

**Poncho Sanchez**  
The strongly mastered  
Afro-Cuban musician is  
strutting his stuff!



See *El Observador De Portland*, page A7.

**Portland Residents'  
Get "Blown Away"**  
The redesigned \$20 bill  
educates Portland  
consumers about the new  
currency



See *Metro* page.

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# The Portland Observer 25¢

## Local Professionals Break New Ground In The Fight To End Hunger

This fall, Portland professionals are forging new avenues for hunger-relief. They are combining their professional affiliations with philanthropy, developing awareness-building and fundraising activities that maximize Oregon Food Bank's ability to move food to hunger relief agencies.

For example, a group of Portland attorneys calling themselves Oregon Lawyers Against Hunger (OLAH) begins its second annual food and fund drive October 5th. During the drive, OLAH encourages donations to Oregon Food Bank through a friendly competition among law firms. More than \$23, 800 was raised during last year's drive. OLAH is currently expanding statewide, recruiting lawyers to participate in similar efforts to benefit the regional food banks of the Oregon Food Bank network.

"When professional organizations come together to organize this kind of drive, it guarantees a high return for Oregon Food Bank in terms of food, funds, awareness and new, committed friends," said Rachel Bristol, executive director of OFB.

Meanwhile CANSTRUCTION, a design/build competition sponsored by the Society of Design Administrators and American Institute of Architects, will provide Oregon Food Bank and other food banks around the nation another opportunity for exposure and affiliation. Teams of architects, engineers and contractors will create structures-replicas of local buildings, vehicles and whatever else their imaginations hold-entitled out of canned and boxed foods. Last year's structures included the Hawthorne Bridge.

After public viewing, the structures will be judged in categories including best meal. In Portland, CANSTRUCTION will take place November 21 and 22 at the OMSI Auditorium. When the competition is finished, the foods used in building the structures will be donated to Oregon Food Bank for distribution to local agencies.

Many businesses are using food and fund drives to build community with their clients and among their employees. Health care professionals, for example, are offering clients discounts with donations of food and money to Oregon Food Bank. Other businesses offer employee dress-down days and other perks for helping hungry people. These drives create a climate throughout the community in which philanthropy is a rewarding part of daily life.

Each year, the number of businesses and individuals working with Oregon Food Bank grows. Last year, more than 400 groups in the Portland Metro area sponsored activities benefiting Oregon Food Bank. This year, that number is expected to increase by 10 percent.

Oregon Food Bank is the hub of an efficient statewide network of food banks, food pantries and soup kitchens serving the emergency food needs of hungry people in Oregon and Clark County, Washington. Last year, the agencies of the Oregon Food Bank network helped put food on the tables of nearly one in eight Oregonians.

## Jefferson Joins Other Schools Statewide In Weapons Control Problems

A sophomore at Jefferson high school became one of the first students this semester to face arrest and suspension for bringing a gun to school. The student was caught hiding the gun in bushes near the gym. It was carried for protection against youths from a neighboring alternative school.

Other students throughout the state in Lake Oswego, Eugene and Salem have been threatened with expulsion for similar charges.

Under state law, any student who brings a weapon to school is automatically suspended

**"McCoy Academy does not have the staff to police the Jefferson campus every day"**

and faces an expulsion hearing. In Portland, the Multnomah County juvenile court is also involved in dealing with the offender.

There have been several incidents of harassment and intimidation against Jefferson students by youths from McCoy Academy (a nearby alternative school). Charles McGee, the principal of McCoy Academy had disputed the case and organized an assembly to address the matter.

Jefferson high school's principal, Lela Triplett Roberts met with McGee to settle the dispute and took a preventative stance against any more violent confrontations by his students on her school grounds. Her request was for a representative from each school to monitor the Jefferson campus and help identify troublesome students. Officials at Portland's Opportunities Industrialization Center, another neighboring alternative school were responsive to her request. McGee explained that McCoy Academy does not have the staff to police the Jefferson campus every day.



Jefferson High School

## Sharon Lincoln Named Interim Executive Director at Portland House of Umoja

Deputy Director Sharon Lincoln has been named interim executive director by the Portland House of Umoja Board of Directors. The Portland House of Umoja provides residential and outreach services to gang-involved youth and their families.

Lincoln, 44, has served as deputy director since 1977. Prior to coming to Umoja, Lincoln was an accountant with Richard Harris, P.C., CPA and had been on contract with the House of Umoja since 1991. Johnnie A. Gage, past executive, resigned to pursue new professional challenges.

"We are pleased to have Sharon in place to make a smooth transition and maintain important community services," Board Co-chair Anthony Jankans said. The board expects to hire a permanent executive director over the next few months after board members conduct a formal search.

"Over the past decade, Umoja has grown from a residential gang facility to an umbrella organization that provides job training and employment skills, a school, outreach services to the community, and a home for youth in transition. Johnnie helped make this growth possible," Board Co-Chair John Emrick said. "As we head into a new millennium, we are very excited about meeting the increasing demands in our community and turning young lives around."



Photo by R. Washington



New House of Umoja Interim Sharon Lincoln



House of Umoja



Photo by M. Washington

## Portland Observer Retraction

In The September 23, 1998 issue of the Portland Observer Newspaper, in error, we gave Florence Griffith Joyner the name of another great runner, Jacki Joyner Kersey. We at the Portland Observer would like to offer a sincere apology to our readers.

## THE WEEK IN REVIEW

### Impeachment Proceedings

The House Speaker, Newt Gingrich had rejected any dealings that would avoid a possible impeachment inquiry. His proposal is to finish all investigations on Clinton as critical to the process. Gingrich also wanted Republicans to expand the inquiry to include an investigation on the allegations of campaign finance violations by the president during his 1996 reelection.

### Hurricane Georges

Hurricane Georges was reduced to a tropical storm and still threatens the Gulf Coast with torrential rains pouring down an inch-an-hour

compounded by tornadoes hitting southeastern Alabama. Parts of Florida is under flood watch. President Clinton declared Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama disaster areas.

### Fetal Cancer Risk

A new medical study found that pregnant women who are exposed to other people's cigarette smoke might place their fetus in risk of developing cancer in childhood. This genetic mutation affects the blood on a cellular level and is caused by a particular enzyme.

### Race For The Cure

There were 33,000 participants in the

country's largest all-women's race to raise money to find a cure for Breast Cancer. The event called, "Race for the Cure" was sponsored and held by the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundations. Monies raised will be used to finance free mammograms for low-income women, grants for education about the disease and other programs.

### Mayor Rejects Consolidation

Portland's mayor, Vera Katz had finally rejected all plans of creating a consolidated city/county government. A task force reported to the city that the merger would not result in any cash savings. The four city commissioners also

agreed to renounce the plan, especially after spending \$150,000 to study the issue.

### Airport MAX Line

Approval was granted by Tri-Met's board of directors to build a light rail line from the Gateway Transit Center to Portland's International Airport. The expected cost of design and construction is expected to be \$125 million. Additional expenses amounting to \$55 million involves additional transit services and airport modifications to accommodate the new MAX line. The Portland City Council and the Port of Portland will consider the proposal early next month.