

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Winter Break

When schools close their doors for Winter Break, many youth-serving organizations will open their doors to keep kids active and involved. The Police Activities League (PAL) Youth Center at 424 NE 172nd will be open to youth ages eight through high school for recreation, sports, arts & crafts, movies, reading, and special classes, December 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. cost is \$20 for a youth membership which lasts through June 9, 2000; or free to PAL members.

Church of Scientology Bazaar

The Church of Scientology of Portland will have a Christmas bazaar, the last for this holiday season on Wednesday, December 22 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 2636 NE Sandy Blvd. Come find that last little needed item while you still can. All proceeds will go to a local charity. For more information, call 963-8121.

ZooLights Festival

The ZooLights Festival at the Oregon Zoo, a Metro facility, runs every evening through January 2, except December 24 and 25.

Auditioning for the Camera

TASO is offering "Auditioning for the Camera" on January 8 from 10 AM to 4 PM. Learn the skills to successfully audition for film, television and commercials. Tuition is \$50 and space is still available for this valuable workshop. For more information, call 725-3526.

Kwanzaa Gala and Gentleman's Ball

The Bridge Builders Third Annual Kwanzaa Gala and Gentlemen's Ball will be held at 7 p.m. on Sunday, December 26 at the Portland Marriott Hotel, located at 1401 SW Naito Parkway (formerly Front Avenue). Last year, more than 700 community residents attended the second annual Kwanzaa Gala and Gentlemen's Ball. For more information about Bridge Builders and the Kwanzaa Gala and Gentlemen's Ball. Please call at 503/285-1165.

Natural Health Lectures

A series of free lectures organized around the classical Chinese triad of Heaven, Earth and Human Beings will be presented by Todd Luger, a licensed acupuncturist. Learn also how Traditional Chinese Medicine can help with the prevention and treatment of PMS, Endometriosis, Uterine Fibroids, Infertility and Cervical Dysplasia. The series of lectures will begin on Tuesday, January 11 from 7-8 PM. Seating is limited. Call 503/526-0397 to register.

Methane Gas

On Thursday, January 6 at 7 PM, the DEQ staff will provide information on plans to install a new system for collecting methane gas at the former Killingsworth Fast Disposal site at NE Killingsworth Street and NE 75th Avenue. Other topics to be discussed include the site's history, landfill gas generation and monitoring, landfill gas collection system operation, and potential new uses for the 24-acre site. For more information, contact Joe Mollusk at 229-6744.

Vaudeville Revisited

Step back into yesteryear with Vaudeville Revisited! On January 7, 8, 13, 14, and 15 at 8 PM, Portland State University theater arts students rediscover their roots in this wonderfully creative salute to Vaudeville. The stage on SW Broadway & Market in Lincoln Halls studio theatre (Rm. 115) is glowing warmly with old fashion foot lights, as the actors don grease paint and crack old jokes. \$3 is the suggested donation. Call 725-3526.

Grant awarded to Concordia University by U.S. Bank

Concordia University has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from U.S. Bank to provide scholarships for N.E. Portland residents. Concordia provides scholarship aid to 85% of its students. Grants from the U.S. Bank allow the University to select needy students from N.E. Portland who show special promise, and provide additional aid, that frequently makes the difference, in allowing them to attend Concordia.

Concordia's president, Dr. Charles E. Schimpert, said, "We are delighted to partner with U.S. Bank in making University education a reality for deserving students. In the past year the U.S. Bank grant made a significant difference in the lives of several promising young people."

