

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

"Bridging Portland's Communities"

Community Calendar

Red Cross Training

The Oregon Trail Chapter of the American Red Cross will offer "When I'm in Charge" at Alameda Community School at 2732 N.E. Fremont in Portland. The class will be held on April 29, from 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. This 2.5 hour course is intended to train children ages eight to eleven-years-old how to respond to and be safe in "home alone" situations. To register, call 503-823-3180 or go online to www.redcross-pdx.org.

Humane Society Photo Contest

Do you have a favorite photo of your pet? The Oregon Humane Society is looking for great pets for its Fuzzy, Furry, and Feathered Friends photo contest. The grand prize winner and their pet will be featured in the Oregon Humane Society's summer magazine and website and receive a \$50 gift certificate to Pro Photo Supply. To enter, call 503-285-7722.

Race for the Roses

Support Oregon's future by participating in the Fourth Annual "Race for the Roses," Portland's only half-marathon and a 5K Run/Walk on Sunday, April 21. The event begins at the Oregon Square Courtyard near the Lloyd Center at 7 a.m. followed by the 5K Run/Walk at 7:30 a.m. To register, call AA Sports at 503-331-3140 or go online to www.race4theroses.org.

Domestic Violence Hotline

Are you interested in helping others gain social service skills and working towards social change? The Portland women's Crisis Line is seeking volunteer advocates to staff its 24-hour domestic violence hotline, and provide legal and sexual assault advocacy. Must be 18 years old or older. Call 503-419-4352.

New Seasons Market

Ever wonder why eating chocolate seems to put you in a better mood? Curious about other foods that could affect your mood or maybe even your memory? The New Seasons Market is offering a free class on how food affects moods on Tuesday, April 16 at the Concordia store, located at 5320 N.E. 33rd Ave. Call 503-288-2323.

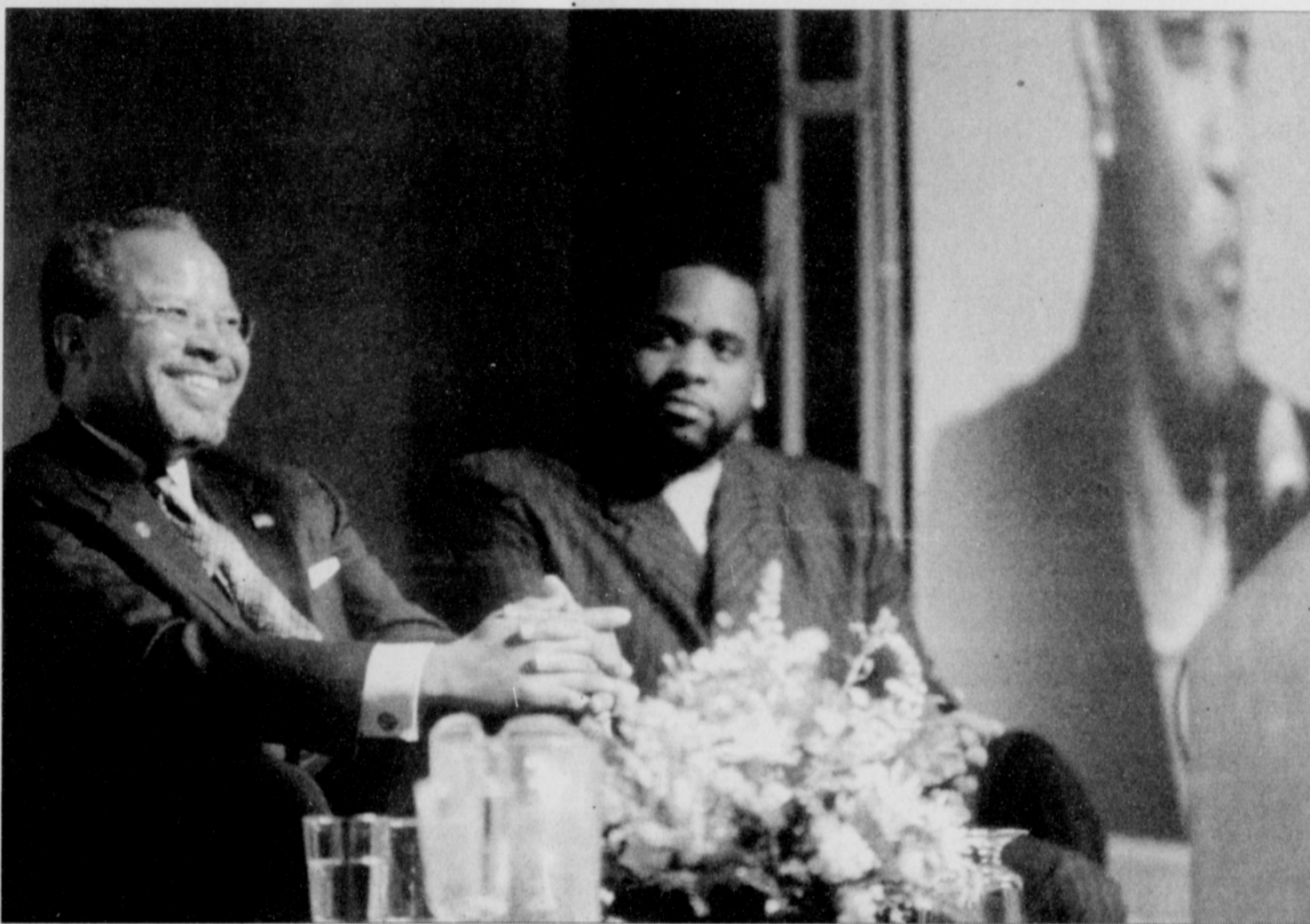
Earth Day Celebration

Portland is celebrating Earth Day with an event called Procession of the Species. The parade is a way for many to connect to the natural world using the media of art, dance and music. Join the procession on Sunday, April 28 by wearing a handmade costume of an endangered species or playing music to promote environmental awareness. For more information, call 503-452-4483.

