

# METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

## Community Calendar

## OAME Tradeshaw

The Pacific Northwest's largest minority, women and emerging small business luncheon and tradeshaw will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 8 at the Oregon Convention Center. The Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs tradeshaw will feature more than 160 small and large businesses, state and federal government agencies and business development resources to help small and minority owned businesses grow.

## Strawberry Shortcake

## Helps Women's Shelters

New Season's Market Concordia at 5320 N.E. 33rd Ave. will sell strawberry shortcake with Driscoll strawberries, Stonyfield ice cream and Organic Valley Farms whipping cream for \$3.50 on Saturday, May 10 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. to benefit local women's shelters and advocates against domestic violence.

## Tibetan Cultural

## Festival Saturday

Tibetans will share their ancient culture from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 10 at the Oaks Amusement Park, located at the east end of the Sellwood Bridge. The festival is free to the public and will include Samtenling Tibetan monks from Nepal who will demonstrate the art of sand mandala construction. The day will be filled with Tibetan music including rock violinist Aaron Meyer with Bill Lamb at 1 p.m. and the Tibetan Children's Choir. Traditional Tibetan food and arts will be available for attendees to enjoy. For more information, call 503-222-7172.

## Open-Air Market

The Portland French School in John's Landing will hold its fifth annual Marche En Plein Air, an open-air European style market, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 10 at 6318 S.W. Corbett. The market will feature local farmers and artists who will offer items for the home and garden including flowers, plants, fresh produce, breads, wine and cheese. There will be refreshments, live music and children's activities as well as a book fair and art collection created by students at the French School. For more information, call 503-452-4160.

## Eclipse of the Moon

The Mount Hood Community College Planetarium Sky Theater will present "In the Shadow of the Earth" on Saturday, May 10 and Sunday May 11 at 2 p.m. The live, 45-minute show will inform visitors about the May 15 lunar eclipse and provide tips on how and where to observe the celestial event. The Sky Theater is located at 26000 S.E. Stark in Gresham. Admission is \$1. For more information, call 503-491-7297.

## Candidates Fair

On Tuesday, May 13 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. the Jefferson High School PTA will host a school board candidates' fair in the Jefferson cafeteria. Attendees will have a chance to ask candidates what they'll do for schools in the Jefferson cluster. There will be no speeches. For more information, call 503-641-6321.

## Online Adopt-a-Pet

Those looking for a loving pet can now find it by logging on to a new Oregon Humane Society website service at [www.oregonhumane.org](http://www.oregonhumane.org).

## Community Activist Wins McCoy Award

## Portland volunteer honored for lifetime achievement

LeRoy Patton is the ninth winner of the Gladys McCoy Award for lifetime volunteer achievement.

Patton has been engaged in volunteer activism in the community for 40 years. He

is champion of citizen involvement and empowerment much like Gladys McCoy, the late African American leader and Multnomah County executive for whom the award is named.

Patton is the founding member of the Fair Housing Council of Oregon, a long time member of the Poverty Advisory Committee to the Commission



LeRoy Patton

on Children and Families.

He has participated in several volunteer opportunities, boards and community improvement activities.

His dedication to organizations like the American Cancer Society Urban League, Retired Teacher's Association, NAACP, International Organization of

Human Rights Agencies, National Fair Housing Alliance, National Association of Human Rights Workers, Business Networking International Group, Coalition for a Livable Future, Lead Abatement Committee for the City of Portland's Water Bureau, Job Corps Alumni Association, American Red Cross and many more, exemplify his deep-rooted values and solid dedication to his community.

## Street Fair Spectacular Coming Soon

### Mississippi Avenue neighbors welcome diversity celebration

Local musicians and artists, a best-ribs competition and many children's activities highlight the second annual Boise-Eliot Multi-Cultural Fair and Mississippi Avenue Street Fair, from Thursday, May 15 through Saturday, May 17.

The fair will feature food, music, arts, games and other family-friendly events celebrating the neighborhood's diversity and showcasing community businesses and organizations along North Mississippi Avenue from Fremont to Skidmore streets.

A best-ribs contest, community talent show, performance stages, tricycle race and hands-on artist demonstrations for kids highlight this collaboration of Boise-Eliot Elementary School, neighbors and businesses.

Last year, more than 4,000 people attended the fair. It proved to be a major source of pride for the diverse and changing Boise neighborhood. Many long-time residents noted they had never seen so many people gathered on their main commercial street for a community celebration.

