

# METRO

The Portland Observer



## A Legendary Voice

Roberta Flack  
sings her hits at  
Chinook Winds

See A&E section inside

## Honoring the Experience

String trio to  
celebrate Jimi  
Hendrix's 65th

See A&E section inside



SECTION B

## Community Calendar

### Meal Deliveries Needed

Saturday, Sept. 1, through Monday, Sept. 3, the Fishes and Loaves Center needs cheerful, friendly volunteers to deliver meals to homebound seniors. For information on how you can help, call 503-736-6325, extension 86223 weekdays or 503-988-5566 on the weekend.

### MAiZe Harvest Festival

Saturday, Sept. 1, through Monday, Sept. 3, the MAiZe Harvest Festival on Sauvie Island, is kicking off the 40th Pumpkin Patch season by offering free admission to anyone age 40-something (with a valid photo I.D.) throughout the Labor Day weekend. Details at portlandmaze.org.

### Adoption, Mentoring Help

Tuesday, Sept. 4, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Boys & Girls Aid, 018 S.W. Boundary Ct., will provide information about exploring the possibilities of infant adoption, foster care and mentoring opportunities. Call 503-542-2392 for details.

### Vancouver Sausage Fest

Friday, Sept. 7, thru Sunday, Sept. 9, the 36th annual Sausage Festival featuring music, food and family fun will take place at St. Joseph's Parish in Vancouver. Free shuttle service is available. Visit stjoevanschool.org for more information.

### Organic Festival

Friday, Sept. 7, thru Sunday, Sept. 9, St. Philip Neri Church, 2408 S.E. 16 Ave., will host the Muddy Boots Organic Festival to educate and raise organic awareness. Enjoy music, food, family activities and more this weekend.

### Children's Gardening

Wednesday, Sept. 12, at the Woodlawn Community Garden, 7200 N.E. 11th and Claremont, the first of three classes begin teaching children ages 6-12 the art of organic gardening. Students will enjoy sharing the bounty of their harvest with the food bank. Contact portlandparks.org or 503-823-1617 to sign up.

### Craftsman Workshops

The Northwest Woodworking Studio is registering participants for fall workshops, classes, and lectures. Explore wood craftsmanship and learn the art. Visit northwestwoodworking.com or call 503-284-1644 to register.

### Elders in Action

Advocates volunteers are needed to assist seniors in finding solutions to current issues. Training classes start in September. Visit eldersinaction.org or call 503-235-5474 for more details.

### 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, N.E. 20th and Killingsworth. The stand supports local refugees and immigrant farmers.

### 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.

### Interstate Farmers Market

A farmers' market is held each Wednesday through Sept. 26 from 3 - 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.

### 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.

## Strength, Pride and Dignity

Acclaimed photographer documents social conditions

Inspiring and unforgettable stories of individual strength, pride and dignity are among a collection of photographs of Oregonians living life under disadvantaged social conditions.

Renowned photographer Bruce Davidson, who garnered critical acclaim for his work during the Civil Rights Era, photographed 27 Oregon Health Plan members enrolled in CareOregon to showcase a diversity of ages, cultures, natural origins and social circumstances.

The photos are included in Davidson's "We the People" exhibit, a landmark Oregon project of national importance and the latest in the photographer's 50-year photographic exploration of humanity and America.

Davidson is well-known for his work documenting the social conditions of families and children in East Harlem. His photographs have been displayed at some of the most prestigious galleries and museums in the world, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York and Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson in Paris.

The intent of the Oregon photos was to show that the people receiving healthcare help from Medicaid and Medicare are our children, our neigh-



78-year-old Louise Johnson teaches her grandson to cook.

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6-year-old Brent Newberry, born with cerebral palsy, washes his dog.

bors, our family and friends.

"These people and others are more or less invisible to the general public, and it is important to me that this imagery be very human where the 'ordinary' person can see it, identify, and see themselves in the images," Davidson said. "In talking with the people I photographed, I found their words to be incredibly powerful. If we are taken inside these lives, the community will see the hope that CareOregon provides."

"This CareOregon project was one of the most meaningful assignments I've had in my career," Davidson added. "To enter the lives of those who are sick, handicapped or burdened with rare ailments was an eye-opener. It was a challenge to photograph these people with positive imagery that expressed their vitality, love and hope."

The "We the People" exhibit begins

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## Small Media Confront Big Issues

Volunteers keep airways full of diversity

BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

"Anyone in town can get us" is one of the first things you'll hear from most volunteers behind the scenes in Portland's nonprofit media outlets.

They don't say this in defense of the fact that public-access cable and independent radio have fewer listeners or viewers than most else on the airwaves. It's said more to validate their selfless commitment to making a variety of interesting programs.

In a city with several studios that will allow people to walk in off the street and soon get on the air, Jonathan Little is a prime example of someone who has taken this "it's what you make of it" attitude to heart.

Even as he spends his days fixing up houses, Little is thinking about how he can inspire the community through his weekly "Urban Vibe" show. Portland Community Media broadcasts it three times on cable-access channels available to 400,000 people in the area, and he knows that all these potential viewers are hungry for programming with some local meat.

"We try to cover all the community bases," he says. "There



PHOTO BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
Portland Community Media producer Jonathan Little tweaks the control panels for "Urban Vibe" Wednesday evenings.

are a lot of interesting stories out there, and somebody just needs to put in the effort to get them noticed."

Spotlights on the N-word and Katrina, a discussion with Mayor Tom Potter and coverage of summer festivals are some of the recent additions to the more than 200 "Vibes" that Little has produced in the past five years.

Getting ideas from every imaginable source, his assembly line of stories will not cease production any time soon.

"I just found out that I have a daughter, so I'll be doing a show covering absent-father issues," Little says. "If there's someone who comes to me with an idea, I'll usually let them on the show."

While Little prepared the cameras for a recent show, Andrew Colas was visibly nervous as he and his father prepared to talk about their efforts to diversify the contracting business.

Getting these kinds of stories and putting their sources at ease was just why Little brought on Mikal Shabazz as a regular host, who by day has been responsible for the overall management of the Portland Bureau of Development Services' cultural competency and affirmative action programs.

Shabazz gently debriefed

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