

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Karate/Kung Fu Workshop

Free lessons on practical physical and verbal self-defense skills will be offered in a martial arts workshop for kids from 9 to 12 years old. The event, sponsored by One With Heart, is scheduled for Saturday, April 6, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at 4231 S.E. Hawthorne Blvd.

To register call 231-1999.

Hispanic Fest Performances

Miracle Theater Group's Hispanic Cultural Festival will present the Alima Aepeda-Olsen's comedy, *The Fat Free Chicana* and the Snow Cap Queen at 525 S.E. Stark St. The play will run April 4-6, 11-13, 18-20 and 25-27. A student matinee performance will be offered April 10 at 11 a.m. For more information call 236-7253.

Cedar Tree's History

Cedar's Gift, a history of the cedar tree in Native American culture will be a part of the Children's Museum's Living Legends: American Indian exhibit for the month of April. Children will learn the many uses of the "tree of life" and take a pinch of cedar home. The Children's Museum is located at 3037 S.W. Second Ave. Call 823-2227 for information.

Tour Peru

Take a guided tour to Peru on film March 28 with the World Cavalcade Travel and Adventure Films. Buddy Hutton will narrate the presentation. The film includes traveling to Lima, canoeing down the Amazon River, Pizarro's glass tomb and the ruins at Machu Picchu. The show is at 7:30 p.m. at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. For ticket information call 241-2575 or Fastix outlets.

Radio Airing Black Culture

KBOO radio station airs the Afrikan Mental Liberation Weekend, Saturday and Sunday starting at 9 a.m. Hosted by Dr. Kwaku Person-Lynn, the full weekend of programming will include interviews with Kwame Ture and Terry McMillan with Angela Baset; Louis Farrakhan's Million Man March Speech; and talks by Dick Gregory, Cheikh Anta Diop, and Don Luke. KBOO can be found at 90.7 FM.

Chapen to Perform

Tom Chapen will perform two shows, 2 p.m. and 4:40 p.m. on Sunday at the Aladden Theater. Chapen, called the Pied Piper of children's music, has won numerous awards for his humor and warmth in songs that celebrate humanity. The Aladden Theater is at 3017 S.E. Milwaukie.

Hats On Parade

The Bethel Busy Bees' annual Madhatter's Tea is scheduled for Sunday from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Bethel A.M.E. Church, 5828 N.E. Eighth Ave. Women's hats will be presented by Robbie Beasley of Tacoma. The proceeds will go toward the purchase of stain glass windows for the church. Call 249-0059 for information.

Stargazing at Planetarium

Spring Stargazing will be the April production at the Mt. Hood Community College Planetarium Sky Theater. The two shows, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., will help stargazers find constellations, planets and galaxies and visitors are encouraged to ask questions. The Planetarium is located beneath the library on the main campus at 26000 S.E. Stark in Gresham. Call 667-7279 to arrange special shows for schools and community groups.

SUBMISSIONS: Community Calendar information will be given priority if dated two weeks before the event date.

Students Reach For Success Free Buses To Roll From Portland

The University of Oregon's ninth annual "Reach for Success" visitation day is scheduled to begin at 8:45 a.m. Saturday, April 20 on the university campus.

The event is free and open to all Oregon middle school students of color and their parents. Free bus transportation is provided from central locations in Portland, Salem and Woodburn on a space-available basis.

More than 200 students will connect to the Internet, learn about sports marketing and

touch a human brain. The activities are a part of the hands-on introduction to classes and life on a university campus.

Faculty and graduate students teach mini-classes on creative writing, math, computers, law, chemistry, architecture, business and sports. UO students -- some former Reach students -- serve as guides and mentors for the visiting students.

To register, contact the UO Office of Multicultural Affairs at 1281 University of Oregon, Eugene OR 97403. The phone num-

ber is (541) 346-3479. The deadline for pre-registration is Friday, March 29.

The UO Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Office of Admissions sponsor the program to encourage more African American, Asian American, Latino and Native American students to consider higher education as an available and positive option.

"Reach for Success has traditionally been a stepping stone for students who might not otherwise explore the option of higher education," says Marshall Saucedo, director of the

UO Office of Multicultural Affairs. "Many young students of color do not feel they have the ability or opportunity to pursue college. We want to tell them; yes you can!"