The fair kicks off from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, May 15 at Boise-Eliot Elementary School, 620 N Fremont, with food, artists demonstrations, community organization displays, student performances and projects representing a multitude of world cultures.

From 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, May 16, a community talent show will take place at the Mississippi Rising Ballroom, 833 N Shaver, followed by outdoor movies and short films by local filmmakers in the lot just north of Shaver and Mississippi.

A five-block stretch from Fremont to Skidmore will be closed to traffic to make way for the street fair on Saturday, May 17 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The events include a best-rib contest at 2 p.m., community garage sale, arts and crafts market, nonprofit displays, food vendors, a diverse roster of musical and artistic performances, all-ages bingo, a treasure hunt and plenty of children's activities.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Community volunteers Bob and Deborah Schwartz wear protective clothing to handle food safely at the Oregon Food Bank in northeast Portland. The emergency food pantry finds it difficult to keep up with demand as Oregon has the highest hunger rate in the nation.

## Hunger Hits Food Bank

The Oregon Food Bank is finding it difficult to keep up with demand as Oregon has the highest hunger rate in the nation.

The northeast Portland agency is the hub of a network of 317 food pantries that distribute emergency food boxes to an estimated 720,000 people who are

hungry in Oregon and Clark County, Wash.

Food Bank officials say the demand is up 10 percent from the previous year.

The people most likely to need emergency food are families and children. Most adults who receive food assistance are working, retired or disabled.

According to the Oregon Center for Public Policy, the state is suffering from more hunger because of high housing costs, stagnated wages and fewer family-wage jobs.

The center reports that family income for the poorest Oregonians declined by 6 percent over the last decade.

## Vancouver's Clark College Hires President

### New leader cited for experience, inclusive style

An African American with extensive experience in higher education was named the new president of Clark College in Vancouver Friday.

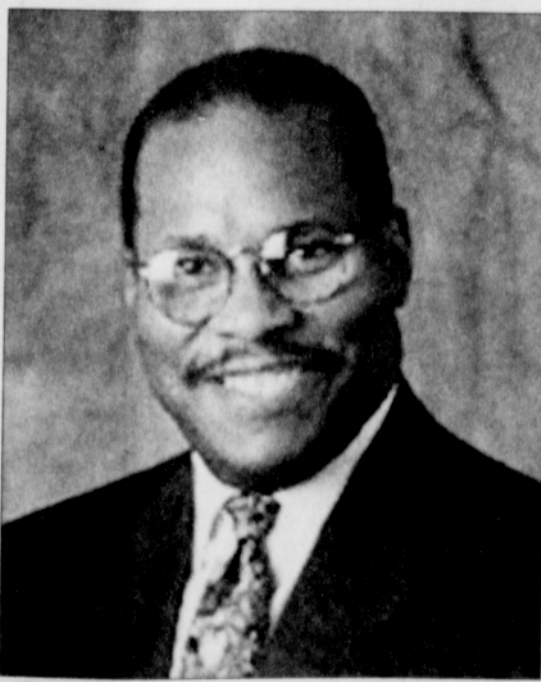
Dr. Wayne Branch, president of Community College of Baltimore, Essex Campus, was unanimously named Clark College's chief executive at a special meeting of the school's board of trustees.

Board members described Branch as an outstanding communicator and experienced administrator whose style of leadership was very inclusive, working with all campus groups on major decisions.

Clark Trustee Rhona Sen Hoss, who visited Branch's current campus in Maryland, said he is a leader who embraces tradition while moving ideas and strategic planning forward in a visionary way.

"He gets things done and has earned much respect at his campus," Hoss said.

The board found that Branch is a highly respected



Dr. Wayne Branch

individual who has accomplished his goals and brought the Essex campus forward academically, in program growth and in its relationship with transfer institutions.

Branch has been at the Maryland campus since 1999, a college that serves 10,000 credit students and 12,000 noncredit students. He has 10 years of senior-level administrative experience and 13 years of teaching experience at all levels of higher education.

Branch served as vice president of student affairs at Community College of Philadelphia from 1994-1999, as dean of student development at Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale campus, from 1992-1994, and was the director for counseling and career services at Dutchess Community College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. from 1987 to 1992.

Branch was a teacher and counselor at University of Pittsburgh from 1980 to 1982 and has held adjunct faculty appointments at Duquesne University, State University of New York, Dutchess Community College and University of Maryland.

He earned his Ph.D. in counselor education at the University of Pittsburgh.