

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Angela Davis Speaks Out to Students

A Lake Ridge High School political action class will bring author, activist and educator Angela Davis in as a speaker on Wednesday, May 16 at 7 p.m. Davis will be speaking on grass-roots activism and the problems with our prison system. All are welcome to attend the event.

Friendly Poets Society

The Friendly Poets Society is offering a \$1,000 grand prize in their Poetry Competition 2001, that's free to everyone. There are 28 prizes in all worth over \$3,000. The contest is seeking poems on any subject, using any style, with a life-affirming inspirational theme. For more information, go online to www.friendlypoets.com. Deadline is June 15.

Eating My Way to Heaven

Learn about conscious, healthy eating and living on Thursday, May 17, 7 p.m. at Hoffman Hall on the PSU campus. The evening will be a combination of speakers by famous authors and authorities, music, comedy and awe-inspiring graphics. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Seating is limited, so come early! For more information, email Jaclyn@eatingmywaytoheaven.com

Mt. St. Helens 21st Anniversary

May 18 will be a free day at the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument in remembrance of the 21st anniversary of the 1980 eruption. No fees will be charged on the Volcanic Monument including the visitor centers at Silver Lake and Coldwater Ridge, and the Johnston Ridge Observatory on SR 504. The Forest Service will hold special activities on May 18 and 19.

6th Annual Asian Cultural Night

Celebrating Across Generations... A Vision for the Future, sponsored by the Asian Family Center, will be held at the Holiday Inn (Portland Airport), 8439 N.E. Columbia Blvd., Portland, Oregon, on May 19, from 5 p.m. to midnight. Over five hundred people are expected to attend. The evening will feature dinner, cultural performances, and raffle prizes.

Free Tennis Lessons

Have you ever wanted to learn to play tennis, but weren't sure how to go about doing so? Well, here is your chance! The United State Tennis Association has designated the month of May as "USA Tennis Month" throughout the entire nation! To celebrate, the Vancouver Tennis & Racquetball Center staff, in conjunction with the Vancouver, WA Community Tennis Association, will be offering FREE 1.5 hour introductory group tennis lessons to interested groups and/or organizations. Free lessons are available for kids ages 7 to 15 until June 9. Call 360/696-8123.

Historic Irvington Home Tour

The 2001 Historic Irvington Home Tour will be held on Sunday, May 20 from noon to 5 p.m. This year's Tour will be the 19th annual Historic Home Tour organized by the Irvington Community Association. The Home Tour will feature six of Irvington's grand homes, five of which have never been shown in previous Tours. Additional information is available at www.Irvingtonhometour.com. On the day of the tour, tickets will be sold only at the White Bed & Breakfast Inn, 1914 N.E. 22nd Avenue.

Baby Sitter Training at the Red Cross

Red Cross will offer Babysitter's Training at University Park Community Center, located at 9009 N. Foss in Portland. The class will be held on Saturdays, May 19 and 26, from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Babysitter's Training is an eight-hour Red Cross course that teaches youth ages 11 to 15 the skills needed to be responsible childcare givers. Call 503/823-3631 to register.

Tai Chi in the Park

Portland Parks & Recreation will be having summer tai chi courses at Normandale Park, located at N.E. 57th & Halsey beginning Wednesday, June 6 - July 18. There will be an introductory class on the "8 Ways," which improves equilibrium and muscle strength building foundation to learn Tai Chi form, Wed. 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Call 503/823-4328.

Annual Gun Turn-in Nets 380 Guns

Once again volunteers from around the state joined law enforcement agencies to hold the Ceasefire Oregon annual gun turn-in on Saturday, including a site on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

The total guns turned in this year were 380, bringing the total to 5,473 guns since the non-profit group began collecting guns for destruction 8 years ago.

For every gun there was a story.

Most of the guns were unused and their owners just wanted to get rid of them.

But in one case, a woman in her new home found a gun. In another case, a gun

was taken from a friend who tried to commit suicide.

The Beaverton site took in the most guns this year with the two Portland sites following close behind. The northeast Portland site had over 50 guns turned in, tripling its number from last year.

