

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

OMSI Halloween Fun

Not sure what to "be" this Halloween? OMSI invites visitors of all ages to become a detective for a day and enjoy a variety of fun activities related to OMSI's featured exhibit "Whodunit? The Science of Solving Crime", during a special family day on Saturday, October 31st from 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM. Kids are also invited to wear their Halloween costumes to OMSI, where they can trick-or-treat for candy safely in OMSI's exhibit halls and labs, and participate in a variety of fun, Halloween-inspired science demonstrations.

Indigenous Elders

On November 6th at 7:30 PM, the Earth & Spirit Council will be presenting a workshop entitled "The Natural Way: Earth Healing and Spiritual Growth." November's workshop features Chief Johnny Jackson. He travels throughout the United States on issues affecting the government, indigenous peoples, the environment, civil and health rights. He has generously allowed himself time to share some of his beliefs that are central to his work in protecting the environment for all of us. Admission is by donation. Call Linda Neale at 452.4483 ext.2, or Unity World Healing Center at 697.9765.

Cleanup Time

Fall Clean Up Day on Alberta Street will be on Saturday, October 31st between 10 AM and 2 PM at Sabin CDC at 488 NE Alberta St. (corner of 15th and Alberta). Volunteers will be cleaning up the street and planting flowers. Lunch will be provided, additional tools would be appreciated, and all ages are welcome. For more info., contact Emily at Sabin CDC 287.3496.

Virtues Project

The Virtues Project is an approach to bringing out the best in people, with simple strategies for helping them to live by their highest values. The next workshop for Adult Learners will be on "How to Help Your Child Learn to Read" on November 4th, from 2-4 PM or 7-9 PM. The cost is \$10. Call 503.285.4663.

Peasant China

Anyone who has visited China recently is aware of the significant changes that have taken place in the country's major urban centers. Rural China has also been affected by this phenomenon. On November 5th, Pacific Lutheran University Professor, Gregory Elihu Guldin, author of Farewell to Peasant China will be lecturing at the Golden Horse Chinese Restaurant at 4th and Everett at 7 PM. He will also show slides of some of the rural communities he has visited. R.S.V.P. for dinner by November 4th at 973.5451.

Singles Night

Oregon's Finest "Single" Night Out will be on November 14th at 7 PM. Join over 300 individuals, generally single, at the Third Annual Oregon's Finest "Single" Night Out to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. An evening of mixing and mingling with some of Oregon's finest single professionals at Shenanigan's on the Willamette, it includes a fabulous auction and dancing to "Body and Soul". For tickets, call 503.226.3435 or Ticketmaster at 503.224.4400.

Fashion and Dance Show

Ashe's Elbow Productions presents "The Marquis Ramone Fashion Show and Dance Party" on November 6th. Performances will be by Five Fingers Funk, G-Ism, Mac Rob/Brotha Luv and the Lyrical Pros. The show will be held at Montgomery Park (2701 NW Vaughn), from 9 PM - 2 PM. \$20 at the door, 21 and over only, ID required, dress code clean-cut, Portland Police at the door, no hats or tennis shoes. Call 604.3468 for more information or to get on their mailing list.

Portland's University Park Neighborhood in conflict over Expanding Institution

In north Portland's University Park neighborhood, a chronic cause of conflict - tension between an expanding institution and its neighbors - has reached new heights.

In a September 28 election, nine people, all employees of the University of Portland, unseated incumbents to effectively take over the University Park Neighborhood Association. The newcomers also were elected to the key posts of chair, vice-chair and land use committee chair. Together with other supporters elected that night, the action effectively gives the university control of the association board.

Why? According to U. P. personnel director Jim Kuffner, it was simply part of an ongoing attempt to get the university involved in the community for the good of all. (He denies allegations that he directed the proceedings, telling which people to nominate which candidates following whispered consultations before each vote.)

Mark Kirchmeier, the new vice chair and U.P. media relations director, says it was indeed an orchestrated takeover attempt, inspired by a remark by former association land use chair Jim Salvo. He out-bid the university for title to a lot owned by a family trust. In July he told Kuffner that he might house sex offenders there. Kirchmeier says he felt the remark made Salvo unfit to serve the neighborhood; after trying unsuccessfully to have Salvo removed from his positions, he and Kuffner initiated the takeover. Salvo says the comment was sarcastic, and



University of Portland in North Portland.

(Photo by M. Washington)

not meant to be taken seriously.

So do outgoing chair Laurel Butman and her husband David Solos, who say the issue was a red herring. The purpose of the take-

over, they say, is to remove effective opposition to the proposed expansion of the university campus.