Concordia University was one of seventy-four non-profit organizations that received recent grants from U.S. Bank in the bank's

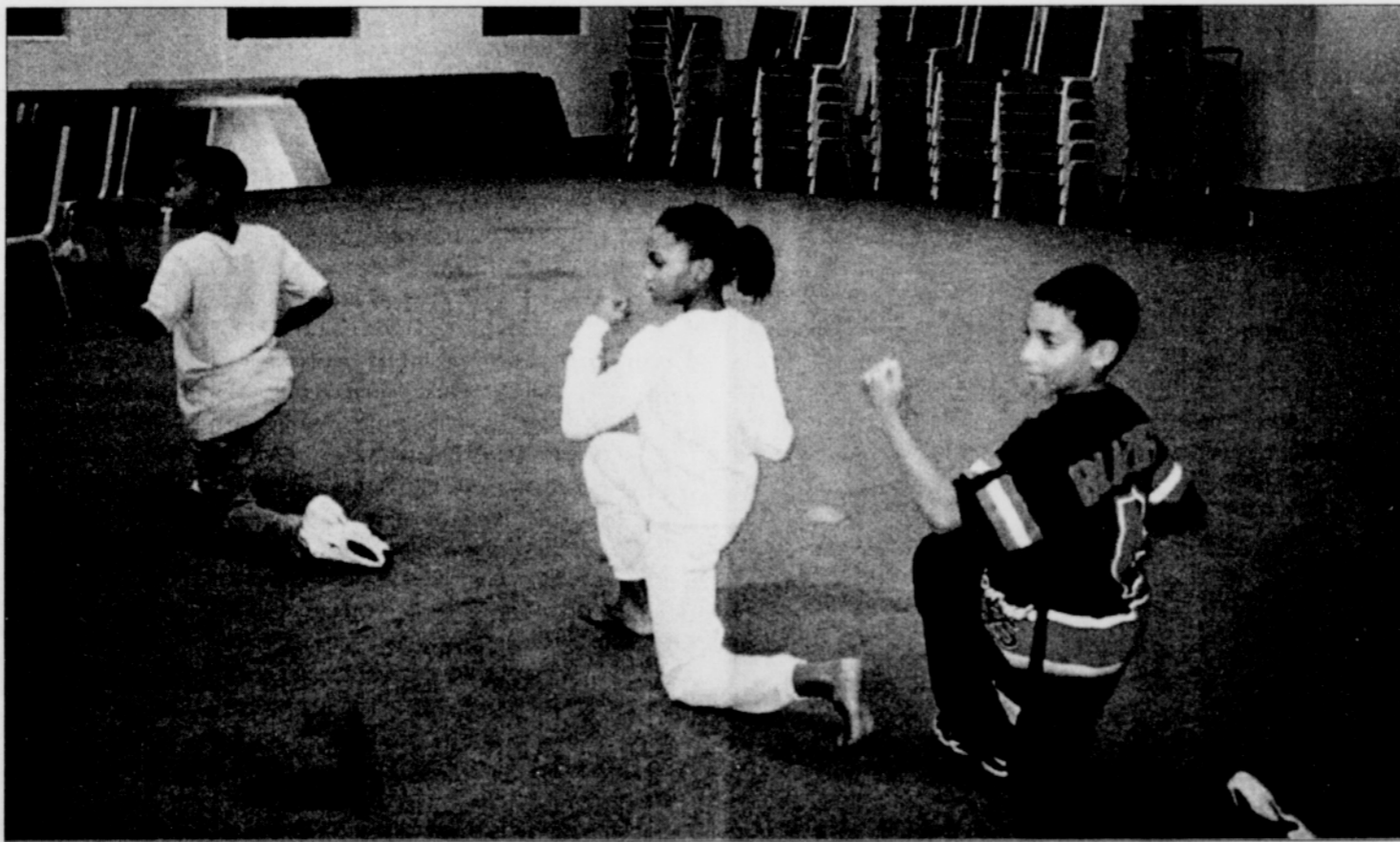
third round of funding this year, which focused on education and community development. "U.S. Bank is committed to working with non-profit organization that have positive impacts on communities throughout Oregon," said John Rickman, President U.S. Bank. "We are proud to be a partner with Concordia University and congratulate them for the way they provide quality education to Oregon students." More than 130 non-profit organizations were awarded U.S. Bank grants this year.

