



Family Living

'Shared Spirits' & Interstate MAX blend culture and project awareness

CONTRIBUTED STORY FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Tri-Met's Interstate MAX light rail project will host a day of information sharing and cultural entertainment on Saturday, May 6 at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center.

Exhibits, entertainment and discussions will be from 10 AM - 4 PM at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N Interstate Ave. (Tri-Met bus line 5-Interstate). Discussions on Interstate MAX topics will alternate with performances by local cultural groups. Artist Lillian Pitts' exhibit of sculptures, masks and prints called "Shared Spirits" will be on display. Performers include:

· No! Kidding! Choir, youth choir

· providing an urban, multi-ethnic, vocal program (11 AM)
· Polish Dance Troupe, presenting traditional Polish dances (1 PM)
· Stage II/Teen Artists, an urban troupe providing African drumming & dancing (2 PM)
· ATZINNEGAY ALLI, a traditional pre-Hispanic dance group (3 PM)
Guests can join small group discussions on Interstate MAX topics, including station design, art projects, bike routes, brownfields studies and construction plans. All performances and discussion groups are free of charge and are accessible. Children are encouraged to attend. Mexican pastries, coffee and juice will be available. Language interpreters are available if notification is given by Thurs., April 27 at (503) 247-3958. TTY (503) 238-

5811. Interstate MAX extension The 5.8-mile Interstate MAX line includes 10 new stations between the Expo Center and Rose Quarter Transit Center, and would operate directly between Expo Center and downtown Portland. The City of Portland, Tri-Met and Metro have approved local funding for the \$350 million extension, which requires no additional property taxes. A federal match of \$257.5 million has been requested. If approved, construction will begin by the end of 2000, and train service will start in fall 2004. For information on the community day, drop by the Interstate MAX field office at 5101 N Interstate Ave. or call (503) 962-2254 or try our website at www.tri-met.org.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Child abuse report calls for response

CONTRIBUTED STORY FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

State child welfare officials say a report released Tuesday is further evidence of the need for more community involvement in child protection and safety. The Oregon Department of Human Services' annual status of children report documents 1999 statistics on child maltreatment, adoption and foster care. "From this report, we continue to learn that government alone cannot

meet the goals of child protection and permanence," said Ramona Foley, administrator of the State Office for Services to Children and Families. "By working together, state, local government and nonprofit partners will continue to help individuals and families improve their outcomes in the best interest of Oregon's children." While the federal government has released consecutive reports that, nationally, child maltreatment cases are on the decline, Oregon's caseloads are increasing. This is attributed in part to a child-maltreatment category called

"threat of harm," which some states don't report. This includes any activities, conditions or persons that place the child at substantial risk of physical or sexual abuse, neglect or mental injury, even though actual harm may not have occurred. "Although this category contributes to higher numbers of child victims, it also puts child welfare workers in a position to identify early factors that may endanger a child," said Foley. For a copy visit www.hr.state.or.us/

Police from page 1

to the World Trade Center to protest outside Sen. Gordon Smith's office. Tensions rose when someone threw a newspaper box at officers, someone broke a Nike store window and several protesters threw fiery objects at officers on horseback, police said. Police then pushed and prodded the protesters into Waterfront Park, trapping the protesters along the waterfront. An officer declared an unofficial state of emergency and others waved guns and clubs. Later, they used the weapons to disperse the crowd. A leader of the demonstration used a loudspeaker to urge the marchers to continue on to Powell's. "When they start throwing rocks at buildings and horses, we have to act swiftly and decisively," said Mike Crebs, incident commander at the Portland police department. "We did everything we're supposed to do." But those at Tuesday's press conference said officers were also rough with peaceful protesters.

"I was trying to calm things down when the police grabbed me," said Shira Zucker, 20. "I was choked with a billy club and struck at least four times."

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