

Environmental Activism Celebrated

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. kicks off Muddy Boot Festival

Robert F. Kennedy Jr., one of the country's leading environmental activists, and the son of Robert Kennedy will kick off a weekend celebration in southeast Portland for sustainable and organic living.



Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

Kennedy will give the keynote address "Our Environmental Destiny" at the Muddy Boot Organic Festival at St. Philip Neri Church, a diverse community that welcomes all people at 2804 S.E. 16th Ave.

Live music, organic foods and beverages, information booths, educational workshops and walking tours of sustainable projects will take place each day of the three-day festival outside the grounds of the church.

The purpose of the celebration is to promote sustainable living practices or a way of life that doesn't deplete or destroy our natural resources and thereby enhance the health of our world, our neighborhoods and ourselves.

St. Philip Neri Parish was recently awarded the 2005 Green Congregation Award by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon for environmental stewardship.

Kennedy has been named by Time magazine as one of the "Heroes of the Planet" for his exemplary work on behalf of the environment. He serves as senior attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council, chief prosecuting attorney for the Hudson Riverkeeper and president of the Waterkeeper Alliance.

His keynote presentation on Friday, Sept. 8 will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for \$45 include a book signing event and refreshments and can be purchased at tickets@muddyboot.org or by phone at 503-764-7525.

The festival continues Saturday, Sept. 9 from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 10 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is a suggested donation of \$5 per person.

Local Job Fair Grows

Premier event free to public

Portland Community College's Workforce Network will host its Eighth Annual Workforce Network Job Fair from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 14 at the Portland Metro Workforce Training Center, 5600 N.E. 42nd Ave., and Killingsworth Street.

The job fair is a premier job-search event that attracts more than 850 job-seekers every year. The event, free and open to the public, showcases the opportunities with dozens of employers. There will be drawings, door prizes and refreshments.

"This year, with expanded programs attracting more and more job-seekers, our job fair promises to be bigger and better than ever," said Eddie Lincoln, business services coordinator for PCC's Workforce

Network.

The job fair features job-search workshops, on-site help with applications and free parking. There will be two State of Oregon application workshops conducted in the computer lab and facilitated by a State of Oregon recruiter at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.; a session on how to create a master application at noon; and a workshop on how to find employment resources at 2 p.m.

Employers featured include Portland General Electric, U.S. Forest Service, WorkSource Oregon, Oregon Dept. of Transportation, Portland Fire and Rescue, Banfield The Pet Hospital, Portland Community College, LifeWorks NW, ADP Inc., Cintas Corporation, DePaul Industries, Target Inc., Gunderson, First Investors Corp, Good Shepherd and more.

For more information, call 503-943-2000.

Community Calendar

Economic Empowerment

PDX Confidential, a group of minority professionals will host DEED: Diversity Economic Empowerment Day, with a conference to celebrate diversity, explore individual skills and develop leadership in the global economy, Tuesday, Sept. 12 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. followed by a Masquerade Ball at 6 p.m. at the Portland Hilton and Executive Tower, 921 S.W. Sixth Ave.

Interstate Farmers Market

The Interstate Farmers Market next to Overlook Park in north Portland features a variety of fresh local produce, baked goods, cut flowers, artisan cheese, meat and fish each Wednesday through Sept. 27 across the street from Kaiser Permanente.

New Mom's Group

A free class for women who have delivered at a Providence Health System hospital is held Friday, Sept. 8 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Providence Bodyworks, 4805 N.E. Glisan. Discuss the expectations and realities of mothering, growth and development of infants, safety and playing with baby. Babies up to six months old are welcome.

Hatha Yoga Class

In Other Words Books and Resources hosts Hatha Yoga classes for beginners and all levels, every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at In Other Words, 8b N.E. Killingsworth. All genders and ages and donations are welcome.

Volunteer for Crisis Line

Want to make a difference in your community? Volunteers and advocates are needed for the Portland Women's Crisis Line. The needs include on-call advocates to respond in person or over the phone, outreach and educational efforts, and fundraising and administrative duties. Call 503-232-4176 for more information.

Children's Benefit Concert

Oregon Health and Science University will host a benefit concert for their Child Development and Rehabilitation Center, featuring works by Puccini, Mozart, Cole Porter, Bernstein and others, Saturday, Sept. 9 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the OHSU Auditorium. Call 503-239-8255 weekdays for tickets.

'I Have a Dream'

Learn about how the local "I Have a Dream" foundation prepares low-income children for post-high school study or rewarding employment through mentoring, tutoring and scholarship. Open houses take place Wednesdays, Sept. 13 and Oct. 5 at Woodlawn School, 7200 N.E. 11th Ave. For more information, call 503-287-7203 or visit ihadoregon.org.

Cancer Therapy Talk

Legacy Cancer Services will present a discussion of new frontiers in prostate cancer therapy with information on the latest advances in treatment, Monday, Sept. 18 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital's Wistar Morris Conference Room, 1015 N.W. 22nd Ave. Call 503-335-3500.



Relaysa Seamster (from left), Victoria Guernsey, Ellese Stutesman and Mariah Mickman from Friends of Trees take part in last spring's Earth Day planting at Parkrose High School. Orders for the plantings this winter and spring are being taken now from the local organization.

Taking Tree Orders

Deadlines here for winter plantings

Deadlines are here for placing tree orders for Friends of Trees plantings in some parts of southeast Portland with deadlines approaching soon in other parts of the city, including north and northeast Portland.

Neighborhood coordinators can help you figure out which kind of tree to order

and help arrange the necessary permitting and hole digging.

Costs of trees vary, depending on whether Friends of Trees has received a grant to subsidize fees in your neighborhood. All homeowners will pay no more than \$75 per tree, which includes planting and follow-up monitoring.

To order a tree, please contact your neighborhood coordinator by clicking on "planting schedule" at www.friendsoftrees.org or calling 503-284-TREE(8733).

Residents Flee Burning Schrunk Tower

Residents had to scramble out of bed to get out to safety after a fire broke out in the Schrunk Tower, a low-income housing high-rise in the St. Johns neighborhood of north Portland Monday.

No one was hurt. But several people were displaced and are being assisted by the Red Cross.

The fire broke out about 1:45 a.m. Dozens of people were awakened by neighbors banging on doors to alert others of the fire. Witnesses said some residents could not or would not budge and had to be helped out by firefighters.

Several rooms were heavily damaged by fire and many more have smoke and water damage. The building's fire suppression sprinkler system helped to control the flames which started on the fourth floor.

Firefighters were working to figure out a cause of the fire.

Statewide Task Force on Equality Meets

A statewide series of public meetings to take public comment on sexual orientation and gender-identity equality issues will include a Portland session on Thursday, Sept. 14 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Bureau of Labor and Industries, 800 N.E. Oregon St., Room 130.

The testimony before Gov. Kulongoski's Task Force on Equality is to help identify potential changes in state law to guarantee all Oregonians adequate protection from sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination.

The task force's mission includes reviewing anti-discrimination laws adopted in Oregon cities and counties in comparison to other states.

"I want to hear from the public how we can strengthen the basic rights of every Oregonian," Kulongowski said.

The task force will provide a final report to the governor's office by Dec. 1. The report will include recommendations for improvements in Oregon law for consideration by the 2007 Legislative Assembly.

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