

# RELIGION

## MJCC Theater to premier new musical by local playwright

MJCC Theater Artistic Director Mark Steering's original musical, *In Small Doses*, will be presented at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center from November 2-17th. Steering wrote the book, music and lyrics for *In Small Doses* and will be directing this premiere production.

*In Small Doses* is about three over-committed roommates; Randy: A Jewish, gay opera singer (Matthew Clark), TJ: a type "A" playwright with writer's block (Sally Eames), and Sabrina: a struggling African-American actress (Dorceia McCullough). During a particularly hectic week, their extraordinary sets of parents show up unexpectedly for the weekend. The parents show up unexpectedly for the weekend. The parental units include: a Jewish/Buddhist mom (Jan Rosenthal), an overachieving gay dad (Costa Co-

lumbus) with his nurturing lover (Maury Evans), and an overprotective, conservative African-American couple (Mary Davis and Fie Wash). Throw in Sabrina's political activist boyfriend (Martin Waugh) who is white and twice her age, and you've got a show that is chock full of comic situations, but also deals with poignant issues of our time. *In Small Doses* transcends age, race and gender as it explores the pitfalls of overcommitment, acceptance of diversity and universal challenge of family relationships.

Originally from upstate New York, Steering graduated from Ithaca College with a degree in Performing and Expressive Arts. As MJCC Theater artistic director he is in charge of four major productions per year, as well as theater classes and camps. In April Mark was selected as one of the

composers in the Composer/Librettist Studio given by the New Music Theater Ensemble of St. Paul, MN. This was a national residency program (locally sponsored by the Portland Opera) where five composers and five librettists were teamed up in various combinations to write twenty-five new songs.

*In Small Doses* plays at 8:00 pm on Saturdays, November 2, 9 and 16; Sundays, November 3 and 10 at 2:00 pm and November 17 at 7:00 pm; and at 8:00 pm on Thursdays, November 7 and 14 at 8 pm. Tickets are \$12, general admission available. *In Small Doses* is presented in conjunction with the 1996 Jewish Book Festival.

The Mittleman Jewish Community Center is located at 6651 SW Capitol Hwy. in Portland. Call 244-0111 for information.

## To be fully alive

Religious educators and Catholic school teachers from throughout Western Oregon will gather at Marist High School in Eugene for the Archdiocesan Catechetical Conference.

The Conference will take place on Friday, November 1, and Saturday, November 2, 1996, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. each day.

The theme for this year's conference is "Life in Christ: To Be Fully Alive." The Keynote address will be given by Archbishop Francis E. George, O.M.I.

The conference is intended for Catholic school teachers, Directors of Religious Education and those working in the catechetical ministry: coordinators, teachers, board members, parents, and youth ministers, providing them with an opportunity for both personal faith enrichment and professional development. Nineteen workshops are

scheduled, and each will involve two presenters.

One presenter will give the theological aspect and the other presenter will give concrete suggestions for the practical application of the material. Mass will be offered at the Conference on both days.

The Catechetical Conference is being sponsored by the Offices of Religious Education, Youth Ministry Formation and the Department of Catholic Schools.

Among the many workshops being presented are: "Human Dignity" by Abbot Peter Eberle, OSB, and Sister Rita Rae Schneider, RSM; "The Teachings of Christ" by Brother Robert Rodrigues, OFM, and Natalie Horning Edgar; "Reconciliation" by Mary Eagle and Father Michael Maslowsky, STD, and "Morality of Action/Social Justice" by Rob Justus and Sister Janet Ryan, SNJM.

Early registration is strongly en-

couraged and should be postmarked no later than October 19.

Late registrations will be accepted at the door on a space available basis.

Transportation will be available, if needed. Bus service from the north will leave from St. Anthony parish in Tigard, Christ the King parish in Milwaukie, and St. Joseph parish in Salem.

Bus service from the south will leave from Sacred Heart parish in Medford, St. Anne parish in Grants Pass, and St. Joseph parish in Roseburg.

The cost of the Conference is \$5.00. There is no additional charge for bus service, but pre-registration is required. Registration forms are available from the Archdiocesan Catechetical Conference, Office of Religious Education, 2838 E. Burnside Street, Portland, OR 97214-1895. For information call (503) 233-8304.

## Margaret Steinfelds concludes scholar series

The Catholic Scholar series on the Church in the Third Millennium will conclude with presentations by Margaret O'Brien Steinfelds on Sunday, November 10 at St. Mary's Cathedral, Portland (N.W. 18th and Couch Streets) and on Monday, November 11 at St. Mary's Church, Eugene (1062 Charnelton Street). The lecture begins at 8:00 p.m. both evenings. Ms. Steinfelds will discuss "The Catholic Contribution to American Intellectual Life." The Catholic Scholar series has taken place during 1996 as part of the 150th Anniversary of the Archdiocese of Portland.

Margaret O'Brien Steinfelds is the

Editor of *Commonweal*, an independent biweekly journal of political, religious and literary opinion published by Catholic lay people. The magazine was founded in 1924. Born in Chicago, IL., in 1941, Steinfelds graduated from Loyola University in Chicago with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1963. She completed a Master of Arts in American History at New York University in 1971. She also studied art and film history at Columbia University, and studied at the Sorbonne in Paris, France.

