

The Portland

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OMSI Hosts Cinco de Mayo Party

The Oregon Museum of Science and Industry will host a Cinco de Mayo dance party on Thursday, May 5 from 8 to 11 pm. Sounds of salsa music, provided by La Mayor Salsa Orchestra, and other entertainers will be featured. The Cinco de Mayo party is a part of OMSI's World Beat Dance Party series, that have been running Thursday nights.

OMSI's World Beat Dance Parties include live music, dancing, and block-busting exhibits. Ethnic foods and beverages will be available for the Cinco de Mayo party. The unique dance parties take place within OMSI's riverside cafe and Changing Exhibits Hall. Guests will also be able to mingle among actual dinosaur bones, fossils and skeletons within the traveling exhibit Dinosaur Families: The Story of Egg Mountain.

La Mayor Salsa Orchestra, a 12-member Oregon-based group, plays original and traditional salsa, merengue and cumbia music. Other bands to play at OMSI include Boka Marimba on May 19; Conjunto Alegre on May 26; the Dub Squad on June 2; Caribbean Super Stars Steel Band on June 9 and Irene Farrera & The Tropical Band on June 16; and Pa Lante on June 23. No party will be held on May 12.

Admission to OMSI's World Beat Dance parties is \$6.50 or free to those who purchase tickets to the museum, laser light shows and OMNIMAX theater the same day. Food and beverage are available at a no-host bar. The museum is open until 9 pm regularly on Thursdays; after 9 pm only the Changing Exhibits Hall (featuring Dinosaur Families) and cafe will be open.

OMSI is located at 1945 SE Water Ave., at the intersection of Clay Street. For more information, please call (503) 797-4000.

OAME To Highlight Hispanic Businesses

Noted Consultant Keynotes Minority Business Conference



Dr. Samuel Betances

In honor of the Mexican holiday "Cinco de Mayo," the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs (OAME) will feature the contributions of Hispanic businesses in Oregon at its annual minority business trade

show and conference. The conference takes place on that festive holiday - Thursday, May 5 - at the Oregon Convention Center. Sponsors for this year's session are NIKE, Inc., U.S. West Communications and McDonald's

Corporation.

Dr. Samuel Betances, a renowned business consultant and motivational speaker, will be the featured guest at the conference luncheon beginning at noon during the one-day event. Samuel Brooks, Chairman of the Board for OAME, is thrilled with the excellent timing of this year's conference.

"There is really no better time to highlight the positive economic impact of Hispanic-owned businesses in our state than on one of that culture's most important holidays," said Brooks. "Of the 5,800 minority businesses in Oregon, 1,598 are Hispanic-owned. Not only are they providing a range of excellent goods and services, but they have impacted the areas where they reside with jobs and other forms of economic development."

The conference's Hispanic focus is just the beginning of a new era of culture-specific recognition of minority businesses at the annual conference, according to Jorge Guerra, executive director of OAME. The conference and other OAME activities will also consolidate under a new theme -- "Oregonians United for Business Success."

"Over the next five years, OAME will feature specific ethnic communities as part of its conference focus and programs," said Guerra. "It will all culminate in the year 2000 with a joint celebration of all minority business contributions." Subsequent conferences will feature businesses owned by African Americans (1995); Asian Americans (1996); Native Americans (1997); and European

Americans (1998), Guerra said.

Dr. Betances is currently professor of Sociology at Northeastern Illinois University, and a senior consultant for Souder, Betances and Associates. Holder of masters and doctorate degrees from Harvard University, Dr. Betances has lectured and published extensively in areas focusing on diversity, social change, gender and race relations, and their impact on global economics. He has provided strategic consultant services for numerous Fortune 500 companies, including McDonald's, AT&T and Xerox.

The conference format includes an extensive trade show featuring the goods and services offered by many of Oregon's minority and women-owned businesses. Following the conference luncheon, attendees can participate in an OAME "Issues Forum" designed to shape a statewide minority business agenda for 1994-1995. A networking reception form 3-5pm will close the day's events.

OAME is a non-profit organization founded in 1988 to promote and develop minority entrepreneurship and economic development in Oregon. It functions as a partnership between ethnic minorities, entrepreneurs, education, government and established businesses. Member companies access the technical assistance, financial resources and business opportunities that OAME directs.

Trade show booth space, conference registrations and luncheon tickets are still available. For more information, contact the OAME Center at 503/249-7744.

Mutare Sister City Association To Host Royalty

BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

On May 5, 1994, his Excellency Amos Bernard Muvengwa Midzi, Ambassador to the United States of America from the Republic of Zimbabwe, Africa, will arrive in Portland, Oregon as the guest of the Mutare Sister City Association headed by Clifford Walker, Bennie Brown, Jr. and Anthony J. and Laura Ponter, curators of Zimbabwe Sculpture Project.

A gala reception, by invitation only, will be held at the Palmer House, on North Skidmore and North Mississippi, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm, on May 5th.

