

# METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

## Community Calendar

### YMCA Day Camp

The YMCA of Columbia-Willamette is currently holding open registration for Day Camps for youth entering 1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grades. Weekly camps begin June 18<sup>th</sup> and run through August 31<sup>st</sup>. Programs run from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. are conveniently located at over 30 sites. For Eastside Camp locations contact 503/287-4069. For Westside locations, call 503/641-3345, ext. 105.

### Naturescaping for Clean Rivers

A free "Naturescaping for Clean Rivers" workshop will be held on Saturday, May 5 at the Portland Parks Natural Resource Office. The workshop focuses on natural landscapes and water-friendly gardening practices. A naturescaped yard protects water quality, conserves water and prevents erosion. The workshop will be held on Saturday, May 5, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Portland Parks, Natural Resource Office, located at 5701 SE. 86<sup>th</sup>. Admission is free. Call 503/797-1842.

### The God Connection

The God Connection invites you to their Annual Live Concert and Silent Auction on Saturday, April 28, from 6 p.m. - 10 p.m. at 4828 NE. 33<sup>rd</sup>. This year's Live Concert is headlined by Theresa "Keiko's Dream" Demarest, and will feature other talented Portland singer-songwriters including Juliet Wyers, Allyn Roberts, and Casey Chaney. Call 503/481-7591, or e-mail: [concert@godconnection.org](mailto:concert@godconnection.org).

### Pet Adoption 2001

The Oregon Humane Society joins with hundreds of animal welfare organizations around the country for the May 5-6 "Pet Adoption 2001." Over 140 homeless pets are expected to find loving homes from the Oregon Humane Society during the marathon adoption weekend. Visit the society, located at 1067 NE. Columbia Blvd. in Portland, on Saturday, May 5 from 10 a.m. and Sunday, May 6 from 12 noon until 7 p.m. Call 503/285-7722.

### Medicare Planning

"Medicare Planning... Making Sense of Supplemental Insurance Options" is a two hour unbiased class for people ages 55 through 64 who are thinking of returning or for those approaching Medicare eligibility age. Pre-registration is required by calling 503/413-8795. The next class is on Tuesday, May 1, from 6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. on the Good Samaritan Hospital Campus.

### Les Femmes' 50<sup>th</sup>

#### Anniversary Tea

In honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Les Femmes requests the presence of all past Debutante and Cavaliers, years 1951 to 2000 to their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tea on Saturday, April 28 at Immaculate Heart Catholic Church Parish Hall, located at 2926 N. Williams Ave., from 2:30-4 p.m. Call Betty Stephens at 503/255-8645.

### Vietnam Veterans of America

The Vietnam Veterans of America, Francis C. Sollers Chapter 392 invites you to come to our monthly meetings the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the VA Hospital, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, follow the signs. Call Kristin Kidd at 503/777-9787 for more info or questions.

### Career Fest to Fill PCC Cascade Gym

More than 70 employers will take part in the Portland Community College 2001 Spring Career Fest, providing networking opportunities for people seeking career options and anybody wishing to see a multitude of employment opportunities. The festival will be held Tuesday, May 1 from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the gymnasium on the Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth. Parking and admission are free. Businesses attending include: Kaiser Permanente, Southwest Washington Medical Center, Electro Scientific Industries, Xerox, A-dec, Inc., Stream International, Oregon State Police, U.S. Customs, American Medical Response, Portland Fire Bureau and Mt. Hood National Forest. Professional recruiters will offer employment workshops and job coaching, covering the topics of resume writing, interviewing and career transitions. For more information, contact Coryell at 503-978-5290.

## Mission Accomplished



Alexander Marcs joins other supporters of the group Friends of Trees for an Earth Day celebration and tree planting event Saturday at the downtown North Park Blocks. Friends of Trees exceeded its 5-year goal on March 17 to plant 144,000 trees in 50 Portland area neighborhoods and 57 natural areas.

(PHOTO BY DAVID GIEZYNG/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER)

## Trade Show Puts Minority Business Out Front

The Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs holds its annual luncheon trade show with over 120 businesses, government agencies and business development resources,

Thursday, May 3 at the Oregon Convention Center.

"The OAME logo symbolizes our diversity as Oregonians working together for business success," said Sam Brooks, OAME president and chairman of the board.

