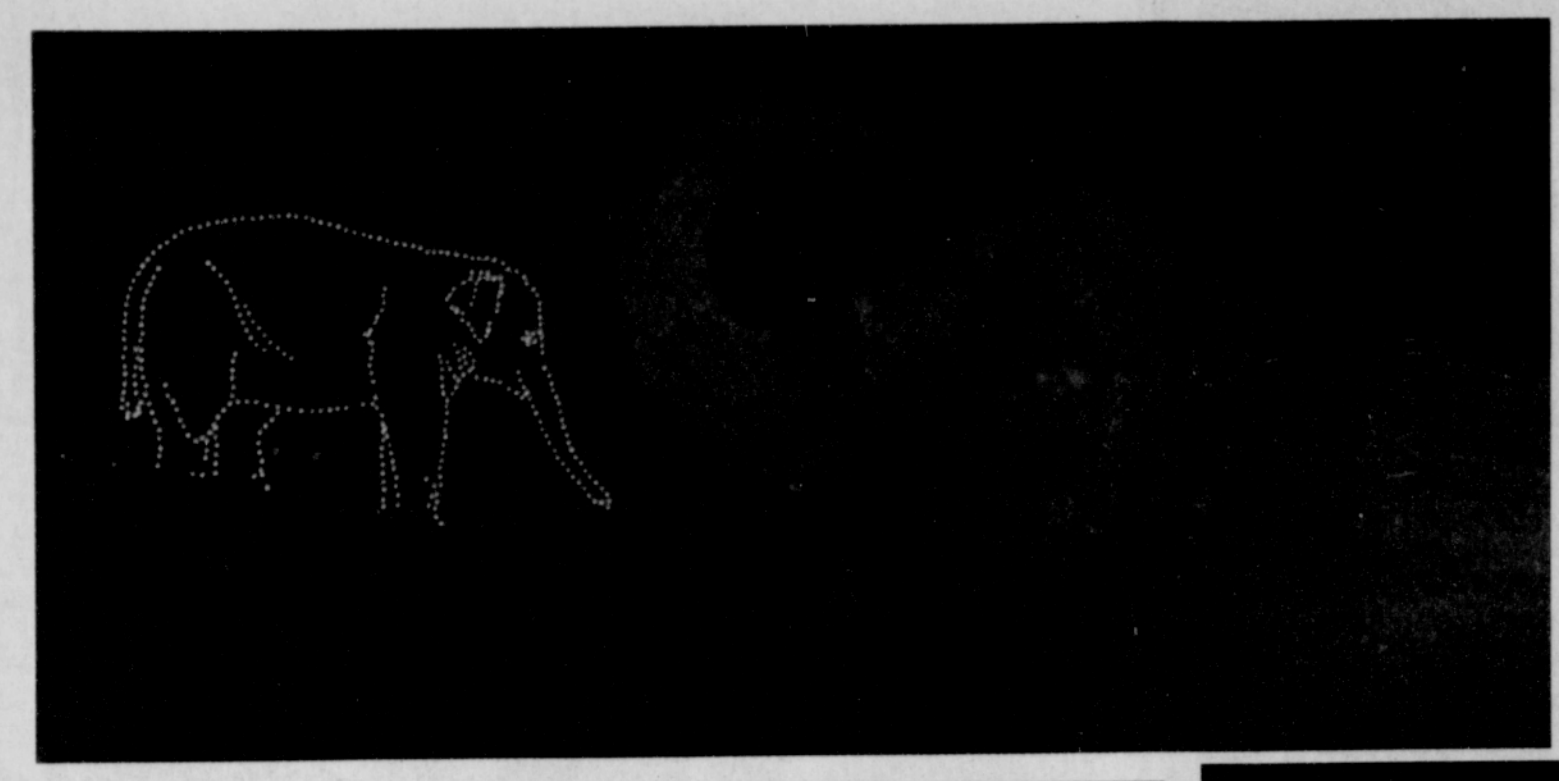


Animals, Displays Light Up Zoo

An elephant at the Oregon Zoo is framed by another pachyderm of the brightly lit ZooLights variety. The annual holiday festival continues through Sunday, Dec. 29, except Christmas Eve and Christmas, beginning each night at 5:30 p.m.

Portland Celebrates Kwanzaa

Several locations play host to cultural events

The seven principals of Kwanzaa will be honored all this week as the city reaches the climax of this uniquely American holiday inspired by traditional African festivals.

