

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

N.E. Community Resource Fair

Neighbors of Multnomah County's Northeast Health Center are invited to attend a free Community Resource Fair. The goal of the event is to heighten awareness of the wide array of services essential to family health, education and well-being. There will be facepainting and healthy refreshments. The event will be held on Friday, February 11 at the Multnomah County Northeast Health Center (5329 NE Martin Luther King) from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 248-3663.

Valentine Social at Matt Dishman

Sweeten your week and join other seniors (age 55 & up) around the city for dancing or listening to George Sievert & Orchestra as they play the best music from the 40's into the 90's. Make requests to hear your favorite Swing, Latin, Waltz, and Dixieland tunes. Portland Parks & Recreation's Senior Leisure Services proudly sponsors this annual event on Friday, February 11, 1-4 p.m. at the Matt Dishman Community Center at 77 NE Knott. No partner needed - you can make new friends during "mix & meet" numbers. Refreshments will be served. \$2 admission. For more information, call 823-4328.

Free Quilting Workshop

People of all ages will have the opportunity to learn quilting from local experts at the Oregon Jewish Museum from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, February 13. At the Family Day workshop, local quilters will demonstrate the quilting process. Visitors will have the opportunity to do hand piecing and applique. Supplies will be provided. Admission to the museum is free. Call 226-3600

Free Cancer Screening

To celebrate Valentine's Day and commemorate National Cervical Cancer Awareness month, Planned Parenthood of the Columbia/Willamette (PPCW) is offering free breast and cervical cancer screenings February 14 for women who have not had a Pap smear in the last three years. Women must make appointments for the screenings, and can call 1-800-230-PLAN for the nearest PPCW clinic.

Native American Folk Art

Mary Louise Defender Wilson, gifted Dakota/Hidatsa Traditionalist and Storyteller from Shields, North Dakota is traveling to Portland, Oregon for special folk art performances on February 18-19. She is the 1999 recipient of the prestigious National Endowment for the Arts Heritage Fellowship for her folklore and oral tradition. She will be at the Interstate Firehouse Culture Center Origin's Lecture Series on Friday, February 18 at 7:30 p.m. and at an afternoon with Wisdom of the Elders on Saturday, February 19 at PSU's Smith Ballroom. Call Rose High Bear at 503/775-4014 or Brad Kendrick at IFCC at 503/823-2070.

Valentine Concert Series 2000

Michael Allen Harrison, pianist/composer will be holding a Valentine Concert Series - 2000 in the romantic candlelight setting of the Old Church. Tickets are available at all Fred Meyer Fastixx Outlets or by phone at 503/224-8499. Michael will feature many selections from his recordings over the last 14 years, including his latest CD with Julianne Johnson "Cheek to Cheek", as well as new compositions never heard before.

Here comes Interstate MAX

• Project listed as priority in President Clinton's budget; major step toward federal funding

CONTRIBUTED STORY
FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The Interstate MAX light rail project today passed its first major hurdle when it received a strong financial endorsement from the Clinton Administration.

During a conference call with US Department of Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater, Mayor Vera Katz and Tri-Met's General Manager Fred Hansen were told that Interstate MAX is a priority for new rail projects in President Clinton's budget that was released on Monday. Congressman Earl Blumenauer participated in the call from Washington, DC, with City Commissioner Charlie Hales and Metro Councilor Jon Kvistad in Portland. The region is asking for \$257.5 million to fund the federal government's share of the \$350 million, 5.6-mile extension. The President's budget lists the project at the top of its funding requirement for new projects, and calls for a \$40 million appropriation for FY01.

(Please see 'Max' page 3)



From left to right Commissioner Charles Hale, Mayor Vera Katz and Tri-Mets general manager, Fred Hanson cut into a cake during the meeting Tuesday.

New home considered for proposed team

BY LEE PERLMAN
OF THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Big league baseball booster Lynn Lashbrook, having tried to promote big time use of Civic Stadium, thinks he has found a better location:

The Portland School District property at 501 N. Dixon St., across North Broadway from the Rose Quarter.

"I've fallen in love with the improvements on the east side," Lashbrook, a professional consultant, told the Lloyd District Community Association board at a recent meeting. "You guys would be the winners. It would aid everyone's quality of life."

Lashbrook is scheduled to discuss his ideas with the Eliot Neighborhood Association at

their next board meeting, 7 p.m. Feb. 14 at Emanuel Hospital's Lorenzen Center.

He has given up an earlier effort to bring a major league team to an expanded Civic Stadium, in part because of solid neighborhood opposition to such an idea. "We didn't start our discussions with the people around the stadium and that was a huge mistake, not that we could have overcome the obstacles involved," he said. "We need to get away from our fixation on Civic, and find a proper fit."

The school district property has come up as a possible site "more than once," Lashbrook said. Its location near a freeway entrance, the Rose Quarter and two light rail lines are all a plus, he said. Not all issues relating to parking

and traffic have been addressed, but "we have to start somewhere. We have to get off the dime." So far he is "just in the discussion phase" with school district officials, and an hour-long meeting with mayor Vera Katz who "gave me her blessing," he said. "It doesn't look like finding a place for the school district's offices will be our biggest obstacle," he said.

Katz's office could not be reached for comment. Portland School board member Marc Abrams laughed when told of Lashbrook's comments. "The property is not for sale," he told the Observer. "We have our offices there, and we have long-term contractual obligations to Multnomah County to provide space there. We plan to begin a year-long evaluation of our facility needs, but any

alternative plans for this property is very premature."

"As the 22nd largest market, with only the Trail Blazers as competition, Portland is very underserved," Lashbrook said. Citing past defunct professional football and soccer teams and the Portland Power women's basketball team he said, "Portland hasn't failed to support new teams, it's the leagues that have failed." He said that retail businesses located near major league baseball stadiums see their business go up 30 percent on game days. "It would be silly not to at least look at it," he said.

Portland Conference Center Alan Peters said, "This is an event district. It seems natural."

Black History Month



Two foreign students donate money to Portland's local NAACP chapter. This week's observation of Black History Month cover the years of 1900-1950. The founding father of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) was an amazing intellect and radical. He was also the first black to receive a Ph.D. from Harvard University. Ironically, he was fired from his own NAACP organization twice for his leftist views. Can you name him? For the answer, see the Focus.