

# METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

"Bridging Portland's Communities"

## Community Calendar

### Salvation Army Gift Giving

Volunteer elves for the Salvation Army will sort, stock and distribute thousands of donated toys, clothing and food at the Christmas distribution center on Friday, Dec. 21 and Saturday, Dec. 22 at 1625 NE. Sandy.

### Weatherization Workshop

The Community Energy Project will be holding a free workshop on weatherizing your home at the St. Johns Community Center, located at 8427 N. Central St., from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Call 503-284-4962 or 503-284-6827.

### Help for the Winter Blues

The Oregon Health & Science University is hosting an informative session on "Bright News for the Winter Blues" to help people understand about Seasonal Affective Disorder and its available treatment through bright light exposure and melatonin. The event will be in Beaverton at 2935 SW. Cedar Hills Blvd. Call 503-494-0060.

### Raffle to Support Literacy

H.E.L.P. Portland, a community based literacy and mentoring program will be having a raffle to support the center's services. For a \$25 you can win a Hawaiian vacation for 4, New York City Christmas Shopping Spree, Trailblazer tickets and other great prizes. To enter, call 503-247-3030.

### Anti-War Coffeehouse

Radical Women hosts an evening of open poetry, music and political commentary featuring local artists and activists. Join the growing opposition to the US government's attack on Afghanistan and domestic crackdown on the civil liberties of workers and immigrants. The event is free and will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. at the Bread and Roses Center, located at 819 N. Killingsworth. Call 503-240-4462.

### Creative Writing and Acting Workshop

Where I'm From Productions presents a Creative Writing and Acting Workshop for pre-teens, ages 10-13. The workshop will be held at the Center for Self Enhancement on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 10 a.m. Call 503-259-5198.

### A Bizarre Bazaar

Want to know what to get for someone who has everything? Come to SCRAP's Bizarre Bazaar and attend creative gift idea workshops throughout the day. Meet local artists who specialize in working with found objects. Get help creating and personalizing gifts for everyone on your gift list. The event will be on Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. for kids ages 10-70 at the SCRAP Center, located at 3625B N. Mississippi. Call 503-294-0769.