His Excellency will be the honorary guest at a stunning preview exhibition and sale of Shona Sculptures to benefit Gately Child and Adolescent Day Treatment Center, a Providence mental health program. The exhibit is being sponsored by the Providence Medical Foundation. This event is scheduled for Friday, May 6, 1994 from 5:30 to 10:30 pm at the Cheatham Hall, World Forestry Center. To reserve your space, call (503) 287-2672. Reservations are limited.

The exhibition and sale will be open to the public May 7th through 15th, from noon to 8 pm. The original stone Shona sculpture, of extraordinary beauty, will be available for sale as well as viewing. The pieces range in price from \$40 to \$20,000.

The director of the Oregon Symphony, James DePriest, is the Honorary



Amos Bernard Muvengwa Midzi, Ambassador to the United States of America from the Republic of Zimbabwe, Africa.

Chairman over the exhibition.

Shona Art is rapidly rising in the art world. This will be a rare opportunity for you, the public, to view and purchase one or more of these extraordinary art pieces.

The Zimbabwe Sculpture Project has held fundraisers since 1988. These exhibitions have been held in such places as: London, California, Japan, New York, Georgia and now Portland, Oregon.

Many state and local government officials will be present to greet the Ambassador.

Sheriff Candidate Vera Pool: The Right Choice At The Right Time

BY MICHAEL PULLEN

Vera Pool, candidate for sheriff of Multnomah County has been making history for a long time. In her quest to become Oregon's first woman sheriff, Lieutenant Pool once again has made a positive contribution to Oregon's history. Her past accomplishments in the criminal justice system include becoming the first woman sergeant and first woman lieutenant in the Multnomah County Sheriff's Department. She has been blazing a trail for minorities within the department since her employment as the first minority woman.

Vera has been conquering extraordinary challenges long before she began her career in law enforcement. After a high school counselor told her she wasn't "college material," Pool went on to earn a bachelors degree and two advanced degrees from the University of Portland. Such personal victories have bred a confidence and leadership style that inspires others around her to live up to their potential.

Lt. Pool decided on a law enforcement career at a very young age. "I wanted to do something to make the community safe for our children," she recalls. Yet she had to wait three years to join the Sheriff's Office, which had never employed an African American female.

Once hired, Vera had to use creativity to overcome special obstacles. "When I sought a promotion to lieutenant someone told me I couldn't because there was no woman's uniform for the position. So I had one made."

After two decades in the department and 14 years of command management experience, Vera is ready to take the next step. With her management skills, education, Pool has

all the necessary training to effectively run the sheriff's department.

In running for the department's top job, she has few role models to look to and has become a role model for others. If elected she would be one of only three women sheriffs in the nation. Vera believes the time is right for



Vera Pool

her candidacy.

And others are lining up to support her. Vera has received endorsements from The Oregonian, Willamette Week, The Skanner newspaper, Portland Commissioner Gretchen Kafoury, Gresham Mayor Gussie McRobert, the Multnomah County Democratic Central Committee, and a wide spectrum of community leaders.

One reason Vera is attracting such support is that the Sheriff's Office is at a crossroads. In the past, the office's primary responsibilities were to provide law enforcement in

unincorporated area and operate the County's correction facilities. Recent annexations by Portland and other cities have drastically reduced the county's unincorporated areas. A few years ago 600,000 people lived in unincorporated areas of the county. After July 1, the number will fall to 31,000.

Lt. Pool's opponent Sheriff Bob Skipper wants to maintain his \$55 million budget and resists attempts to reduce his office's law enforcement duties. Vera's vision, outlined in her "Four Year Plan," would gradually eliminate law enforcement duties by shifting deputies to local cities and contracting with city police departments for law enforcement in unincorporated areas. Her plan complements County Chair Beverly Stein's budget and the public safety agendas of the county's two largest cities, Portland and Gresham. "She is clearly pointing in the direction that Multnomah County should move..." wrote The Oregonian.

Vera believes her plan would save over \$3 million in duplicated services that could be reinvested in crime prevention and rehabilitation programs.

Lieutenant Pool is highly qualified to lead the Sheriff's Office as its focus shifts to corrections and crime prevention. "This important task is better managed by candidate Vera Pool, a county jailer with 23 years experience," said Willamette Week. Unlike Skipper, she has hands-on experience in corrections. She is currently a shift commander at Inverness Jail. Previously, as commander at the County's Restitution Center, Vera helped over 500 inmates re-enter the community as employed, responsible citizens. She

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Health

Allergies? Fight Back!

Allergy season is in full swing, but there's no need to suffer. Plenty of old and new medicines fight allergies.

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Religion

President Addresses Black Religious Leaders

President Clinton last week welcomed African-American religious leaders from around the country to the White House to discuss health care reform.

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Housing

Oregon's First African American Weight Master Resigns

Oregon's first African American Motor Carrier Enforcement Offer resigns after nineteen years of service.

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Housing

Young Artist Project Participants share an evening with Jacob Lawrence

Twelve year-old Silas Evers and his mother Margaret were special guests at the open of Jacob Lawrence's "Migration Series" exhibit.

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