Theatre Company Tackles Tough Issues

continued A from Metro

Not only does Deon have to explain to Marie about the scandalous ways of his past, but he must also face how his actions in the past will dramatically alter the course of their futures together.

"The characters have to really question their belief systems," said Siouxsie Suarez, a veteran PassinArt actress who plays Marie. "They have to stop and ask, 'What is forgiveness? What is acceptance? What is tolerance?'

While the spotlight shines on the relationship between Deon and Marie, the play is actually about the dynamics of all relationships - husband and wife, parent and child, friend and friend when they are forced to confront prejudice and make the choice to embrace or abandon those beliefs. "Of the nine characters in the

play, I don't think there is a single one who doesn't have to face those choices," said Kenneth Dembo, who plays Deon. One of the most important points

'Deceptive Love' hopes to make is that AIDS is not a homosexual disease, but rather a human disease.

Since the PassinArt Theatre Company formed in 1984, it has



Brian Dance, Siouxsie Suarez, and Kenneth Dembo act out a scene from PassinArt's upcoming production of 'Deceptive Love'

tried to choose scripts with messages that impact on society in general, and particularly multi-cultural groups.

one of the city's toughest neighbor-

hoods, a demonstration he said

showed his commitment to commu-

low crime rate and a relatively

ture on national television

throughout the sniper investiga-

tion, giving news conferences

Muhammad, Moose has been in

shows and been featured in news-

papers, pursued by literary

Since the arrest of suspects

But Moose became a daily fix-

In 1999, he moved to Mont-

"This one is definitely going to bring up a lot of issues," said

and community members, religious ask questions and get feed back on passinart@yahoo.com.

So many issues, in fact, that the leaders and health care professiongroup will host a series of 'Talk als after the performance. Audi-PassinArt Co-Founder Connie Back' sessions with a panel of cast ence members will have a chance to

any of the issues presented in 'Deceptive Love.'

"We hope to get people talking," Carley said.

The play will be performed Friday, March 7 through Saturday, April 5 with 8 p.m. performances on Fridays and Saturdays and matinees at 3 p.m. on Sundays at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N Interstate Ave. General admission is \$15 and students and seniors get in for \$7.50. Tickets may be purchased by calling the IFCC box office at 503-823-4322.

There will be a community night showing on Wednesday, March 5 where public admission will be

'Deceptive Love' cast members include Kenneth Dembo, Siouxsie Suarez, Brian Dance, Jerry Foster, Garfield Wedderburn, Laverne Green, Shelley Matthews, Kurt Robinson and Latasha Noonon. The play was written by Leasharn M. Hopkins and is directed by William Earl Ray.

For more information on PassinArt, a theatre group established to increase the visibility and viability of African American and multicultural artists and theater in Portland, call 503-321-5163 or email



Montgomery County Police Chief Charles Moose huddles with Sonia Wills, the mother of Conrad Johnson, one of the sniper victims, during a news conference in support of gun control last month. (AP photo)

Moose's activities may violate law

(AP)—People in Rockville, Md. County, Moose served six years as still come up to Montgomery police chief in Portland. He drew County Police Chief Charles Moose national attention by moving into on the street, just to shake his hand or ask for an autograph. Shop owners tape up snapshots of themselves with Moose. Everywhere he nity policing. goes, the chief is recognized.

However, the chief has found gomery County, a largely afflupublic attention has a different side: ent Washington suburb with a scrutiny of his actions, especially outside work stemming from the low-profile police department. sniper investigation that he headed.

To some extent, the chief has made his new fame work for him. He is writing a book due out this fall. Moose and his wife formed a crisis several times a day. management consulting company called "Two Moose: A Caring Part- Lee Boyd Malvo and John Allen

But he may face a significant demand. He has appeared on talk hurdle for his plans. Moose's postsniper activities may violate strict ethics laws that generally prohibit agents and honored by a host of Montgomery County officials from organizations. profiting from their work.

Moose must get approval from the county's ethics commission for his outside work. The board is expected to review the book deal, consulting company, and a community college teaching post Moose has held for two years.

Ethicists say Moose finds himself in a familiar position for people suddenly and unexpectedly propelled into fame.

Duncan. The executive called Moose's failure to get timely approval for the consulting and teaching work an oversight and said the chief should have a chance to tell his story through a book.

Moose did not respond to requests for comment, but his wife said in a recent interview that the couple expected the board to approve the consulting firm and Moose's other work

"Everything is going to be looked at," Sandy Moose said. "The ethics commission has work to do. They'll do that work and we'll be fine.'

Before coming to Montgomery

TriMet Boosts Fines, Security TriMet has outlined a new security initiative that includes additional per-

sonnel, increased penalties for fare evasion and new signs on MAX and buses to maintain and reinforce the safety of the

TriMet General Manager Fred Hansen said the initiative addresses disruptive behavior that, while not illegal, can make riders feel less than secure.

"By going after disruptive behavior, we maintain the safety and integrity of the system and make it more inviting to ride, especially later in the evening," said

TriMet is adding six additional security personnel to allow greater presence on the transit system, address disruptive behavior and fare evasion. The additional positions bring the total of security personnel

The TriMet Board of Directors has approved the first reading of an ordinance to increase the penalty for fare evasion, from \$77 to \$250, and the exclusion period from a maximum of 90 days to six months. Currently, riders without a valid fare can be excluded from all TriMet service up to 90 days.

Theft Ring Busted

(AP) - Police have arrested two people who allegedly stole luggage at Portland International

Police say it works like this. The suspect would drive to the front of the terminal. His accomplice would get out of the car, go into the baggage claim area and swipe a piece of luggage off the carousel, and jump into the getaway car.

Portland police believe 42-year-old Terry Haman and 35-year-old Deborah Evansen stole thousands of dollars worth of luggage and belongings.

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WE NEED YOUR COMMENTS!

You are invited to review and comment on grant applications to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for funding to assist in the reuse of Brownfields Properties

Attend community meetings to:

- Review the conceptual designs developed by a citizen-based committee and learn about the reuse efforts for property located at 3368 NE Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd.
- Learn about the City's "Brownfields Showcase Program" to address contaminated properties.
- Review application drafts, provide direction and assist in finalizing the grant applications to U.S. EPA.

Wednesday, March 12 • 3:30 - 5:00 PM at Bureau of Housing & Community Dev, 421 SW Sixth Ave., Suite 1100, Portland

Thursday, March 13 • 6:30 - 8:00 PM at OAME Cascade Plaza, 4134 N. Vancouver Ave., Portland

This planning process is being led by the Bureau of Housing and Community Development, the Portland Development Commission, and the Portland Brownfields Showcase Program.

For general Brownfields Showcase information, contact Clark Henry at (503) 823-7053. For information about the NE MLK Jr., Blvd. project, call Christine Hermann at (503) 823-3239. To review the draft application, go to www.pdc.us



