

# METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

## SECTION B

### Community Calendar

#### Dynamic Differences

Dynamic Differences, an interactive workshop that examines various forms of prejudice and oppression will be presented by the Metropolitan Human Rights Center on Wednesday, June 16, from 6:30 PM - 9 PM at Trinity Lutheran Center, 507 W. Powell in Gresham. The workshop aims to increase understanding of cultural differences and perceptions on a basic level, and further to identify ways we can work together for the common good. To register, call Linda Hunter at 503/823-5136 (Voice/TTY).

#### Learn to Meditate

Learn how to meditate - it's simple, effective and powerful. Develop peace of mind, confidence, and happiness. Create a life of inspiration and infinite possibilities. A free workshop will be offered on Sunday, June 6 and 20 from 1:30 - 3 PM at the Central Library (801 SW 10<sup>th</sup>). No registration required. For questions, call 206/324-3294.

#### Summer Volunteer Training

Bradley-Angle House is pleased to announce our Summer Volunteer Training. We need volunteers to do direct service work: answer our 24-hour crisis line, staff our emergency shelter and transitional houses, work with children's groups, or serve on our Board of Directors. We are also in need of volunteers to do administrative and maintenance work. Our next training will begin Thursday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. Call 282-9940.

#### Oasis Senior Housing Fair Set For June 16th

OASIS (Older Adult Service & Information System) will host the second annual Senior Housing Fair in the Meier & Frank Auditorium Downtown, 10<sup>th</sup> floor on Wednesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 to 2:00 p.m. An educational organization, OASIS offers classes, trips and activities to adults over 55. To become a member and receive an OASIS catalog of current offerings, call 241-3059.

#### Draw Wildlife

The Portland Fine Arts Guild is having a workshop on drawing wildlife in colored pencil with Judy Jamison on June 14, 21 & 28 from 10 AM until 2 PM at the Russellville Grange (at 12105 NE Prescott). The cost is \$4 for members and \$5 for non-members. Call 503/252-9937.

#### Soul Food Classes

Neighborhood Health Clinics (NHC) will hold a series of two-day Soul Food Modifications Workshops and Hands-on Cooking Classes. Workshop participants are asked to bring a favorite soul food recipe, a friend and enjoy an evening of learning, fun and food. There will be no food for the classes. NHC will sponsor three classes on Wednesday evenings at Self-Enhancement Incorporated, 3920 North Kerby Avenue in Portland. The sessions will take place on June 16 and 23, and September 22 and 29. All classes will be held from 6-8 PM. Call 503/288-5995.

#### How to Help Your Child Learn To Read

Instructor: Robin Lindsley  
Tuesday, June 15, 7 To 8:30 P.M.  
Fee: \$15

#### All Sports Camp

Don't miss the Roy Pittman/Straight Up Summer Sampler All Sports Camp on Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM until 1:30 PM. It is open to kids between 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The fun will be held at Peninsula Park. We will have Portland State University coaches and athletes as well as the Gold's Gym Straight Up speed trainers on hand for a half-day of fun, games, and skill building. We'll have stations set up for speed, football, basketball, softball/baseball, volleyball, golf and soccer. Call Roy Pittman at 503/823-3620.

**SUBMISSIONS:** Community Calendar information will be given priority if dated two weeks before the event date.

## A Different View of Jefferson

BY JEANETTE FRUEN

Another local paper's headline "Jefferson still in a tailspin" (May 23, 1999) gives a very different impression of the Jefferson High School that I know my involvement with Jefferson goes back six years. Following the Los Angeles riots after the first Rodney King verdict, some of us from the Episcopal Parish of St John Baptist Church met to discuss how we might work on issues of racism in our own community. As Episcopalians, it seemed natural to reach out to Alcena Boozer, ordained Episcopal priest, and then-principal at Jefferson.

What we discovered exceeded all our expectations and motivated our continued commitment to its students and its programs. Just two weeks ago, nearly 70 of us and our friends - ages 6 to 90 thrilled at breathtaking performances by the nationally acclaimed Jefferson Dancers.

Over the years we have been involved at Jefferson in a variety of ways. As an example we have been monitors in the girls' dressing room during dress rehearsals for their winter and spring dance recitals. It is always a joy to watch these polite, friendly all shapes and sizes, racially and economically integrated young women who are all full-time Jefferson students. The teams are or independently doing warm-up exercises, polishing routines, helping one another change costumes, and get to the stage on time without adult direction. They are self disciplined, confident - and clearly having fun.

