

# METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

## Community Calendar

### Employers Showcase Workshops

You are cordially invited to participate in the Second Annual Employment Showcase Workshops on Monday, June 25 and Tuesday, June 26. The workshops will be about learning skills to get a job. The Showcase will be held at the Skill Center, on June 27. Thirty employers will be on hand to hear from the job seekers as they do their presentation. Call 503/978-5341.

### State Fair Concert Lineup

The Oregon State Fair has booked the first four big-name acts for the 2001 annual fair. The concerts, all scheduled for 7 p.m., will be held in the L.B. Day Amphitheatre in Salem. Presale fair admission tickets are available now through Aug. 22. Some of the performers include Toby Keith, The Beach Boys and Jo Dee Messina. Call 503/947-3247 or visit their website at [www.oregonstatefair.org](http://www.oregonstatefair.org).

### Safeway Waterfront Blues Festival

Over 1,000 volunteers will help run Oregon Food Bank's biggest fundraising event of the year. Catch a great concert, enjoy the holiday weekend, and fight hunger at the same time! Volunteers take donations of food and funds at the gates, box and load food, and do a wide variety of other tasks that make it all happen. Call 503/282-0555, ext. 259.

### Big Wheels Tour for Tots

Designed for kids up to 6 years old with an adult, bring your big wheels and other rolling toys and explore the Eastbank Esplanade. Sponsored by Portland Parks Outdoor Recreation Program. Call 503/823-5132 for more information. This is a free event.

### 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks

Join the community with an old-fashioned celebration. Bring the family to enjoy good food, live music and a spectacular fireworks display on Wednesday, July 4 at the Blue Lake Regional Park in Fairview. At the event will be great music and lots of food for all. Fireworks will begin at 10 p.m. Call Bruce Taret at 360/695-2442.

### "Adopt-A-Pet Fair"

The Oregon Humane Society will be having their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual "Adopt-A-Pet Fair" July 27-29 at the society's shelter and grounds, located at 1067 N.E. Columbia Blvd. Experts will be on hand to talk about pet care. There will be over 200 animals available for adoption. Call 503/285-7722.

### Self-Motivate Your Teen

Learn from Dr. John P. Oda about "The Seven Techniques of Highly Self-Motivated Teens." This four-day lecture series will be held July 10, 11, 12, from 6-9 p.m. and on July 14, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Seating is limited, so act now. Call 503/471-2954.

### Rec 'n Roll Bus

Portland Parks & Recreation's bright green Tri-Met bus will be rolling into neighborhoods this summer! All you need to do is show up and get ready for fun! The recreation staff will have lots of games and crafts for you to try. The Bus will be in these areas: Glenwood Park, Northgate Park, Argay Park, Villa de Clara Vista, and Waterfront Park. Call 503/823-PLAY for more information.