Margaret Steinfelds has written extensively on such subjects as child care, family issues, bioethics, religion and politics, foreign policy, and

national affairs. She has served as director of publications at the National Pastoral Life Center and editor of *Church* magazine, served as executive editor and business manager of *Christianity & Crisis*, editor of the *Hastings Center Report*, and social science editor at Basic Books. Her reviews and articles have appeared in several nationally prominent publications including the *Nationally prominent publications* including the *National Catholic Reporter*, the *New York Times Book Review*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The New York Times*, *New Republic*, *Origins*, and *Psychology Today*.

Ms. Steinfelds lecture in Portland

will be preceded by a concert presented by The Chamber Ensemble of The Portland Youth Philharmonic has delighted audiences with musical skill. For this concert, at St. Mary's Cathedral, Huw Edwards will direct a select ensemble from the orchestra.

The concert will begin at 7:00 p.m., and is sponsored by the Archdiocese of Portland as part of its Young Artist series.

Like the Catholic Scholar series, the Young Artist series is being held in celebration of the sesquicentennial anniversary of the Archdiocese. Both the concert and the lecture series are open to the public and are free charge.

## More signs of hope

Even amidst the turbulence of the cities--the lack of jobs, the increase of drugs, the ready availability of guns, the high rate of teenage pregnancy, the growing drop-out rate, the rising number of people with HIV and AIDS, the bankruptcy of urban school systems, the disproportionate number of toxic waste dumps, the number of abandoned home and factories, the high crime and the looming welfare repeal cuts--there are signs of hope. Often these signs of hope are faith based. Here are two such stories.

The Covenant Churches Association began when four Toledo pastors came together to tackle the problems of the city around them. These four pastors reached across denominational lines to work together for the healing of their community. Six months later they have started a credit union, a foster home and adoption program and have begun plans for programs to address the myriad problems faced by their congregation.

The vision of Rev. Robert Culp of First Church of God, Rev. Duane Tisdale of Friendship Baptist Church, Rev. Rudolph McKissick of United Missionary Baptist Church and Rev. Edward Cook of New Life Church of God in Christ includes arts, education, counseling and even street witnessing to restore the community to safety and cooperation.

Their joint work includes working with fathers, a voter education and community organization effort, economic empowerment programs together with African American businesses and consumers, a foster care and adoption program for African American children and a domestic violence and abuse counseling program.

The Windsor Village United Methodist Church in Houston has taken a different approach to working with its community. Under the leadership of its pastor, Rev. Kirbyjon Caldwell, a former businessman and Wharton business school graduate, Windsor Village has developed a 104,000 square foot business center called the Power Center.

A former abandoned K-Mart store located near the church, the Power Center houses a bank branch, the Houston Community College which offers computer training and business classes, a federal nutrition program for women and infants, a health clinic, a pharmacy, a 1,900 seat banquet facility and a private grade school founded by the church. In addition, most of the office suites have been rented out to business-people.

Good things are happening in cities across the nation. We cannot give up hope and all of us must help nurture seeds.

## Warner Pacific College lists fall chapel schedule

Rick Martinez, campus pastor at Warner Pacific College, has extended an invitation to neighbors and friends of the college to "join with us for our weekly student body chapel services." These services are held from 10:30 to 11:15 am in McGuire Auditorium. Dates are shown below.

Chapel services during October, according to Martinez, will be on the general topic of "Spiritual Warfare". Professor David Markle, October 24, and Professor Steve Lewis, October 31.

November's theme will be "Life in the Spirit". The WPC team that went to Romania last summer to help with repair of an orphanage will bring a report on their experiences, November 7. Don Doe, Arizona pastor, WPC alumnus, and member of the college's Board of Trustees, will speak November 14. Martinez will speak November 21.

Holiday themes will highlight the final three chapel services of the Fall semester. A service of Thanksgiving will be held November 26, followed December 2 with a Christmas drama presentation and December 5 with the traditional chapel service of Christmas music.

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## Obituary

Henry Bryant

January 20, 1916 - October 7, 1996

**Place of birth:** Wesson, Mississippi. Came to Portland 55 years ago. **Occupation:** He was molder at a foundry for several years, and also had his own scrap metal business for over 25 years.

### Survivors:

Lucille Bryant Wife, Portland, OR  
Floyd Bryant Son, Chicago, Ill.  
Henry Bryant Son, Portland, OR  
John Bryant Son, Portland, OR  
Jaycess Bryant Daughter, Portland, OR  
Mary Bryant Daughter, Seattle, WA  
Rosetta Bryant Daughter, Portland, OR  
Dorothy Bryant Daughter, Portland, OR  
Anita Bryant Daughter, Portland, OR  
Rite Bryant Daughter, Portland, OR  
Green "Bud" Bryant Brother, Flora, Mississippi  
J.W. Bryant Brother, Brookhaven, Mississippi  
Jessiebell Culver Sister, Little Rock, California  
Kellybea Thomas Sister, Weed, Cal.  
Lou Mary Whittaker Sister, Portland, OR  
Grandchildren 25 Great Grandchildren 5

Interment is Rose City Cemetery.

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## Daniels Memorial Church of God In Christ

will be celebrating

Pastor Harry B. Daniels Jr. & Wife  
Church appreciation service

Sunday, November 3, 1996 at 3:30 p.m.

There will be a dynamic guest speaker, local churches & choirs from around the City of Portland in attendance.

We at Daniels Memorial extend a free open invitation to you the public to come out and be a part of this wonderful praise and worship time in the Lord.

Don't miss out on your blessing

(Philippians 4:1, Rejoice in the Lord always)

Church is located at 1234 NE Killingsworth St  
(on the corner of 13th & Killingsworth)

Any questions please call 284-3721.

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