

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Adopt a Pet

The Oregon Humane Society is extending its outreach efforts to several area pet stores this month. Help the Humane Society bring homeless pets into the community, call 503-285-7722, extension 204 for more information.

Community Energy Project

18 free workshops on weatherization, water conservation and lead poisoning prevention will be held at various locations in north and northeast Portland to give residents ideas on how to save money. Stop by the Community Energy Project offices, 422 N.E. Alberta, or call 503-284-6827 for times, dates and locations.

Australian Feminism

Brenda Hunter, guest speaker and visitor from Greelog, is a long time environmentalist, staunch supporter of Aboriginal rights and a working mother. Hear her discuss current campaigns including the fight for paid maternity leave, defense of refugees, and the anti-war struggle, Wednesday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. at the Bread and Roses Center, 819 N. Killingsworth.

Cascadia Information Day

The Cascadia Mental Health office at the corner of North Albina and Killingsworth is sponsoring its First Annual Community Information Day from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 13. Various community agencies will be passing out information as visitors enjoy free food and free pictures with Santa. For more information, call 503-283-3763.

Grinch of the Year Party

Join Jobs with Justice for the Grinch of the Year Party at The Peace House, 2116 N.E. 18th Ave., at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14. Attendees will be able to narrow down the finalists who include the Portland Public Schools Board, George Bush, Jim Frasier, Joseph Miniace, Russ Danielson and Kenneth Lay. Ten votes and a beverage are given for each \$10 ticket purchased. Children are free and no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

Run/Walk for Arthritis

The annual Jingle Bell Run/Walk is a fun-filled fund-raiser for the fight against arthritis. Free food, entertainment, costume contests, and prize drawings accompany an 8K run, 5K run and walk, and a Kid's Fun Run on Saturday Dec. 14, downtown at The World Trade Center. To register for the event, call 800-283-3004.

Kennedy Christmas

'Tis the season for holiday fun at McMenamins Kennedy School. Come see The Disciples in Song on Dec. 6, 7, 13, 14, 20 and 21 from 7-8 p.m. for spirited holiday caroling with a gospel twist. The concert is free. Kennedy School also welcomes two performances of the holiday classic, 'Miracle on 34th St.' Friday, Dec. 13, at 5:30 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 14, at 2:30 p.m. Cost is \$3.

Winter Wonderland Lights

Enjoy the Northwest's biggest light show from the comfort of your own car at the Thriftway Winter Wonderland light show this year at the Portland International Raceway through Jan. 1. The show features 40 fully animated display scenes, 25 vehicle drive-through arches and 12 themed display areas. The raceway is open Sunday through Thursday from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Friday and Saturday nights until 11 p.m. For more information, call 503-821-4342.

This event is very valuable to the community. Art has a way of bringing people together.

—Charles Jordan, Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center founder



Charles Jordan, director of Portland Parks and Recreation and the founder of the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center discusses the principles of Kwanzaa with IFCC visitors during the opening reception for a new show featuring the artworks of over 24 artists.

PHOTOS BY DAVID PLECHL/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

KWANZAA COMES ALIVE



One of many Kwanzaa inspired artworks on display at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center.

African traditions inspire powerful art show



Viewers browse the Kwanzaa gallery at the IFCC. The show will run Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. through the month, concluding on Dec. 31 with a Kumba celebration.

BY DAVID PLECHL
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A vibrant holiday show alive with color, texture and emotion is now showing at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center in north Portland as a way of celebrating and honoring the seven principals of Kwanzaa.

The event runs through December and features over two dozen artists who have combined contemporary design with tribal and spiritual passions.

Director of Portland Parks and Recreation and the founder of IFCC Charles Jordan, welcomed the artists and all who came to view the stunning collection at an opening reception last Thursday.

"This event is very valuable to the community," Jordan said. "Art has a way of bringing people together."

Many of the artists were on hand to talk about their

works and visit with the public.

Silas Clark is showing acrylic paintings on canvas that meld principals of modern inner city life with tribal ritual.

Clark, who is also a rapper, said the works reflect his inner life made tangible in complimenting blues, oranges, greens and reds.

"Spiritual things are the most important elements in my life," Clark said.

Local artist Sylvia Welch brings mud-cloth and earth toned textiles to life with her emotionally moving, handcrafted tapestries.

Her work represents the Kwanzaa principal of Kumba, or creativity. Welch cherishes her chance to be part of Kwanzaa in an artistic way. She believes the festival is important to both young and old.

"We kind of forgot our history," she said, "Kwanzaa helps us remember."

continued ▼ on page B2

Local Legislators to Host Town Hall

State Representatives Jackie Dingfelder and Steve March and State Senator Avel Gordly are planning a town hall meeting to update the northeast Portland community on issues facing the 2003 Legislature.

The event will be held Saturday, Jan. 11 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Hollywood Senior Center, located at 1820 N.E. 40th Ave.

"Oregon is facing a \$1.4 billion shortfall, school funding uncertainty, continued high unemployment, and the highest rate of hunger in the nation," said Rep. Dingfelder. "I want to keep our community informed on these and other issues, as well as seek citizen input."

"This town hall will be a great opportunity for anyone who has questions or concerns they'd like to raise with their elected officials, including the upcoming vote on the temporary tax increase" said Rep. March. "We are here to serve the community."

Sen. Gordly added that there would be information available on getting and staying involved in the legislative process.

"Please come out and bring a neighbor or two along," she said. "Oregon needs its citizens engaged in problem solving more than at any other time in our history."

Entertainment for Everyone

Bookies brings character and panache to sports bar



Bookies Sports Bar, on the corner of North Albina and Lombard, offers a full bar and entertainment lounge.

PHOTO BY DAVID PLECHL/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

BY DAVID PLECHL

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

"Take a seat." "Make yourself at home." "Would you like a beverage from the bar?" A welcome is what you get at Bookies Sports Bar and Lounge, a multicultural venue that has found a niche after just 9 months in business.

Centered at the intersection of Lombard and Albina this not-so-little sports bar and entertainment lounge is attracting a happy clientele eager to take a sip from their favorite drink and kick back to some hopping live music every Friday and Saturday nights.

continued ▼ on page B2