

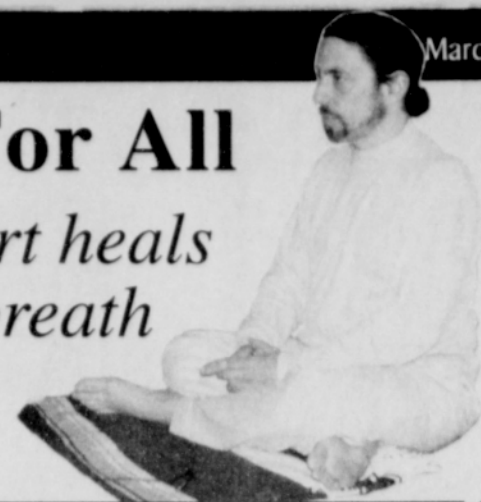
METRO

The Portland Observer

Yoga For All

Ancient art heals with the breath

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SECTION B

Community Calendar

Reunion Watch

Former students and faculty of Girls Polytechnic, James Monroe and Washington-Monroe high schools have the 66th annual all-school dinner at 5 p.m. Monday, April 12 at Our Lady of Sorrows School, 5239 S.E. Woodstock Blvd. Tickets are \$15. For more information, call 503-236-6557.

Honor Political Women

The Oregon Historical Society presents a program honoring the accomplishments of women in the historic 1970s legislature (including Mayor Vera Katz) in conjunction with Women's History Month. Conversations are at the Historical Society, 1200 S.W. Park Ave. from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 18. For more information, call 503-222-1741.

Trees Need Friends

Friends of Trees will plant trees and shrubs in the Hough/Rosmere and Vancouver neighborhoods on Saturday, March 6. If you want to be a help to your community and environment, call 503-284-TREE or visit www.friendsoftrees.org.

Wellness

The second annual Holladay Park Plaza Community Wellness Fair is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, March 19 at 1300 N.E. 16th Ave. For more information, call 503-280-2221.

Stick Up for Seniors

Elders in Action is sticking up for seniors with a Web Evaluator Training from 9:30 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, March 31 at the PCC Southeast Center, 2305 S.E. 82 Ave., Room 119 and an Ombudsman Training from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. March 29 through April 1. For more information, call 503-823-5269 or visit www.eldersaction.org.

Health For Everyone

The 6th annual Health Fair featuring "Health Issues that Affect Everyone" is from 9:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Saturday, March 13 at the Ainsworth United Church of Christ, 2941 N.E. Ainsworth United Church of Christ. The event is free, and lunch is provided. For more information, call 503-284-8767.

Government Contracting

A one-day conference for small, minority, disadvantaged and women-owned businesses to learn how to participate in federal government contracting prospects is held Thursday, March 18 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel-Jantzen Beach. The session is sponsored by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development. Register online at www.hud.gov/washington or by phone at 1-877-741-3281.

What's Fido Thinking?

Learn about what goes through your pooch's mind at Canine 101 through the Oregon Humane Society, 1067 N.E. Columbia Blvd. Classes is at 11 a.m. Saturdays, March 6 and 20. Donations are \$10. For more information, call 503-285-7722.

NAACP Meetings

The Portland Branch of the NAACP holds executive committee meetings on the second Thursday of each month and the Thursday before the fourth Saturday of each month. General membership meetings are held on the fourth Saturday of each month. For more information, call 503-284-7722.

I support President Bush in his effort to rid the world of terror, but I am concerned that Oregon has far more than its per capita share of service men and women in Iraq and far more than its share of casualties.

—Portland resident Bruce Broussard announcing his candidacy for U.S. Senate from Oregon

Community Activist Runs for U.S. Senate

Bruce Broussard, long-time Portland businessman, community activist and cable TV talk show host, announced Monday his candidacy for the Republican nomination to the U.S. Senate seat currently held by Democrat Ron Wyden. His name will appear on the ballot in the May 18 Republican Primary election.

"My wife, Norma, and I will visit every county in Oregon to learn first hand what Oregonians' priorities are," Broussard said. "It isn't just the Portland metropolitan area that has serious problems with business, jobs and schools. It's the whole state. In fact, smaller counties and towns are having an even harder time."

