

# METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer **SECTION B**

## Community Calendar

### State Fair

This year's Oregon State Fair Opening Ceremonies, taking place at the fairgrounds Main Gate in Sunnyview, will feature everything from free admission and free cameras to local celebrities landing in a helicopter. Opening ceremonies will be on Thursday, August 27th. The first 250 people in line will be given free admission tickets and free disposable cameras, to photograph Opening Day Ceremonies and our special guests.

### Summer Jam

It's back after 10 years. B.E.A.N. Promotions and GrassRoot News presents the 1998 End Of Summer Jam and Family Picnic to be held on Labor Day September 7th at Dawson Park from NOON til 7 PM. This year's summer jam will feature many of the area's Gospel, R&B groups, community speakers, games and more. Call 903-2471.

### Police Ceremony

A partnership agreement was signed between these neighborhood associations, Eastport Plaza, and East and Southeast Precincts of the Portland Police Bureau. An opening ceremony took place on Saturday, August 22nd. From 10 AM until NOON, there was a free immunization clinic at the community contact office. The community contact office is located in the Eastport Plaza complex at SE 82nd Ave., and SE Center. Call 771-4667.

### Japanese Tea Ceremony

The Japanese Garden Society of Oregon is pleased to announce a Public Tea Ceremony on Saturday, September 19th. Kashin Tei Kai, the Japanese Garden Tea Ceremony group, invites you to view the traditional Tea Ceremony at 1 PM and 2 PM in the Japanese Garden's Tea House. This event is free with admission into the Japanese Garden. Come enjoy the art of Tea and visit our gift store. Call 223-9233.

### Y-Fest Concert

Galore Paging (Portland) will be offering \$50 per person packages for the Y-Fest Old School Jam to take place this Labor Day weekend, September 6th at the Tacoma dome presented by Galore Paging (Tacoma) and Y-104.9 Radio. The Jam will feature Rose Royce, Brick, Confunction, Jessie Powell, Lakeside and Michael Cooper. For package information, call Joe Bean Keller at 288-9180 or 903-2471 (voicemail pager).

### International Adoption

Holt International Children's Services, the country's oldest and largest intercountry adoption agency, is looking for families interested in adopting a child from overseas. Holt's Eugene office will host a free Adoption Information Meeting in Portland on Saturday, September 12th. The meeting will be from 10 AM to NOON at Providence St. Vincent Hospital 7 Medical Center, 9205 SW Barnes Rd. Call 246-3236.

### Women's Services

Clackamas Women's Services is currently looking for volunteers to work with adult and child survivors of domestic and sexual violence in our shelter, on our hotline, on our Latina services program, and in our community support groups. Our next training begins the last week of September. Please call Delina at 654-2807 for more information and a volunteer packet.

### Theater in the Park

City Performing Arts, a program of Portland Parks and Recreation, is sponsoring a production of "Neil Simon's FOOLS: A Comic Fable" for six performances at Tabor Community park, 5800 NE Ash in Portland. Performances will be presented on the natural amphitheater stage in the crater at the park on Saturday, September 5 & 12 at 2 and 5 PM, and Sunday, September 6 & 13 at 2 PM.

## N.E. Community Protest

BY OSCAR JOHNSON

Northeast community members and City officials last week pledged to work together in planning a future "Beach Bash" party following events which brought 35-40 police equipped with riot gear and 'less lethal' shotguns to clear about 400 young revelers from a Northeast Portland Park.

On Aug. 16, after Police turned partygoers away from Southeast Portland's Sellwood Park, they met in Irvington Park where a basketball tournament was already under way, only to be driven out by police later that evening. Police also cordoned off sections of Northeast Martin Luther King Jr.

*"We are here today to alert the community that the police department spent tax payers' money on unnecessary police force in the Black community."*

Boulevard.

No injuries or arrests were reported but the next night when demonstrations marched on Police Chief, Charles Moose's Northeast Portland home 10 were arrested and one protestor, Travis West, said he received a minor injury from a beanbag shotgun.

Following a series of media reports which sometimes disagreed with eyewitness accounts, tensions were quelled when officials, including Reps. Jo Ann Bowman (D-OR) and Margaret Carter (D-OR) as well as Northeast Precinct Cmdr., Derrick Foxworth, met with event organizers and other community members.

Police said they were responding to complaints about the loud noise and congested traffic phoned in by local residents and they were also concerned about the threat of violence following a shooting that took place last year at an event hosted by the same event organizer, Daniel Binns.

While some community members expressed similar concerns as Irvington area resident, Randall Dumas, that "police needed to be there to keep the law," most youth at the event agree with his belief that, "they didn't need to have that many police out there." Dumas is 71 years old and said he has lived in his house at Northeast 7th



A media event was held at Portland Community College with Northeast Precinct Cmdr., Derrick Foxworth, Reps. Jo Ann Bowman (D-OR) and Margaret Carter (D-OR).

and Monroe next to Irvington Park for 15 years.

"I couldn't understand it," he said. "They've been playing at this park for many years and I've never had any problems."

Echoing statements made by many youth, Greg Hobrock, the owner of Popeye's Famous fried chicken restaurants, said when problems arise near

his two stores on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard it is usually not caused by local youth.

"I think it's a small handful that comes from Seattle that caused the problems, they want to block the driveways, hang around and drink. Most of those cars out there had Seattle plates,"

Hobrock said. "I don't have a problem with the kids from around here. I know them. Half of them have probably worked for me."

About an hour before marching on the Northeast precinct, local youth picketing at the corner of Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Fargo said, although they were unhappy the party was thwarted, they were protesting against an excessive show of police force, harassment and bias media coverage which portrayed the issue as gang related.

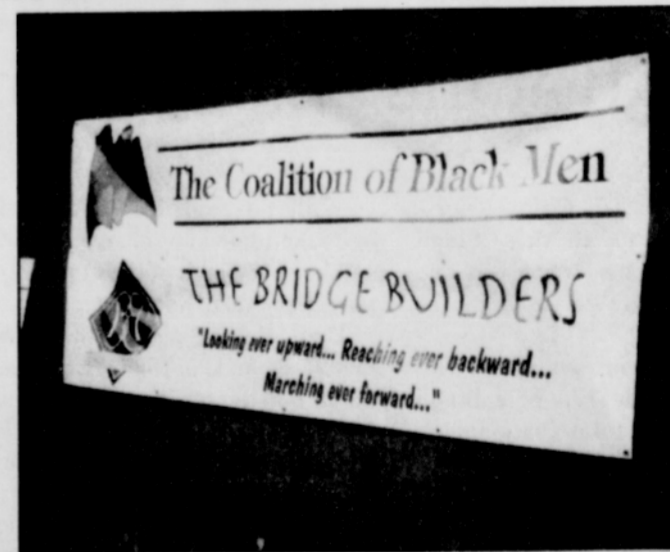
"We are here today to alert the community that the police department spent tax payers' money on unnecessary police force in the Black community," said 25-year-old Herman

Owens echoing the sentiments of other protestors. "Just because a group of black men get together doesn't mean they are gang members."

Owens, who says he has no prior record, was later arrested that evening with other demonstrators. According to police, mace and less lethal beanbag shotguns were used to disperse the crowd.

Following another community meeting on Aug. 20, protestors, community members, police and city officials appeared to make additional headway in their earlier resolution to work together but left key questions concerning gang involvement and excessive police force unanswered.

## The Coalition of Black Men Stage the 7th Annual Golf Tournament



Members of "The Gents" and "Bridge Builders" organization showed up in force to support their 7th annual fundraiser Golf Tournament.