

METRO

The Portland Observer

CAREERS *special edition*

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35
years of
community service

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Barbeque For Bikes, Kids

The grill will be smokin' from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Memorial Day weekend, Saturday, May 27 and Sunday, May 28 at all New Seasons grocery stores to benefit Community Cycling Center programs for low-income youth. For more information visit www.communitycyclingcenter.org

First Hip-Hop Summit

On May 28, the first annual Hip-Hop Summit is held at Portland State University. Panel discussions will start at 2 p.m. followed by a hip-hop concert at 6:30 p.m. All the events are free and open to the public and will take place at Shattuck Hall on the PSU downtown campus.

African Drumming, Dancing

The North Star Ballroom, 635 N. Killingsworth Ct., hosts ongoing classes on Tuesday and Wednesday's. Tuition is either \$15 drop in fee or \$75 for 6 weeks. Ghanaian rhythms will be presented through beginning and advanced drumming and you can also work up a sweat at their African Aerobics class. For more information call 503-283-2080

Bradley-Angle Volunteers

The Bradley-Angle House needs volunteers for its diversity of programs to end domestic abuse, from a crisis line to public speaking or administrative assistance. Women of color and bilingual women are encouraged to call 503-282-9940.

Women Mentors

Women in Community Service are seeking volunteer mentors for female offenders at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility. Mentors provide support and encouragement to women transitioning from prison back into the community. Mentors must be female, 24 or older. Training is provided. Call 503-570-6614 for more information.

Get Fit, Stay Healthy!

Sankofaa Health Institute offers a free diabetes support group from 6 to 7:30 p.m. every third Thursday at Alberta Simmons Plaza, 6707 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. For more information, call 503-285-2484.

AIDS Awareness

Albina Ministerial Alliance sponsors a bi-monthly support and education group for African Americans living with HIV/AIDS at Maranatha Church at 4222 N.E. 12th St. The group will meet every second and fourth Thursday of the month. For more information, call Elnathan Hudson at 503-285-0493 extension 217.

Women in NAACP

Women in NAACP meets from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Saturday of each month at the American Red Cross Building, 3131 N. Vancouver. For questions, call 503-249-6263.

Birth Ready

Whether you need childbirth preparation classes, or just a refresher, Providence Health Systems has a workshop for you. Prepare for pain, take a weekend seminar or prepare big sisters and brothers-to-be throughout the summer by visiting www.providence.org/classes or call 503-574-6595.

Creative Space For Dance

Aurora Dance Studio, 5433 N.E. 30th (at Killingsworth), offers an array of classes for children, teens and adults at all levels of ability. Call 503-249-0201 or visit online at www.hevanet.com/auroradance for additional information.

Gain Computer Skills

The Sun program offers a computer class for parents at King Elementary School. To register, call 503-916-6156 or 503-319-3425.

Guild to Host Jazz Legends

Performance set at Old Church

With plans to wow even the strictest jazz aficionados, legends Rashied Ali and Sonny Fortune will perform Thursday, June 2 at downtown's Old Church in a concert sponsored by The Creative Music Guild.

Perhaps best known as the drummer on many landmark recordings by John Coltrane, Ali can truly claim to be one of the founders of free jazz drumming.

His innovative, polytonal style has captivated the avant-garde jazz scene for decades and, now in his 60's, he continues to be a force, as witnessed at his two sold-out shows in Portland last year with Ravi Coltrane.

A virtuoso of relentless and turbulent power, veteran saxophonist-flutist Fortune was an integral member of Miles Davis' late 70's and early 80's combos.

In addition to playing with Davis, Fortune has played on many recordings with Coltrane associates McCoy

Tyner, Elvin Jones and Pharoah Sanders. He has also performed with Buddy Rich, Dizzy Gillespie, Nat Adderly and George Benson, among others.

The performance begins at 8 p.m. at the Old Church, 1422 S.W. 11th Ave. Admission is \$20 general and \$15 members. Tickets are available at the door on the day of the show only. All ages are welcome.

For more information, call The Creative Music Guild at 503-772-0772 or check the CMG website at www.creativemusicguild.org.



Rashied Ali



Veteran saxophonist-flutist Sonny Fortune will perform June 2 at downtown's Old Church.



