

METRO

The Portland Observer

Sportsmanship is No Alternative

Basketball program brings opportunities
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37
years of
community service

SECTION B

Community Calendar

Spiffin' Up MLK

Saturday, April 28, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. the community is needed to join together in pride to clean up litter and graffiti along Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. Volunteers will meet at 3117 N.E. MLK Blvd. at 8 a.m. For more information, visit solv.org.

PIL Basketball Classic

Saturday, May 26, at SEI, 3920 N. Kerby, you are invited to encourage and support high school athletes competing in the Portland Interscholastic League Basketball Classic. Doors open at 2:30 p.m. with tip-off at 3 p.m. Proceeds to benefit the Joyce Washington Memorial Scholarship Fund. Call Mark Washington at 503-288-0033 for more information.

Salem Hoop's League

The Salem Hoop's Men's Basketball League starts May 2. Registration is \$450 per team with 10 games guaranteed. The Registration deadline is April 30. Call Price Johnson at 503-371-4667.

Urban Scavenger Hunt

Saturday and Sunday, April 28-29, the Give a Buck for Buckman Association will host an architectural urban scavenger hunt to help raise awareness to preserve the historical neighborhood. Join the fun, learn something new and make a difference. Visit pyung.com/dev or call 503-236-2214.

African American Council

You're invited on the third Tuesday of each month from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. to the African American Advisory Council meeting at the King Facility, 4815 N.E. Seventh Ave. Call 503-823-0000 for more information.

Fostering Diversity

Thursday, April 26 through Friday, April 27, Mt. Hood Community College and Portland State University will host a two-day conference to address critical diversity-related issues in the Portland and Gresham communities with educational, business and cultural leaders. Call 503-491-7254 for more information.

Free Comic Book Day

Saturday, May 5, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Bridge City Comics, 3725 N. Mississippi Ave., welcomes guest of all ages to an adventure into the world of comic books, with hundreds of free comic books and autograph signings by Adam Gallardo and Rick Remender. Call 503-282-5484 or visit bridgecitycomics.com.

82nd Avenue of Roses Parade

Saturday, April 28, at 9 a.m., beginning at the Eastport Plaza, 4000 S.E. 82nd Ave., the parade will travel north on 82nd turning west at S.E. Yamhill, disbanding at S.E. 78th Ave. For more information or to participate contact 503-771-3817.

SOLV-IT Challenge

Saturday, April 28, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Portland General Electric presents the SOLV-IT Challenge, the largest Earth Day clean up event in the metropolitan area. Volunteers are needed. Visit solv.org or call 503-844-9571.

Women's Health Conference

Saturday, April 28, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Oregon Convention Center, New York columnist Jane Brody will discuss issues related to women's health. To register, call 503-494-0712 or visit ohsuwomenshealth.com

Healing Revival

Wednesday, May 9 through Friday, May 11, at 7 p.m., the Allen Temple CME Church, 4236 N.E. 8th Ave., welcomes the community to a 'Spring Revival' for renewal, recovery and rejuvenation of the spirit. For more information, call 503-287-0261.

Strike Against War

Saturday, May 26, at 7 p.m., the Freedom Socialist Party and Radical Women invite you to the Bread and Roses Center, 819 N. Killingsworth St., for a grassroots effort to make Portland a "sanctuary city" for soldiers refusing to deploy to Iraq. The forum will be preceded by a buffet at 6 p.m. for an \$8 donation. Call 503-240-4462 for more information.

Vancouver Outdoors Market

Saturdays and Sundays through Oct. 27, the Vancouver Outdoor Market will feature fresh produce, food and arts and crafts. Hours are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sundays.

Engineering Extravaganza

Intel program sneaks fun into science

Plenty of students know that science can be fun, but for youngsters at Binnsmead Middle School, science means building their own dance pad, rigging secret alarms and even revamping old classics like sending pong balls sailing through the air.

The Binnsmead students took part in creating these inventions on April 12, when Intel invited the southeast Portland school and others from the metro area to the technology campus in Hillsboro for Design Squad day.

The group of nearly 500 kids got to be engineers for inventions that show the fun side of science and met cast members of the "Design Squad," a reality television series that airs Sunday afternoons on Oregon Public Broadcasting. The show aims to excite middle-school students about science and engineering by combining elements of reality TV with fun and educational engineering challenges.