Saucedo says the program is unique because the parents participate. Through workshops, they get information and advice about finances, admissions and helping their children succeed in school.

Limited child care is available for children from 30 months to 6 years. Lunch is also provided.



Portland area students are honored by Volunteers of America of Oregon at its annual "Working Kids Luncheon." Five high school students were presented \$500 scholarships at the recent event to assist them in pursuing their educational dreams. (Photo by Tony Washington)

School Dropouts Increase

Oregon's growing dropout rate reflects a national crisis in high schools where coursework largely fails to engage students in learning.

The Oregon Department of Education today reported that 7.4 percent of all Oregon students in grades 9 through 12 dropped out of school in the 1994-95 school year, and increase from 6.6 percent in 1993-94.

The Class of 1995 lost 24.5 percent of its students between grades 9 and 12. This is the first year Oregon tracked a graduating class. It will continue to do so in future years.

Oregon students who dropped out during the last school year cited irrelevant coursework as the number one reason for dropping out.

"Listen to the students," said Norma Paulus, state superintendent of public instruction. "We are losing bright, talented kids who are not challenged by outdated curriculum and outmoded teaching methods. They do not see the relevance of a high school education and are lured to low wage jobs."

School officials surveyed for the dropout report said full implementation of the Certificate of Advanced Mastery, focusing on strong business partnerships, school-to-work activities and performance-based assessment could help reduce the dropout rate.

The National Association of Secondary School Principals released a two-year study of the nation's high schools last month. The report, *Breaking Ranks: Changing an*

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Live Animals Not For Easter

Adorable ducks, chicks and bunnies purchased for Easter gifts may quickly lose their charm.

These small animals mature rapidly and their baby-like cuteness is soon gone. Within two weeks a chick will have become long-legged, gawky and a possibly temperamental adolescent.

The Oregon Humane Society urges people not to give live animals for gifts at Easter time. "These creatures are very small and

fragile and need special care and handling," said Karen Brittain. "If a child accidentally injures or kills one of these tiny animals, the entire holiday is going to be ruined." There is also the potential for children to contract salmonella from these baby animals, Brittain said. "A stuffed animal will always be a cuddly and safe gift."

Families serious about rabbit and small rodent adoptions can visit the Society's shelter at 1067 NE Columbia

Blvd. in Portland, or attend the Rabbit Romp at the Washington Park Zoo on Saturday, April 6, where they can visit with Oregon Humane Society volunteers and view some rabbits and rodents.

The Oregon Humane Society is open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Telephone 503-285-7722.

MERC Names New Member

The Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission has appointed Baruti Artharee to serve a four year term.

The public commission is a seven-member board that manages the Oregon Convention Center, the Portland Center for the Performing Arts, Civic Stadium and the Portland Metropolitan Exposition Center.

Artharee is director of the Oregon Housing and Community Service Department. He was appointed to the position by former Gov. Barbara Roberts. He previously served as president of Coast Industries, Inc. and as a sales manager at the Boise Cascade Corp.

He has also been active in community service, serving the Portland Metro Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor's Business Round Table, the Northeast Community Development Corp. and the Linfield College Board of Trustees.



Baruti Artharee

Dean Speaks On Affirmative Action

Young people will get a close up look at how affirmative action affects everyday lives as part of the discussion during a regional conference in Portland.

Portland Community College Executive Dean Mildred Olee, of the north Portland Cascade campus, will address the subject as keynote speaker for the Jack and Jill of America Far West Regional Conference reception

and program Friday night.

The all day conference takes place Saturday at the Red Lion/Coliseum, 1225 N. Thunderbird Way.

The meeting is being planned around the theme "Families Encouraging Youth Leadership Through Community Involvement."

For more information contact Gail Thomas, president of the Portland Chapter of Jack and Jill at 833-6815.



Oregon Children's Theatre Co. performers Wendy Westerwelle (clockwise, from left), Ari Karczag, Aria Jackson and Garrett Courtney star in an adaptation of the classic children's story *A Wrinkle In Time*. Performances are April 21 and 28 at the Civic Auditorium.