

# METRO

The Portland Observer

## Scream For Relief!

A haunted Jantzen Beach lures thrill seekers, and benefits Red Cross disaster aid

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SECTION B

### Community Calendar

#### AlexSandra's Birthday Bash

On Thursday, Oct. 19, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. AlexSandra's vintage boutique, 6726 N. Interstate Ave., invites you to pre-shop for the holidays, and help celebrate her 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. 30 percent off selected items, with cheese and champagne provided. 503-735-4420.

#### Home Buying Fair

The African American Alliance for Homeownership presents its annual home buying fair, Saturday, Oct. 28 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Legacy Emanuel Hospital Atrium, 501 N. Graham. Attendees will get help through the homebuying process with valuable information and free workshops. Two \$2,500 housing grants will be raffled.

#### Non-Profit Career Fair

Portland State University hosts Non-Profit Career Fair, Thursday, Oct. 19, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the third floor ballroom at the Smith Memorial Student Union at PSU. Bring resumes and network with non-profit recruiters. For more information visit [idealist.org/fairs](http://idealist.org/fairs).

#### Fighting Cancer with Food

Free nutrition and cooking classes for cancer prevention and survival, 4 p.m. Sunday's through Nov. 19 at the Community Learning Center 4212 N.E. Prescott. To register, call 503-281-8596.

#### Create-A-Costume

On Saturday, Oct. 21 and Sunday, Oct. 22, from noon to 4 p.m., bring your ideas and imagination and let SCRAP, the non-profit recycler on N. Williams Avenue, supply materials and creative help to make a Halloween costume. Visit [scrapaction.org](http://scrapaction.org).

#### Chinook Tribe Basket Weaver

The Chinook Tribe announces the fundraiser event "A Special Evening with Pat Courtney Gold, Columbia River Basket Weaver", on Saturday, Oct. 21, at 7 p.m. at 8 N.E. Killingsworth St. For more information, contact In Other Words Bookstore at 503-232-6003.

#### Volunteer for Crisis Line

Want to make a difference in your community? Volunteers and advocates are needed for the Portland Women's Crisis Line. 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.

#### Home buying Classes

Portland Community Land Trust helps first time and low-income homebuyers purchase homes at below market price. Attend a free, one-hour class to learn more about the program. Contact [Kelly@pclt.org](mailto:Kelly@pclt.org) or call 503-493-0293.

#### Drum Making Workshop

A drum making workshop will be held Saturday, Nov. 11, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Talking Drum Books. Pre-registration required by Nov. 6. Tuition is \$100 adults and \$60 for children. Material fees are \$60 for 15" drums and \$75 for 18" drums. For more details call 503-450-9991 or visit [circlelivingearth.org](http://circlelivingearth.org).

#### Catlin Gabel Rummage Sale

Thursday, Nov. 2, kicks off the Catlin Cable Rummage Sale, an enormous annual fundraiser that runs through Sunday, Nov. 5, at the Portland Expo Center, 2060 N. Marine Dr. No admission charge.

36  
years of  
community service



## Support for Affordable Living

Maxine Fitzpatrick, (center) executive director of the Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives, a non-profit group providing affordable rental homes in north and northeast Portland, presents Barbara B. Smith community service awards to Mike Purcell (left) and O. Gerald Uba of the Albina Community Development Commission, for their work in support of housing for low and medium income individuals and families.

PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

## Historic Black Colleges Conference Set

### Students, parents to gather at PCC

The 27th annual Black Colleges Conference will be held Saturday, Oct. 28 at the Cascade Campus of Portland Community College, 705 N. Killingsworth from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for high school and middle schools students.

The theme of the meeting is Black Colleges: Believe in Them, Achieve in Them!

Alumni and college representatives

from such esteemed historically black institutions as Howard University, Grambling University, Tuskegee University, Xavier University, Clark-Atlanta, North Carolina A&T, Morehouse College, Fisk University, Spelman, Jackson State, Tennessee State and Florida A&M will be represented.

Students will have opportunities to interact with successful local professionals from Oregon who graduated from these schools. The Thurston Group of Washington State will provide materials and applications for the 36 United Negro

College Fund Schools.

High school seniors can earn onsite application fee waivers to the UNCF schools by bringing a copy of their junior year transcripts and a 500-word essay describing their accomplishments, college goals, and career aspirations.

Students will attend workshops on the college application process, financial aid and how to prepare a college portfolio followed by college spotlight sessions. Parents will attend a special session with representatives from the colleges and are invited to participate in the

college spotlight session with students. Information on how the community college can be a pathway to black colleges will also be available.

Other conference supporters include the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory Equity Center, African American Chamber of Commerce of Oregon, Black United Fund of Oregon, UNCF Oregon Chapter, and Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs.

Students should check with their school counseling office for registration forms or call 503-275-9603 for information.

## Portland's Late Night Bakery, Disco

### International scene too rich to ignore

BY SARAH BLOUNT  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The biblical peak of Mount Ararat rises from a flat plain to dominate the skyline of the Armenian capital Yerevan. Portland's own Ararat – a bakery, restaurant and weekend disco – has become a symbol of its own, capturing Oregon's thriving Russian and Eastern European communities.

Ararat American & Russian Restaurant & Bakery, 311 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., has been a modern mainstay on the boulevard since 1997. Husband and wife team Nelli Grigorian and Avetis Karapetian are responsible for scores of international breads and pastries, baked often and from scratch and harboring only one secret – that ingredients are few.

Ararat sells their baked goods to grocery stores throughout the Pacific Northwest and California and work with large vendors like Winco, while being courted

by grocery giants like Safeway.

Having turned some business down due to a limited 5,000 square feet of space, Ararat will relocate in the next few months to 5716 S.E. 92<sup>nd</sup> Ave. just off Foster Road in the emerging Lents Town Center.

As a part of Portland Development Commission's Burnside Bridgehead Project, a designated central eastside urban renewal area, the city agency helped the family business identify their future home in Lents, recently securing a 22,500 square foot space that will dwarf their existing, close-in location, allow them more banquet space and double their current roster of 30 employees.

The PDC worked with Ararat to identify the location, where they signed a ten-year lease and received financial assistance through the agency's Quality

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PHOTOS BY SARAH BLOUNT/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
Yemaya is the resident bellydancer at Ararat's, Portland's international bakery and disco.

Ararat's international breads and pastries provide work for 30 employees on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The workforce will double when the bakery moves in the coming months to Lents at Southeast 92<sup>nd</sup> and Foster.