



Jackson Family Support

Michael Jackson's siblings, Janet Jackson (from left), LaToya Jackson and Jermaine Jackson, make their way through security screening before a pretrial hearing Monday in the Jackson molestation case in Santa Maria, Calif. Inside the courtroom, defense attorney Thomas Mesereau Jr. grilled district attorney Tom Sneddon for three hours, attempting to show that Sneddon violated Jackson's rights by searching the office of a private investigator hired by the entertainer's former attorney. (AP photo)

Expressions of Love

Actress shares love of drama



Shalanda Sims

With over 20 years of experience in the performance arts, actress Shalanda Sims says she enjoys stage performances far more than any other form of artistic expression.

Born and raised in Portland, Sims credits her beginnings at Jefferson High School where her love for acting, dancing and singing were first birthed.

She shares her love for the arts by teaching English through theater in local elementary schools and to inner city youth.

"I believe it is important for our young people to know they have a voice and learn how to use it effectively," said Sims. "Drama is one of the

many art forms in which they can learn and counteract the negative influences that come their way daily."

She recently joined with Rena Davis in 'Where I'm From Productions' and hopes to begin traveling as early as this fall to further her theatrical talents. She already has three trips already planned; Los Angeles, London and New York.

Currently, Sims is hosting her first one-woman show as a fundraising event for her traveling expenses titled "Expressions of Love," on Saturday, Aug. 21 at 7 p.m. at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate.

The show is a 'serious' comedy about the many ways we all view love. The characters are sure to have your emotions all over the place.

For ticket information, call 503-997-8589.

Libraries Open Every Day

Beginning Sunday, Aug. 29, all Multnomah County libraries will be open seven days a week, with opening and closing times varying depending on location.

To create the new schedule, library staff carefully reviewed current usage patterns and evaluated the days and time periods that are most popular at each library. In addition, community members provided extensive input. More than 4,000 library users filled out a survey this spring, giving concrete information about their hours preferences.

Among other results, the surveys indicated that Monday hours are highly popular and that mornings, afternoons and evenings are all desirable to different members of the community. "It's clear that in order to fully respond to the demand, we would need to be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week," said Director of Libraries Molly Raphael. "Since that's not possible except for the services we offer online from the library's website, we're pleased that the new hours address a diverse range of users' needs with the resources available."

Poison Scare Closes Park

The off-leash area at Portland's Willamette Park just off Southwest Macadam and Nebraska has been temporarily closed after several whole chickens and assorted meat products were found hidden in some bushes.

Officials are testing the meat to make sure it has not been poisoned. Last summer, 17 dogs died after eating tainted meat at Laurelhurst Park.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Multnomah County Animal Services at 503-988-PETS. Dog owners are urged to keep their dogs leashed and not allow them to eat anything off the ground.



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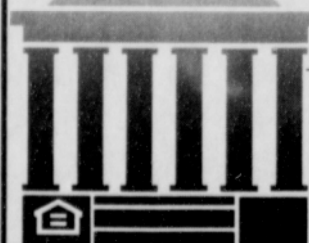
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