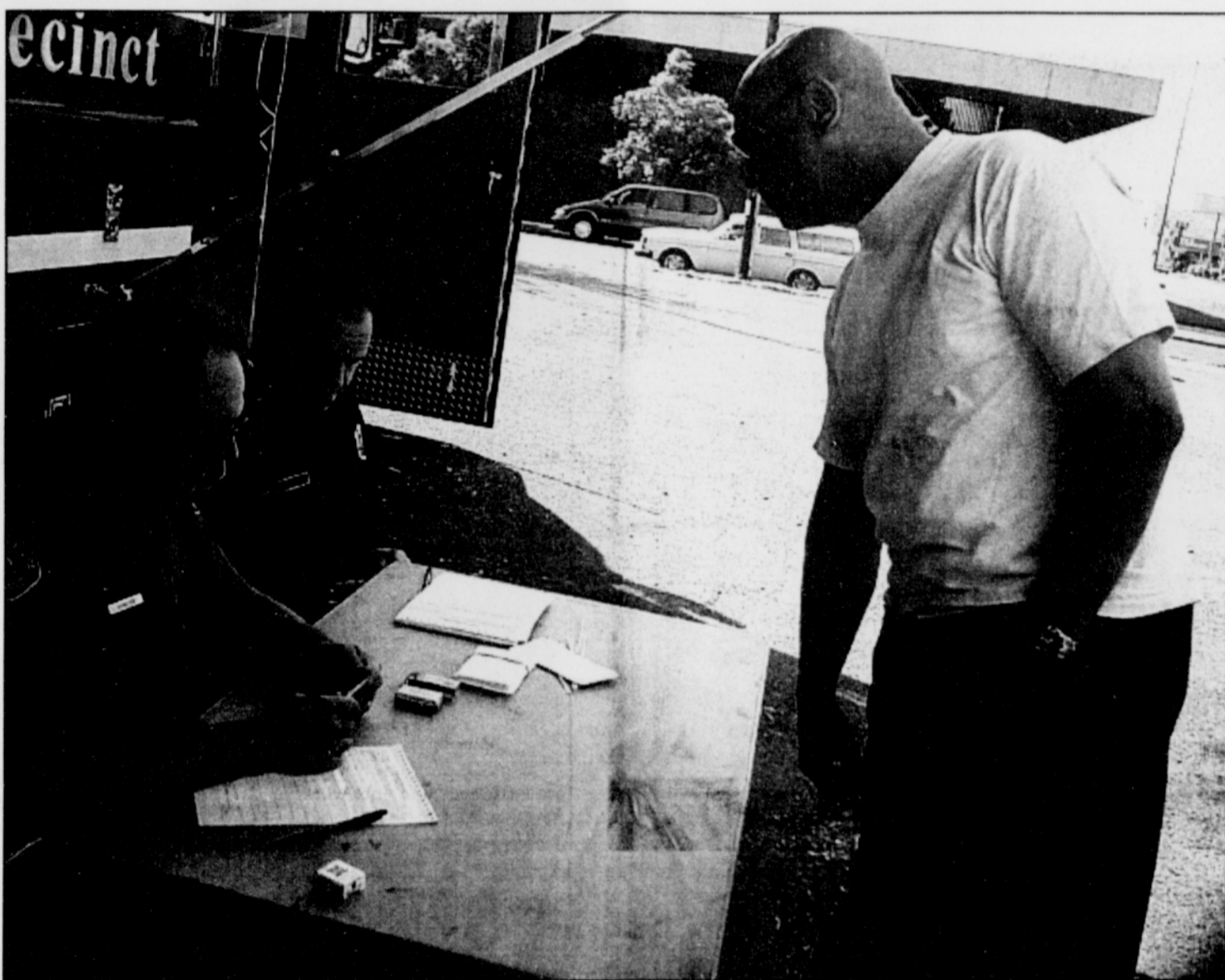
This year participants were allowed to choose from McCormick & Schmick's gift certificates, movie tickets, Fred Meyer gift certificates, Blazer tickets and garden plants.