The concept of Umoja or Unity will be central to a 'Celebrating Family and Community' event Thursday, Dec. 26 at the North Portland Branch Library at 512 N. Killingsworth at 6 p.m.

Kugichagulia, or Self Determination will be the theme Friday, Dec. 27 at the Children's Kwanzaa Program African Marketplace at Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 N.E. Knott St. from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Handmade arts and crafts as well as baked goods will all be available for sale.

Also Friday, African American students will hold a panel discussion during the College Confab at the Two World Trade Center Auditorium, 121 S.W. Salmon, from 5:30 to 9 p.m.

Ujima, or Collective Work and

Responsibility is the reason for the season Saturday, Dec. 28 when the Bridge Builders host the Kwanzaa Gala and Gentleman's Ball at 7:30 p.m. downtown at the Newark Theater on Southwest Broadway and Main Street. Tickets are available at the door.

A traditional African celebration will be presented Monday, Dec. 30 at Reflections Books, 446 N.E. Killingsworth at 4 p.m. in honor of the principal of Nia or Purpose.

The Kwanzaa festivities will peak Tuesday, Dec. 31 at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate. Children's activities and Zawadi (giftmaking) begin at 12 p.m. along with storytelling and poetry. Community drummers will follow at 2 p.m. and finally a Karamu, or feast will conclude the celebration from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

A Kwanzaa exhibition of local artists is currently on display at the IFCC from noon to 5 p.m. every day except Christmas.