For the visiting students, one member in particular of the Design Squad, Nate Ball, provided an incentive for them to pursue a career in science and technology. Ball, who was born and raised in Newport, Ore., recently won a \$30,000 Lemelson-MIT student prize for his life-saving invention.

Dubbed the "Oscar for Inventors," the prestigious prize recognizes young inventors who turn their ideas into innovations that change the world. Ball's winning invention, the Atlas Powered Rope Ascender, enables a fully loaded firefighter



Ladaysha Ford, a student at Gregory Heights Middle School, and Brittany Jones, a student at Fernwood Middle School, build an electronic dance pad at an Intel Oregon. About 500 students from Portland-area schools participated in the event, designed to spur interest in engineering and in a new engineering-oriented reality show for kids on OPB called "Design Squad."

to reach the top of a 30-story building in only 30 seconds, compared to the six minutes or more it often takes to trudge up stairs with heavy equipment.

Bill MacKenzie of Intel says the company hopes to encourage middle school

students and other youth to become young innovators like Ball.

"At Intel, we put a lot of our resources into encouraging student interest in math and science," he said. "We support technology training for teachers, student in-

ternships, mentors, robotics competitions, computer donations to schools and in-school volunteerism."

To find out more about opportunities for youth at Intel, log on to www.intel.com/community/oregon/calendar.htm.



Vernon Brazzle protests the replacement of postal workers with private contractors by his rousing rendition of "We Shall Not Be Moved" during a rally last week in front of the Main Post Office. Brazzle, a retired letter carrier, was known as "the singing mailman" because he so often was singing as he delivered mail for decades in the Sabin and Irvington neighborhoods of northeast Portland.

Postal Workers Protest Loss of Jobs

Oppose efforts at privatizing mail delivery

One hundred fifty letter carriers and their customers walked a picket line at Portland's Main Post Office to protest the privatization of mail delivery.

"Low-wage, no benefit, non-career mail delivery is not our idea of how to provide customer service and protect the mail," said L.C. Hansen, president of the local letter carriers union, NALC

Branch 82.

In solidarity with a same-day picket April 17 at the US Postal Service Headquarters in Washington, D.C., local letter carriers urged Congress to pass House Resolution 282, which calls on the USPS to discontinue the practice of contracting out mail delivery services.

Last month, mail delivery to a new 374-unit housing development in the city of Beaverton was outsourced to a private contractor.

The letter carriers argue that across the United States, the postal service is now experimenting with hiring cut-rate private contractors to deliver new buildings, aux-

iliary routes and even existing city delivery routes when they are vacated by postal employees.

These temporary contracts go to the lowest bidder, usually paying less than half the salary of a union letter carrier, with no sick leave, vacation, health insurance or retirement.

The union workers say the contractors use their own personal vehicle and hire their own substitutes which are not supervised or trained like regular career letter carriers.

According to Hansen, customers on these contract routes are not only subject to unequal service but are more likely to

suffer mail and identity theft or other property crimes, due to the instability of the workforce.

The local branch of the National Association of Letter Carriers is encouraging their customers to contact the Beaverton Postmaster John Lee, local politicians, and Congressional representatives.

Leaders for the postal workers also say the pressure to privatize mail delivery is coming from the national Postal Board of Governors, appointed by the president and that congressional action may be required to stop postal privatization.

Job Fair to Bring 100 Employers to Local Community

At PCC Cascade

One hundred employers and informative workshops will be the featured items at this year's Portland Community College Cascade Job Fair

The 10th annual fair will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, May 1 in the

Physical Education Building gym at the Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth St.

The event is free and open to the community. Job fair sponsors include Comcast, Fred Meyer, Oregonlive, Hoffman Construction, Nike and United Parcel Service.

Job-seekers are encouraged to bring their resume. There will be several resume

writing workshops during the day.

The keynote speaker is Marty Nemko, author of, "Cool Careers for Dummies." He will be presenting, "Cool Careers and How to Get One," at 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the auditorium of the campus' Moriarty Arts and Humanities Building. Nemko, voted the San Francisco Bay Area's best career

coach, is a contributing editor for U.S. News.com's Careers section.

Employers represented at this year's fair include American Red Cross, Beaverton School District, Brooks Staffing, Bureau of Land Management,

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