

METRO *Life*

LIFE IN THE PORTLAND METROPOLITAN AREA

The Portland Observer

SECTION
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Community Calendar

MERC Unveils New Business Plan

On February 22, the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission will unveil a Business Plan that portrays a slimmer, more efficient organization that has a clear sense of direction. A special commission meeting has been called to publicly present the plan. It will be held in rooms A103-104 in the Oregon Convention Center from 8:30am to 10:00am.

Renewing The Earth Subject For Conference

"Renewing the earth" is the subject for a conference considering the local global environmental crisis. The conference will be held at St. Paul Catholic Church, 1201 Satre St., Eugene, OR., on Saturday March 5, 1994, 9am to 4pm.

Oregon Ballet Theatre Invites School Children To Studio Rehearsals As Part Of Unique New Program "Arts Downtown: Sensational Sights and Sounds"

Portland, OR. -- Beginning February 16 and running through April, Oregon Ballet Theatre (OBT) will open its studios for schoolchildren to get a close look at dancers in rehearsal, as part of a pilot project with area arts organizations designed to enhance the classroom experience and fill the gap left by diminishing arts programs in schools.

Women Artists!

Join us at a NO LIMITS workshop with Beth Grossman. Fri., Apr. 22, 7-10 p.m., Sat., Apr. 23, 9 a.m. - 10 p.m., & Sun., Apr. 24, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Hillsboro home of Kathy Sievers.

Cost for the workshop is a sliding scale from \$140-\$190. Please pay what you can actually give, and not the usual "I can't afford it" lowest amount. Space is limited. Send your \$50 deposit or full payment as soon as possible. Full payment should be received by April 15. A \$10 discount will apply if your payment is received by March 31.

Send your name, address, and phone number, along with a check made payable to Beth Grossman, to: Kathy Sievers, 2121 S.E. Oak Crest Dr., Hillsboro, OR 97123. A limited amount of financial assistance is available. Application deadline for financial assistance is April 4. Contact Lonnie Feather at (503) 222-9773 for further information. Call Kathy with at 648-3340 with other questions.

Mr. Rescue Provides Free Auto Emergency Service To Memorial Coliseum Patrons

Patrons parked in Memorial Coliseum shuttle lots also have instant access to Mr. Rescue by dialing * H-E-L-P from their GTE Moblinet cellular phone or (800) 452-2212 from any phone.

Mr. Rescue emergency roadside service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for GTE Moblinet cellular service customers. For more information about GTE Moblinet's cellular service and Mr. Rescue Emergency Road Service please call (800) 366-GTEM (4836).

SUBMISSIONS: COMMUNITY CALENDAR INFORMATION MUST BE DATED TWO WEEKS AFTER THIS ISSUE'S PUBLICATION DATE

Miss Black Oregon Shines Bright In Nations Capital



Miss Black Oregon, Michelle Soles

Michelle Soles, the reigning Ms. Black Oregon brought warmth and sunshine to Washington, D.C. on behalf of the State of Oregon. She was totally unselfish in sharing portions to all who will-

ingly wanted to receive

Miss Black Oregon, who is a communications major at Portland State University, utilized those skills of theatrical knowledge to mesmerizing effect

won the hearts of her competitor's with charm & unmatched poise!

The area's of competition ranged from creative expression, talent, personal interview and evening gowns. In all categories she shined like new money however, for her talent she sang in Capella the Gladys Knight song "That's What Friends Are For." She winged her way through the song with too many unneeded chord changes but finished it to an applause of warmth.

On the final night of competition all of the contestants performed a group dance routine in salute to the reigning Miss Black USA - Ms. Ebony Warren it was done with such precision, one might have expected it to continue up on New York's Broadway. Full of life, zest, and class! It was at this point where the 12 finalist were selected from the group of 22 contestants.

The Oregon delegation sat anxiously listening as the names were being called 12, 11, 10, 6, 5, 4, 2, and 1, and none was Miss Black Oregon. Yes, A moment of dejection passed, but passed it did, indeed for there were no losers here. No not at all everyone of these ladies rose to the occasion with distinctive pride, polish and poise!

Every parent whose daughter as here could do nothing but join the gorgeous peacock and walk with the assurance of knowing, yes, you are Beautiful! Thank you Michelle Soles. Miss Black Oregon 1994. We salute you, we love you, because you are our own!

City Commissioner Seeks Home For Homeless

BY PROMISE KING

Downtown Portland will be relieved of homeless faces if plans by City Commissioner Gretchen Kafoury, goes through.

The city has launched a search to this end to identify a better alternatives to mass shelters in downtown. It's overall plan is to replace these shelters with three or four separate, specialized facilities for mentally sick persons.

The Commissioner, executive assistant Erik Stein told Portland Observer that the reason behind this move is that lot of resources allocated could not reach all of the specialized targets.

Kafoury, is making a clarion call to all property owners and real estate professionals to submit proposals to help identify potential sites for the new proposed facilities.

"This is a new approach", the Commissioner told a press-conference at the Glisan Street Homeless shelter. "Rather than trying to site these ourselves, we will use the expertise of the business and development community to help figure out where to put the new facilities."



Gretchen Kafoury, City Commissioner

The funding of this project will be jointly shared by the city and the county. Business leaders, neighborhood residents, service organizations and homeless advocates will be tasked in the selection process.

