

METRO

The Portland Observer



Father, Son Pursuit
Will Smith stars with his son in a movie based on a true story
See Focus, page B3



Wildlife Adventures
Day camps for kids during Winter Break
See Focus, page B3

SECTION B

Drug Coverage Offered to All

State program brings bulk-purchase prices

Local residents, state officials and community leaders are celebrating an expanded state prescription drug program that offers savings of up to 60 percent off the price of medicines.

Any Oregonian without prescription drug coverage is now eligible to enroll in the Oregon Prescription Drug Program, which is the state's bulk-purchasing pool for prescription medications.

The only requirements are that you be an Oregon resident and have no prescription drug coverage. There is no cost for enrolling or monthly premiums.

Income limits for the program were removed by Measure 44 passed by voters last month. The initiative, which went into effect Friday, removes previous age and income eligibility restrictions. It's estimated 600,000 uninsured adults



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
PCC Cascade College President Algje Gatewood (from left), PCC student Lanise Persuing and D'Norgia Price of the Urban League of Portland commemorate a new state prescription drug program for people without drug coverage.

and children in Oregon are currently without prescription drug coverage.

Gov. Ted Kulongoski kicked off the expanded program by scheduling an enrollment assistance event at Portland Community College's Cascade Campus in north Portland.

The event drew PCC students, college officials, the Urban League of Portland and other groups. There was discussion on how the program can help dramatically improve public health in Oregon. Students shared their experiences and struggles with being uninsured and now having the ability to change that.

Oregon residents enrolled in the Medicare Part D prescription drug program may also be eligible to participate, using the state program to help pay for medicine when they have no coverage because of deductibles and the so-called donut hole.

For more information and a copy of a simple one-page program application, go online at www.opdp.org or call the toll-free number 1-888-411-OPDP.

Mississippi Records Helps Collector Hit Jackpot

75-cent album turns to \$155,401 at auction

(AP) -- Forty years after it was made, The Velvet Underground's first recording has become a financial hit — in cyberspace. Bought for 75 cents four years ago at a New York flea market, the rare recording of music that ended up on the influential New York band's first album, "The Velvet Underground & Nico," sold on eBay for a closing bid of \$155,401.

Warren Hill, a collector from Montreal, bought the record in September 2002 at the flea market, according to his friend, Eric Isaacson of Mississippi Records in north Portland.

Isaacson helped Hill decipher the nature of the lucky find.

"We cued it up and were stunned — the first song was not 'Sunday Morning' as on the 'Velvet Underground & Nico' Verve LP, but rather it was 'European Son' — the song that is last on that LP, and it was a version neither of us had ever heard before!" Isaacson wrote.

The recording turned out to be an in-studio acetate made during



Warren Hill fetched \$155,401 in a bid on eBay for a copy of a 1967 The Velvet Underground & Nico album. The collector from Montreal found out how rare the album was from his friend, Eric Isaacson of Mississippi Records in north Portland. (AP photo).

Velvet Underground's first recording over four days in April 1966 at New York's Scepter Studios. The record reportedly is only one of two in existence; the other is privately owned, with rumors circulating about the owner's identity. Columbia Records rejected the album.

"I immediately took the needle off the record, and realized that we had something special," Isaacson

wrote. Hill and Isaacson photographed the album, made a digital backup copy of the music, and decided to put it up for auction. The first bids, which began Nov. 28, rose \$20,000.

Velvet Underground left its musical stamp on hundreds of other bands.

The band, named after a book about edgy sex practices in the

1960s, was fueled by Moe Tucker's hard-driving drumming, John Cale's anxious viola, and lead singer Lou Reed, whose lyrics spoke of drug-induced beauty and gritty Lower East Side realities.

The first album featured Nico, the European model-actress-singer in a first and last recorded appearance with the band.

A Better Community was Activist's Dream

Carl Flipper remembered for positive agenda

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Carl Flipper, a pillar of pride for his African American roots and a longtime activist for the Humboldt neighborhood in north Portland, is being remembered for a lifetime of promoting positive agendas.

Flipper, 58, died Nov. 24, 2006 from complications of multiple myeloma, a form of cancer. A memorial and celebration of his life will be held Saturday, Jan. 20 at 2 p.m. in the Student Center at Clark College in Vancouver.