"In 1994, we celebrated Hispanic American owned businesses. In 1995, we celebrated African American owned businesses. In 1996, we celebrated Asian American owned businesses. In 1997, we celebrated Native American businesses. In 1998, we celebrated European American businesses. In 1999, we held a joint celebration of Oregon businesses. In 2000, OAME members voted to continue the name and repeat the celebration of each ethnic group. So we began the new millennium with a focus on Oregon's Hispanic American owned businesses and this year,

OAME celebrates African American owned businesses," Brooks said.

The keynote speaker for this year's show is John Bryant, selected by Time Magazine as "One of America's

50 Most Promising Leaders of the Future."

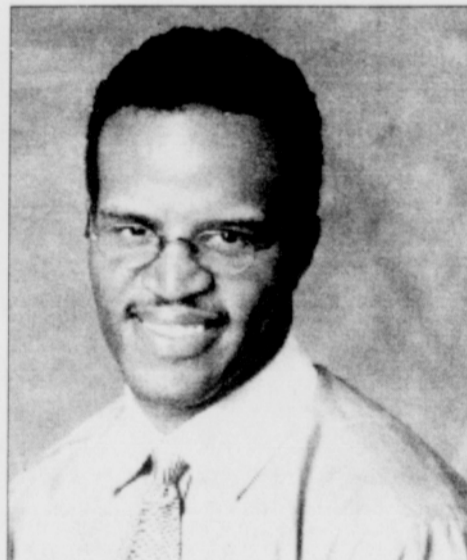
Bryant is the founder, Chairman of the Board and CEO of Operation HOPE, Inc., America's first non-profit investment banking organization. He also serves as Chairman and CEO of the growing network of Operation HOPE for-profit banking centers and inner city cyber cafes.

Brooks said OAME is pleased to work with all Oregon businesses and service providers to produce this year's luncheon and trade show.

Area residents and business people are encouraged to join OAME in celebrating and honoring Oregon's minority and small businesses. For registration and exhibit and luncheon information and reservations, contact OAME at 503-249-7744 or at [www.oame.org](http://www.oame.org).



Sam Brooks



John Bryant

## County Stops Sending Patients to Psychiatric Hospital

(AP) — Multnomah County officials announced Thursday it will stop sending psychiatric patients to BHC-Pacific Gateway hospital while it continues to investigate the death of a Mexican patient shot there by police. County officials criticized the hospital's policy of relying on police to control unruly and violent patients and allowing armed police officers into care units. Inspectors said they couldn't think of a situation where armed personnel should make contact with patients.

"The use of police in terms of bringing firearms into the unit needs to be discontinued immediately," said Dr. Larry Marx, a member of the county's investigative team.

County mental health officials began an investigation after Jose Santos Victor Mejia

Poot was shot to death by police April 1, two days after he was admitted.

Officers had twice been called to the hospital to deal with Mejia. During the first visit, he allegedly threatened hospital staff and officers with pencils before he was placed in a secure room. Less than an hour later, police were called again after Mejia had escaped from the room. Police say three officers were unable to control Mejia and used pepper spray on him, then fired nonlethal beanbags.

When Mejia came at them with a metal rod ripped from a door, an officer shot him in the chest and head, police say. Mejia, 29, died at the scene.

Mejia had been arrested two days earlier on charges of harassment and resisting arrest after he boarded a Tri-Met bus and couldn't

pay his fare. He was released from jail that evening, but another officer found him disoriented and crying outside the downtown police building. He was taken to the county's crisis triage center, and eventually, to Pacific Gateway.

The 66-bed hospital has called police 72 times since January 2000 to handle unruly patients and other security problems, records show.

On Thursday, the county ordered the hospital to move its eight patients out of Pacific Gateway until the hospital develops a plan to comply with county-ordered changes in policies and procedures.

The hospital has until April 26 to submit a corrective action plan. Marx said only if it does so by then will the county consider new

admissions.

The county wants the hospital, the only privately run mental institution in the state, to hire its own security staff and determine when it is appropriate for armed police officers to help control patients.

The hospital issued a statement Thursday acknowledging that it has "some very serious deficiencies to correct."

John van Mol, a spokesman for BHC-Pacific Gateway's parent company, Behavioral Healthcare Corp., said the hospital will work as swiftly as possible to make the required fixes.

In addition to addressing the county's concerns, he said, the hospital also has agreed to halt admissions until state licensing officials are satisfied with the remedies.