

METRO

The Portland Observer

Bobby 'Blue' Bland
Comes to Portland
for Blues Concert
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SECTION B

Community Calendar

PCC Art Beat Festival

The art beat goes on at the 19th Annual Art Beat festival at all Portland Community College campuses, through Friday, May 12. The free public celebration includes local, regional and national artists, visual art, dance, music, theater and literary events.

Local Grads Honored

The Bridge Builders organization invites the community to congratulate African American graduates from Portland and Vancouver at the 10th annual Black Baccalaureate, 7 p.m. Sunday, May 21 at the University of Portland Childs Center, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd.

Bird Festival

Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day at the Oaks Bottom Migratory Bird Festival, Saturday, May 13 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Sellwood Park, just south of Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge. The event is free and open to the public; for more information, visit www.audubonportland.com.

Japanese Garden Hosts Moms

Give your mother a unique gift this year at the Japanese Garden, Sunday May 14 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Special performances are scheduled, including Japanese music, haiku poetry, tea and guest lectures. The event is free with garden admission; for more information visit www.japanese-garden.com or call 503-223-1321.

Walk For Mothers Day

Join the Fifth Annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, Sunday, May 14, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at 1875 S.W. Park Ave. and continuing a five-mile route to the PSU campus. For more information, call the American Cancer Society at 503-795-3940 or sign up online at www.cancer.org/stridesonline.

National Bike to Work Day

Celebrate National Bike to Work Day, Friday, May 19, with a special event from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. at Oregon Square Park in the Lloyd District on Northeast Holladay between 7th and 9th Avenues. Enjoy free breakfast, speakers, door prizes, demonstrations and more.

Lents Home Buying Fair

On Saturday, May 20 learn how you can buy your own home in Lents, and meet with realtors, lenders, title companies, developers, home-buying counselors, businesses and non-profits. The fair free and open to all, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Kelly Elementary, 9030 S.E. Cooper St.

Mt. Tabor Garden Tour

Take a walking tour of six Mt. Tabor-area gardens on SE 55th Avenue between Belmont and Hawthorne Streets, benefiting Puppy Raising for Guide Dogs for the Blind. Tickets are \$15, available at catalyst@provokingchange.com, the Portland Nursery or the gardens on tour days, May 20 and 21 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call Sheri Dowley at 503-806-6167.

Low-cost Helmets

Summer's around the corner, do your kids wear a helmet? All sizes of helmets on sale for \$5, plus free fitting. Kids can also bring their own helmets for correct fitting and adjustment, and bike/pedestrian lights available for purchase as well. Saturday, May 20 from noon to 4 p.m. at Gateway Neighborhood Fair, 112th and Northeast Halsey.

Transgender Library Breaks Isolation

Offers education, support and a good read

BY SARAH BLOUNT
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Until a literary movement about ten years ago, a person could walk into a library with thousands of books, and feel alone in the absence of transgender-specific titles.

Outside In, a social service agency for mostly low-income, homeless and sexual minority youth, continually works to decrease that type of isolation, with a growing transgender health program, and now a reference library containing over 400 resources.

Ask three people what transgender means, and you're likely to get six answers. For the sake of this article, the term can imply several components including gender, gender identity and sexual orientation.

Zarod Rominski, Outside In's associate executive director, hired Llewyn McCobb specifically to expand the clinic's sexual minority program, first established in the early 1990s. The Trans/Identity Resource Center was a response to the growing need for trans health programs as this particular population flourished.

Originally the center was a walk-in service, but as word spread, services were expanded and the online health directory resourcespdx.org was created.

Outside In fashioned its programs from experience, not statistics. An official number for Portland's trans population isn't available; because as McCobb puts it, people aren't willing to share private information with someone they don't feel is their ally.

McCobb said it was a dream to create a library for the many books that are now available on the subject. Help for the project came from PSU Reference Librarian Rose Jackson who approached Outside In with a \$9,600 grant, funded by the National Network of Libraries of Medicine.

A board of librarians, community activists, Outside In staff and PSU researchers was formed to oversee the library.

The collection includes books and videos of fiction, biographies and autobiographies, and other books and transgender resources touching on spiri-

