

# METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

## Community Calendar

### WRAP

Write Around Portland, a new nonprofit, seeks volunteers to facilitate writing workshops with people who don't usually have their voices heard. Our focus is on enriching our communities and building upon mutual respect; we believe writing can be a powerful tool for this. We want to work with people who are motivated to fight the sense of isolation so many people carry with them through their lives. Materials and full training provided. Call 232-2246 for more info.

### Celebration Of Culture

More than 400 community members are expected to attend an evening of international entertainment and cuisine at Celebration of Culture Friday, March 12, at 7 PM in Melrose Auditorium at Linfield College. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Linfield College Hurricane Mitch Relief Fund. Tickets are \$2 and can be purchased in the Campus Information Center in Riley Hall. For more information, call 434-2574.

### Midwifery Training

"The International Center for Traditional Childbearing (ICTC) is hosting an orientation for women of color who are interested in midwifery training, on Saturday March 13, from 10 AM to 3 PM at the NE YWCA on MLK Jr. Blvd. For more information call Shafia M. Monroe at 460-9324.

### Early Childhood Care

On March 11, family members and professionals will have the opportunity to hear Jane Knitzer, a dynamic, knowledgeable speaker discuss new strategies for supporting young children and their families. They will also hear a panel of experts discuss issues specific to Multnomah County and Oregon. The guest speaker, Jane Knitzer will be at the Lloyd Cinemas (1510 NE Multnomah Boulevard. Call 503/248-5274.

### Humane Society

The Oregon Humane Society is celebrating its 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary of caring for animals in this community. Much has changed in how animals are cared for and viewed in society. On Thursday, March 25, Executive Director Sharon Harmon will share the Society's history and how the Society's mission will fit into the next century while previewing "A Home For Butch," a 1950-era home movie of the Oregon Humane Society. Come to the Oregon Humane Society at 1067 NE Columbia, Portland, on March 25 at 7 PM; a \$5 donation per family attending is appreciated. Call 285-7722.

### Cops & Lobsters

Officers from the Washington County Police Department will be the "celebrity servers" at Red Lobster for this year's Cops & Lobsters event and help raise money for the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run. The event will be on Sunday, March 7 through Saturday, March 13 (Dinner shifts). Cops & Lobsters will be at the Red Lobster on 10330 SW Greenburg Rd. in Tigard. Call 624-0499.

### Cheerleading Tryout

Prospective cheerleaders for the 1999 edition of the Portland Forest Dragons will be held Saturday starting at 8 AM at the Cedar Mill Gold's Gym, 10860 SW Barnes Road. Applicants must have prior cheerleading and dance experience, skilled in gymnastics and be 19 years of age by the Dragons' game on Saturday, April 10. Applications and waiver forms will be available at the tryout. Call 503/722-4501.

### Design Classes

The Portland Macintosh Users Group will host a seminar on Saturday, March 20, from 10 AM to 3 PM at the PMUG office, located in Suite 547 of the Galleria Mall, 921 SW Morrison St., Portland. Instructor Bonnie Serino will lead "Xpress Yourself with Quark," and cover the basics of using the electronic publishing software QuarkXPress. Call 503/224-4289.

Community Calendar information will be given priority if placed two weeks before the event date.

## Crew Of The New Carissa Let Off Steam By Playing Basketball



Photos: Courtesy The Oregonian

L to R, Conrado Carlos, Linda White and Elmer Branzuela.

The crew of the New Carissa had been through many trials—months at sea, several severe winter storms, a shipwreck, and they had been evacuated by a Coast Guard helicopter from their vessel on February 4<sup>th</sup>. In Portland, the men were under a great deal of stress as they were holed up in a hotel waiting to testify at the Coast Guard hearings on Swan Island. Thanks to Linda White, the unit director of the Blazers Boys and Girls Club, 5250 NE MLK Blvd., some of the men were able to blow off some steam by playing basketball, which has replaced baseball as the national pastime in the Philippines. The crew had a small basketball court on the deck of their ship, but they could play only in calm weather and already this year had lost three basketballs. The all-Filipino crew played a 2-hour pick-up game last Tuesday and then received a tour of the showcase facility by White. The hospitality converted the men to Blazer fans and the night before the ship's crew of engineers left, all the men attended the Utah-Portland game which the Trailblazers won in a double overtime heart-stopper 102 to 100 at the Rose Garden. "We'll be Blazer fans the rest of our lives," said ship oiler Arnold Cruz. "The Philippines is crazy about the NBA."



Top L to R, Baltazar Soan, Arnold Cruz, RaFael Magbanua, Conrado Carlos and Elmer Branzuela. Bottom L to R, Richard Paule, Thomas Cantieos and Leo Orate.

## Sharon Lincoln Named Executive Director At Portland House Of Umoja

Interim Executive Director Sharon Lincoln has been named 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, 45, has served as interim director since September of 1998 and was deputy director since 1997. 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. The board of directors conducted an extensive search process and determined that it had the best candidate already in place.

"We are pleased to have Sharon in place to continue our commitment to improve and expand important community services," Board Co-chair Anthony Jankans said.

"Umoja is an amazing community resource, and we are thrilled that Sharon has agreed to continue her remarkable work as executive director," 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."



## Canda to be Acting NE Coalition Director

By LEE PERLMAN

John Canda was appointed acting executive director of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods last week, following the resignation of Ben Priestley effective February 28.

The executive committee of the non-profit neighborhood coalition chose to appoint Canda to the post rather than have Priestley continue on an interim basis, president Willie Brown told the Observer. "For whatever reason, Ben wanted to leave," Brown said. "It seemed better to honor that than to try to call him back."

NECN contracts with the city to provide support services to volunteer neighborhood groups in inner north and northeast Portland. It is run by a board composed of representatives of neighborhood associations and other organizations, which

oversees its staff.

Canda, the program manager of NECN's Youth Gang Outreach and Tri-Met Rider Advocates programs, says he may be a candidate for permanent director when the position is advertised.

This may take some time. Charles Ford, chair of the coalition's personnel committee, says the group has yet to decide if the directorship will remain under the city's civil service system or become an employee of the coalition, as is the case with most of Portland's other neighborhood office jobs. In addition, Ford says, "We don't have criteria for the position yet, and we won't until we determine the direction the organization is going."

Executive committee member Ron Laster agrees, "We should take a holistic approach rather than just looking at this as a position to be filled."

Brown agreed, although he said that based on previous evaluations the coalition's activities will include an emphasis on fund raising, planning and providing for youth.

Canda says that in the interim he may be doing some assessing of his own. "We need to look at our goals and objectives," he says. "We need to look at our boards, programs and committees to see what everyone is actually doing. We need to look at our funding bases, and build bridges to new sources of funds. Our board members and employees need to attend more community functions to get a better handle on the needs of the community; after all, we're here to serve citizens, and we need to find better ways to do it."

NECN should also look at collaborating with other organizations on programs and projects, he said. "No one organization can be a one-stop shopping center," he said.



John Canda