



PHOTOS BY NICOLE HOOPER/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Wax Café and break dance entrepreneur Shannon Guthrie demonstrates a spinning head stand.

You Got Served

continued ▲ from Metro

white or Asian," she said. Guthrie feels most adults in the neighborhood are sheltered from hip-hop, but some are very supportive.

"People don't know that hip-hop is a culture. Hip-hop isn't just a rap video you watch on television saying, "Bling-bling," he said.

Guthrie not only has a place to bring the community but he reaches out to the community by teaching at local schools.

Through the SUN (Schools Uniting Neighborhoods) program, he teaches break dancing classes at schools like Fernwood and Binnsmead.

"It's a free program for kids to have something to do after school to not get in trouble," Guthrie said.

April 5 was the first day Wax was opened for breakfast and business has been steady. Wax serves breakfast everyday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. A big appeal is the more than 15 kinds of milkshakes and candy filled pancakes.

Wednesday and Friday nights is when

the dancing happens.

Freestyle Fridays is at 7 p.m. and is proving to be a Wax favorite. Free styling is when a master of ceremonies creatively takes the microphone in an impromptu and spontaneous performance. It is also a kind of competition between MC's because you have to be good to "bust a good freestyle."

This summer, Wax plans to have a hip-hop elements camp, as well as a space set-aside for local clothing designers to sell their clothes.

Wax's owners feel that there are limited options when it comes to finding hip-hop style clothing and even more limits for local designers to get their fashions sold in stores.

The summer camp would last all day and teach the four elements of hip-hop: b-boying, MC-ing, turntablism (learning how to make beats using turntables and vinyl records) and graffiti art. These plans are still in the works.

Residents of the local community are urged to make Wax a community place for fun, food and art.

RELIGION

Highland Church Plans New Home

Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. W.G. Hardy and his congregation recently ventured to the future new home of Highland United Church of Christ on Northeast 76th Avenue and Glisan Street.

The attendees were there to celebrate a short service and get a glimpse of the future. The Highland church, currently on northeast Alberta Street, is in the final stages of negotiating the purchase a campus facility that is being vacated by the New Beginnings Congregation.

City and state officials and community business leaders joined with the Highland Congregation to celebrate and listen to an optimistic message delivered by Dr. Hardy about the future of the church.



Lending support to the future home of northeast Portland's Highland Church of Christ is Roy Jay (from left) of the African American Chamber of Commerce and State Sen. Avel Gordly of Portland. Rev. Dr. W.G. Hardy Jr. (right) is the church's senior pastor.

Forum on HIV/AIDS

Rev. Renee Ward, Portland pastor of Zion CME Church, will host a forum on HIV and AIDS on KNMT-TV Channel 22 that will feature representatives from the faith community, as well as government health advocates.

The program titled "Silent Screams" and will address the social impact on persons living with HIV and AIDS and the faith community's role to support people with the virus.

Segments from a recently produced documentary called "Who Will Speak For Me," that profiles the lives of Pacific

Northwest residents whose lives have been impacted by HIV and AIDS will air during the program.

Rev. Ward is an ordained Methodist minister and national speaker and advocate for HIV and AIDS education and prevention. Her husband, Joseph died from AIDS in 1998.

For more information or to reserve your seat as a panelist or member of the audience, please call Rev. Ward at 503-281-1800 or 503-301-2172 or via email at chrysalisministries1@hotmail.com or revrene@zioncme.org.

Church Helps African Victims

The Church Of God In Christ is contributing to the humanitarian tsunami relief effort in Africa. As a denomination, COGIC raised \$425,000 in an effort to help relieve the financial burden of cleaning up and restoring towns and cities destroyed by the devastating tsunami.

The money will be allocated to different African governments and charities that apply for the aid "Other monies raised

will be given to Haiti and other countries that have been devastated by natural disasters," said Bishop C.E. Blake, First Assistant Presiding Bishop of the Church Of God In Christ.

The Church of God in Christ is the fifth largest church denomination in the United States with an estimated membership of over six million members. COGIC headquarters are located in Memphis at Mason Temple.

Rites of Passage Spiritual empowerment for black males

In 1999, 9.4 percent of all black males between 25-29 were in prison. In 2001, a Department of Justice study revealed that a black male born that year had a 1/3 chance of going to prison. The 2000 Census revealed that women headed 48 percent of black families, and of those, 40 percent were living under the poverty level.

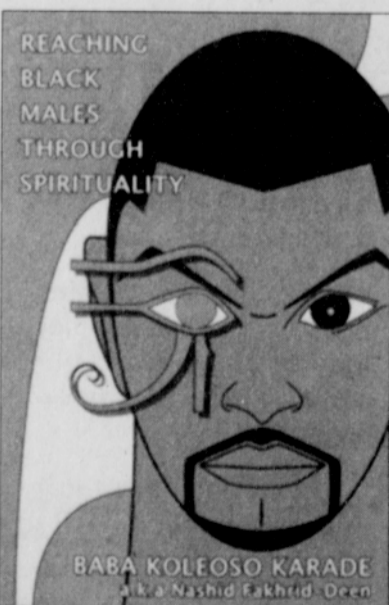
Working towards solutions to these issues, many groups incorporate African traditions that speak to the mind, body and spirit. One of those traditions is Rites-of-Passage, supervised developmental processes that help young people on the journey from childhood to responsible adult. They teach young people about the changes happening in their minds and bodies as well as the responsibilities

that come with those changes. Young people can examine their beliefs, values and thoughts in a non-threatening atmosphere.