Interstate Farmer's Market Opens

Florist Yua helps her customer Gloria Canson (right) pick out a bouquet at the first Interstate Avenue Farmer's Market at Overlook Park in north Portland. The market opens each Wednesday from 3 to 7 p.m. through Sept 28. An official grand opening will be held on June 1 at 5 p.m. with Mayor Tom Potter and other notable officials.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

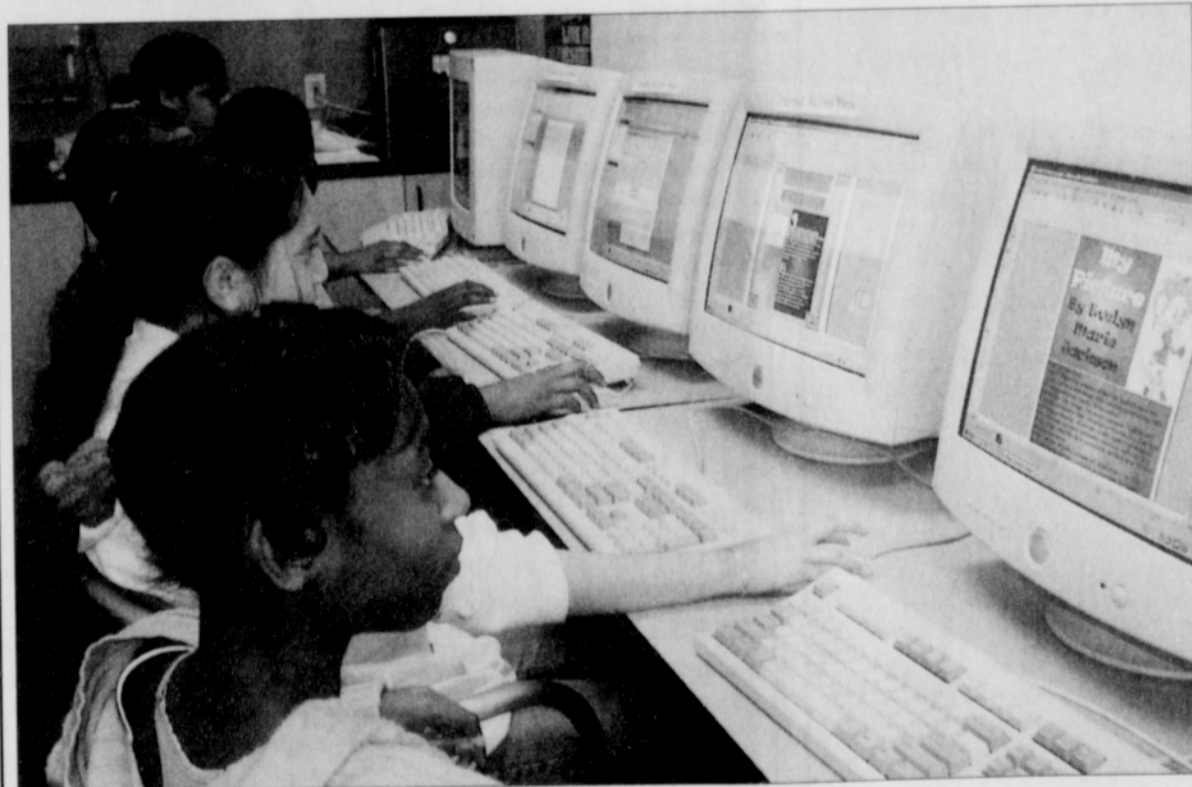


PHOTO BY KATHERINE KOVACICH/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Victory Middle School sixth graders work on building web pages in their computer class.

Victory School Gets Extension

Victory Middle School was recently awarded an extension that allows it to continue as a state sanctioned public school in a 7-0 vote by the State Board of Education.

The charter school, located inside the Blazer's Boys and Girls Club on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr.

Boulevard, was in danger of losing its state sponsorship because of past failures in financial planning and record-keeping, a high turnover rate for teachers and little supervision on decisions made by the school's founder Rich Blizzard.

But over the last year, correc-

tions have been made with Cottrell B. White Jr. as principal. The school with a large minority population has undergone drastic changes in its discipline and teaching methods, bringing about a night and day difference in student performance.

Jefferson Design Effort Begins

Last month, the Portland School Board turned down a recommendation to combine Jefferson High School with Whitaker and Harriet Tubman Middle Schools and asked Vicki Phillips, the school district superintendent, to put together a design team to review options for the north and northeast Portland schools.

Phillips has begun putting that team together now that the district's budget has been approved, school officials announced last week.

The team will be comprised of 15-20 individuals. Phillips and student board representative Suleima Cortez will meet with student groups from all three schools to take recommendations. The students selected for the design team will come from student leadership, National Honor Society and Sisters in Action.

Phillips also will include principals and teachers on the team. The principals and the Portland Teachers Association will

make recommendations. The design team will also include parents as well as members of community-based organizations, businesses and churches. Professionals in high education and school-based partners will also be included.

District officials said it is important to the school board that the committee's participants must have a willingness to look at a range of potential options and those who have the interests of the students at heart.

The superintendent expects to finalize the committee by early June. In addition to the meetings of the design team, a series of community meetings will be held to gather additional community input and to keep the broader community informed.

For suggestions and more information, email Phillips at superintendent@pps.k12.or.us or call 503-916-3200 or write to the superintendent at 501 N. Dixon, Portland, OR 97227.