

Breast Cancer Awareness Focus of Expo Booths, speakers focus on health

Helping to kick off the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure this weekend will be Health Expo 2005, held at the Oregon Convention Center on Friday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The expo is designed not only to promote breast cancer awareness, but general fitness as well.

Chonitia Smith, executive director of the Sankofaa Health Institute, will speak at 10 a.m. on breast cancer prevention and education for African American women. She'll be one of nearly 20 speakers spanning the two-day event.

Smith, along with Rev. Renee Ward of Chrysalis Ministries, will

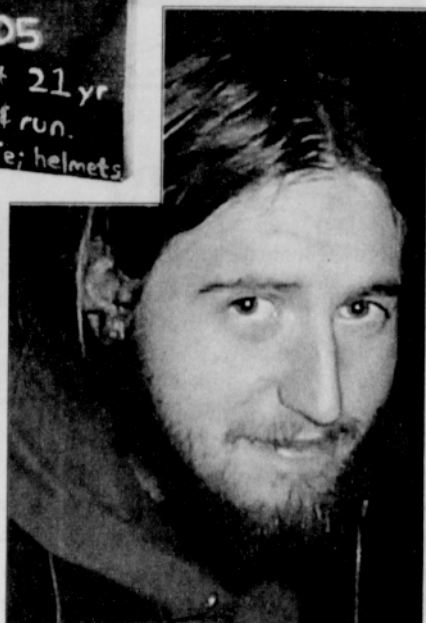
also host a booth that offers vouchers for free mammogram health screenings.

Registration for Race for the Cure begins at Sunday at 6:30 a.m. at the Tom McCall Waterfront Park with the race continuing through the morning. Those interested in participating can visit www.racefortheCure-pdx.org.

Suspected Drunk Driver Charged 'Ghost bike' memorializes killed bicyclist



Anthony Saunders



Accident victim, Christopher Burris

A memorial marks the location of a hit-and-run fatality.

21-year-old Christopher Burris died instantly after being hit by a suspected drunk driver while riding his bike down Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard near Northeast Wygant Street around 2 a.m. on Sept. 3.

A white "ghost bike" bike now lays mangled on the sidewalk near the scene of the collision to memorialize Burris, letting passersby know that he was loved by family and friends.

"Chris was a phenomenal person. He was so intelligent, so progressive," said Chakra, Burris' girlfriend. "He always thought of other people before himself."

Chakra was riding together with Burris at the time of the collision. Her 4-year-old daughter was in a small trailer attached to her bike.

Riding close to the curb, she recalled that Burris told her calmly

to move over onto the sidewalk. Seconds later, a speeding car hit Burris with such impact that he flew off his bike into the middle of the street. The driver, 41-year-old Anthony Troy Saunders, sped off.

Traffic investigators arrested Saunders a day later. He has been charged with manslaughter in the second degree and one count of felony hit and run.

This makes four bike-related deaths in Portland this year alone. This incident is just one reminder to drivers and bicyclists to play it safe on the streets.

"We're not invincible—we're on a bike. If you hit us, we're going to go flying," Chakra said.

For more information on bike and driver safety or to find marked bike routes around the city, visit www.bikeportland.org.



A rendering shows the structure of the Headquarters Hotel, as presented by local developers Ashworth Pacific and Garfield Traub. The structure is being planned for Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. across from the Oregon Convention Center.

Convention Center Hotel in the Works

The Oregon Convention Center will have a new neighbor soon when the Headquarters Hotel pops up.

An evaluation committee recently met with local developers Ashworth Pacific and Garfield Traub to discuss plans for the 23-floor hotel, to be built along Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd and Holladay Street for travelers. Three levels of the hotel will be

transparent, to expose the inside activity to the adjacent convention center.

A final decision on the hotel's development plans and an opportunity for public comment will be made at an Oct. 12 meeting with the Portland Development Commission.

For more information, visit www.pdc.us/hqhotel.

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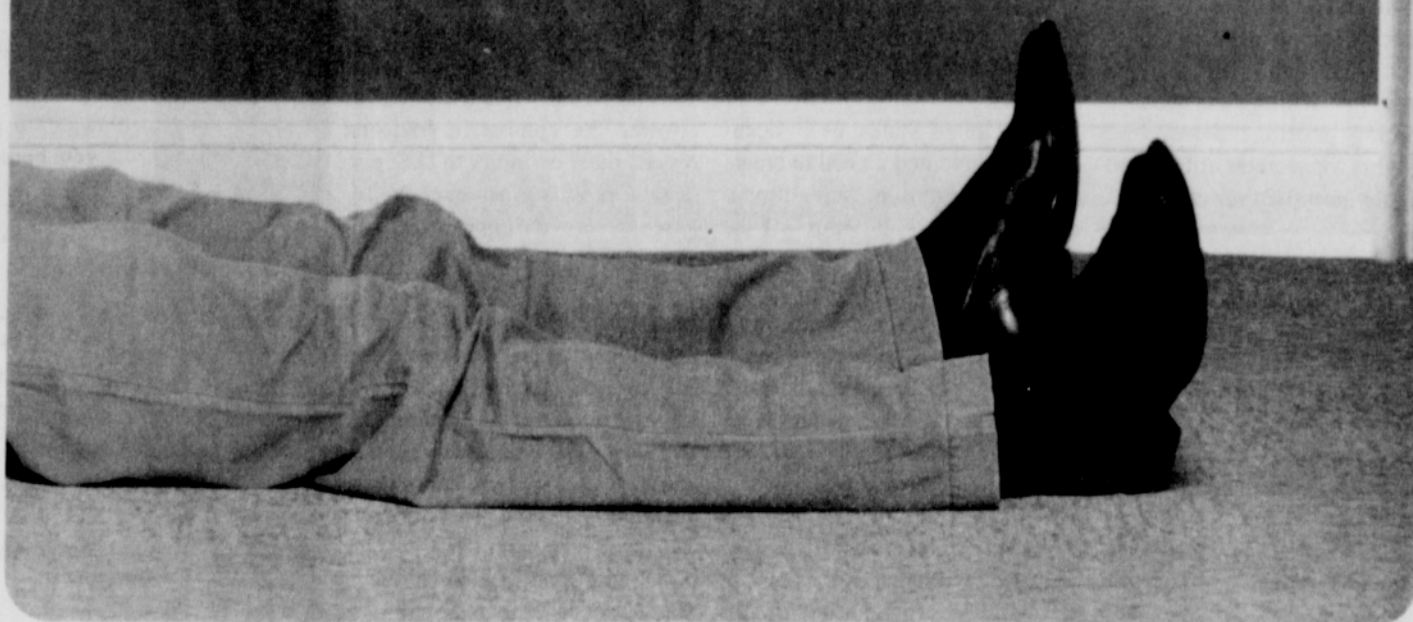
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