In his new book, Reaching Black Males Through Spirituality, Baba Koleoso Karade, also known as Nashid Fakhrid-Deen, shares 25 years of experience working with African-American youth in higher education, as well as his personal spiritual journey.

Karade was raised in the Baptist church, but also became an active minister in the Nation of Islam; an Imam of traditional Islam, studied with a Hindu Yogi, and in 1998 was initiated as a priest in the traditional African religion of Ifa.

Koleoso has created a 9-month, three-phase program that flows with



the earth's natural cycles, beginning at the Spring Equinox (March 21) and ending in the winter at the beginning of Kwanzaa. The curriculum is holistic, and includes subjects ranging from African & African-American history, sex education, social values, personal finance, and art.

The book can be obtained at local bookstores, libraries, or online.



Political Scientist, Rev. John Pearce

US: Falling Giant

To good citizens of every ethnicity:

Last week, I stated, Rev./Dr. Jim & Jannie Pearce, my parents, were denied the right to vote. These senior citizens were forced to show two pieces of ID & were not informed previously of this frivolous requirement. This violated a Florida Law.

Note: There are God fearing Democrats, Republicans, good Christian & Muslim folk. However, there are a very few "Hooded Ethnocentric-Rightist Republicans," unfortunately, in power with the President. These few are bent on taking voting rights from African Americans, mixed race included. Instead of bearing the cross of God's love, these burn the cross of hate. (Several of this type look up to Rev. Jerry Farewell, the Southern Baptist.)

Back to the polls: A state Rep. in Illinois, John Pappageorge, was over heard saying "If we don't suppress the Detroit vote, we're going to have a tough time..." (2004 election). Rep. Pappageorge later said he was referring to the local election. Isn't this still called cheating? Detroit is predomi-

nately Black.

They came for the Jew, I did nothing, I was not a Jew. They came for the Poles, I did nothing, I was not Polish. So when they came for me, there was no one left to speak for me.

Note, the concept of the Patriot Act was said by one official in the Bush administration, to have been used in America for years on African Americans via so called, War On Drugs. Unjustly, "battle rams" indiscriminately knock down doors in inner city neighborhoods & police brutality is rampant - none come to help. Today, Patriot Act concepts are violating rights of all Americans. This further implies, since African American votes are suppressed, later all American votes will be suppressed, if Power feels it's necessary to retain itself.

Supreme Court: Bush V. Gore: "The individual citizens has no federal constitutional right to vote... for the President of the US unless & until State legislature implement it (the citizen) power..." This implies that the people's right to vote can be taken away should the state desire.

ADVERTISEMENT

A three-day celebration hosted by the congregation of Ainsworth United Church of Christ (AUCC), whose activities include social response and action in the greater Portland area, support for the community issues, and promotion of interfaith understanding. Proceeds will support the mission and ministry of AUCC, as well as our community partner for 2005, Portland Impact. AUCC is also offering a special raffle for a one-week stay in a Mayan Resorts time-share.

Friday, May 13 Silent Auction, Hors D'Oeuvres and Dancing

When the sun goes down in Stump Town, we will gather at McMenamin's Edgefield, 2126 S.W. Halsey in Troutdale. From 6:30 to 10:30 p.m., we will enjoy a plethora of hors d'oeuvres, have great fun with our silent auction, Live-Music-featuring Janice Scroggins! -and dancing. There will be something for everyone's taste. Tickets are available now: \$35 per person (\$10.50 of which is tax-deductible donation). Call the church as soon as possible at (503) 284-8767.

Saturday, May 14 Family Festival

Saturday marks the Third Annual Family Festival, featuring

food, beverages, an inflatable "Bounce House," a clown, face painting, a Portland Fire Truck; and a jewelry, plant & book sale. Festivities run from 11 a.m. to 3p.m. right next to the church on closed N.E. 30th Ave.

Sunday, May 15

Celebration and Birthday Party
When you are as welcoming as AUCC, the worship service offers inspiration, jubilation and the Word of God brought to you by people of profound faith, wit-

ness and service. Please join us in worship. Pastor Lynne Smouse Lopez's sermon sure to be inspiring. Rooted in AUCC's traditional Four Seasons

Birthdays Celebration, the after-church activity will honor and celebrate everybody's birthday with scrumptious food, cakes, punch and beverages. The drawing for the Mayan Resorts time-share will be done at the Birthday Celebration. Winning the drawing includes one week at a Mayan Resorts time share and \$1,500 towards airfare and spending money. Mayan Resorts are 5-star resorts and locations include Puerto Penasco, Nuevo Vallarta, Puerto Vallarta, Acapulco, Mazatlan and Riviera Maya.

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