

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Poems Over Broadway!

Poems Over Broadway! Is our monthly open mike poetry reading for poets of all ages, skill levels and styles. With an intimate, relaxed and non-confrontational atmosphere, it's great for first-time readers. Poetry lovers will enjoy meeting and hearing poets from the area read their work. The event will be at Barnes & Noble at NE Broadway and 13th on Friday, February 11 at 7 p.m.

Free Photography Contest

The International Library of Photography is pleased to announce that over \$60,000.00 in prizes will be awarded this year in the International Open Amateur Photography Contest. Photographers from the Portland area, particularly beginners, are welcome to try to win their share of over 1,300 prizes. The deadline for the contest is March 31. The contest is open to everyone and entry is FREE. You can visit their website at www.picture.com.

Independent Thinkers Essay Contest

Barnes & Noble in partnership with Mercury Sable is pleased to bring you "The Independent Thinkers series", a selection of books celebrating unique points of view. In conjunction with the series, we've created an "Independent Thinkers Essay Contest". Tell us in 250 words or less, why you think one of the books in the series was chosen and you could win prizes including \$25,000 in cash or a 2000 Mercury Sable and, if you are a high school student, scholarships and a matching grant and a library of Independent Thinker books for your school. Please visit the Independent Thinkers table inside any Barnes & Noble store for details about the contest and ask a bookseller about events related to these books. The essay contest will be held through March 15. Call 503/283-2800 for more information.

3rd Annual Railroad Show at Powell's

Powell's Books in Beaverton is hosting the 3rd Annual Railroad Photography Show on Saturday, February 26 from 4 to 10 p.m. This year's show promises to be the biggest ever. Railroading enthusiasts from throughout the region make this an annual pilgrimage where photographers from throughout the Pacific Northwest showcase their work. It's not too late to sign up as a presenter. If interested, contact Dan Haneckow at Powell's Books in Beaverton, 643-3131.

