

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Tea Ceremony

Students enrolled at PIVOT will participate in a Green Tea Ceremony from 12:45-2:13 PM, today at Monroe School, 2508 NE Everett Street, Portland E. PIVOT holds monthly tea ceremonies which teach tranquility, friendship, bonding and relaxation. Call 916-6170.

Women Entrepreneurs

W.E.O. (Women Entrepreneurs of Oregon) provides a supportive environment for networking and growth. W.E.O. is a statewide organization with chapters across Oregon and SW Washington. They are having a summer picnic on Monday, July 20th at 6 PM. There is no cost. Bring your favorite dish. Call 656-6127.

Radical Women

A weekly study group is being conducted by the Freedom Socialist Party and Radical Women. This eight week study group will examine the fiery, hilarious, profound, and refreshingly optimistic essays and columns of Clara Fraser. The meetings will be on Monday nights from 6-8 PM. Call 228-3090.

Concerts at PSU

The Popular Music Board at Portland State University promises a dynamite summer of music. It offers a series of free concerts on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon, from now through July 30th, in the South Park Blocks near PSU's Smith Memorial Center. The next concert is on July 7th featuring folk/rock music. Call 725-5661.

Battered Women/Abused Children

The First NW Regional Conference on Battered Women/Abused Children and Justice will be held on Friday and Saturday, July 10th and 11th, from 8 AM to 5 PM at the First United Methodist Church. Call 452-8420.

Old Growth Forest

Head into local forests to investigate the wonders of an old growth forest, learn how trees grow, analyze soils and investigate a managed forest. This class includes field trips to Mangoes Tree Farm and Oxbow Park. The Forest Ecology Class will be held on July 20-24th from 9:30-3:30 PM. Call 636-4398.

School Properties

The City of Portland wants to hear citizen's opinions about the purchase of undeveloped properties currently owned by Portland Public Schools. Citizens are invited to attend one of two public meetings to learn about the proposed sites and comment on which properties should be bought and used. The two meetings will be on July 7th and 8th. Call 823-3008.

Mt. Hood Railroad

The Mt. Hood Railroad offers a variety of scenic rail trips on vintage rail cars through the Hood River Valley. On July 18-19th, travel back in time to the old west and experience a mock train robbery aboard Mt. Hood Railroad's Train Robbery. Call 1-800-872-4661 or visit their website at www.mthoodrr.com.

