

# METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

"Bridging Portland's Communities"

## Community Calendar

### Juneteenth Meeting

The Juneteenth Planning Committee will be having a meeting this month on Tuesday, April 30 at the State Farm Insurance building, located at 6526 N.E. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., at 6:30 p.m. The upcoming Juneteenth Celebration will be from June 19 - 29. Their theme this year is "Family Reunion." Volunteers are needed for the event. Call Woody Broadnax at 503-285-8898.

### Friends of Trees

Friends of Trees will be training volunteers about how to care for recently planted trees and how to coordinate tree plantings in their neighborhoods. Their first training session will be on May 4, from 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. For more information, call 282-8846, ext. 11 or go online to [www.friendsoftrees.org](http://www.friendsoftrees.org).

### Cinco de Mayo Celebration

On Sunday, May 5, McMenamins Grand Lodge in Forest Grove is celebrating Cinco de Mayo with traditional Mexican dancing and music, children's piñatas, and food and beverage specials throughout the property's restaurants and small bars. The event will be from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m., located at 3505 Pacific Ave. For more information, call 503-992-9533 or go online to [www.mcmenamins.com](http://www.mcmenamins.com).

### Freedom Socialist Party

In celebration of May Day, the international workers' holiday, a panel of three socialist organizations will discuss how workers, women and immigrants can stop the U.S.-backed profit-driven grab for oil and global power. The talk will be held on Saturday, May 4, 7 p.m. at the Bread and Roses Center, 819 N. Killingsworth. Call 503-240-4462.

### Mallory Ave. Christian Church

Dr. Francis Cress Welsing, author of the psychology book "The Isis Papers" will be in Portland at the Mallory Ave. Christian Church, 126 N.E. Alberta, on May 18 at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Welsing will be speaking on black mental health, black inferiority concepts, the white supremacy system and the color concept of God. To purchase tickets, call Jerome or Schawna Tanner at 503-288-5331 or 503-289-3490.

### 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](http://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.

### 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.

### 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.

## Ebony Fashions Delight Local Audience



Portland area residents are dazzled by the sophisticated fashions of Ebony models.

PHOTO BY DAVID PLECHL/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

BY DAVID PLECHL

### THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Sassy and sophisticated. Demure and tireless. Always fashionable. Always assured.

The Ebony Fashion Fair made its 44<sup>th</sup> appearance at the Oregon Convention Center Friday.

The fair is regarded as the world's largest traveling fashion show and features clothing from world-famous designers Bob Mackie, Givenchy, Oscar de la Renta and others.

The show has its roots in Chicago and features 11 stunning women and two

handsome men.

Male model David Curtis has been with the show for three years, but Friday was his first time in Portland.

Of the job, he calls it "a lot of fun."

The audience was quick to react and show its appreciation of the astute models as they strutted, bounced, swung and spun to the tune of the announcer's dancing narrative, which described the clothes and character of someone who might just wear them.

Links, a Portland based chapter of a national not-for-profit organization, has

brought the fair to the Rose City nearly every year since 1957, the year the local chapter was created.

Links provides scholarships for kids in need and the fashion fair is its major fundraiser, so they always hope for a large crowd. Friday's attendance was no disappointment, yet a few seats were left empty.

The organization also supports the work of churches, is involved with the AIDS quilt, and heads the "Umbrella Project" which provides support for people living with HIV and AIDS.

Long-time Links member Clementine

"Clem" Guy was happy to be on hand for the evening affair.

Clem, who has held every office in the chapter, joined Yvonne Williams, as publicity chair and co organizer of this year's event.

Of her long time friend, Yvonne says, "Clem is Links."

As Clem talked to other friends after the show, she looks unforgettable in her creamy white hat and matching coat, a perfect contrast to her velvety black skin and clear and focused eyes.

But that's Clem. After all these years. Always fashionable. Always assured.

## Association to Highlight Minority Firms

### OAME presents 14<sup>th</sup> annual entrepreneurship luncheon and trade show

The Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs is presenting its 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Entrepreneurship Luncheon and Trade Show May 2 at the Oregon Convention Center.

The luncheon this year celebrates pioneering of the Asian American owned businesses and corporations. Past conferences have celebrated Hispanic American, African American, Native American and European American owned businesses.

Over 120 small and large businesses, state and federal government agencies and business development resources to help small and minority owned businesses grow will be represented.

Tradeshow admission is free, and exhibitor booth space is available.

Samuel Brooks, OAME founder, president and chairman of the board, said there are many reasons to attend the trade show, including the face-to-face meetings with potential business contacts.

Junki Yoshida, president/CEO of Yoshida Group, will be the keynote speaker.

A business success by any standard, Yoshida is an American success story who also is an entertainer and exciting speaker.

Despite facing bankruptcy twice, Yoshida borrowed money from family and based his families' entire future on: Yoshida's Gourmet Sauce.

His persistence and humor convinced a large grocery store buyer to accept his sauce. Wild and crazy in-store demonstration tactics worked to sell his sauce to passing shoppers.

Today, Yoshida's Food products are sold throughout the world.

Brooks noted that OAME was founded in 1987 to promote and develop entrepreneurship and economic development for ethnic minorities in Oregon

and Southwest Washington. OAME has grown to 600 members, representing 56 countries of origin.

Now housed in a 40,000 square foot business campus with 30 tenants, meeting space and staff facilities, OAME offers businesses and entrepreneurs technical assistance, mentoring, access to capital, administrative support, business incubation and networking opportunities.

For registration and exhibit and luncheon information and reservations, contact OAME at 503-249-7774 or visit their website at [www.oame.org](http://www.oame.org).



## MLK/Ainsworth Safeway Remodel on Track

Work has begun on a major remodel of the Safeway Food and Drug on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Ainsworth. Safeway officials say the \$5 million project will transform the store into a new Safeway, complete with the latest decorations and 6,000 additional square feet. Because the store is vital to community residents, it will remain open during construction, scheduled for completion by late fall.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER