

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Fix-It Fair

Neighborhood Fix-It Fair is at David Douglas High School, 1001 SE 135th Ave., from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15. For more information, call 503-823-7222.

Turkey Trot

Get ready for Thanksgiving dinner by joining the Oregon Road Runners Club on a four-mile run/walk through Washington Park and the Oregon Zoo. For more information, call or visit www.oregonzoo.com.

Scholarship Help

The Women's Resource Center is holding a workshop on Scholarship Application ABCs from 3 to 4 p.m. Nov. 17 at PCC's Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth, Blvd. SSB Rm. 103.

Samba Class

The World Dance Office presents an 8-week fall samba workshop with live music from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays through Nov. 25. Classes are at the Peter Stott Center, Rm. 207. \$6. For more information, call 503-725-5670.

Mirror Mirror

A discussion on skin care and body sculpting is the topic for the Providence Women's Wellness Series from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Nov. 12 at Providence Portland Medical Center Amphitheater, 4805 NE Glisan St. For reservations, call 503-574-6595.

Chimps Gone Wild

Jane Goodall brings enthusiasts closer to nature with "Wild Chimpanzees," through May at the Omnimax Theater, 1945 S.E. Water Ave. Tickets are \$8.50. For more information, visit www.wildchimpanzees.org.

Doors of Creativity

Northwest Medical Teams sponsors the multi-media exhibit "Windows of Need, Doors of Hope" from Nov. 12 through 18 at the Doubletree Inn, Lloyd Center. For more information, visit www.nwmedicalteams.org or call 503-624-1000.

Planting Neighborhoods

Friends of Trees announces neighborhood tree plantings beginning with the Rose City Park/Roseway neighborhood on Nov. 15. Those interested in leading volunteers should attend training at 8 a.m. Nov. 15 at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, 2727 NE 54th Ave. For more information, visit www.friendsoftrees.org.

Get in Shape

Providence Health Systems offers Westside fitness classes at 4015 SW Mercantile Drive, Lake Oswego. Classes include step, ball and bar, cardio mix, cardio step, gentle-paced fitness, group strength training and Tai chi, to name a few. For a full schedule, call 503-574-6595 or visit www.providence.org/classes.

Friends with Corduroy

Celebrate Children's Book Week at the library with lovable Corduroy, one of children's literature's favorite characters. The event is from 7 to 7:30 p.m. Nov. 20. 3605 NE 15th Ave.

A Healing Song

Sankofa Health Institute offers a free diabetes support group from 6 to 7:30 p.m. every third Thursday at Alberta Simmons Plaza, 611 NE MLK Blvd. For more information, call 503-285-2484.

FOOT PATROL



Recruits New Members

Vernon Community Association foot patrol members Steve Lien (from left), Eric Schnell, Judge Kemp, Larry Laughead and Leah Robbins patrol the Vernon neighborhood to improve livability.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Katz and Foxworth to join citizen night watch

Fed up with an increase in homicide and drug-related crimes in their neighborhood, the Vernon Community Association is committed to improving their

streets by forming a foot patrol.

On Friday, Nov. 21 members will get the chance to voice their needs to Mayor Vera Katz and Police Chief Derrick Foxworth, when they join the Vernon Neighborhood Foot Patrol on its evening rounds.

"This is a great opportunity to share

with the mayor and chief what is happening in Vernon, and for them to experience our neighborhood environment first hand," Vernon Community Co-Chairs Leah Robbins and Harvey Rice said in a statement.

The group has been recruiting new members for the past few weeks.

The Vernon neighborhood includes the diverse and thriving Alberta and Killingsworth business and arts districts, Vernon Elementary School, Alberta Park and numerous churches.

For more information, call Judge Kemp, foot patrol coordinator, at 503-282-9043 or 503-750-3009.



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Accepting Leaves by the Carload

Tom McGarry helps Matt Kavanagh unload bags of leaves at Stanton Yard in north Portland. Stanton is one of six city leaf depots. For \$1 per carload, much less than curbside recycling services, residents can dump leaves on designated Saturdays and Sundays at specific times through Dec. 13. The depot sites for this weekend are Cathedral and Lents parks on Saturday, and Floyd Light School and Gabriel Park on Sunday. For a complete schedule of depot sites and times, visit www.trans.ci.portland.or.us or call 503-823-1784.

Franklin Interim Principal Named

Dr. Charles Hopson, principal at Harriet Tubman Middle School, will take over as interim principal at Franklin High School in southeast Portland.

Portland Public School Superintendent Jim Scherzinger announced last week that Hopson, an experienced school administrator and adjunct assistant professor at the University of Portland, will leave the northeast Portland middle school to fill the principal



Dr. Charles Hopson

position held by Opal Chancler-Moore, who is out on medical leave. Hopson will stay at Franklin until Chancler-Moore returns.

Hopson has been the principal at Tubman since July of 1995.

Plans are now underway to select an interim principal for Tubman. Hopson is charged with consulting with Dr. Harriet Adair, area director of the Jefferson cluster, to assure a smooth transition.

Chambers Team Up Emphasis put on minorities competing in the mainstream

BY LEE PERLMAN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Representatives of three minority business groups are teaming up to address economic vitality issues important to area residents.

The leaders from the African-American, Hispanic and Philippine-American chambers of commerce, discussed their organizations and goals before a recent dinner meeting of the Alliance of Portland Neighborhood Business Associations.

A common theme was the intent to become part of the business mainstream, not to be marginalized in a slot reserved for them.

"Our mission is to empower African-American businesses and that's what we try to do," said Roy Jay of the African-American Chamber, now six years old. "We're a very quiet organization. We pride ourselves in doing a lot of work off the radar screen."

Nonetheless, the trio of associations made news earlier this year when, as part of a coalition, they won a contract to run the downtown Star Park garages.

"We don't want to be categorized as just minority businesses, just waiting around for set-aside money, as some folks want us to do," Jay said. "Everybody expects us to just do beauty shops, barber shops and small restaurants. We want to operate within the entire city, instead of just looking for a handout."

Jay said the Star Park contract was a good example of winning the competition for a major contract on its own merits.

Jaime Lim of the Philippine-American chamber gave a similar message.

"Make the playing field level," he said. "If it is, minorities can compete. We competed for Smart Park, and we won."

Formed in 1996, the Philippine-American group has 200 members. There are 12,000 Philipinos and Philippino Americans in Portland, Lim said.

"We're not a very visible group," he admitted. "A lot of Philipinos just want to work for someone. Now more and more are going into business."

Clare Padilla Andrews of the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce said that her organization, begun in 1994, is conducting a drive to bring its membership to 500.

"We have more than 6,000 businesses and more opening every day," she said.

A sister organization in Albuquerque, N. M., helped end a rule that there could be only one chamber of commerce in any city. Hispanic business people were not being heard by the local chamber, so they formed their own, Andrews said.

"There's no way one Portland Chamber of Commerce could represent all of us," Jay added. "It has never happened and it wasn't going to happen."

But Jay said multiple chambers do not preclude working cooperatively.

"We all go to different churches, but we all worship a higher power," he said. "When we come together, we have the best of both worlds."



Roy Jay