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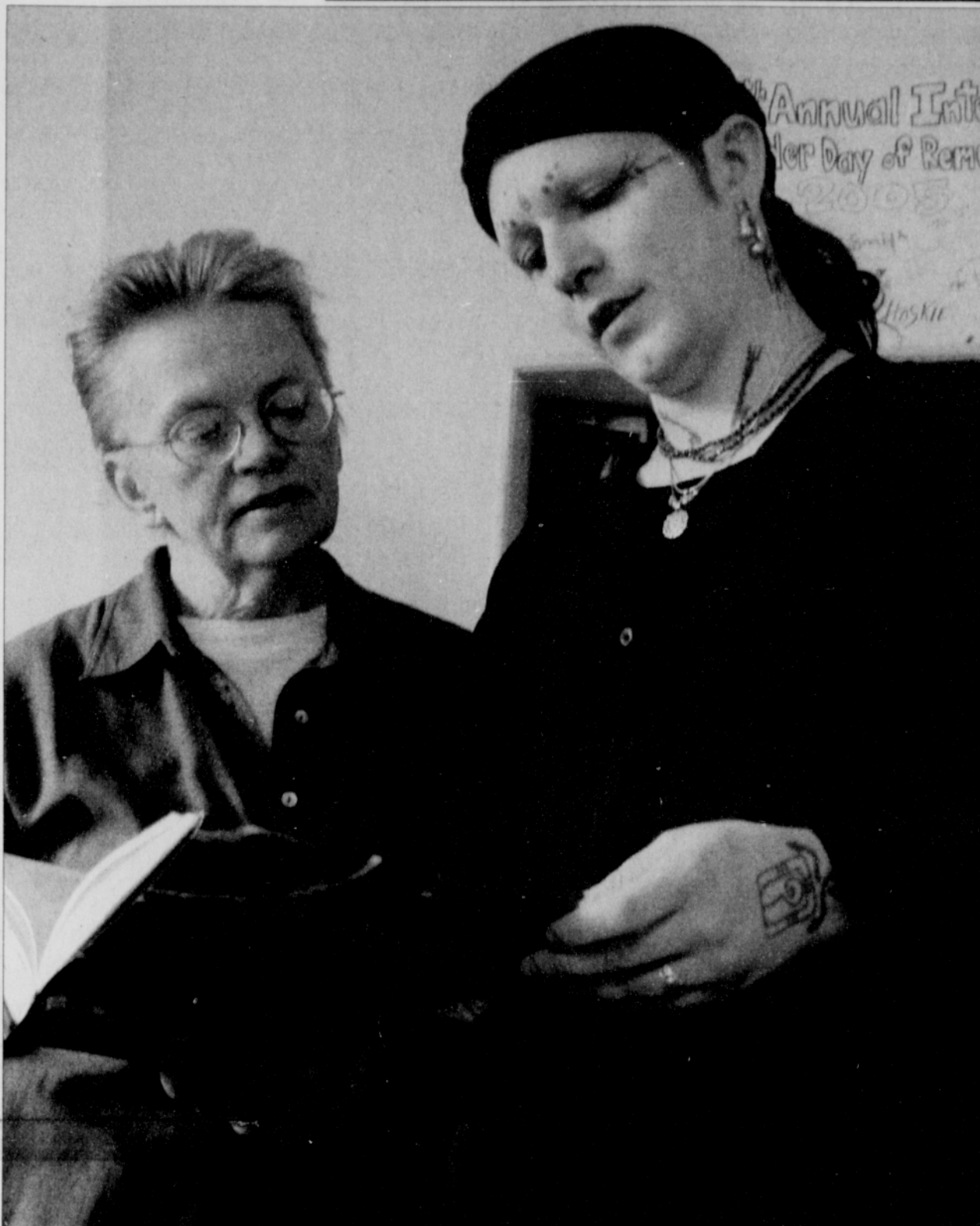


PHOTO BY SARAH BLOUNT/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Outside In staff members Zarod Rominski (left) and Llewyn McCobb look over materials from the downtown center's new Trans/Identity Resource Center, a reference library with unique and hard to find books that explore gender issues.

Bringing Local History to Life

Black pioneer, old district explored

BY LEE PERLMAN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Before last year, Sade Beasley had never heard of Beatrice Cannaday. Now the middle school student is bringing the story of this African American civic pioneer to others through her own words and art.

Beasley has made a wood carving of Cannaday, who in 1922 became the first African-American woman lawyer to practice in Oregon. The local student has also dedicated a poem to Cannaday, part of an anthology called "Unsung heroes and untold stories."

Both are part of a major art enterprise by the private northeast Portland art school Grace Academy, and funded by a \$5,000 grant from the Confluence Project of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.

The showiest part of the project is a 12 by 16 foot mural,



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Monia Bowles (from left), Sade Beasley and Kierra Davis are painting a mural depicting Northeast 19th Avenue in the Sullivan Gulch neighborhood as it was 200 years ago with tall firs and a waterfall.

created under the direction of artist Michael Leonard Maguire, depicting the Sullivan's Gulch neighborhood as it was 200 years ago, with tall firs and a waterfall at what is now Northeast 19th Avenue.

The historic scene contains a deer, fox, woodpecker and a stylized Native American rendition of a Chinook salmon. Around the edges are Native American petroglyphs and portraits of historic figures.

On Thursday, May 18 the mural will be hung on the back wall of a building housing Epicure Restaurant on Northeast 17th Avenue facing Weidler Street. Grace Academy students will read some of the poems from "Unsung Heroes" during the unveiling. The anthology, which also includes stories of the Sullivan's Gulch neighborhood, collected by the students in oral interviews, should be available for purchase later this spring at Broadway Books and possibly Powell's City of Books. The woodcuts by Beasley and 21

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Genealogy Explored at Library
Latest in DNA research covered

North Portland Library will present Jump-Start Your African American Genealogy on Saturday, May 20 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. the program is free and the public is invited to attend.

Local genealogists and library staff will present information designed to help researchers find information on family history. Participants will have a chance to practice researching techniques using library computers and will be entered in a drawing for a free DNA test. The schedule begins at 3:30

p.m. with Emily Aucilino, of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon and the International Society of Genetic Genealogists, introducing the basics of DNA genealogy. At 4:30 p.m., local genealogist O.B. Hill will discuss his experience conducting genealogy research. At 4:45 p.m., Stephen Hanks, author of Akee Tree: A Descendant's Search for his Ancestors on the Eskridge Plantations, will demonstrate the beginning steps of research, using the family names of several participants. Librarian Janet Irwin will be on hand to

discuss Multnomah County Library genealogy resources, including the specialized genealogy collection at Central Library (including Civil War records and The Oregonian Index) and genealogy databases, such as HeritageQuest. From 5:30-6 p.m., participants will be able to practice the skills they have learned on the library's computers.

North Portland Library is located at 512 N. Killingsworth St. For more information, call 503-988-4810.

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years of
community service