Broussard pledged to work closely with U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith, R-Ore. "to make Oregon whole again."

Besides seniors issues, the economy, jobs and education, Broussard's said his priorities include veteran and military affairs, especially as it relates to Oregon's deployment of 50 percent of its military Reserve and National Guard units.

"I support President Bush in his effort to rid the world of terror, but I am concerned that Oregon has far more than its per capita share of service men and women in Iraq and far more than its share of casualties," Broussard said.

As a Marine veteran of 10 years, including service in Vietnam, Broussard has an extensive military record, including three years of service as a warrant officer in the Oregon Army National Guard.

He has worked for many Republican causes and candidates. He supports Bush's Leave No Child Behind Act to better education for children. Other public service activities include work in environmental small business, scholarship funds, the Portland City Club, senior citizen advocacy and promotion of low-income housing.

Broussard is of African-American and French Creole descent.

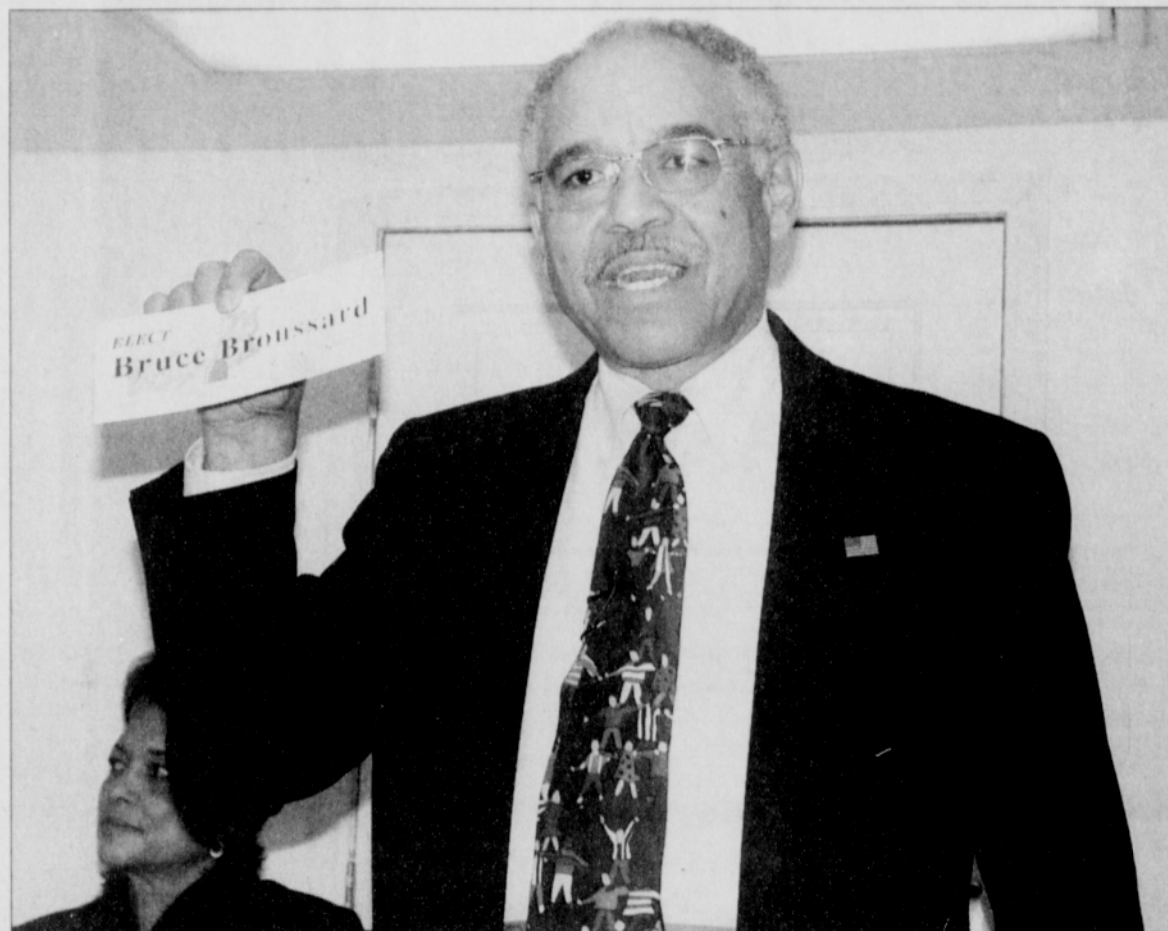


PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Community activist Bruce Broussard holds a press conference at the McCoy Academy on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard to announce his candidacy for the Republican nomination to the U.S. Senate from Oregon.

Better People Founder Asks for Votes

Minority alliances formed in race for State Representative

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A progressive Democrat is forming alliances with African American leaders and drawing on his experience in employment and counseling services for past criminal offenders to run for State Representative in House District 43, representing north and northeast Portland.

Chip Shields said his primary focus is "standing up for the little guy" and that includes women and minority populations. Shields, 36, founded Better People five years ago, a living-wage employment and counseling organization on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard for people who have been in trouble with the law.

He was a major backer of the successful effort in 2002 to raise Oregon's minimum wage and last year supported local schools and health services by pulling together backers of the temporary Multnomah County income tax to offset state budget cuts.

He said the pain of gentrification displacing minority populations in his district can



Chip Shields, the founder and executive director of Better People, a northeast Portland job training and counseling service for former inmates, is running for State Representative in the district he lives and works.

be helped by government promotion of affordable housing, living wage jobs and giving local minority residents a fair shot at government jobs and contracts.