The city already has a grant from the government and will need about six million dollars to make this initiative a reality. The project is estimated to gulp about ten million dollars at completion.

"This plan is going to be completed over several years and it's going to take time to find the money", executive Stein had confided.

Specifics and concrete plans of this housing project are uncertain until a list of sites is developed. The first facility will be a 50-bed for the chronically mentally-ill homeless. Mental Health Services West, will develop the new facility with resources from Portland's Bureau of Housing and Community Development and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

About 300 homeless are currently housed at the city's shelters in downtown Portland.

It is likely that downtown business community who have interest in this new moves will also bear the financial burden. "Whether or not these new facilities can be developed will depend on how successful we are at raising the necessary money," Kafoury said.

Shelters run by private organizations will not be affected by the development.

Dr. Virginia Phillips Return To Portland

In 1991, the Michigan Family and Children's Services Division (FCSD) received a million dollar grant from the Kellogg Foundation. The purpose of the grant was to develop a new program called the Neighborhood Intervention Program for Family Preservation. Since the key to the program's success was finding a highly qualified person to head the department, FCSD conducted a national search for a director. After all the lots were cast, the person chosen was Portland's won O., Virginia Phillips, PhD. Dr. Phillips and her husband, Rev. Joshua Phillips, are the founders of Give Us This Day, Inc. GUTD specializes in Extended Family Homes, Adoption and Respite Care for African American Children. In addition, they are co-founders of the Oregon chapter

of One Church One Child adoption agency. Dr. Phillips was the first to serve as OCOC's Executive Director and held this position until being recruited by Michigan.

The seventy-five year old agency, formerly the Michigan Aid Society, quickly fell in love with Dr. Phillips' easy going but competent demeanor. Also, the agency proved to be insightful in its selection choice of Director. Not only did Dr. Phillips prove to be an excellent administrator and program developer, but her philosophical writing took Michigan by storm. Her "Dear Abby" type weekly article called "Ask Ofedean" became a big hit with the people in Battle Creek and beyond. Thus, it was easy to understand how disappointed everyone was when she decided to return to Portland.

As Director of that program, Dr. Phillips was responsible for not only its administration and oversight, but also for being a liaison to the various communities impacted by the program. One of her liaison duties was of particular importance which meant being an advisor to the Kellogg Foundation. It was through this advisorship that Kellogg found out about the Extended Family concept which the Phillips are known throughout the nation. The people at Kellogg were so impressed that they have adopted the Extended Family Model as a family preservation model for the state of Michigan.

Being the builder that she is, Dr. Phillips developed the entire program, hired an excellent staff and oversaw the program from it genesis to maturity. Satisfied the program was strong and in good hands, Dr. Phillips left her \$60,000

East Portland Business/ Neighborhood Community Says "No More Crime"

Kick off events are scheduled for the Neighborhood/Business Crime Watch Program launched by Gateway Area Business Association and Parkrose Business Association in cooperation with Portland Police Bureau.

The project goals are to reduce crime, raise crime prevention awareness and improve responses to crime, vandalism and suspicious activity in East Portland.

An extensive community outreach event will be held:

- Thurs. March 10, from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Parkrose Business Assn.
- Thurs. March 17, from 1 to 4:00 p.m. Gateway Area Business Assn.

Businesses will be asked to make a minimum donation of \$10 upon registration to defray the cost of business Watch signs which will be placed throughout the target areas. All participating businesses will receive packets of information specific to the business security and will be registered on a business district map/telephone tree to enhance better communication. This will include neighboring residents numbers who are an asset to a business after hours. The target areas represent the first stage of organizing that will be implemented in the future.

The kick off event will host special guests such as city, county and state leaders, local business owners and representatives from ten neighborhood associations including refreshments. The events are scheduled as follows:

- Gateway Area Business Association-Wed., March 23, 1994 Location: Woodland Park Hosp. Auditorium at 10300 NE Hancock, 7pm to 9pm with a short program at 8pm.
- Parkrose Business Association-Wednesday March 16, 1994

LOCATION

- The Plantation at 1145 NE Sandy Blvd.: 3:30pm to 5:00pm with a short program at 4:00pm
- 7:30 to 9:00 pm with a short program at 8:00pm

Kay and Andie stress the need for volunteers to assist the committee with its outreach and kick off efforts. To volunteer, or for more information on target and area please call.

Contact Persons for more information:

- Andie Spuck, Volunteer Chair, Parkrose Business Association 254-4445
- Kay Vetyal, Volunteer Chair, Gateway Area Business Assn. 257-5862
- Kyle Ziegler, East Portland District Coalition-Crime Prev. Staff 256-0014

a year job to return to Portland to continue her and her husband's dream of having the Oregon GUTD's Extended Family Program become a model for other cities and states around the country.

Dr. Phillips is close to completing two books that she is currently writing. The books should be published and at bookstores by March. In addition, Dr. Phillips is in the process of publishing a quarterly magazine called The Family Connection. The magazine is due out in late April.

For more information on Give Us This Day's Extended Family, Respite Care and Adoption programs, contact Rev. Joshua D. Phillips or Dr. O. Virginia Phillips at (503) 285-7634. Your questions, comments and ideas are welcomed.