

# METRO

The Portland Observer



## Finding Her Inner Strength

Local graduate competes for scholarship speaking about AIDS

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SECTION B

## Community Calendar

### Teen Swim Parties

Portland Parks is teaming up with Jammin 95.5 to bring the Teen Swim Parties to neighborhood pools throughout the city. For more information, visit portlandparks.org.

### Beat High Blood Pressure

Monday, July 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the American Heart Association will be conducting free blood pressure screenings at the Pioneer Courthouse Square, 701 S.W. Sixth Ave.

### Haitian Project Garage Sale

Friday, Aug. 3, and Saturday, Aug. 4, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 5, from 9 a.m. to noon, the Madeleine Parish Hall, 3123 N.E. 24 Ave., will host a garage sale to support and educate the children in Port Au Prince, Haiti.

### Summertime Rummage Sale

Saturday, Aug. 4, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 5, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Bread and Roses Center, 819 N. Killingsworth St., hosts a rummage sale to raise funds for the Freedom Socialist Party.

### Say Hey, NW!

Thursday, Aug. 9, from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., Partners in Diversity will host the networking meet and greet to welcome new professionals of color to the business community, held at Two World Trade Center-plaza level, 121 S.W. Salmon St. Call 503-516-3505.

### Creole Jambalaya Dinner

Saturday, Aug. 11, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Loaves & Fishes Center, 5325 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., will host a delicious authentic Creole Jambalaya Dinner. Meals are available for takeout. Call David Lomax at 503-988-5211.

### Benson 1996 Reunion

Wednesday, Aug. 15, the Benson class of 1996 reunion will be at the McMennamin Kennedy School from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. For more information, call ReShawn Lewis at 971-219-7871.

### Tax Help in Rockwood

VITA tax aide for low-income families will begin to assist clients at the Rockwood Community office, 18709 S.E. Stark. Clients are seen by appointment only. Appointments will be made on Wednesdays only from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. by calling 503-816-1530.

### Neighborhood Farm Stand

Locally grown vegetables and bouquets of fresh flowers will be available to the public, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Sunday, at the Redeemer Lutheran Church, NE 20th and Killingsworth. The stand supports local refugees and immigrant farmers.

### Mock Crest Home Tour

Saturday, July 28, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Rejuvenation's and Neil Kelly Co. will sponsor the tour of six charming 1920's vintage homes in the historic Mocks Crest neighborhood. Call 503-231-7264 for more information.

### Homebuyer Fair

Saturday, July 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Legacy Emanuel Medical Offices, 501 N. Graham, will host a free event featuring homebuyer assistance information, raffles, and Native American dance performances.

### Relationship Transformation

Peace-Making, a local group based on non-violent communication and conscious awareness, hosts a seminar that includes information how to have better relationships both personally and professionally. For more information, call 503-228-7256.

### Washington Park Shuttle

Summer service is every 15 minutes from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. with more than 10 stops, including the Oregon Zoo and the Japanese Gardens. The shuttle runs daily through Labor Day. Regular Tri-Met fare applies.

### Interstate Farmers Market

A farmers market is held each Wednesday through Sept. 26 from 3 to 7 p.m. just off Interstate Avenue between Overlook Park and the Interstate Kaiser Permanente Campus. The market is known for its variety of quality fresh local produce, baked goods, cut flowers, artisan cheese, meat and fish.



PHOTO BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Cecil Prescod co-hosts "More Talk Radio" at KBOO. He's one of the African-American programmers the public can meet at an open house Saturday.

# Radio Hosts Reaching Out

## African-American open house at KBOO

BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

KBOO's black programmers have the modest goal of bringing a dispersed community together for an open house Saturday, but the event will additionally provide a venue for serious discussion amid the soul food and live music.

The public is invited to discover the resources KBOO provides for African Americans, according to Celeste Carey, who hosts a few shows at the station including "An Evening of Afrotainment" on Saturdays.

"The open house is mainly to raise our profile in the community, because there are a lot of people around who do not know about what a thriving institution we have," Carey says.

Her partner on Monday morning's "More Talk Radio," Cecil Prescod, empha-

sizes the event as an opportunity to meet people.