Concordia University is the only four-year college or university, in N.E. Portland. It has an enrollment of 1,150. It offers quality programs in teacher education, management, theology and a variety of liberal arts areas. Additional information about programs and financial aid can be obtained by calling the Admissions Office at (503) 280-8501.



From left to right: Robert Boyer, member of Concordia University of Board of regents, Linda Wright, Vice President Community Relations at U.S. Bank, and Frederick D Kramer, asst. to president of Concordia University.

Kung Fu for kids



Children take advantage of the free martial arts classes offered to build their bodies, minds and souls.

Free Martial Arts classes for community youths

CONTRIBUTED STORY
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Through a collaboration between Lutheran Inner City Ministries and Kyle Alexander, black belt in Mo Duk Pai Kung Fu, free martial arts classes have been made available for children aged 8 through 15 right here in our community.

Open to both boys and girls of all races, spiritual disciplines, and physical abilities, classes are held twice weekly. Mondays from 4:15 pm to 5:15, and Wednesdays from 3:30 pm to 4:15.

"There are many benefits from training martial arts," comments Mr. Alexander. "Increased focus, improved health, added confidence, and an understanding of commitment and

respect are among them."

One of the first programs of its sort in the country, children involved in Kung Fu for kids have a unique opportunity to experience quality martial arts instruction as well as to blow off steam in a safe, supervised, and fun after school setting.

To register your child, or for more information, please call Anthony Vece at 281-7036.

Kennedy school gets high marks

BY STAFF REPORTER
OF THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

After two years of operation, what do neighbors think of McMenamin's Kennedy School, and the decision to make it a theater, brew pub, bed and breakfast and meeting facility?

By general consensus, the answer remains: the best choice under the circumstances, and worth the price.

"The McMenamin brothers have created a facility that's an asset not just to the neighborhood, but to the entire city," former Concordia Neighborhood Association chair Ron Fossum says.

The Concordia neighborhood wrestled with the issue of what to do with the deteriorated, historic former school at 5718 N.E. 33rd Ave. in 1995. At Concordia's instigation the city acquired the property from the Portland School District as part of a larger exchange of money and land among several jurisdictions.

The city set the first test: the new use had to be something that could support itself, independent of city funds; a new public community center was not in the cards. Other goals that emerged from a citizen task force and a series of community meetings were: to save as much of the building as possible; to make at least part of it available for community use; to make it "an asset to the neighborhood" in both its design and activities; to avoid converting the property to housing if possible.

This last eliminated six of 11 proposals submitted when the Portland Development Commission requested redevelopment plans. Of the rest, Brian and Michael McMenamin's

(Please see 'Kennedy' page 2)

The Portland Observer takes west coast awards

BY THE STAFF
OF THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The Portland Observer and its Publisher and Editor in Chief Charles Washington were the proud recipient of several national awards in a newspaper competition against many other black publications. Five of the awards were as follows 1st place in Best Promotional Advertising, 2nd place for Best Sports Section, 2nd place for Best News Story, 2nd place for Best Entertainment Section, and 2nd place for General Excellence.

The 16th Annual West Coast Black Publishers Association (WCBPA) convention held recently at the Monte Carlo Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada, brought high praise from attending delegates and corporate sponsors for its substantive program of workshops,

speakers and special events.

There were several meaningful moments during the four day gathering which was highlighted by the passing of the gravel from the outgoing President, Brian Townsend, Publisher of the San Bernardino Precinct Reporter, to the newly elected President, Cloves Campbell, Jr., Co-Publisher of the Arizona Informant.

Townsend was honored by his fellow publishers for his excellent leadership, vision and dedication for the past four years, according to Campbell, "We are very pleased with the direction that Brian has taken our association. He has unlocked new programs and brought a special enthusiasm which has bridged resources in the community."

(Please see 'Awards' on page 3)

Chuck Washington, publisher editor in chief of The Portland Observer, is shown with John J. Oliver, president of the National Newspaper Publishers Association.

