

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Get Wild on the Willamette

Join curious, outdoor enthusiasts this spring in exploring diverse wildlife, habitats, and restoration efforts along the Willamette River in Portland. Bird watching, plant identification and water quality discussions are all part of these guided, two-hour, Saturday, walking tours. All walks are free. The next event will be on Saturday, April 14, from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Call 503/823-7863.

Nia Week: Welcome Back to Fitness!

The Nia Technique is an exciting and expressive mix of yoga, martial arts, jazz and modern dance and features an eclectic selection of music, from New Age to World Funk. Each class during Nia Week will have a specific focus to welcome participants and deepen their Nia experience. The next session is on Monday, April 23 on "The Joy of Movement" at Body Moves, 918 SW Yamhill, 4th floor.

Easter at the Oregon Humane Society

The Oregon Humane Society will be having an Easter celebration. Remember Easter with a fun photo of you, your child, or your newly adopted pet with the Easter Bunny. Shop at OHS Best Friends' Corner Retail Store and enter to win a Rabbit Care Pack. Kids can crack open an Easter egg revealing a discount on the normal adoption fee. Call 503/285-7722.

MAXimizing Neighborhood Stability

In an effort to fight involuntary displacement in the Interstate Urban Renewal District, 11 community groups have joined to form MAXimizing Neighborhood Stability. As part of this effort, the Community Alliance of Tenants (CAT) will be leading a training and doorknocking effort on April 14, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Albina Youth Opportunity School at 3710 N. Mississippi.

Dances with Universal Peace

The Oregon Peace Institute (OPI) will sponsor a workshop on Dances with Universal Peace with Devi DeJardin. The Dances of Universal Peace are a form of multicultural folk dances dedicated "toward one world, within and without." This will take place on April 19, from 7-9 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1011 SW 12th, Rm. 134. Call 503/725-8192.

Ujima Day

The Ujima Education Office (UEO) is hosting its 4th annual African/American community outreach event, "Ujima Day" which will be held at Self Enhancement Inc., located at 3920 N. Kerby on Saturday, April 14 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. "Ujima Day" is to continue to emphasize the importance of post-secondary education and highlight the opportunities offered by OSU. Call 1-800-291-4192, ext. 9032.

3rd Annual Race for the Roses

Volunteers are needed for the 3rd Annual Race for the Roses, April 22 at OMSI. This half-marathon, 5K race/walk and 1/2 mile kids' dash, "Bridging the Gap for Kids in Crisis," benefits Albertina Kerr Centers and The Boys & Girls Aid Society of Oregon. Food, fun and t-shirts provided! Call Carol Hardwick at 503/222-9661.

Family Fun Night

Families that play together, stay together. A variety of activities, arts and crafts, riding toys, balls and games. Children must be accompanied by an adult on Fridays, April 12 - May 25, from 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the Peninsula Park Community Center, located at 700 N. Portland Blvd. Call 503/823-3620.

Procession of the Species Parade

Celebrate Mother Earth! Gain respect for the environment while developing your creative abilities. Learn basic drills and strut your stuff in the Procession of the Species parade on Saturday, April 28. Workshop takes place on Thursday, April 26, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. The event is free to all ages. Call Peninsula Park Community Center at 503/823-3620.

Dismantling Racism in Portland



Hundreds of walkers meet at the Rose Quarter Commons area on Saturday for the Walk as One walk-a-thon. The National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) sponsored the event in 24 cities nationwide to help dismantle bias, bigotry and racism.

(PHOTO BY DAVID GIEZYNG/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER)

St. John Tops Poetry Celebration

Local Poets of All Ages Invited to Saturday Reading

Area residents are invited to celebrate National Poetry Month with prize-winning poet Primus St. John at a free poetry reading Saturday, April 14 at 2 p.m. at the Lloyd Center Barnes and Nobel bookstore, 1231 N.E. Broadway.

St. John is a professor of literature and creative writing at Portland State University, where he teaches African, Caribbean, African-American and Latino literature classes as well as poetry writing seminars. His most recent book of poetry, "Communion" won the 2000 Western States Book Award.

Sponsored by the Oregon State Poetry Association, the reading will also feature OSPA President David Hedges and Kasey Marie Jakien, a senior at Cleveland High School who has won awards in both the Oregon Student Poetry Contest and regular OSPA contests, as well as a writing award from "Scholastic Magazine."



Primus St. John

Following the featured readers, local poets of all ages, and non-poets who like poetry, are invited to read either their own work or that of a favorite poet. People can come just to listen, and children are welcome.