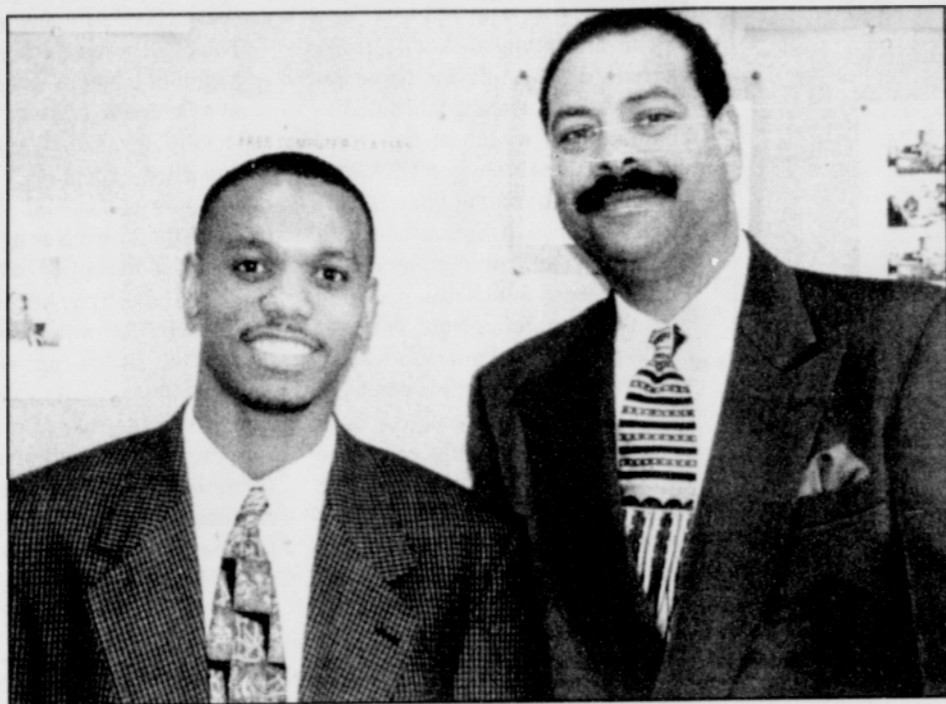
Ancient Forest Picnic

Join ONRC's (The Oregon Natural Resources Council) 8th annual Ancient Forest Picnic at Oxbow County Park on Sunday, July 19th from 11 AM to 5 PM. Join ONRC friends and families for a day of guided ancient forest hikes, games, swimming, music and a fabulous vegetarian bar-b-que (ONRC will supply all the food). Call 283-6343 X 224.

Lents Park Concerts

July 12th is the opening in a brand new series at Lents Park, SE. 92nd and Holgate. It will feature "The Essentials", an eight piece show band which plays dance music of the past five decades, led by Rick Starr. The concert starts at 6 PM and goes until 8 PM. For Summer 1998, there will be music in Lents Park every Sunday at this time through August 2nd.

Community Welcomes State-of-the Art Computer Lab at University Park



(Left) Lee Jenkins, Director of University Park Community Center and Manfred E. White (right), Community Relations Tech Specialist, celebrates the opening of its new technology center.

Portland Parks & Recreation's University Park Community Center showed off its new state-of-the-art technology center at a community open house, June 19, 1998.

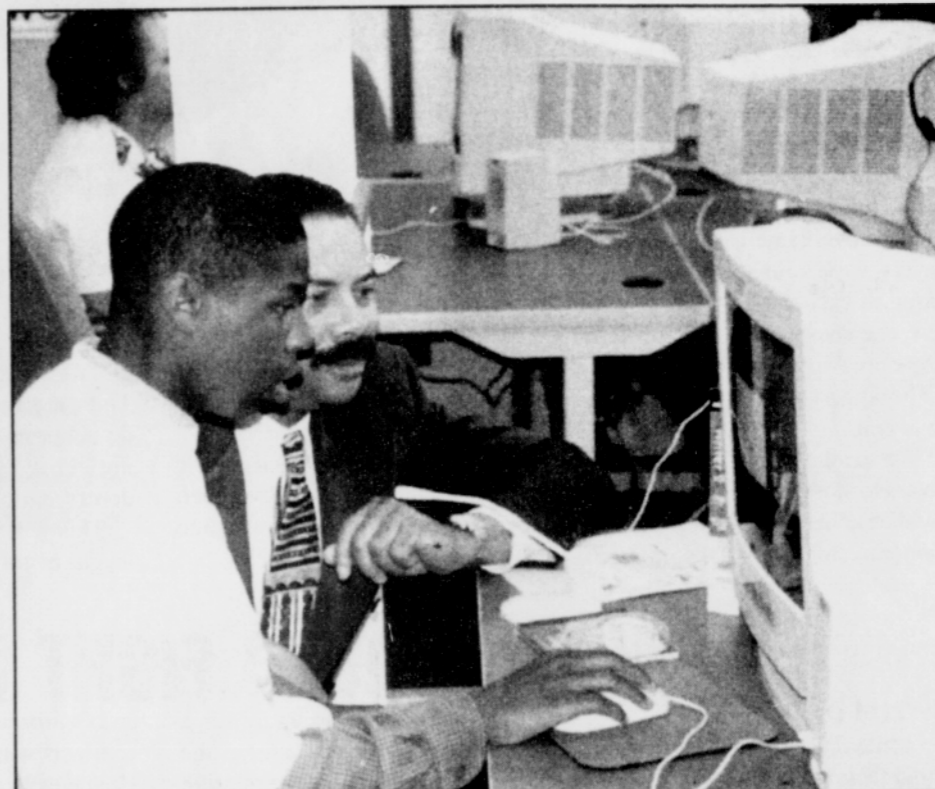
Neighbors and city officials joined representatives from Intel in dedicating the new facility which was funded by a \$278,000 donation from Intel and the Intel Founda-

tion. The computer lab, at 9009 North Foss, offers community members-young and old a chance to learn new job skills, get information about science and technology careers, use computers for art and recreation, plus give their homework a lift. "We've had a great response from everyone from

preschoolers to seniors since the lab was installed in March," says University Park Community Center Director Lee Jenkins. "I think folks in the community will be really surprised to see how much our young people

have learned about using computers in such a short period of time." Students demonstrated their new skills at the June 19th event. They also conducted a teleconference with