Shields said he entered his race for State Representative only after asking for the support of leaders in the district's large African-American and Latino communities. His endorsements include Sen. Margaret Carter, who once held the house seat, former Rep. JoAnn Bowman and business leader Carl Talton, all African Americans; and Hispanic county commissioners Serena Cruz and Maria Rojo de Steffrey.

As a progressive, Shields said he believes state government should eliminate the tax kicker refund and create a rainy day fund to pay for vital public services like education and public safety to offset downturns in the economy that lower tax revenues.

He wants to reform corporate income taxes to cut down on corporations "scamming to pay only the \$10 tax minimum."

Shields has played an activist role in past efforts to repeal Measure 11, the law strongly opposed by minority and low-

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Resignation Opens House Seat

Democratic State Rep. Deborah Kafoury, representing north and northeast Portland in the State Legislature, resigned Friday after complaints she was no longer able to legally hold her House District 43 seat because she recently moved out of the district.

Kafoury had planned to resign after the May 18 primary election to give voters a say in her replacement.

Now the local Democratic Party is charged with forwarding a list of possible replacements to Multnomah County commissions who could immediately fill the 10 months remaining on Kafoury's term. Two candidates looking for that appointment are Chip Shields and Tina Kotek, currently on the Democratic Primary ballot.

Whitehead Freeman has filed for the position in the Republican Primary and would face the Democratic winner in the November General Election.

Inspiring Ensemble Coming to Portland



PHOTO BY VICKY LELAND

A children's dance troop from Uganda inspires joy and hope for children orphaned by HIV and AIDS.

Nike and White Bird proudly present the Portland debut of Children of Uganda, an ensemble of 20 children who have lost their parents to AIDS.

The March 31 performance will benefit Portland's Black United Fund, Cascade AIDS Project, For Us Northwest, Harambee Centre and the Urban League of Portland. In connection with the performance, Portland public schools are teaching students about the African AIDS crisis and the positive healing power of the arts.

The Tour of Light, as the Children of Uganda tour is called, soothes and heals as the cast of children, aged six to 18, play a variety of handmade drums, harps, xylophones and perform dances from a number of countries, including Uganda, Rwanda, Congo, Tanzania and Kenya.

The riveting show begins at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 31 at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Tickets range from \$18 to \$40.

Tickets can be purchased at the Portland Center for the Performing Arts box office and at all Ticketmaster outlets, or by calling 503-224-4400.