The certificates were Ceasefire Oregon's way of saying thank you for making homes and communities safer.

The Ceasefire Oregon Education Foundation is a grassroots organization, founded in 1994, which seeks to improve the health and safety of the community by increasing public awareness of the threat posed by gun violence; the importance of preventing unintentional shootings; and the promoting of alternative means of resolving conflict.

Joyce Neff, former president of the Joyce Foundation, said recently: "We forget now that a few years ago, the very notions of childproofing and trigger locks were foreign to people were not paying attention to those issues. People are much more aware now because of there tremendous educational process that has been going on. People are now aware that gun deaths and injuries can be prevented, and that they can play a role in that." Information on safe storage as well as "ASK" literature was available at each site.

The "ASK" campaign is a national effort to get parents to talk about safe storage. The campaign encourages you to make sure that your child plays in environments where guns are either not present or securely stored.



(PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER.)

Northeast Precinct officers Greg Seamster (from left) and Kent Scott take in a small derringer pistol from a local resident at the Ceasefire Oregon gun-turn in Saturday on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Forum on African American Building History

The Bosco-Milligan Foundation is holding the second community-organizing forum for the video documentary "Cornerstones of Community — the Buildings of Portland's African American History."

The forum is set for Saturday, May 19 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, 3138 N. Vancouver Ave. at Fargo St. The documentary will focus on sites, streets, and neighborhoods long associated with Portland's African American community, and which are threatened by redevelopment pressures, gentrification, and potential displacement. The history of many buildings was included in the Cornerstones book, published by the Bosco-Milligan Foundation in 1998.

Community History Committee members Pauline Bradford, Ed Caldwell, Virginia Garnett, and Willie Ranson have been working to borrow dozens of photographs of people, along with coordinators HarrieBelle Paris and Liz Foulter-Branch.

Photographs of some specific people are still being sought. Photographer Richard Brown's contemporary photographs of buildings will follow the historic photographs of a person or family. If you care about African American community history and the many place associated with it, plan to attend this community forum. A panel of elders and others will discuss their history and displacement experiences over time, and participants will talk about ways to promote the importance of the many places where African American history happened over time. You are encouraged to pre-register for the program by calling the Bosco-Milligan Foundation at 503-231-7264. The entry to the Fellowship Hall at Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church is at street level (no steps) and is easily accessible for anyone with mobility limitations.

Bicyclists Rally on Alberta Street



(PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER)

A bicycle parade for all ages was held at northeast 17th and Alberta Saturday in celebration of the Alberta Art Hop and the Community Cycling Center's grand opening of a new building. The event also included art exhibitions and live music.

Community Party to Celebrate the Big Pipe

Environmental Services has finished construction projects to stop combined sewer overflows (CSOs) to the Columbia Slough, and now it's time to celebrate. The community is invited to a free Big Pipe Party and Fish Friendly Fair on Saturday, May 19 at the Columbia Boulevard Treatment Plant. The Big Pipe is a 3.5-mile pipeline that parallels the Slough and intercepts about 350-million gallons of combined sewer overflows (CSOs) each year. The pipeline carries the sewage to the Columbia Boulevard plant for treatment and keeps it out

of the Slough. In addition to the Big Pipe, Columbia Slough/CSO Projects included new treatment facilities at the Columbia Boulevard plant, a new pump station, a new outfall to carry treated water to the Columbia River, and a dechlorination facility.

Now that construction is finished, Environmental Services wants to invite people who live near the Slough, as well as people throughout the city, to help celebrate the success of the projects. The Big Pipe Party and Fish Friendly Fair will feature live music, free food, and prizes.

There will be exhibits, treatment plant tours, and community information as well as a children's art show, horse trolley rides, and games. The Big Pipe Party runs from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant, which is located at 5001 N. Columbia Boulevard, two miles west of the I-5 freeway. The Bureau of Environmental Services provides city residents with Clean River programs including, water quality protection, wastewater collection and treatment, sewer installation, and stormwater management.