

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

"Bridging Portland's Communities"

Community Calendar

Greyhound Pets of America

Greyhound Pets of America is holding a Make A Fast Friend day on Sunday, March 31, from 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Multnomah Greyhound Park in Fairview on the 3rd floor. As a result of the end of the racing season, their adoption kennel is full. There are more than 50 Greyhounds available. Anyone interested in a dog needs to apply and an in-home screening placement is done.

Easter Egg Hunt

Jantzen Beach SuperCenter will be holding their first annual indoor Easter egg hunt featuring Mother Goose on Saturday, March 30, from 1-4 p.m. near Shoe Pavilion for all children ages 10 and younger. There will be different egg hunts based on children's ages. For ages 1-3, hunt begins at 1 p.m.; for ages 4-6, hunt begins at 2 p.m.; for ages 7-10, hunt begins at 3 p.m.

Oregon Spring Beach Cleanup

The 18th annual Great Oregon Spring Beach Cleanup will be held on Saturday, April 6. Thousands of volunteers are needed to help clean Oregon's beaches, from the Washington to the California borders, between 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Call SOLV at 800-322-3326 or go online to www.solv.org.

Portland Farmer's Market

Portland Farmer's Market will teach anyone interested in how to grow like a professional gardener on Saturday, May 11, at PSU's campus grounds on S.W. Montgomery and Harrison St. Gardening speakers will offer free talks each hour and kids' activities will keep little sprouts busy with take-home projects inspired by nature. For more market information, go online to www.portlandfarmersmarket.org.

Oregon's Daffodil Show

For the second year in a row, The Oregon Garden will host the Oregon Daffodil Society's Daffodil Show on April 6 and 7 in the J. Frank Schmidt, Jr. Pavilion. Enjoy 10,000 daffodils that were planted at the garden last fall by volunteers. The show will run from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 6 and 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 7. Call 874-8264 or go online to www.oregongarden.org.

Chinese Kite Festival

The Portland Classical Chinese Garden celebrates the tradition and history of Chinese kites during the Clear Brightness Festival. On Saturday, April 6 and Sunday, April 7, from noon to 3 p.m., children 6 years and older can learn to make kites in a Chinese opera mask motif. The garden is located at N.W. 3rd and Everett. Call 228-8131 or go online to www.portlandchinesegarden.org.

Learn About Public Relations

Learn about innovative public relations campaigns for your company or organization. A workshop will be held on Monday, April 22, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Portland Children's Museum. A reception will follow. For more information, go to www.prblackbooks.com.

Pacific University Lecture

Immigration policy post-September 11 will be a topic of discussion at the Pacific Questions Town Hall "People Without Papers," on Wednesday, April 3 at 7 p.m. in Taylor Auditorium in Marsh hall on Pacific's campus in Forest Grove. The event is free and open to the public. Call 359-2211.

Oregon Food Bank

Oregon Food Bank is currently looking for Portland area chefs to help offer a series of six-week nutrition education classes designed to help introduce low-income children and their parents to healthy eating habits and cooking within a limited budget. There will be three classes held around Portland. To volunteer, call Julie Webber at 419-4183.

Dream Comes True For Business Owner

Parking lot employee beats former employer to contract



Charles McCloud now runs the parking business where he worked for a decade.

Charles McCloud had his dream of owning and operating his own parking lot service.

For over 10 years, the former employee of Diamond Parking has been the beacon of customer service at the Weatherly Building parking lot on Portland's eastside.

Less than a month ago, Diamond management appeared at the lot one morning to relieve McCloud of his duties.

"God works in mysterious ways," said the father of eight.

Within hours, McCloud said that he had been approached by the new owners advising him that he was being retained to run the parking lot and that the building was immediately terminating their relationship with Diamond Parking.

McCloud gives much of the credit to the African American Chamber of Com-

merce for interceding and getting him the opportunity for his own business.

Chamber President Roy Jay has been on a mission for the past year investigating Portland's parking lot operators for various employee violations.

McCloud and others are now being represented by legal counsel, thanks to the Chamber in trying to recover years of unpaid salaries and other benefits that the chamber alleges is owned to hun-

dreds of employees.

This is the first time, and probably not the last, that one of the major parking lot operations will lose a contract to their employees or competitors, according to Jay.

"Charles deserved the opportunity to be in business for himself. He's helped Diamond make thousands of dollars each year for the company. Now it's time for him to make it for himself," Jay said.

Community Bank Earns High Grade

American Banker magazine ranks Albina Community Bank in the top 20 of small banks nationwide.

The minority-owned institution was founded in 1996 and serves the needs of residents and businesses of north and northeast Portland.

The bank, located at 2002 N.E. Martin

Luther King Jr., was ranked 18th of more than 100 U.S. banks with assets of less than \$1 billion.

"We are honored with American Banker's ranking," said Robert McKean, Albina Bank president and chief executive officer. "It is another symbol that shows the city that we can indeed hold

true to our mission of serving people in our community and be a profitable, growing bank."

The ranking system shows Albina Community Bank experienced more than a 50 percent increase in returns on assets and nearly a 31 percent return on equity from September 2000 to September 2001.

Cosmetology Career Training Celebrated



Area students and professionals in the cosmetology field gather for a downtown workshop made possible by the Portland Area Career Training Center, a partnership between Portland Public Schools and the business community. Pictured are Ruth Harrington (from left), Kathy Treves, Laurie Varrelman, Bob Laster, Kara Bacon, Teresita Tillman and Lyra Tullipat.

PHOTO BY TRACEY STADAMIRE/UN-4-GETTABLE NAILS

Students from the metropolitan area got to observe and spend time with experts in their field during the second annual cosmetology fair.

The Portland Area Career Training Center, 5730 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., a partnership between Portland Public Schools and the business

students made the recent event possible.

Licensed cosmetologists, nail specialists, college staff, financial aid personnel and current cosmetology students attended the fair.

Areas of exposure included hair cutting, make-up, nails, braiding and de-

veloping good communications skills.

Event sponsors included Nationwide Insurance, Beau Monde College of Hair Design, Mt. Hood Community College, Perfect Look, Great Clips, Super Cuts, Salt & Pepper, the Little Beauty Shop and Un-4-Gettable Nails.

Airport Opens More Parking Spaces

Inspected vehicles can park near terminal during busy travel times

Portland International Airport has opened additional parking garage spaces to travelers who voluntarily allow their vehicles to be inspected.

While vehicle inspections are not required in order to park in the majority of the PDX parking garage, the voluntary inspections will allow access to an additional 1,100 parking spaces that were closed by the FAA for security reasons shortly after Sept. 11.

Once security staff training is complete, PDX will offer the parking spaces during the busiest travel times when additional parking capacity is needed.

During slower travel periods when ample parking capacity exists, gates to the special parking spaces will remain locked. Vehicles parked in the special spaces can exit at any time through barriers allowing exit while preventing entrance.

"We plan to maintain excellent customer service by providing ample and convenient parking options while at the same time maintaining our heightened security measures at the airport," Steve Schreiber, Port of Portland aviation director said.

In conducting voluntary searches, security staff will visually inspect vehicles following procedures approved by the FAA. While exact search procedures are confidential for security reasons, the searches essentially look for large objects in vehicles, trunks of vehicles, etc.