

# METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

## Community Calendar

### Railroads and Clearcuts

Railroads and Clearcuts includes a presentation by author George Draffan plus live folk music at the Cascadia Forest Revu. The presentation takes place at Clinton St. Theatre, 2522 SE Clinton St., Portland; at 7:30 p.m., doors open at 7, Thursday, March 20th will benefit the Cascadia Forest Alliance, with a sliding scale price of \$3-10 per person. Eco-activist folksingers Timothy Hull and Jim Page will perform. Updates on how to stop ancient forest timber sales in our area will be available. Plenty of free literature. For more info., call the Cascadia Forest Alliance, 241-4879.

### PSCC Governmental contracting forum

Gussie McRobert (Mayor of Gresham), Dennis Reynolds, (Judge (Chair) of Grant County), Burke Raymond (Administrator of Jackson County), Bev Stein (Chair, Multnomah County) and Tom Walsh (General Manager of Tri-Met) will be speakers at the Governmental Contracting Forum sponsored by the Professional Services Coordinating Council (PSCC). The Forum will take place from 2:30-6:00 PM on March 18th, 1997 in the Portland Building.

The cost for professionals who are members of PSCC member associations is \$25 and for non-members \$40. Reservations can be made in advance by sending payment to the PSCC at 121 SW Morrison Street, Suite 840, Portland, OR 97204. For information call The Suran Group at (503) 274-9381.

### Peter Rabbit visits Washington Square

Washington Square Shopping Center invites children of all ages to come listen to Peter Rabbit Story Times and meet Peter Rabbit himself. This famous, costumed character, from Beatrix Potter's much-love children's story, will be in the Summit Court, between Nordstrom and Meier & Frank, inside Washington Square on Thursday, March 27, through Saturday, March 29, from 11:00a.m. to 3:00pm. Story times will begin at noon, 1 pm, 2pm, daily. Peter Rabbit will have a special treat for all his little friends that come to visit him. Parents are welcome to bring their cameras.

Washington Square is located southwest of Portland off Hwy. 217. Stores include Nordstrom, Meier & Frank, JCPenney, Sears, Mervyn's and 140 specialty shops.

### Easter Bunny Visits Healthy Kids' Fair

Where else can kids visit the Easter Bunny, hunt for eggs, have a teddy bear mended and get a health check all in one busy place? Legacy Emanuel Children's Hospital welcomes the children of Oregon to the Healthy Kids' Fair, March 29, 1997. This springtime family tradition runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is co-sponsored by Oregon Youth Care of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Oregon.

### Mortgage Market Sponsors Continuing Education Credit

Realtors needing Oregon Continuing Education credit hours can enroll in the course "New Construction" at a special discount sponsored rate of \$39.95. Participants will earn 7.5 elective CE credit hours with broker approval. The course is scheduled for Monday, March 24th from 9:00am to 4:30pm at the Home Builders Association offices at 15555 SW Bangy Rd, Lake Oswego. Seating is limited and available on a first come, first served basis. For more information call Ray Bowman (360) 254-8713.

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

## Library Closure protested

Over 150 people attended the Save Our Library rally to show their support for the Albina Branch Library. Because of the anticipated impact of Measure 47's budget cuts, Albina is one of eight branches slated for closure in June.

The rally, held Saturday March 8th at noon, was organized by the Save Albina Branch Library committee.

It featured storytelling by Frederick Hollingsworth, and brief speeches from Carl Talton of Pacific Power and Mari Petzing, a student from the Northeast Community School.

A special guest appearance by Super Library Person, bearing a large L on his chest and draped in a cloth replica of a library card led the song "This Branch is your Branch" to the tune of "This Land is your Land."

Richard Seidman, committee chair, said "Our neighbors view this library as a crucial resource to the community. This rally participants to write their county commissioners and state legislators asking them to keep the library open, especially for the sake of the children.

It's a place of learning. It's a world of freedom It's a place of healing. It's a land of dreamin' It's a place of safety. It's a realm of beauty. This branch was made for you and me.



Local parents, students, and concerned citizens protested the imminent closure of Albina Branch Library. The neighborhood library is scheduled to close due to budget cuts.

## Rosemont mediation fails

BY LEE PERLMAN

**A mediation process between Central City Concern and the Piedmont Neighborhood Association over the future of the Rosemont School property has broken down, with both sides calling foul.**

Nancy Lea of the Piedmont Association says that Anne Rutherford of Full Circle Consulting called her to say that she and her partner Judith Mallory were withdrawing from the process. Additional sessions were pointless because "neither party is moving off their fixed position," Lea quoted Rutherford as saying.