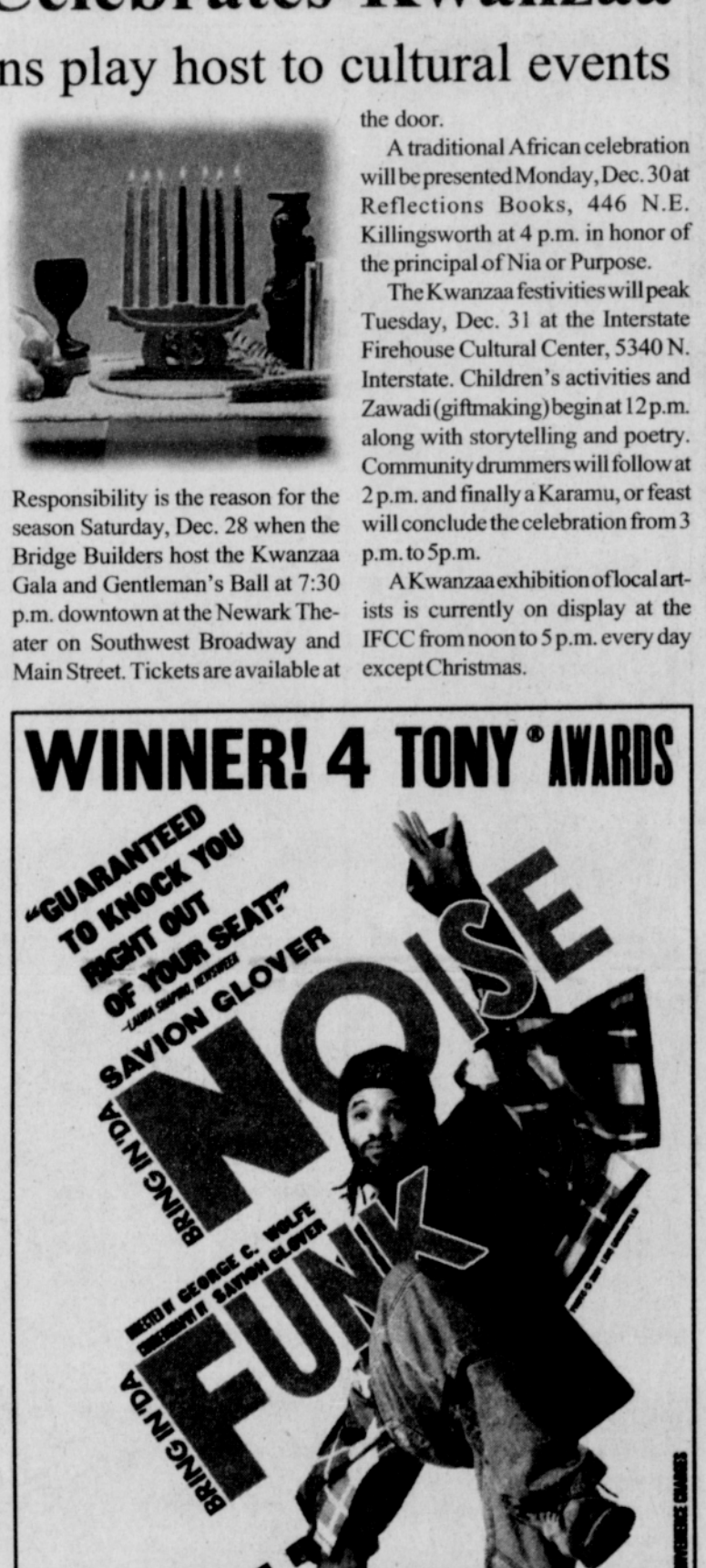
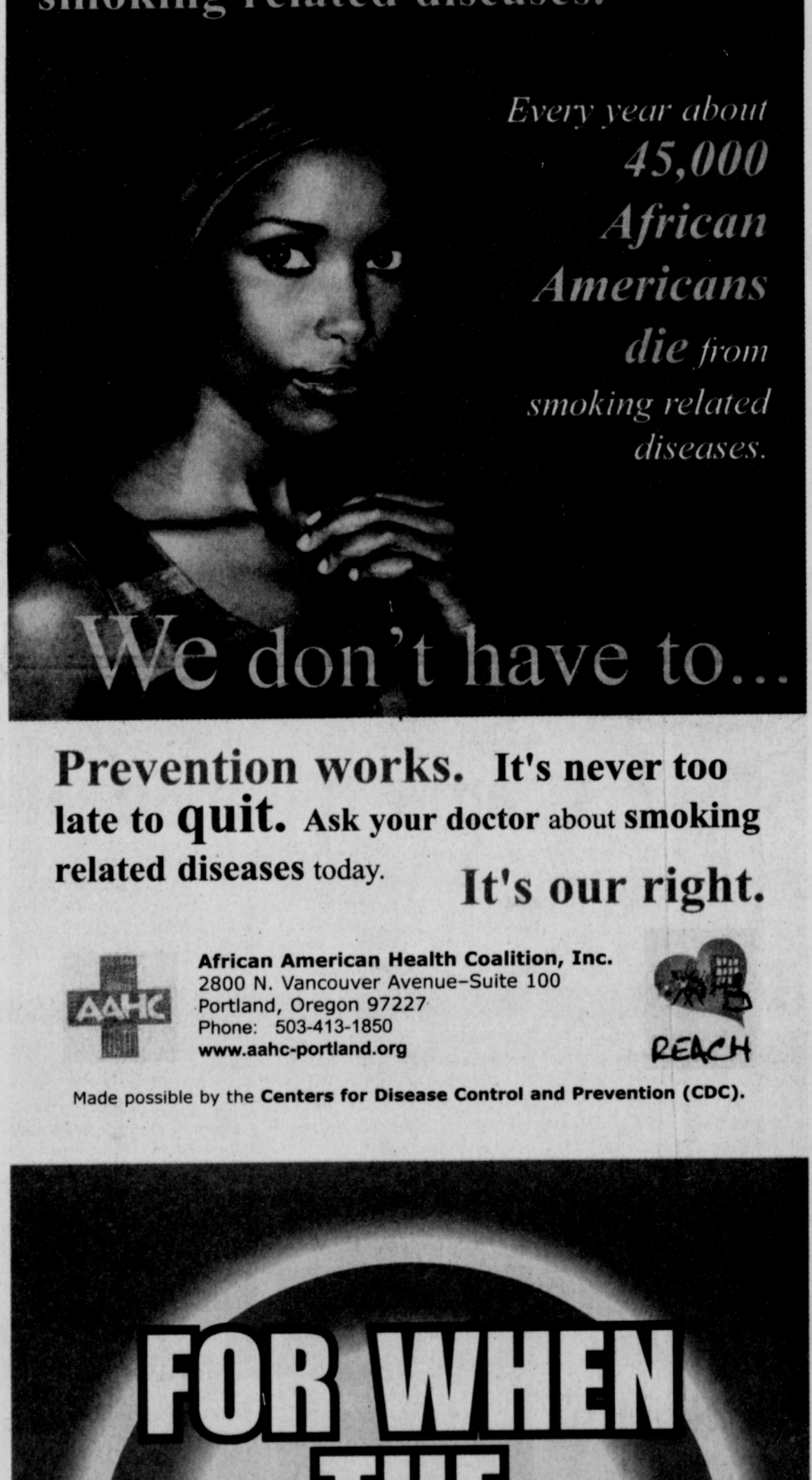
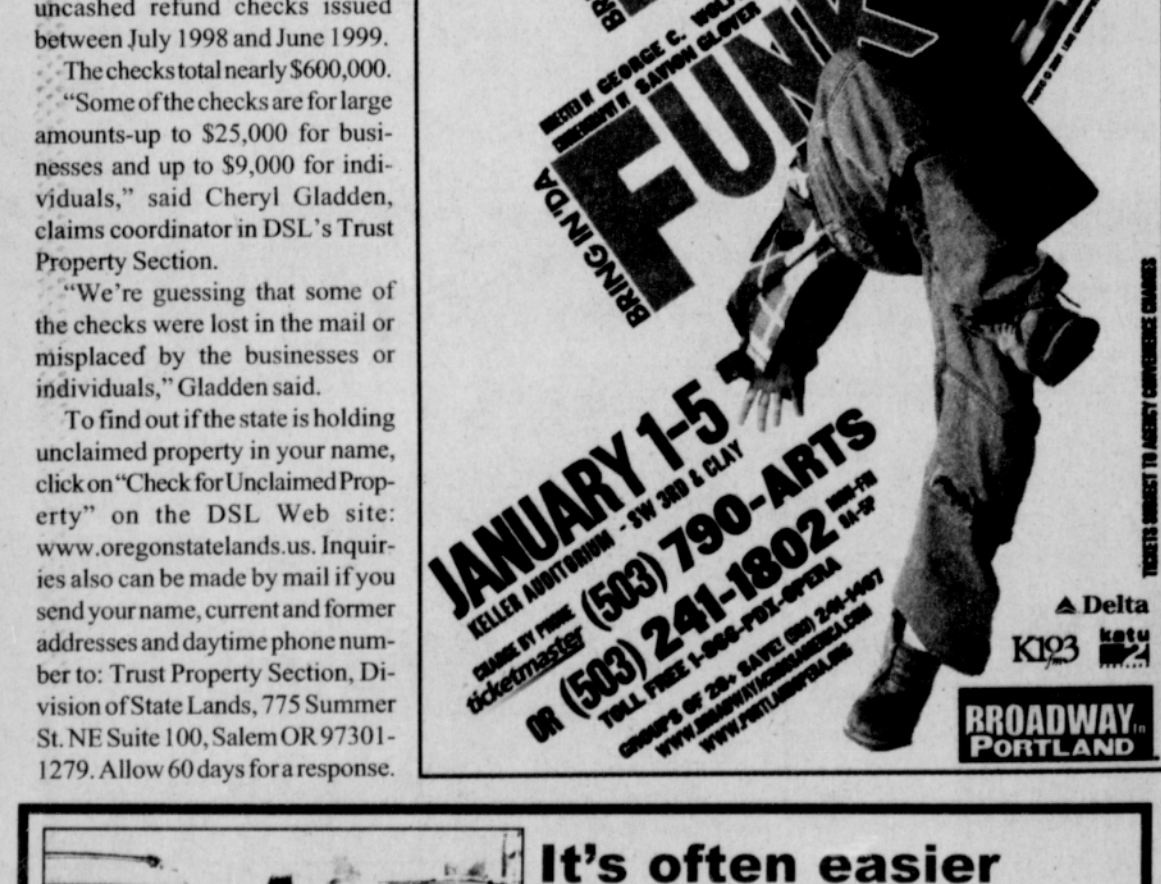
Owners of Unclaimed Checks Sought

Need extra holiday cash? The state of Oregon may have money in your name.

The Division of State Lands and Oregon Department of Revenue are working together to try to locate the owners of more than 1,900 uncashed refund checks issued between July 1998 and June 1999.

The checks total nearly $600,000.

"Some of the checks are for large amounts-up to $25,000 for businesses and up to $9,000 for individuals," said Cheryl Gladden, claims coordinator in DSL's Trust Property Section.

"We're guessing that some of the checks were lost in the mail or misplaced by the businesses or individuals," Gladden said.

To find out if the state is holding unclaimed property in your name, click on "Check for Unclaimed Property" on the DSL Web site: www.oregonstatelands.us. Inquiries also can be made by mail if you send your name, current and former addresses and daytime phone number to: Trust Property Section, Division of State Lands, 775 Summer St. NE Suite 100, Salem OR 97301-1279. Allow 60 days for a response.