To Portlanders, a toddler’s in peril is everyone's child

MAX station incident | Passers-by come unhesitatingly to an Eastern Oregon couple’s aid when a stranger grabs their daughter

By MAXIE REINDL

Thirty-four-year-old nationwide cab driver Silvia Werner, who was born in South America and now lives on the south side of Portland, received a call from a taxi dispatcher on Tuesday afternoon: "Silvia, a young child is in your cab." Werner headed down the street toward the address in the call, but when she arrived she found a 20-year-old man outside the apartment complex. The man had a shaved head and was wearing sunglasses and dark clothes. He told Werner he had seen two men kidnap a child from the apartment

When Werner tried to run away, the man pointed a gun at her. She quickly got into her cab and drove away to a nearby police station. The police were able to locate the child, who was unharmed, and arrest the suspect.

The incident highlights the importance of calling the police in dangerous situations, especially when dealing with potential kidnappings.

Immigration: Dollars and sense

In Oregon and across the nation, illegal immigration is a hot election-year issue.

A new analysis reveals facts behind the costs — and benefits — of these workers.

By JANIE HAR and MICHELLE COLE

Oregon parents convey their hopes, their values, their family histories and, sometimes, their names in the names they give their children. But does the urge to give their children something special, something unique, affect what their children will become? A recent study suggests that it does.

The study, conducted by Dr. John de Souza, a social psychologist at the University of California, Berkeley, found that children whose names were given to them by parents who had a strong emotional connection with the name were more likely to succeed in life.

The study also found that children whose parents gave them names that were popular in their community were more likely to succeed in life than children whose parents gave them names that were unique or unpopular.

The study suggests that parents who give their children names that are meaningful to them can help their children achieve success.

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