Steve Rudman of the Portland Bureau of Housing and Community Development, which set up the mediation process, confirms that Full Circle had suggested the process be suspended "because it wasn't going anywhere and neither party was act-

ing in good faith. Apparently both sides did things that the other side questioned. As far as I know, this is the first time a mediation has been suspended by the mediator. It's unfortunate."

The dispute concerns Central City Concern's plans to develop the 7.6 acre former Catholic school at 597 N. Dekum St. The non-profit agency, which develops and manages low-income housing, primarily in the downtown and Burnside area, acquired an option to purchase the property from the Sisters of the Good Shepherd in 1995. They initially planned to use part of the grounds to build 75 units of housing for recovering alcoholics and drug addicts and their families. Piedmont protested that such a large concentration of a "delicate" population would undermine their efforts to stabilize the neighborhood.

CCC's current proposal, in cooperation

with developer Brian McCarl, is to build 240 housing units on the property, including 50 to 60 units for the elderly, about 40 owner-occupied row houses on the periphery, and 50 units for the alcohol and drug-free population.

According to Piedmont representatives, the parties held only two mediation sessions, one to discuss the ground rules of the process and one discussion of the proposed development. After this, there was an exchange of letters in which CCC accused Piedmont of not bargaining in good faith.

"They dragged the process out until the (mediation) contract ran out," Tom Markgraf of Piedmont told his association at a February 27 meeting. "It's a clever scheme if you don't really want to mediate or change your position."

CCC executive director Richard Harris and development director Ian McKechnie

declined to discuss the process. "We took a vow of confidentiality when the process began, and I haven't been officially informed that it has been terminated," Harris told the Observer on March 3.

Rudman says the mediation contract had not expired.

McCarl and CCC appear ready to proceed with their development plans. They had a pre-application conference with the Bureau of Planning last month, although they have not yet submitted a formal application, to proceed, they will need to change the property's current R5 zoning to R2, in conformance with the Portland Comprehensive Plan.

The process requires a public hearing, but such requests are usually granted if the applicant can show that urban services such as streets, sewers and water are available for the proposed development.

## The GREAT Program



The 5th/6th grade GREAT took home the Team Sportsmanship Trophy and the Third place trophy in the GREAT 48 (team) tournament held in Beaverton.

**The Portland Police Bureau GREAT program sponsors three basketball teams: and eighth grade girls team and a 4th/5th and 5th/6th boys basketball team.**

The goal is to Provide basketball tournament experience for inner-city boys and girls, and to encourage citizenship and academic achievement through sports.

To qualify for tournament participation youth must attend school, maintain grades,

and exhibit a desire to excel in basketball. Cooperation with Physical Education teachers or designated representative from each school.

Students grades and attendance must be in good standing. Each basketball team has a Portland Police Bureau GREAT Officer on the coaching staff, Officer Larry Anderson, Officer Tim Evans and Officer Dawn Wilson.

The GREAT basketball teams have competed in local tournament play.

Other tournaments that the teams will participate in will be held in Seaside Oregon, Bend Oregon, Vancouver, Washington and the State AAU Tournaments in Springfield Oregon.

Anyone wish to sponsor a team or an individual for tournament play should call The Portland Police Bureau GREAT Program. Contact Larry Anderson at 823-2111 or Merilee Laurens 823-2078. GREAT City of Portland Federal Tax ID # is 936000236.

## Adoption Conference

**Northwest Adoptive Families Association (NAFA) presents its seventh Conference on Adoption and Parenting Adopted Children, Saturday, April 12 from 8:30 am to 5:30 p.m. It will be held at the Portland Conference Center, 300 NE Multnomah St. (across the Max line from the Oregon Convention Center).**

Keynote speaker Patricia Irwin Johnston will speak on "Growing Your Family" Pat is an educator on the subjects of infertility and adoption, as well as an author and publisher.

Johnston's Perspectives Press titles focus exclusively on infertility and adoption issues. Her own works include "Adopting After Infertility", "Taking Charge of Infertility", and recently published, "Launching A Baby's Adoption: Practical Strategies for Parents and Professionals. Pat is also the author of "Positive Adoption Language" and "Adopt-A-Confusion". She and her husband have adopted three children. In addition to the keynote address, the conference offers nine workshops. Two led by Patricia Irwin Johnston are "Parenting After Infertility" and "Children's Developing Understanding of Adoption", "A Family's Journey", "Attachment Issues"; and "A Male Perspective".

NAFA has applied for continuing credit from NASW. Please contact NAFA for a conference brochure and further information, 243-1356.