

# METRO

The Portland Observer

## Pistons Face Spurs in Finals

Best of seven  
begins Thursday  
See Sports, page B6



35  
years of  
community service

SECTION B

### Community Calendar

#### Adoption Information

Prospective parents looking into adoption can attend a meeting on Wednesday, June 15 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Belmont Public Library at 1038 S.E. 39<sup>th</sup> St. The session will acquaint clients with the philosophy and services of Open Adoption and Family Services. For more information, call 503-226-4870 or visit [www.openadopt.org](http://www.openadopt.org).

#### Jefferson High Reunion

Help is needed to plan a 10-year reunion in late August for the Jefferson High School Class of 1995. Wenedell Raiford is encouraging his old classmates to contact him about attending and making plans for the event. For more information contact [jenleley77@yahoo.com](mailto:jenleley77@yahoo.com).

#### Friends of the Trees

Come to the Friends of Trees for Neighborhood Coordinator Training on Saturday, June 11 starting at 9 a.m. in an effort to organize tree plantings. To register, call 503-282-8846 extension 25. For more information, visit [www.friendsofrees.org](http://www.friendsofrees.org).

#### Black Museum of Oregon

Leaders of the Black Museum of Oregon will hold a membership and committee meeting at Reflections Coffee House, 446 N.E. Killingsworth, on Saturday, June 11 at 3 p.m. to discuss the future of the museum. For more information contact Mr. King J. 503-284-0617.

#### African Drums and Dance

The North Star Ballroom 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. North Star Ballroom is located at 635 N Killingsworth Ct. For more information, call 503-283-2080.

#### Bradley-Angle House

The Bradley-Angle House needs volunteers to help its outreach against domestic violence. Women of color and bilingual women are encouraged to call. For more information, 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.

#### Children's Museum Activities

Portland Children's Museum will hold a variety of art activities for children throughout the month, including mediums using mosaic, African arts and culture and garden stepping-stones. For more information, call 503-223-6500 or visit [www.portlandchildrensmuseum.org](http://www.portlandchildrensmuseum.org).

#### Get Fit, Stay Healthy!

Sankofa 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 ext. 217.

# Building Green Homes



A wall made of straw and mud is under construction at the ReBuilding Center on North Mississippi. The wall is complete with reused windows and shelves and serves as an entrance into the public center.

## Creative recycling found at warehouse

BY KATHERINE BLACKMORE  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

It's like a Home Depot for the eco-friendly, a SCRAP outlet for the architect. Taking recycled doors, windows, light fixtures, bathroom fixtures, lumber and yes, even the kitchen sink, from torn-down homes to turn them into inexpensive pieces for a new home is what the ReBuilding Center does best.

It also keeps the local landfills a bit less empty, saving 9 million pounds of material a year with the center's recent addition. That's an average of 5 tons a day.

Founded 7 years ago through Our United Villages, the non-profit center celebrated its grand reopening last Saturday with a recycled art show, live music and a raffle, commemorating the addition of a new 28,500 square-foot building and the beginning of a major facelift to rest of the 62,000 square foot warehouse.

With all the materials being brought into the center, they'd simply run out of room to store it all. The addition allows it to double its capacity, being able to help more than 300 people a day with their rebuilding needs, up

from 200 before the reconstruction.

"Our goal in the next two to three years is to create 20 more local jobs, divert up to 10 tons of materials a day from being wasted and to generate more resources for community building and enhancement that will strengthen the fabric of our community," said Shane Endicott, the center's executive director.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Village Building Convergence, a separate local project that helps transform neighborhood aesthetics naturally, is also building a new entrance to the

warehouse. A curved cob wall, made of straw and mud, serves as an entrance into the center and is the second permitted installation of cob in a commercial setting in Portland.

Endicott is no stranger to the philosophy surrounding the center.

"I grew up around it," he said. "I was born and raised here in northeast Portland and as a young child my family fixed up their home using salvaged material. I was hardwired for

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PHOTOS BY KATHERINE BLACKMORE/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Frederick Baker (from left), Ella Rose-Kelly, Alex Higlen and Alfredo Suarez have expertise in recycled building materials as members of the ReBuilding Center staff at 3625 N. Mississippi Ave.

## Do You Want to be on TV?

### Local casting company seeks minorities

BY NICOLE HOOPER  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Celebrities make up only a small portion of the world's population. For the common person, that lifestyle may be out of reach.

But with the popularity of reality shows, the television viewer is more likely than ever to see people that look like them instead of a larger than life movie star. A television commercial also bridges the gap between anonymity and stardom. Many famous persons got their start in television commercials.

