

METRO

The Portland Observer

Parkinson's Disease Hits Young and Old

New therapies improve quality of life

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SECTION B

Community Calendar

Trillium Community Garden Fair

Featuring free family fun through live music, sculpture, children's activities and crafts, and delicious food, the Trillium Community Garden Fair will be held on Sunday, Oct. 23 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the corner of Northeast Thompson and North Williams. For more information, call 503-285-3833.

Haunted House

Fright Town, one of the northwest's largest haunted houses, will feature fun frights until Halloween. The fair takes place inside the Rose Quarter Exhibit Hall until Oct. 31, Sundays through Thursdays from 7 to 10 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 7 to 11 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at the door. \$5 off coupons and more information is available at www.frighttown.com. Some material may not be appropriate for children under 15.

Homeownership Fair

The African American Alliance for Homeownership will hold its 6th annual Home Buying Fair on Saturday, Oct. 22 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Emanuel Hospital Atrium on 501 N. Gresham St. The fair is free and open to the public. For more information, call 971-506-8565.

NAACP Meeting

The October general meeting of the NAACP will be held at Terrell Hall on the PCC Cascade Campus at 705 N. Killingsworth Ave. on Saturday, Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information, call 503-288-3710 or send an email to naacp1120@aol.com.

Free CPR Training

The Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center in north Portland is able to offer free training and certification in CPR to 15 area residents. Nic Granum, a volunteer firefighter and exceptional teacher, will lead the class with equipment donated by the Portland Fire Bureau. Call 503-823-4322 to register or send an email to office@ifcc-arts.org.

Catlin Gabel Rummage Sale

Celebrating its 61st annual rummage sale, Catlin Gabel School will hold a massive fund-raiser from Thursday, Nov. 3 to Sunday, Nov. 6 at the Portland Expo Center. The fair features literally tons of cheap buys spanning over 88,000 square feet. Hours are 5 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is free.

Women in Community Service Seek Mentors

Volunteer mentors are being sought by Women in Community Service to work with incarcerated women at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility. Mentors provide support and encouragement for women transitioning from prison back into the community. Volunteers must be females, age 24 and up. For more information, call 503-570-6614.

Spaghetti Dinner

Those looking to help out a cause by eating some yummy Italian food can visit a spaghetti dinner being held by St. Charles Church at 42nd and Northeast Emerson Streets on Sunday, Nov. 6 from noon to 6:30 p.m. Spaghetti and meatballs, salad, garlic bread, a beverage and pie will be served, and wine will be available. For more information, call 503-281-6461.



Employees and directors of the housing program Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives (PCRI) take joy in their new, expanded offices, located at 6329 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. during an Oct. 12 grand opening celebration.

Housing Program Expands Vision

PCRI Celebrates Grand Opening

Like the many families they've helped to find a better home, Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives (PCRI) recently celebrated moving themselves — to better offices.

The non-profit affordable housing provided celebrated a grand opening gather-

ing last Wednesday at 6329 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., highlighting the success it has had over the last year, in addition to presenting the annual Barbara B. Smith Community Award.

For 14 years, PCRI has realized its vision of helping and empowering the low-income community in Portland by finding viable housing, both in rentals and purchases.

Through preserving and managing high quality, single-family homes, as well as

continually acquiring new developments, the program allows household stability and self-sufficiency. Especially in north and northeast Portland, the rising costs of property and gentrification make it important to keep houses open for low-income residents who want to hold on to and stay in their neighborhood.

During the last year, PCRI made progress toward doubling the size of its portfolio, partly with the help of Kate Allen, director of the Enterprise Founda-

tion in Portland and recipient of the Barbara B. Smith award, which is given to professionals in the community who've furthered PCRI's mission.

Allen helped garner support from the Albina Community Development Corp. and the Urban League Plaza, allowing PCRI to preserve over 340 vital, affordable housing units in Portland.

The program also launched The

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King Liquor Store Replacement on Agenda

Other local enforcement issues reviewed

BY LEE PERLMAN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Should there be a new state liquor store to replace a former outlet in Northeast Portland and if so, what should it be like?

The Oregon Liquor Control Commission is seeking public comments on alcohol related issues following the closure of store No. 198 at 3636 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. The store's former operator, Robert Larry closed the outlet after alleged violations.

OLCC Assistant Director Rudy Williams said that in considering the locations of liquor stores, the commission looks at the availability of suitable retail space, whether there is a sufficient population within easy travel distance to support the store and whether other stores will compete.

Williams said that statewide

agency likes to maintain a separation of "three miles or greater" between stores, but that this was not iron-clad in urban areas.

He said there were concerns about the former MLK store due to its small size and because it was "counter store" in which the products were kept behind the counter. Williams said the agency is "moving toward" self-service stores in which patrons find their purchases themselves.

At a public forum Oct. 12 at the Queen of Sheba restaurant, other community concerns were raised.

Chris Yeagers of the Eliot Neighborhood Association complained of drinking in Dawson Park that seems to defy enforcement efforts.

"We were told we would have to document where the liquor was coming from," Yeagers said.

Sean Cruz, assistant to state Sen. Avel Gordly, criticized liquor control agents for not taking action sooner to impose sanctions against

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PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
State liquor control officials haven't decided whether it will award a new license to someone wishing to replace the out-of-business King Liquor store on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.



Portland Police Officer Tracy Bertalot is honored for her work solving problems at low-income housing sites.

Making Community Connections

Officer helps neighbors help themselves

Helping people living in Housing Authority of Portland properties has earned Portland Police Bureau Officer Tracy Bertalot special recognition from the Office of Neighborhood Involvement.

The 12-year police veteran created partnerships between HAP and city and county agencies, including the police bureau's neighborhood response and drugs and vice teams and the Multnomah County District Attorney.

Officials said because of her efforts, HAP and its managers

and tenants were able to play a more active role to improve the safety for all residents. The actions included help on identifying problem tenants and evicting them, and how to make more educated decisions when it came to selecting potential tenants.

"I connected them with the resources needed to help them help themselves," said Bertalot. "Residents sometimes feel powerless to do anything about their neighborhoods. In community policing, the residents take part ownership in making their neighborhoods safe."

Eric King, Office of Neighborhood Involvement's crime prevention manager, praised Bertalot's responsiveness to residents like those at Northwest Towers where there was drug activity and prostitution.

He said Bertalot connected the appropriate police resources with the apartment management. This team helped create an active tenant association to address these crime problems.

"Officer Bertalot was a key partner in reducing crime in this complex," said King.

Bertalot is grateful for the connections that were made while she was the HAP liaison. One particular partnership was with the HAP Section 8 investigator. Working together, they were able to investigate and terminate vouchers where housing fraud or criminal activity was found.

Bertalot currently works as a patrol officer in southeast Portland and uses her problem solving skills to help southeast residents in her district.

35 years of community service