Lewis and Clark Expedition

The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers is hosting two performances of the historical interpretation program, "Sacagawea Speaks" at noon and 3 p.m. on April 14 at the Bradford Island Visitor Center at Bonneville Lock and Dam. Admission is free, but seating is limited. Joyce Hunsaker, an award-winning storyteller will portray the Shoshoni guide for the Lewis and Clark expedition. Call 541-374-8820.

Portland Hosts Black Mayors



Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick (from left), former New York Secretary of State Randy Daniels and Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin (on big screen) address a public town hall meeting Sunday at the Oregon Convention Center. Black public administrators from across the country were in Portland to discuss issues ranging from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks to public health challenges in African American communities.

PHOTO BY DAVID PIECHL/
THE PORTLAND
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Voices Raised On Mideast Violence



Calls for peace and justice issue were heard Friday during a downtown Portland rally addressing the violence in Israel and the Palestinian territories. Former State Rep. JoAnn Bowman of Portland called for the end of the violence and protection of civil liberties. "When I say I stand for justice, I don't just mean me, I mean every person on the planet," Bowman said.

PHOTOS BY DAVID PIECHL/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

BY DAVID PIECHL
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Hundreds of demonstrators took to downtown Portland streets Friday protesting recent incursions and killings by Israeli forces in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Marchers circled Pioneer Square, chanting against the military actions of Ariel Sharon's government, and the policies of the United States, whom they claim favor the Israeli occupation and use of force.

Demonstrators waved Palestinian flags, handed out fliers, and displayed signs, some showing pictures of Israeli soldiers beating Palestinians and young children cowering from gunfire.

A mock Israeli checkpoint was set up on Broadway. "Israeli soldiers" draped in the Star of David, held roadblocks and barked news of delays and disappointment to downtown drivers, and then retreated to the sidewalks with each green light.

The Israeli government has claimed the checkpoints and occupation are necessary to defend itself against suicide bombers, calling them terrorists and declaring negotiations useless under such circumstances.

A few pro-Israeli demonstrators also attended. One man held a sign which read, "Arafat and Bin Laden, Twin Towers of Terror." Another man passed out pamphlets condemning the Arab treatment of

Jews over hundreds of years.

The march eventually condensed around a podium where various speakers echoed the stance of the crowd, and calling for an "immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops from Palestinian cities, towns, and population centers."

Mazen Malik, an Arab American, spoke of a situation so degraded, "ambulances were being shot at." He continued, "Without justice, there can be no peace."

Those words became a mantra for the crowd, which thundered with drumming and enthusiastic applause.

Recent Israeli policies have stated however that there will be no peace until the suicide bombers have been contained. The responsibility for this containment has

largely been placed on the shoulders of Palestinian leader Arafat, who has repeatedly been warned to reign in the bombers or face military insurgencies.

Former State Rep. Joann Bowman of northeast Portland spoke as well, calling for an end to the violence and protection of civil liberties. "When I say I stand for justice, I don't just mean me, I mean every person on this planet."

Many of those who spoke called for a peace and prosperity that would include both Jews and Arabs. One Jewish man said he loved the Jewish people, but he also said he "loved the Palestinians just as much."

His comments were met with applause and cheering.

Five Planets Line Up Celebrated by OMSI at Rooster Rock on April 20

A starry phenomenon is about to occur and you're invited to enjoy the event with a party.

Five visible planets and the Earth's moon will dance across a palette painted by dusk April 20, when Mercury, Venus, Mars, Saturn, Jupiter and the Moon will gather in the west in the evening sky.

"It is rather rare to have five planets

in a nearly perfect line," said Jim Todd, Planetarium Director at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, "and the waxing gibbous Moon will certainly add drama."

To celebrate the event, OMSI, Rose City Astronomers and Oregon Parks and Recreation are throwing an Astronomy Day Star Party at Rooster Rock

State Park in the Columbia Gorge on Saturday, April 20, weather permitting.

The free event starts at 6:30 p.m. at the park, located just east of Sandy off I-84.

Todd said that this is an excellent opportunity for star watchers to view the planets, as telescopes aren't needed.

"That's another aspect that makes this occurrence unique - the fact that we'll have five naked-eye planets in the sky," he said.

Although the planets will be visible for several evenings before and after April 20, Todd said that evening will offer the best viewing, as the planets will line up in an almost straight line.

The best viewing is away from clusters of bright city lights.

For those who plan to travel to Rooster Rock State Park, it is advised to call OMSI's Star Party Information Line at 503-797-4610 to check for possible cancellations due to weather. Parking at Rooster Rock is \$3 per carload or \$1.50 for OMSI members.