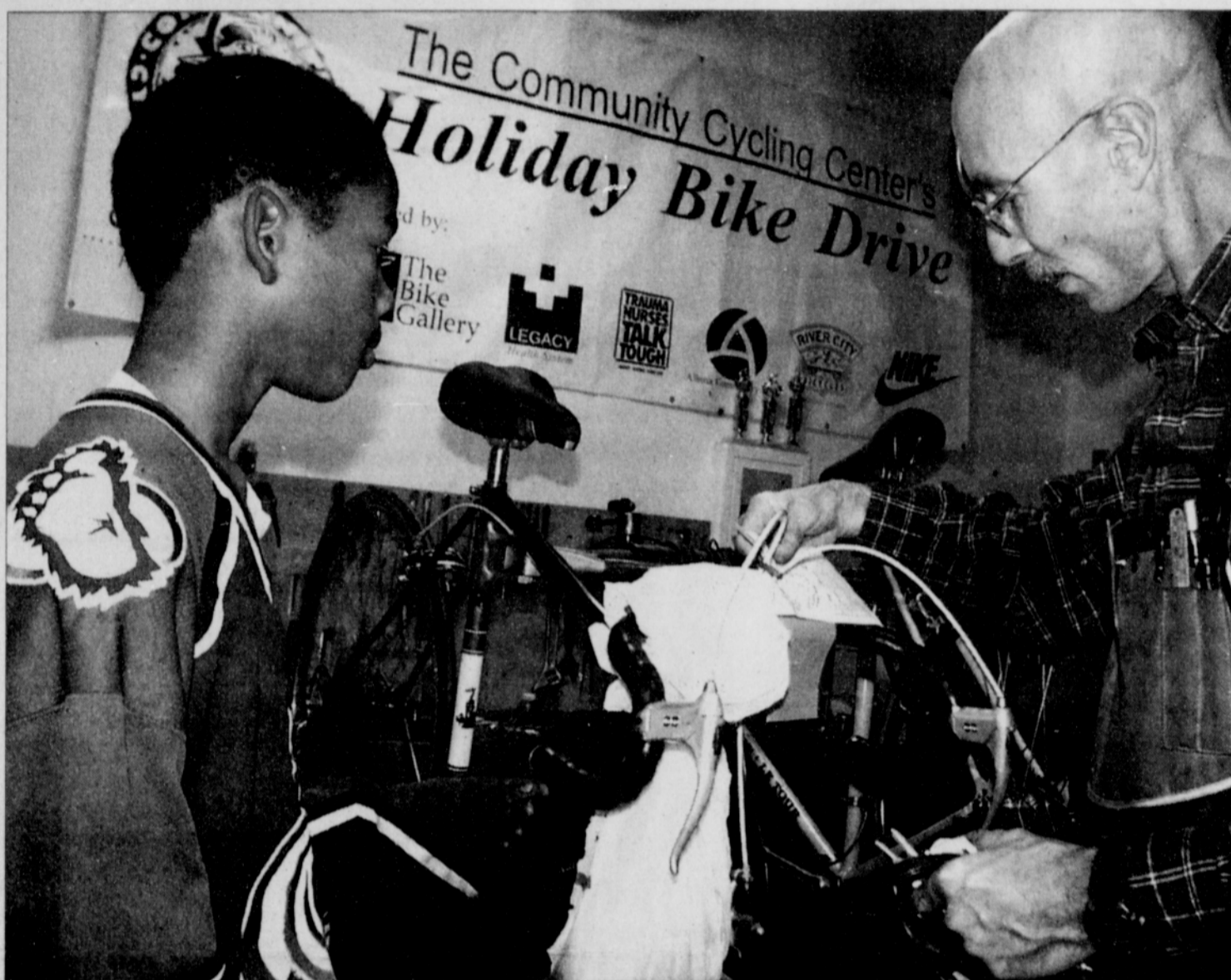
### A Christmas Gala

First Fridays of Portland is back. On Friday, Dec. 7, the First Friday Party will be at the Radisson Hotel, located at 1441 NE. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. This is a dressy affair where there will be music, dancing, networking and socializing for those 21 and over. Tickets are available by calling 503-237-8980.

### Southwest Washington Humane Society

The Home 4 the Holidays pet adoption campaign is still going on to place orphaned animals with loving families and individuals during the holiday season. Hundreds of pets are available to adopt until Sunday, Jan. 6 at the Southwest Washington Humane Society, located at 2121 St. Francis Lane in Vancouver. Call 360-693-4746.

## Cycling Center Begins Holiday Bike Drive



A Beaumont Middle School student lends his hand to fixing bikes for a holiday bike drive with the help of Daniel Bohn, executive director of the Community Cycling Center, 1700 N.E. Alberta.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The Community Cycling Center is pleased to announce its sixth annual Holiday Bike Drive.

The effort is aimed at restoring donated bikes and giving them to underprivileged children in the Portland area.

Last year, the drive resulted in the give away of 500 bikes. This year, the goal is

1,000 bikes.

The Community Cycling Center, 1700 N.E. Alberta, is a non-profit organization committed to recycling bikes, reaching kids with positive activities and restoring communities.

The organization relies on the public's help to recruit kids' bikes, volunteers and

financial support.

Leaders in the organization say it costs just \$25 to place a bike in the hands of a needy child.

Its generous donations provide 100 percent of the bikes and funding for the Holiday Bike Drive. All of the labor comes from volunteers.

This year's plans call for the bikes to be distributed on Dec. 16 with City Commissioner Erik Sten serving as Santa Claus to present bikes to 1,000 underprivileged children at the Legacy Emanuel Hospital atrium.

Bikes can be dropped off at the Community Cycling Center, River City Bicycles or any Bike Gallery store.

