

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Summer Swimming Lessons

Miss summer swim registration? Getting lessons started a little late? No problem! While lessons are rapidly filling up at Portland Parks and Recreation pools, there are still plenty of opportunities for children and adults to learn to swim! The Parks' Aquatics Division has classes through the rest of the summer in two, two-week-long sessions: August 9 - August 20; August 23 - September 3. The 30-minute classes run Monday through Friday. Spaces are filling fast, so register soon! Explore their website at www.parks.ci.portland.or.us.

Y2K Preparation

As Y2K approaches, SBA (Small Business Association) can help. Small and home-based businesses should be aware of the problem, and what it affects. Acquire the hardware and software fixes and prepare a contingency plan if the patches fail either in your firm or your trading partners. You can do that by getting the facts from SBA's home page at www.sba.gov/y2k if you have Internet connectivity or use the free SBA fax-back capability at 877/789-2565 or contact the SBA office at 503/326-2682.

Help Needy Children

The L.I.F.E. (Low-Income Families Emergency) Center is having its 16th annual back-to-school drive for needy children (K-12). The drive will continue through August 10, 1999. The Center needs new and good usable clothing to ensure needy children are properly prepared for the upcoming school year. If you need more information or would like to volunteer for the giveaway, call Leslie Garth at 503/284-6878. All donations may be dropped off at the L.I.F.E. Center at 2746 NE MLK Jr. Blvd. Or, call the Center for a pick-up.

Ancient Forest Picnic

Join ONRC friends and families for a day of guided ancient forest hikes, games, swimming, music and fabulous vegetarian bar-b-que. Learn about the Oregon Wild campaign to protect wilderness in Oregon on Sunday, August 22 from 11 AM - 5 PM. The cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids 8-18. This will get you the entire day's activities and all-you-can-eat. For more information or directions, contact Catherine at 503-283-6343 ext.211 or visit their website page at ci.onrc.org.

Divorce Recovery Support Groups

Beaverton Christian Church offers a DIVORCE Recovery Group on Monday evenings at 7 PM at Beaverton Christian Church, 13600 SW Allen Blvd. This group provides an opportunity for support, sharing and guidance. It is designed as a support group—not as a substitute for individual therapy. If you are interested in the group, contact Dr. Randy Christian at 503/646-2151, ext. 240.

Children's Fair

The N/NE Taskforce is sponsoring a Children's Fair! It will be held on Saturday, August 14 from 10 AM to 3 PM at Common Bond, located at 4919 NE 9th (behind St. Andrews Church). All families, child care providers and children are welcome to participate in games, music, dance, food and fun! Last year over 500 families attended the fair. The Children's Fair will also feature information on childhood development, helpful parenting tips, community resources, and a free lead testing clinic. A limited number of scholarships are available for non-profit agencies who are unable to afford the \$10 donation. Call Joann Borud at 503/256-0432 X225 to request a scholarship application.

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

Children Beat Their Own Drum at Musical Summer Camp



Photo by Steve Gibbons

“The African Arts Day Camps offer children an alternative to the traditional summer camp experience... Beating an African drum is just part of the fun.”

Dozens of Portland area children are participating in the Homowo African Arts & Cultures Day Camps, a unique summer camp that exposes them to African art forms including basic Ghanaian hand drumming techniques, dance movements, weaving, painting and drawing.

Internationally known artist Obo Addy and members of his traditional group Okropong have conducted two of the weeklong camps at East Portland Community Center (July 19-23) and Whitaker Middle School (July 26-20). The remaining two camps will take place at Friendly House in northwest Portland, August 2-6 and August 9-13.

“The African Arts Day Camps offer children an alternative to the traditional summer camp experience,” said Susan Addy, executive director of Homowo African Arts & Cultures. “Beating an African drum is just part of the fun. Participants also explore the history of another culture through storytelling, music and art—a whole New World is opened to them.”

The African Arts & Cultures Camps, sponsored by Portland General Electric, are an extension of the annual Homowo festival, a traditional Ghanaian festival of welcome and thanksgiving. Addy says the festival is rooted in the values of hospitality, tolerance and reconciliation. The festival will take place this year in the South Park Blocks at Portland State University August 21 and 22. For more information about the Homowo Festival and other related events, contact Susan Addy at 503-288-3025.

PGE's gift of \$8,000 supports the African Arts Day Camp, scholarships for underprivileged youth and sponsorship of the Homowo Festival.

Instructor Charles Armah teaches Shakell Greely the fine art of drumming at the Homowo African Arts Day Camp. Camp was held July 19-23 at East Portland Community Center.

NOBLE's Youth Participated in Memorial March

NOBLE focused on the theme “Count-down to the Millennium... Will You Be Ready?” What's ahead for our youth in the new millennium?

Workshops were held for the youth in

the communities as well as the youth attending the conference as family members of attendees. Topics such as “Challenges to the youth of Law Enforcement,” “Youth Financial Management,” “Youth

and the Media,” were covered just to name a few.

NOBLE is a 3500 member, nonprofit organization of command-level minority law enforcement officials from federal,

state and municipal law enforcement agencies across the country.

The organization is based in Arlington, VA, just outside of Washington, D.C. NOBLE is committed to Justice By Action.



Law enforcement executives take a moment out to speak to the Portland Observer about what they hope to accomplish with their stay in the “City of Roses.” The officers shown from left to right include: Stan Reeves, Deputy Chief of the Vancouver Police Department; Mac Lockett, retired Chief of Police of Portland Public Schools; Michael D. Bryant, Chief of Police of Portland International Airport; Roy A. Brown, Captain Patrol Commander of the City of Eugene.



Photos by M. Washington