"It's really a way that we can get all of the African-American programmers in one place, because usually we're so scattered," he says.

Carey and Prescod are not the only African Americans at KBOO who strive to keep the programming relevant.

With his Saturday afternoon "Jazz Rap" show, Yugen Rashad tries to bring out the healing role music has to play for a wounded, often forgetful community.

Rashad says it would help if the entire institution were less timid about the collective needs and vision created through African-American culture.

The main organizer of the event, soul DJ Jay Jay Johnson, sees the open house as a revival of sorts.

"What I've seen over the last three years that I've been there is that we've gotten kind of complacent," Johnson says. "So we want people to come down to tell us what we can do to better serve the community."

He and other programmers only see opportunities for advancement with the support and cooperation of other diverse groups at the station.

"For 30-odd years, KBOO has been a valuable venue for African-American participation and representation, and I think that's still obvious when you look at the market, even with the advent of 95.5 and 1480," says Shaheed Haamid, who hosts "The Essence of Soul" Friday evenings.

Saturday's open house takes place at the KBOO studios, 20 S.E. Eighth Ave., kicking off with a live show by Chatta Addy at 2 p.m. and continuing with festivities until 9 p.m.

*"The open house is mainly to raise our profile in the community, because there are a lot of people around who do not know about what a thriving institution we have."*

—Celeste Carey,  
radio host

## Probe Begins for Police Review Board

### Native American judge to audit complaint panel

A Native American tribal judge and one of the nation's preeminent authorities on civilian oversight of law enforcement and police accountability systems has begun an outside audit of Portland's Independent Police Review Board.

Eileen Luna-Firebaugh has been hired



Eileen Luna-Firebaugh

by the city auditor to assess the organization's performance, meet with community groups and conduct a survey of Portland Police officers. She will submit her evaluation to the City Council in January.

Luna-Firebaugh is a professor at the University of Arizona and a nationally known consultant in the field of civilian oversight

of police complaint systems.

She has conducted investigations of internal affairs and civilian oversight systems and has authored technical reports for cities and other governmental agencies nationwide.

For 15 years, she was chief investigator and administrative director of civilian oversight agencies in the cities of Berkeley, San Francisco and San Diego County in California. Luna-Firebaugh received her law degree from Harvard and is a member of the California Bar and Native American Bar Associations.

## Leader Begins Work at Mt. Hood

### Gary Murph serves as interim president

The first African-American to serve in the top executive position at Mt. Hood Community College has started his job as interim president. Gary Murph, the former chief operating officer for the college, was named to the position in June by the MHCC board of education after president Dr. Robert Silverman resigned to be closer to family in California.

Murph began his career in higher education more than 20 years ago in California, where he served in leadership positions at various community colleges. He retired twice while living in southern California, but after a four-year break



moved to Oregon in 2004 to take the chief operating position at MHCC.

Murph and Silverman have worked closely the past few years, overseeing daily operations at the fourth largest community college in the state, serving nearly 24,000 students ranging from teenagers to seniors citizens.

Murph says MHCC's African American population is shy of three percent, but notes that dynamics have north and northeast Portlanders moving farther east.

"Many are still identifying with Portland Community College," he said, "but eventually that will change."

Gary Murph leads Mt. Hood Community College as interim president.

## Regatta Paddle Saturday

A hidden gem of our local waterways comes front and center when the 13th annual Columbia Slough Regatta takes off along the Columbia Slough in north and northeast Portland on Sunday, July 29, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The celebration at the Multnomah County Drainage District, 1880 N.E. Elrod Drive., draws hundreds of human-powered boats and paddlers, and also includes live music and other activities for the whole family.

The slough provides safe slack water paddling appropriate for all skill levels. Regatta participants can expect to see a variety of wildlife including Great Blue Herons, Bald Eagles, beaver, raccoon and river otter.

Some canoes and kayaks will be available to rent on a first come, first served waiting list. You can also visit columbiaslough.org for a list of places where you can rent a boat for the day.

An optional donation of \$7 per person helps support the Columbia Slough Watershed