U.P. is seeking more than 30 amendments

to its 1994 master plan, including, Butman says, many items hashed out at length during negotiations then: expansion of the

CONTINUED TO PAGE A3

Oregon Youth Advocate Publishes Book To Combat Rising Gang Populations

"Provides hope and direction for breaking through gang violence and helping gang youths reclaim their lives."

Lonnie Jackson, Oregon Youth Authority minority services director, has recently had his book, *Gangbusters: Prevention & Intervention*, published by the American Correctional Association.

Jackson has worked with gang members for over 10 years. After growing up in South Central Los Angeles, Jackson moved to Oregon to attend Willamette University. There were few African Americans in the college at the time, and Jackson confronted his own attitudes as well as those affecting him in order to succeed in college. He went on to apply what he learned about his own mindset to help reach young African American men involved in gangs.

Armed with a degree in sociology, Jackson was hired at MacLaren Youth

Correctional Facility. While working with minority youth, he realized that without culturally specific treatment, many youths serving time for gang-related crimes would reoffend upon release. He proposed a special minority services program to MacLaren administrators who agreed to let Jackson create a program aimed at helping minority youth work on issues that attracted them to gangs and criminal behavior.

For the next eight years, Jackson originated and implemented a number of innovative programs to work with gang-involved youths. Many of these programs attracted national attention and Jackson was invited to present his program across the county. He is widely recognized in his field for his outstanding work with gang youths.



Lonnie Jackson

He began working on a book about his successful prevention and intervention programs several years ago. In his book, he discusses gang mentality, offers reasons why many young people are attracted to and join gangs, and explores

ways to break through gang mentality and establish a gang intervention program in institutional settings. Jackson has used the principles covered in his book to rehabilitate former gang members. African American, Hispanic, Native American, Asian, and Caucasian youth have participated in Jackson's programs.

The book is accessible to everyone interested in and working with gang youths. It provides hope and direction for breaking through gang violence and helping gang youths reclaim their lives.

To order your copy of *Gangbusters* Strategies for Prevention and Intervention, please call ACA's customer service department at 1-800-222-5646 and ask for item #209-f2. If calling from outside the continental United States, please call (310)918-1860.

The American Correctional Association supports and educates professionals in the United States and abroad and serves as corrections' national voice. To learn about the ACA, visit our Web site at www.corrections.com/aca.

Mayor Vera Katz Announces Start Of Civil Rights Mediation Program

Citizens with concerns about sexual orientation discrimination now have a new venue to solve their disputes, Mayor Vera Katz announced today at an afternoon address to the annual conference of Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution. The City of Portland Mediation Pilot Program for Sexual Orientation Issues officially opened for business this month.

"I am excited that we finally have another remedy in place to protect people from discrimination, the federal and state governments have left out," said Katz. "I am proud of the City Council, or City Attorney's Office, and our team of mediators who have put together a program that is all at once innovative, strong, efficient and accountable. More and more, mediation is gaining national recognition - most recently by the U.S. Attorney General - as a reasonable solution that saves valuable taxpayer dollars and court time, while helping adversarial parties get more personal satisfaction by

reaching mutual agreement."

Five mediators serving "on-call" on a weekly rotation basis and one intake person will coordinate the program. Starting today, people can call the private, confidential information line at 274.9886 from Monday through Friday, 9-5 PM and leave a voicemail at all other hours. If the caller wishes to talk with a mediator, they can leave their name and number for a call back, or they can remain anonymous and call the mediator themselves.

The mediator will help the caller decide whether to proceed to mediation, who should be involved and how the other party(ies) should be contacted. If everyone decides to proceed with mediation, the first meeting is scheduled, parties are asked to consent to the assigned mediator, or to select another member of the team. Co-mediators are also a possibility.

The kinds of agreements settled upon can be creative and tailored to

meet the needs of each party. People are not constrained by what is legally "relevant" or limited by the legal remedies available. The mediator does not make decisions for the parties as a judge or arbitrator would do. If they wish, parties can make their agreements legally binding and enforceable.

"The advantage to mediation is that because both parties control the process, both parties can reach their goals as opposed to a court situation where you have a definite winner and loser," said Mary Forst of Confluence Center for Mediation & Training - Mary Forst Associates, the prime contractor for the program. "Even where parties' goals may include public statements such as advertisements of non-discrimination or public apologies, mediation offers the opportunity to reach consensus in a way that preserves the dignity of both parties. In essence, conflict can turn out to be a bridge, rather than a wall."

The mediation program is the result of Katz's pledge made when the ordinance



The mediation program is the result of Katz's pledge made when the ordinance first came under fire

first came under fire to develop an interim process that provides a second course of action, in addition to the BOLI process, to allow Portlanders to assert their rights and resolve claims.