Founded in 1956, OSPA is Oregon's oldest statewide literary organization. Its mission is "to bring together and nurture, the widest possible community of Oregon poets; to help Oregon poets, young and old, develop their talents and skills; to stimulate at the grassroots level, a statewide appreciation of poetry; and, to raise public awareness of Oregon poets, past and present."

Springboard Saturday

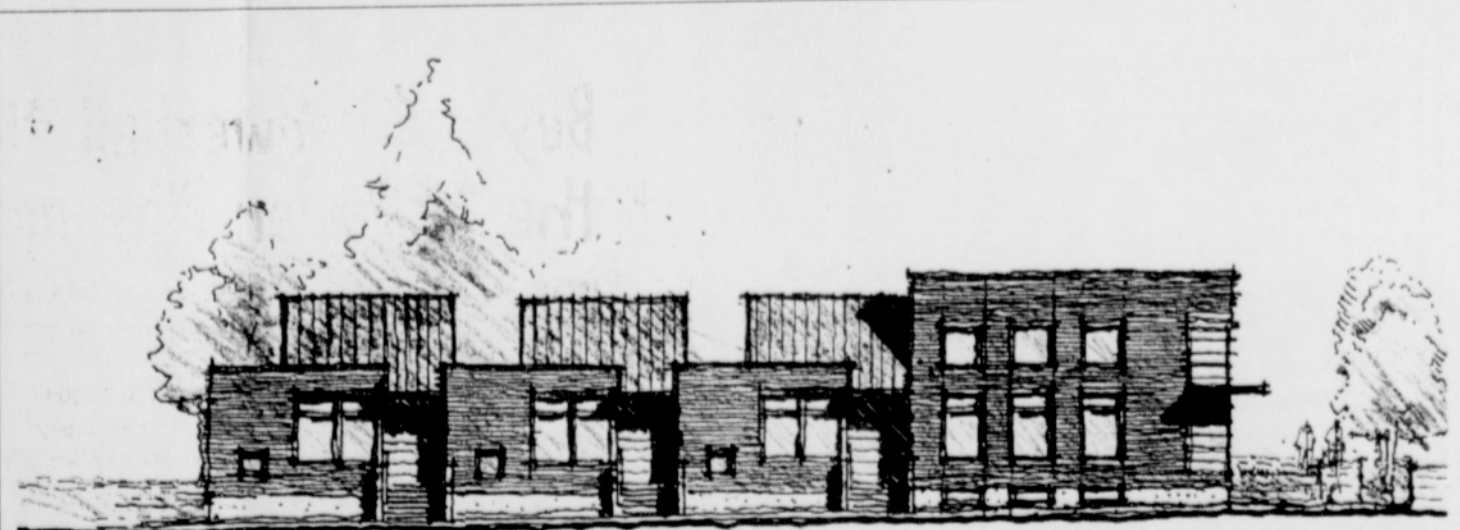


Marcelle Million (right) is one of the first students to apply to attend the St. Andrew Nativity School, a new middle school to open this fall off northeast Alberta. Joining him at Saturday's "Springboard" school session were Amy Burgess (left) and Sheryl Brown of St. Mary's Academy.

(PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER)

Post Office Works to Meet Tax Deadline

The U.S. Postal Service urges customers to avoid the Monday, April 16, income tax deadline crowds by mailing their income tax returns early and by ensuring each envelope carries the proper postage. For those who wait until the deadline, post offices in the Portland metropolitan area will collect and postmark tax returns until midnight on Monday, April 16 from blue Postal Service collection boxes in front of designated post offices. These blue collection boxes will be marked with special yellow signs verifying midnight pick-up in front of designated post offices. All other collection boxes without a yellow sign will be picked-up at their posted, regularly scheduled times. "The best option for those who have correct postage and just need to get the April 16 postmark," is to avoid the crowds by using the blue collection boxes with yellow signs located in front of designated post offices in the Portland area." Portland Postmaster Michael J. Daley said.



Head Start Coming to Rosemont

An artist's rendering shows the design of a new Head Start facility to be built at North Bryant and Kerby as part of the redevelopment of the Rosemont-Villa St. Rose property. The facility, designed by Sinan Gumusoglu of OTAK Architects, will be 11,000 square feet, and contain 6 classrooms housing up to 84 children. The structure will undergo design review by the city beginning this week. The Piedmont Neighborhood Association at one point expressed concern about inclusion of the facility in the 338-unit residential project. However, spokesperson Tom Markgraf says that at this point, "We have every indication they'll be a real asset to the neighborhood."