Drive

For those who grew up in the Midwest, the Christmas season is a time of joy and celebration. It's a time when the family comes together to share in the joy of the season. For Paul King, owner of Paul King & Sons, the Christmas season is a time of joy and celebration. It's a time when the family comes together to share in the joy of the season.



PHOTO BY JAMES M. HARRIS



Paul King, left, and wife, Julie, enjoy the Christmas season with the members of the White Swan Cheese Company.



Pascal Sauton with his wife and children.

**Pascal Sauton**  
chef/owner, Grand House

The wonderful Christmas time of joy and celebration. It's a time when the family comes together to share in the joy of the season. For Pascal Sauton, chef/owner of Grand House, the Christmas season is a time of joy and celebration. It's a time when the family comes together to share in the joy of the season.



Sisters of the Robinson Sisters of Merry gathered in Multnomah county to help spread cheer on the eve of their home to celebrate the season from left: Sisters Mary Daniela, Johnson, Maria Estrella, Mary Marie Abbott and Barbara Riles.

**Sister Mary Marie Abbott, R.S.M.**  
owner, St. John the Baptist, Catholic Church

A favorite holiday tradition is the time of the Advent wreath. Not only do we have our Advent wreath, but the time of our family, large or small, comes together to enjoy the season. For Sister Mary Marie Abbott, owner of St. John the Baptist, Catholic Church, the Christmas season is a time of joy and celebration. It's a time when the family comes together to share in the joy of the season.



Jordan Walden, manager of Freeplay's Toys and Games, is surrounded by his collection of stuffed animals.

**Jordan Walden**, manager of Freeplay's Toys and Games, is surrounded by his collection of stuffed animals.

**Jordan Walden**  
manager, Freeplay's Toys and Games

Since he worked at the store for a few years, he has a great collection of stuffed animals. For Jordan Walden, manager of Freeplay's Toys and Games, the Christmas season is a time of joy and celebration. It's a time when the family comes together to share in the joy of the season.

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