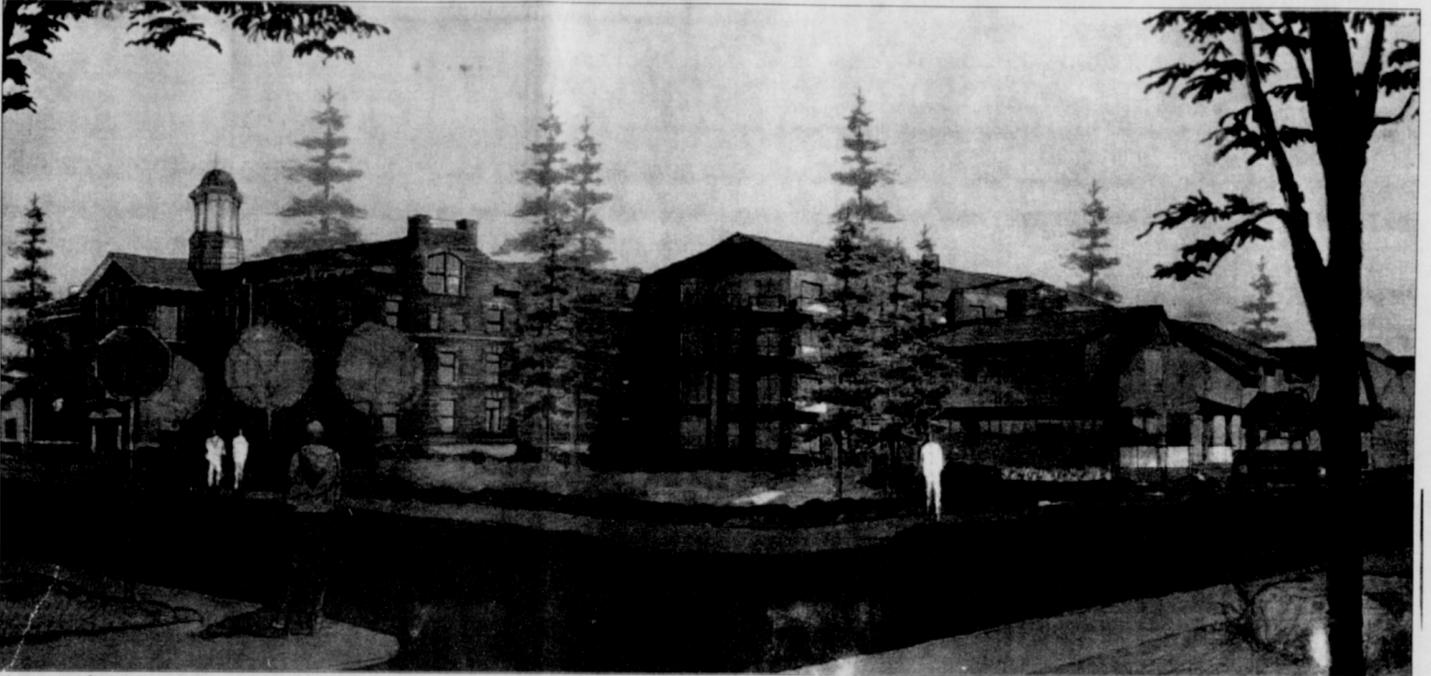
Grand Floral Parade

Tickets are now available for the Portland Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade held on Saturday, June 10 at the Memorial Coliseum at 10 a.m. Prices are \$23, \$20 and \$11.50 (add \$.50 for phone/internet orders). Call Rose Quarter Ticket Office at 227-2681 or any Ticketmaster.

King neighborhood development nears completion

The King Neighborhood Association, District 1 Vision Committee will meet between from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. February 7 at the Key Bank Community Room, located in the Walnut Park shopping center on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. to discuss and finalize a new commercial development strategy. The strategy will help shape and revitalize commercial development in their district. For more information about the meeting call Joan Brown-Kline 503-297-6569.

Piedmont residents meet with developers of their future homes



Artists rendering.

BY LEE PERLMAN
OF THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Piedmont residents met the creators of their future neighbors last week, the developers of the Rosemont School property.

About 40 people turned out to hear and question representatives of Walsh Construction Company, Northwest Housing Alternatives, Habitat for Humanity, Andrews and Ankrom Moisin architects discuss plans for redeveloping the 7.6 acre former Catholic girls school at 597 N. Dekum St. (Another partner, HOST Community Development, was not represented.) The Portland Development Commission acquired the property in 1998, and agreed to sell it to Walsh. Piedmont

Neighborhood Association representatives participated in creation of the criteria and the final selection.

Tom Walsh said that the team had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with PDC two days before the meeting, and expected to complete and sign a detailed, formal contract by the end of April. They expect to begin work on the historic Villa St. Rose convent building by October 2 and complete it within a year, he said. Cynthia Winter, outgoing director of Habitat, said her nonprofit organization hoped to begin work on five of its houses by April 2. Work on the rest of the rest of the project is slated to begin April 2001 following installation of new infrastructure, Walsh said. The project has "continued to evolve"

since the team submitted its proposal, architect Martha Andrews said. The convent building, and a four-story addition, will now be occupied solely by 100 low-income senior housing units, with earlier plans for market rate loft housing dropped. There will still be 18 row house units, some rentals, and 51 single family structures, with 10 each built by Habitat and HOST, the rest by Walsh. The single family homes will be situated on North Dekum and Bryant streets and Congress Avenue, while the higher density structures will be concentrated in the center of the site. New extensions of North Borthwick and Kerby avenues and Saratoga Street will be built into the property. There will be community facilities, right now "the least defined part of

the plan," Andrews said, but including playground and tot lot. Former school buildings will be demolished, but as much of the material as possible will be preserved for re-use.

Much with the discussion dealt with the construction process, which Walsh conceded would be "messy." Doing the earth-moving work during winter months should reduce the amount of dust generated he said.

One neighbor, Hillary Russell, asked, "Will there be backhoes at work at 7 a.m.? How much sleep will I lose because of this?"

"Very little," Walsh said. Work will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on an "aggressive but not

(Please see 'Housing' page 2)

Black History Month



To celebrate the spirit and perseverance of the people throughout history that have made the world today and contributes to tomorrow, The Portland Observer will be making a special commitment to highlighting them and their deeds in the month of February.

George Washington, a black pioneer who donated his land claim to Centralia Washington, is believed to have been the first person to build a house in that city.

Please see The Focus for more moments in Black History.

Using the web to build your business

CONTRIBUTED STORY
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Danielle Forsyth, Co-owner and President of Crisis in Perspective (CIP), Inc. will be the presenter at a workshop designed to aid business owners on how to use the web to increase the size of their businesses. Forsyth works with Microsoft and numerous internet, commerce and graphic companies developing technology and strategic plans and defining products for the web.

Prior to co-founding CIP, Ms Forsyth held engineering, marketing and management positions at Hewlett-Packard and Tektronix. She has degrees in mathematics, computer science and business. She serves on the advisory boards of Driveway.com, and internet storage company, and Elvis & Bonaparte, a high technology branding firm.

Danielle is heavily involved in Portland area community development and children's activities.

While the program is aimed at the North/Northeast, all are welcome. A continental breakfast will be available and there is no charge for attendance.

Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2000; 7:30am to 9:00 am.

Location: Billy Reed Restaurant 2808 NE MLK Jr. Blvd.

For additional information, please call Berta Delman, MLK Main Street manager, 284-3093.