Because of Danny Stoltz Casting, located in northwest Portland, African-Americans from Oregon will soon be featured in a new America Online commercial. The achievement will net them thousands of dollars in

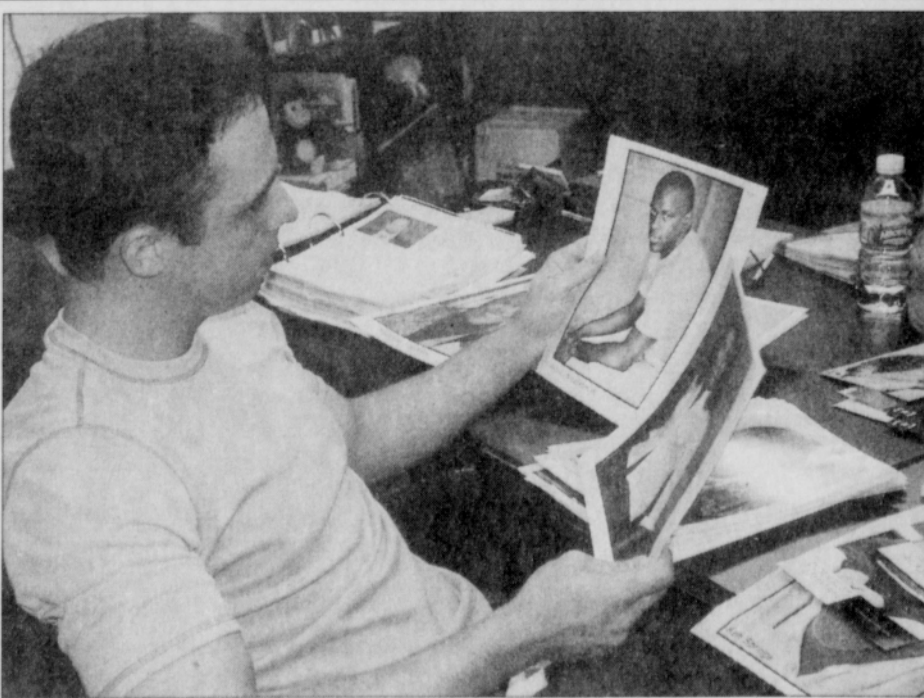
future residuals.

Danny Stoltz has two companies within one: Danny Stoltz Casting provides actors with speaking roles and Extras Only is for characters needed in scenes requiring a lot of people.

Since opening almost 11 years ago, two weeks before Danny Stoltz celebrated his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, Danny Stoltz Casting and Extras Only, has been responsible for providing extras for feature films and commercials in Oregon.

The companies never have to worry about the common person being interested in extras work, but when it comes to African-Americans, they are in need. Out of the 1,500

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Casting director Danny Stoltz looks over a portfolio of local actors to fill roles in commercials and movies.



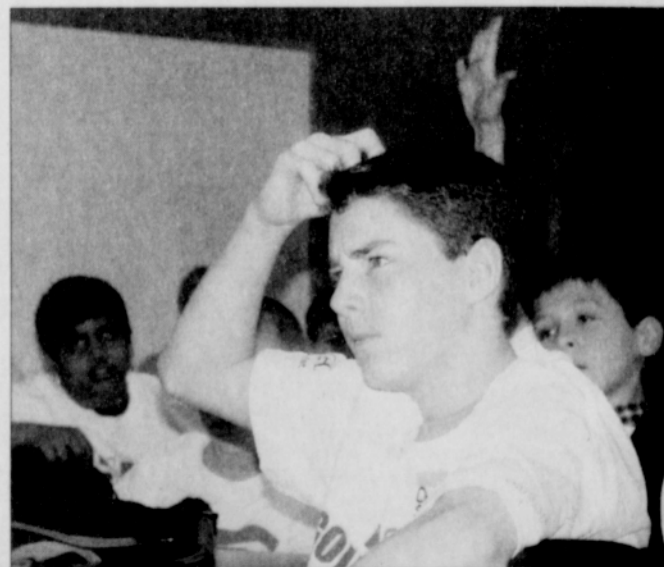
PHOTOS BY NICOLE HOOPER/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
Elementary school students Mary Nguyen and Sumeia Mohamud discuss their plans for the future.

## Area Kids Think College at PSU

Over 400 elementary students from the Portland and Hillsboro area are thinking about a college education thanks to the recent "I'm Going To College Day" at Portland State University.

After several weeks of classroom study, the program culminated with the fifth graders from John Ball, Reedville, Woodlawn, Prescott, Oreco and Community Transitional schools, attending PSU for a day of class, tours and activities.

The Northwest Education Loan Association helped sponsor the outreach in hopes to increase the number of students planning for higher education.



During his field trip to Portland State University, fifth grader Dustin Sprague found himself pondering the question, "How do I plan on paying for college?"