

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Kwanzaa At Firehouse Center

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave., is creating special festivities during the month of December to educate and explain the holiday season of Kwanzaa. An art exhibit, community marketplace, theater, storytelling, workshops and a lecture will also be featured during the month. All events are open and free to the public.

Area Women To Model Fashions

Twenty area women will model fashions from Sheba's House of Elegance during a fashion show to benefit Albina Youth Opportunity School. The event will be held Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the House of Elegance, 3223 N.E. Broadway. The show will feature offerings from Roslyn Hill's Shades of Color Art Gallery, door prizes, cakes and catering by Von Theroux and others, and many other gift and style ideas for the holiday season. Tickets are \$10 per person and are available at Sheba's, the Shades of Color Gallery at 316 N.E. Thompson, the school at 3710 N. Mississippi Ave. and at the door of the event.

Childrens Museum Hosts Party

A birthday party to celebrate The Gilbert House Children's Museum's fifth birthday will be held Saturday, Dec. 17 from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The museum is located at 116 Marion St., N.E. on the riverfront in downtown Salem. Five-year-olds and 55 year olds will be admitted free for the party. Cake, ice cream, prizes and party favors will be featured. The museum offers innovative hands-on exhibits, activities and classes in the sciences, arts and humanities.

Kuumba Festival Held At Dishman

Art works, food and entertainment will be featured this weekend at the Kuumba Festival at the Matt Dishman Recreation Center, 77 N.E. Knott. The festival is presented by the Lazarus Art Society. Highlights include the Hot Shot Dancers, performing Friday evening. Saturday afternoon adults and children can participate in hands on arts projects, Saturday night there will be a special music anthology presentation and Sunday, more entertainment, awards and a raffle are scheduled. Call 281-0746 or 727-2694 for more information.

Salvation Army Seeks Volunteers

The Salvation Army needs volunteers to fill "Banquet-In-A-Box" food boxes which provide food for a traditional Christmas dinner and a week's supply of groceries to meet the needs of families of all sizes. Individuals, families, school children, church groups, businesses and neighborhood groups are invited to take part in the program. Call Nan Haan at the Salvation Army at 234-0825.

Group Sponsors Holiday Bazaar

Practical gifts and rummage at working class prices will be offered Dec. 17 and 18 during a holiday benefit bazaar sponsored by Radical Women. The event takes place beginning both days at 10 a.m. at the Musicians Union Hall, 325 N.E. 20th, between Burnside and Sandy.

PLEASE SEND ALL COMMUNITY CALENDAR INFORMATION TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF EVENTS STARTING DATE

Grotto Lights On!



Volunteers from the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 48 donated labor and materials to light The Grotto for the sanctuary's annual 'Festival of Lights' Christmas celebration. The 27-person volunteer crew included IBEW Local 48 Electricians from Sunset Electric, Cherry City/Morrow Electric, Electrical Construction Company, Chandler Electric, Far West Electric, Christenson Electric, Tice Electric, and Atlas Electric, all members of NECA.

For the seventh consecutive year, volunteers from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 48 and the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA), Oregon-Columbia Chapter, will donate time, services, and materials to provide electrical power for the Christmas

Festival of Lights at The Grotto. Typically between 24 and 30 volunteers from Local 48, many of whom return each year, devote their Saturday to provide the electrical and human resources necessary to light approximately ten acres of The Grotto's 62-acre garden grounds including the central plaza area where

much of the festival's lighting and entertainment is located.

For the seventh straight year, electrician Lynn Romfo will coordinate the installation of electric service for the festival.

In conjunction with the electricians who volunteer their time, NECA-member electrical contractors donate needed materials, high-lift vehicles, and service

vans. NECA contractors who have contributed include: Rose City Electric, who have played a vital role since the event's inception; Broadway/Cochran Electric, who joined the team in 1992; Capitol Electric, who participated for the first time in 1993; and Christenson Electric, who contributed during the event's early years.

Urban League To Accept ACLU Award For Outstanding Leadership In Civil Rights

The Urban League of Portland will receive the American Civil Liberty Union Foundation of Oregon's E.B. MacNaughton Award at the ACLU's annual dinner on December 7. The ACLU award recognizes the League's long history of outstanding leadership and service to the cause of civil rights for Oregonians.