## Tri-Met Blasts Vandalism Into Art

Transforming graffiti into etched glass panels saves money and enhances community

Graffiti-ridden glass panels at Tri-Met bus shelters are being transformed into art in a process that saves money, reduces waste and enhances communities.

Last week, Tri-Met installed two etched "art panels" at a bus shelter on the south side of Northeast Multnomah Blvd. near Lloyd Center Cinemas. The agency will install about 60 of the art panels by the end of the year.

Seattle artist Carolyn Law sandblasted the damaged panels with a leaf-and-water motif. This month, the Tri-Met Public Art Advisory Board also picked three more artists to create panels: Portland artist Michael Hensley created a humorous "Cityscape with Birds;" Sarah Hall, of Portland, created a stylized image of two people in a forest; and Karen Guzak of Snohomish, Wash. created a water pattern called "Drifting."

Annually, about 750 glass panels are so severely scratched by vandals that they must be replaced at a cost of about \$370 each, Tri-Met officials said.

But the sandblasting process cuts replacement costs nearly in half, with sandblasting and installation costing just \$196. Tri-Met expects to save over \$100,000 a year by using etched panels.

"This innovative solution to an expensive problem underscores our commitment to keeping our amenities at-



Jordan Greene of Warren Pacific Corp. removes a graffiti-damaged glass panel from a Tri-Met bus shelter near Lloyd Center Cinemas. It will be replaced with an artistic panel like the one on the right.

tractive," said Fred Hansen, Tri-Met general manager. "Tri-Met saves money, recycles materials and provides artwork to the community."

Tri-Met has about 1,000 bus shelters

and is adding 500 over a five year period.

See [www.tri-met.org](http://www.tri-met.org) to learn more about Tri-Met's art program. To report graffiti or other damage to Tri-Met property, call 503-962-7666.

## City Throws Party for New Year's Eve

The city is planning an official New Year's Eve party to avoid a repeat of last year's downtown melee.

Last year, no party was scheduled and unruly revelers smashed windows and looted stores, causing about \$65,000 in damage to downtown businesses.

The disturbance erupted after mid-

night when Portland police dispersed a crowd of about 2,000 that had gathered at Pioneer Courthouse Square.

This year, the event will be held in Pioneer Courthouse Square. No alcohol will be allowed, the square will be fenced in and gated, similar to the millennium party in 2000; and the music

will include what organizers describe as oldies, swing, blues and adult contemporary music.

The city will have to pay police overtime to cover the event. A \$49,200 contract with Entercom Radio has been prepared to promote and produce the celebration.

## Unity Banquet Supports Scholarships

The Black United Fund of Oregon will sponsor its sixth annual Community Unity Banquet on Thursday, Dec. 6 at 6 p.m. at the Portland Hilton, 921 S.W. Sixth Ave.

Each year this event brings together Portland's diverse communities in recognition of an Oregonian whose life exemplifies the theme of this event - Justice, Unity, and Freedom.

The banquet, with more than 300 attendees annually, also allows the group to express appreciation to its corporate partners for their efforts to stimulate community development, volunteerism, and philanthropy in Oregon.

Charles Jordan, director of Portland Parks and Recreation has been selected as this year's honoree for his distinguished leadership, contributions and his continued work and long-standing efforts to improve the quality of life for children and families in our communities.

Proceeds from the banquet event will benefit the Black United Fund of Oregon and the Community Scholarship Fund.

The Community Scholarship Fund was established in 1994 to acknowledge the achievements of "at risk" students based on their academic performance, community service and leadership. Selected students receive scholarships to attend the college or university of their choice.

Since the inception of the program, 21 students have been awarded scholarships. The goal this year is to award five \$1,000 scholarships named in honor of Portland community activist Ron Herndon and two \$15,000 Willamette University Partnership Scholarships.

Since its inception 1983, the Black United Fund of Oregon has served more than 700 agencies.