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Intel's, Manfred White provides some hands on training with a University Park Fitness Trainer. (Photo by Larry J. Jackson Sr.)

Strong Show Of Support For Immigrant Rights



Jose' Hernandez (right) and Jose' Maldonado

BY LUCY BERNARD

On Thursday, June 18th, leaders of community and religious groups met with David Beebe, the District Director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service for Oregon, to demand a stop to unjust and illegal treatment of immigrant workers. Outside the meeting, which was held at Saint Philip Neri Catholic Church, approximately 170 people gathered despite the rain and cold in a vigil to show support for respect and equality for immigrants.

As Native American drummers opened the vigil with their singing, a march organized by day laborers arrived and was greeted enthusiastically by supporters. Day laborers have been the target of INS raids which have resulted in physical injury to the workers and alleged violations of their civil rights, including the detention of persons legally authorized to work in the United States and being targeted for no other reason than having brown skin and looking poor.

The meeting with Mr. Beebe was the result of many different community organizations and religious groups writing letters about their concerns about unfair treatment of immigrant workers after a raid at the day laborer corner in March. In addition to objecting to inappropriate tactics used in raids, a major concern raised in the meeting was how statements made by INS personnel in public forums have perpetuated negative stereotypes of immigrants and contributed to an increase in anti-immigrant hostility. In particular, community leaders were very concerned about the damaging role the INS has played in community negotiations attempting to find constructive solutions to conflicts between day laborers and neighboring businesses. The message emphasized during the meeting and reflected in the vigil was that discrimination will not be tolerated in our community, that immigrants are valued members of our community, and that immigrants do important work that this country depends on.

The INS agreed to respond in writing to the specific demands brought to the meeting in two weeks time. They did commit to continue meeting in order to resolve the issues raised, but the District Director himself did not commit to personally be present, as the group had asked. The groups represented in the meeting with the INS were the Oregon Catholic Conference, American Friends Service Committee, Oregon Council for Hispanic Advancement, Oregon Law Center, Office of Hispanic Ministries of the Archdiocese of Portland, Centro Cultural, Jobs with Justice, CAUSA '98, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the Worker's Organizing Committee.



Volunteers Still Needed for 11th Annual Miller Genuine Draft Waterfront Blues Festival

Oregon Food Bank invites volunteers to have fun, get funky and help raise cash and food for hunger relief by manning a gate or moving food at the 11th annual Waterfront Blues Festival, July 2-5 in Tom McCall Waterfront Park.

Many slots are available for 3-4 hour shifts on Thursday evening (July 2), Friday evening (July 3) and Sunday (July 5) throughout the day. Volunteers receive a special festival t-shirt and free admission.

Duties range from collecting donations at the gates to boxing and loading food onto Oregon Food Bank trucks. Most positions involve standing throughout most of the shift. Some positions require heavy lifting.

Anyone interested in volunteering at the festival should contact John Harris or Amanda Sawyer at 282-0555. Positions fill quickly, so call soon!

The Miller genuine Draft Waterfront Blues Festival is the premier west coast blues event of the summer. The weekend features 40 bands playing non-stop blues on two stages at Tom McCall Waterfront Park on the west side of the Willamette River in downtown Portland. Saturday evening at 10:00 pm the sky will light up with fireworks simulcast by KGON 92.3.

The Waterfront Blues Festival is produced by the Oregon Food Bank and nurtured and supported on site by more than 750 Oregon Food Bank volunteers. Volunteer support is sponsored by American Family Insurance.