Lawrence J. Dark, the League's President and CEO, expressed the organization's gratitude. "Getting awards is always an honor," Mr. Dark said. "But when the award involves issues as fundamental as civil rights and is granted by an organization diligently working for many of the same principles we advocate, it is truly meaningful."

"It is a special honor to receive an award named after a founding board member of our organization," Mr. Dark added. E.B. MacNaughton was a publisher of The Oregonian, a dedicated civil libertarian, and a member of the first board of directors of the Urban League of Portland in 1945.

ACLU of Oregon Executive Director David Fidanque stressed the significance of the League's selection in 1994, the 40th

Anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Brown v. Board of Education decision, which desegregated public schools. "The lessons of Brown v. Board of Education teach us that the struggle for racial justice take place not just in courtrooms, but in the classrooms, in the workplace and in our communities as well. The Urban League has been a bridge-builder among groups and communities and a source of hope for all Oregonians who believe racial harmony is possible."

Founded in 1945, the Urban League of Portland has worked to improve the quality of life for the poor, oppressed and disenfranchised in the greater Portland community. The League has, over time, extended its advocacy efforts to include equal rights and opportunity for many groups in addition to African-Americans.

The ACLU League of Portland is a non-profit, community-based human service, economic and social justice agency serving at-risk youth and families, students, job seekers, and seniors in the metro area. The League is one of 113 local affiliates of the National Urban League.

Forum To Address Legislature

State Rep. Margaret Carter, D-Portland, will hold a public forum to discuss ideas for the upcoming Oregon Legislature, Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the King Neighborhood Facility, 4815 N.E. 7th Ave.

Community involvement is crucial as Carter makes plans for the legislative package she will introduce when the Legislature convenes in January. Carter is seeking input on ideas on issues of importance to residents of her House District 18 and all the people of inner North and Northeast Portland.

"I expect to see a lot of people come with good ideas," Carter said. "We needed to make sure that the 1995 Legislature addresses those issues that are critical to our community."

The Women's Health and Wellness Act, which was introduced in the last legislative session, but not adopted will again be introduced in January, Carter said.

A coalition of legislators and leaders from around the state are organizing in support of this measure. Draft copies of the bill



Rep. Margaret Carter, D-Portland.

is available through Carter's office.

"I'd expect to get input on this legislation from those working on women's health and family issues within our community," said Carter. "If we need to add to these bills, now is the time to do it."

Carter can be reached at her Portland legislative office at 282-1585.

Fred Meyer Trucks Or Santa's Sleigh?

Fred Meyer trucks are likely to be mistaken for Santa's sleigh as they once again deliver their loads of Christmas cargo to Salvation Army Centers across 6 states.

Fred Meyer trucks will be delivering over \$700,000 worth of food, toys, housewares, and apparel products to 21 Salvation Army Centers in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah, California and Alaska this holiday season.

Food Drive To Help Portland's Hungry

Fill our foyer with food," invited Palmer Pardington, coordinator of the Holiday Food Drive sponsored by the Portland State University Campus Ministry. "In doing so, you'll help fill our empty cabinets," says Cynthia Hall, program assistant.

The food collection takes place through Dec. 16 at the ministry at 633 S.W. Mont-

gomery, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contributions of non-perishable grocery items to feed the hungry will be distributed through the Northeast Emergency Food Program, a program of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon.

Pardington hopes the lobby of the ministry will overflow with such canned goods as chili, tuna, fruit and vegetables. Also needed are cereals, pasta and large and medium

diapers. Storable fresh vegetables such as potatoes and onions are also welcome.

"It's an especially good time to give unto others as you would have them give unto you," he said.

The Northeast Emergency Food Program will serve 5-10 families per day at the beginning of December, but more than 25 families per day at the month's end.

Hall said demand is high.

"We've seen an increase in client referrals but a decrease in contributions," he said. "For Thanksgiving we received only 16 turkeys; usually we have enough for everyone. But I think charitable organizations are hurting all around the city this year, for some reason."

The northeast program has been in existence for six years. For more information contact Hall at 284-5470.