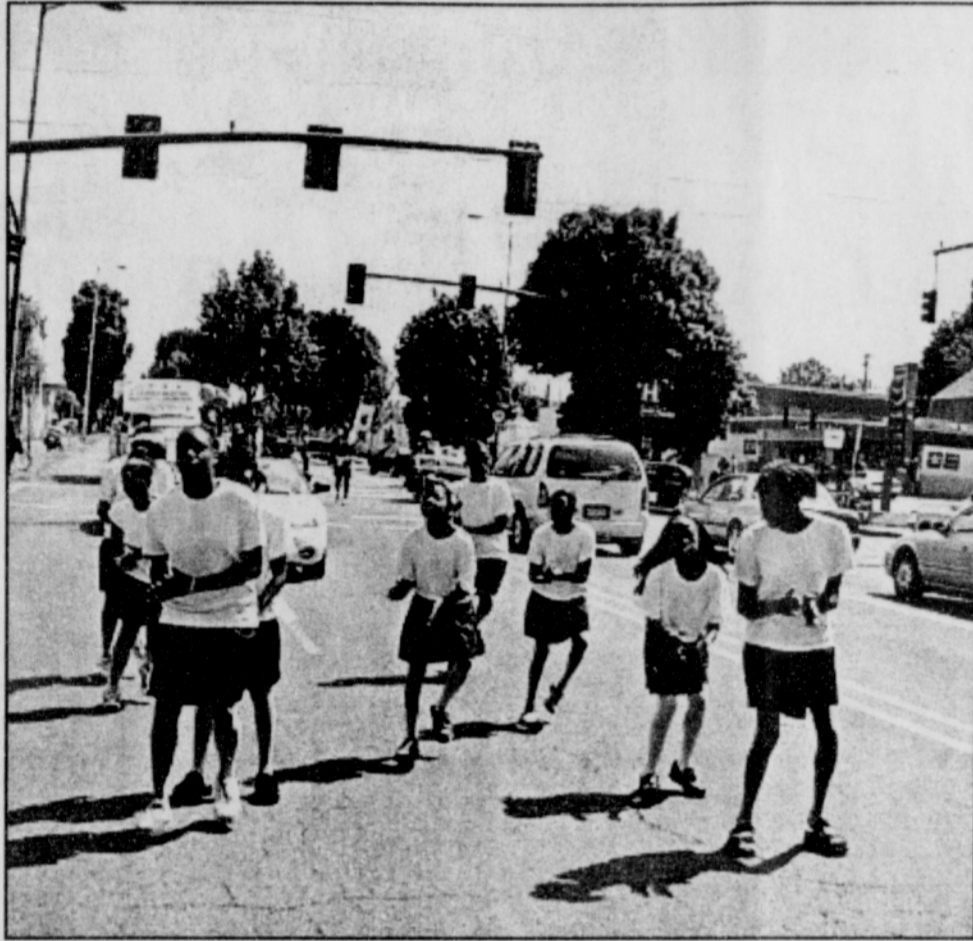
### Summer Tennis Camp

Kids N' Tennis, Inc. and Portland After School Tennis will sponsor summer tennis camps at two sites: Irving Park and Eastmoreland Park. There will be several sessions to choose from. A limited number of scholarships are available for children at each campsite. Camp at both parks goes from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Call 503/880-0582.

### Fast Friends Duet

If you share a special musical talent with your cat or dog, you are invited to the Advantage Topical Solution nationwide contest called "Advantage Fast Friends Duet." For those looking for a new four-legged family member to love, Oregon Humane Society will also offer pets for adoption. The contest will be held at the Pioneer Courthouse Square on Saturday, June 30. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. Call Stefanie, Hodge-Lis, Edelman Worldwide at 312/233-1280 office or 630/728-7049.

## Festivities Commemorate Freedom



PHOTOS BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A Juneteenth celebration Saturday brings young people to a parade down Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Other activities included a neighborhood party Tuesday at Yam Yam's restaurant. Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day or Emancipation Day, is an annual holiday celebrated on June 19 in the United States to commemorate the ending of slavery. For more than a century, Juneteenth was observed mainly in Texas and parts of Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. In recent decades, communities across the nation have adopted the holiday.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Sassy along with fellow performer Kirk Green enjoy the festivities at this year's sunny Juneteenth celebration.

## Block Party Showcases Sassy & Friends

By FLECIA TRADER  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

It was summer, summer, summertime! Saturday as Galore Communications, 3213 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., 2Way Records, fans, friends and people came out to enjoy a block party that delivered a healthy dose of soul elixir.

Galore patrons and passer bys were treated to the sounds of the city, including Sassy, Colin England, the Kirk Green Band, Bro Luv and Friends, Ghetto Romeo, Jus Q and more. Free soul food and activities

for kids of all ages were also popular. A showcase of the afternoon was the exciting and vocal enlightening Sassy, as Galore's Dan Dain put it best, the most exciting diva to hit the scene in years.

This up and coming crooner is about to go from Westside to worldwide with a new CD.

If you haven't heard, as the saying goes, you better ask somebody.

The Sassy Project has been blasting airwaves, boom boxes and beamers with a mix of an angelic and alto voice, stage presence and personal artistry.

## Campaign for Jobs, Worker Legalization

The attention goes to a group of Multnomah County janitors who may lose their jobs to jail work crews, and immigrant worker rights issues, at a demonstration Friday in downtown Portland. "We've discovered the county commissioners have re-opened the plan to take away our jobs," said Esteban Luna, a county janitor and member of SEIU Local 49. The activists are also calling for support for legalization of undocumented immigrants who have worked and paid taxes in the United States for 5 years or more.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER



## School Wins Praise for Closing Gap

The staff at north/northeast Portland's Humboldt Elementary School was presented with a Trail Blazer Award last week for their efforts to close the achievement gap and become a high performing school. The Blazers and the Portland Schools Foundation teamed up to give 9 awards to local educators and 8 awards to schools in the district. The nominations came from students, parents and other teachers.



## Developer Proposed for Urban Renewal

By LEE PERLMAN  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

If someone wants to create housing, build an office building or expand their business in the Max Light Rail/Interstate Urban Renewal area, there may soon be someone to steer them through the red tape. A citizen's group suggests that a proposed ombudsperson with a \$25,000 annual salary, could help landowners develop property, offer advice on required permits and act as advocates before city bureaucrats. "It's nothing more than a proposal at this point, and even as a proposal it's flexible," said Portland Development Commission staffer Elissa Gertler. Real estate agent James Broadous thinks the idea is a good one.

"Many people don't know which steps to take, and city staff people get in the way," he says. "PDC people can do some of that, but they have other things to do."

Carl Flipper of the Humboldt Target Area Program likes the idea, but wonders if it can be done. "I don't doubt that an ombudsperson would be extremely valuable in helping property owners navigate the extremely complicated routes they need to go through to develop their property," he told the Portland Observer. "My concern was whether we could spend tax increment money on a non-bricks and mortar program." "That's a very good question," Gertler says, one that is being reviewed by city experts. The citizens group is also considering allocating \$200,000 a year for PDC's storefront improvement program.

At issue is how to allocate the money among the renewal district's 10 commercial areas.