Flipper moved to Vancouver just two years ago after more than a decade of voluntary community service in his Humboldt neighborhood, the city's most ethnically diverse neighborhood.

He pushed for the improvement of Jefferson High School that sits in the center of Humboldt, and is adjacent to Portland Community College and the Killingsworth Street and Albina Avenue business district.

He helped convince other civic leaders to tear down the physical barriers blocking Jefferson from the community, an effort that led to the



Carl Flipper

cutting down of the large laurel hedge that blocked the school from the street. He proposed a sweeping pedestrian plaza with flags in front of Jefferson facing Killingsworth, a vision that has yet to come to pass.

He was involved in a successful project to turn a concrete island where Albina and Mississippi avenues converge into a small park. He served on the Interstate Corridor Urban Renewal Area advisory board and monitored streetscape projects, including the \$60 million expansion of the PCC Cascade Campus.

Flipper loved telling stories

continued on page B6

Community Calendar

Portland Jazz Talk

On Thursday, Dec. 14, from 6-8 p.m., The Talking Drum Bookstore and Reflections Books, 446 N.E. Killingsworth St., will transport you to the time of 1950s Portland Jazz on Williams Avenue. Call Gloria at 503-288-4106 for more information.

Holiday Charms

International Gem and Jewelry Show -- The Doubletree Hotel-Lloyd Center, will host the 41st year of this renowned exhibit on Friday, Dec. 15, noon-6 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 16, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday Dec. 17, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, visit intergem.com

Presents for Primates

On Thursday, Dec. 14 at 10 a.m., Santa's Elves will give holiday gifts to the Oregon Zoo's chimpanzees, orangutans, mandrills and other primates. Bring your cameras for a great picture opportunity. Call 503-226-1561 or visit oregonzoo.org for more information.

Holiday Art Exhibit

WSU Vancouver, 14204 N.E. Salmon Creek Ave., presents Acrylics on Clay, by local artist Linda Sawaya, through Jan. 12, in the Student Services Gallery and selected works by Ines Epperson thru Jan. 28, in the Engineering and Life Sciences building. For more information, visit vancouver.wsu.edu.

Bradley-Angle House

The Bradley-Angle House needs volunteers to help its outreach against domestic violence. Women of color and bilingual women are encouraged to call. For more information, call 503-282-9940.

Write Around Volunteers

Are you interested in becoming a facilitator for Write Around Portland's volunteer-run ten-week workshop? The workshop is for low-income adults, homeless or mentally disabled people or others who face barriers to writing workshops. Contact Jill Tuleya at 503-796-9224.

Work Against Abuse

Community Advocates invites those in-

terested in protecting children from abuse to become an event volunteer, event outreach, technology expert, graphic artists or office support team member. For information, call 503-280-1388.

Women in Community Service

Volunteer female mentors are being sought by Women in Community Service to work with incarcerated women at the Coffee Creek Correctional Facility. The women provide support and encouragement for inmates transitioning from prison back into the community. For information, call 503-570-6614.

Black History Museum

The Black History Museum of Oregon is seeking brilliant minds of concerned individuals to help in restructuring the museum foundation's committee. For information, call 503-284-0617.

Oregon Food Bank

The Oregon Food Bank seeks volunteers on Mondays from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to noon, to sort and repack perishable foods. Call 503-282-0555, extension 272 or visit

Oregonfoodbank.org.

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.

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 or call 503-493-0293.

Parenting Classes

Newborns don't come with instruction manuals but parents and parents-to-be can attend classes through Providence Health Systems to learn about a variety of topics from pain and childbirth to breastfeeding to infant CPR and much more. For a schedule of events, call 503-

574-6595 or visit: providence.org/classes.

Stroller Class for Moms

Are you a new mom or have a toddler? Get some exercise and meet other moms at the free Stroller Strides class, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursday at Peninsula Park. All you need is a stroller, water, a mat or towel and comfortable shoes. Call Helen at 503-260-5018 for more information.

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, 8 N.E. Killingsworth. All genders and ages and donations are welcome.

37
years of
community service