It's as good as a school situation can be. And we'll be there again this year on June 2 as monitors and on June 3 as ushers for the spring recital. I hope you'll join as for the recital - you'll be delighted by what

you see.

The students we know are winners! Just look at some of their recent achievements

#### The Jefferson Music Department

- had five All-Star soloists compete in the State Finals Contest
- had the highest number of soloists receiving Superior Ranking in the District 1 Solo/Ensemble Contest
- was chosen to send its saxophone section to appear with Mason Williams, world-famous musician, and the Oregon Symphony.

#### The Theatre Department:

- Performed in a cultural exchange at the 1999 Martin Luther King Jr. Day at Evergreen Middle School
- Performs in student-to-student work shop exchanges with middle schools in the region.

The Video Production Department has won numerous local and national awards.

*Rites of Passage*, the student arts and literary magazine, is consistently ranked among the top 15 in the nation by the National Council of Teachers of English.

And then of course there are the Jefferson Dancers. Last spring the Jefferson Dancers added more stunning successes to their two decades of international recognition. At the - by invitation only biennial National High School Dance Festival in Miami.

The twenty-two dancers received a rousing standing ovation from 1,500 of their peers for their performance of *In the Mood*.

The Jefferson seniors were honored as outstanding student choreographers and received cash prizes for their tap



Jefferson High School

routine.

Of the eight Jefferson students who auditioned for scholarship, two received scholarships from schools known for excellence and invited for further interviews.

Jefferson graduates attend top universities around the nation, including U of O, OSU, PSU, Yale, Stanford, New York University, University of Utah, George Washington, Gonzaga University, and Brown. And they attend schools specializing in the arts and the Philadelphia School of Art including Purchase College (SUNY), North Carolina School of the Arts, and the Philadelphia School of the Arts.

Obviously, there are enormous problems at Jefferson.

But there are also miracles everyday - in

a school where freshman continue to arrive reading at third - and fourth - grade levels. In a school that has had three principals in three years (due partly to school board action). In the school that this year has an almost entirely new staff (caused when the school board fired every person on last year's staff regardless of his or her competence experiences or position)

When I think of Jefferson High and the students I know I don't see them a "tailspin" I see "whirling" seeds that have floated in air and found the nurturing place that allows them to find and follow their dreams.

JEANETTE FRUEN A POLITICAL AND PUBLIC RELATIONS STRATEGIST AND MOTHER OF TWO ADULT DAUGHTERS, LOVES JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL.

## Adidas Provides Sportswear and Shelter In Northeast Portland

### Adidas America and Portland Habitat Raise the Walls on Adidas's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Home

On Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, adidas America, Portland Habitat for Humanity and volunteers from Portland Community College met to raise the walls on the second Portland Habitat home adidas has sponsored in the last two years. The home, at 3602 North Albina, will be ready for Martha and Alfonso Fernandez and their three children

by the end of this year.

With its year-old flagship retail store on NE Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Adidas America understands what it means to give back to their community. Last July Portland Habitat for Humanity and adidas dedicated their first partnership home to the Hernandez family of four, this May Adidas America stepped up as the Presenting Sponsor for Port-

land Habitat's 7<sup>th</sup> annual Walk for Humanity, and last Friday, President and CEO of Adidas America, Steve Wynne, helped raise the walls on Adidas's second single-family home. It is not unusual to see an Adidas administrator on a Habitat site. In addition to the \$50,000 sponsorship for each home, Adidas has provided staff as on-site volunteers for both the Hernandez homes. "We are so pleased to be

back for a second year with Habitat for Humanity," said Steve Wynne, President and CEO of adidas America. "The staff response to both projects has been truly overwhelming. Projects of this nature are a win win for everyone involved; a community need is filled while teaching staff about the importance of good corporate citizenship."

For Portland Habitat, sponsorship like Adidas America's is like a dream come true. Portland Habitat's site supervisor, Sue Jones, will work with Adidas America, Portland Community College, and Habitat volunteers to complete Portland Habitat's 49<sup>th</sup> home. In the last year Portland Habitat has nearly tripled its construction, housing six families in 1997 and 16 in 1998. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Adidas America build will house one of the sixteen families Portland Habitat plans to house in 1999, making us one step closer to eliminating poverty housing. For more information about the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual adidas America build or Portland Habitat for Humanity, please call 287-9529.



Adidas's America's President and CEO, Steve Wynne, holds up a wall with long-time Adidas man, Harold Strausser.



Ray Leary, Adidas's Executive Assistant to the President, chats with volunteers while others raise the walls on the future home of the Fernandez Family.