

METRO

The Portland Observer

Homecoming Romp

Jefferson makes good when NFL great Mel Renfro visits his old school

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SECTION B

Community Calendar

Home-Buying Fair

Saturday, Oct. 27, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., the Portland Development Commission will be sponsoring an African-American Housing Fair to promote homeownership opportunities at the Emanuel Hospital Medical Building Atrium, 501 N. Graham. Visit pdc.us/housing or call 503-823-3400 for more information.

Sorority Waffle Breakfast

Saturday, Oct. 27, from 9 a.m. to noon, Delta Sigma Theta will serve delicious waffles with a smile at the Augustana Lutheran Church, 2710 N.E. 14th; \$5 tickets are available at the door.

Widmer Evening Out

Tuesday, Oct. 30, from 4 to 11 p.m., fans of Widmer Brewing and the Widmer Gasthaus, 929 N. Russell, can spend an enjoyable evening out while helping to feed homebound seniors; half of all proceeds benefit the MLK Loaves & Fishes Center. Call 503-281-3333 for reservations.

St. Charles Spaghetti

Sunday, Nov. 4, from noon to 6:30 p.m., St. Charles Church, 5310 N.E. 42nd Ave., invites guest to enjoy the delicious four-course spaghetti dinner and raffle. Take-out service is available; adults \$9, kids \$5; for more information, contact 503-281-6461.

Weatherization Workshops

Thursday, Oct. 18, from 6 to 8 p.m., the Community Energy Project, 422 N.E. Alberta St., will host free educational workshops to self-weatherize your home, qualifying participants will receive a free weatherizing kit. Free weatherization is available for seniors. Call 503-284-6827 to register.

Annual Rummage Sale

The Catlin Gable Rummage Sale opens Thursday evening, Nov. 1, and continues with 10 a.m. openings through Sunday, Nov. 4 at the Portland Expo Center. Admission is free.

Green Gift That Grows

Friends of Trees is offering the gift that keeps on growing, plant a tree or a grove in honor or memory of someone; for more information, visit friendsoftrees.org.

Raymond Alexander Art

Thursday, Oct. 25, at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 27, at 5 p.m., the Talking Drum Bookstore, 446 N.E. Killingsworth St., invites guest to experience special guest Raymond Alexander's mastery of Abaca Art; for more information call 503-288-4106.

Brown-Bag Lectures

Monday, Oct. 22, Portland Community College, 4040 N.E. Tillamook St., sponsors the lunch and learn lecture series final installment 'How to Get Along With Most Anyone,' in which guest speaker Judy Pearson will be discussing elements of social interactions. For more information, call 503-614-7308.

Kenton Puppet Shows

Penny's Puppet Productions and the historic Kenton Fire House, 8105 N. Brandon Ave., team up to present regular puppet shows featuring: 'Sweet Tooth the Ghost' on Friday, Oct. 26, at 10 and 11:15 a.m. Visit PennyPuppets.com or call 503-282-9207 for more information.

Learn to Make Recycled Art

Portland Community College is offering the hands-on training to create art from recycled materials; classes will be held at the ReBuilding Center, 3625 N. Mississippi Ave.; contact 503-731-6622 for more information.

Holiday Ale Festival

Beginning Thursday, Nov. 29 through Sunday, Dec. 2, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., the 12th-annual festival at Pioneer Courthouse Square, 701 SW 6th Ave., provides beer lovers the opportunity to sample some or all of the 36 rare beers featured. Visit holidayale.com or contact 503-252-9899 for more information.

Literacy Volunteers Needed

The Volunteer Literacy Program at Portland Community College's Cascade Campus needs volunteer tutors to provide free individualized instruction in basic literacy, English language, and math skills. Contact 503-244-3898 or visit oregonliteracy.org.

Monroe Joins Potter's Team

Mayor calls on long-time public servant

Norm Monroe, who has spent more than three decades working with the Portland community, in government and the nonprofit sector, has joined Mayor Tom Potter's staff as a policy advisor.

Monroe was most recently the Vice President for Cultural and Community Development for Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare. Before that, he worked with the Metropolitan Family Service, a re-entry agency for ex-offenders, and spent 13 years with Multnomah County, including eight years

working for the Commission Chair as a liaison to public and private agencies and coordinating public safety initiatives.

Monroe has also developed and supervised programs for the County Department of Social Services and the Department of Justice Services. He created a model to revitalize impoverished neighborhoods through economic, social and community empowerment. He also has worked with a number of foundations on initiatives focused on children and families.

He has served as deputy director of the Portland Urban League, and was honored in 1993

by Oregon State University with its Alumni Fellow Award for his career in public service, addressing the needs of inner-city residents through housing, neighborhood revitalization and justice programs.

Monroe has a MA in social work and has completed coursework in the doctoral program in Urban Studies at Portland State University.

He will work part-time in the mayor's office, working to implement the Human Relations Commission, and on public-safety issues.

"I've known Norm for 30 years, and there is no one better qualified to help me put in place the critical programs the community has said it wants," said Mayor Potter.



Norm Monroe

Accident Prone 82nd Avenue

Action plan goes before public

New traffic engineering plans, enforcement, and education-based solutions are proposed for implementation over the next two years to improve transportation safety along 82nd Avenue, the worst Portland street corridor for accidents.

The Portland Office of Transportation has spent the past year meeting community, business and neighborhood members, collecting feedback leading to the development of the Transportation Safety Action Plan.

The effort covers 82nd Avenue of Roses from Northeast Killingsworth Street to Southeast Clatsop Street, and will identify improvements within the existing right-of-way.

The proposed improvements will allow the corridor to continue to serve vehicles, transit and pedestrians while utilizing traffic safety tools to reduce injuries and fatalities for all modes of transportation using or crossing this seven mile stretch of roadway.

The 82nd Avenue of Roses has the highest rate of traffic crashes for an arterial street in the City of Portland. It saw 3,747 reported crashes between 1997 and 2006, including 119 involving pedestrians, and 11 fatalities.

The Action Plan is intended to provide quick response solutions to a wide variety of motorist, pedestrian, bicyclist and transit-related transpor-



Pedestrians negotiate small sidewalks and jammed-packed streets along Southeast 82nd Avenue, the Portland's worst corridor for traffic accidents.

tation safety issues that have been identified along the corridor through community input and technical analysis.

Open houses to find out what's planned for this project are scheduled

for Thursday, Nov. 29, 6 – 8 p.m. at Montavilla Community Center, 8219 N.E. Glisan St.; Tuesday, Dec. 4, 6:30 – 8 p.m. at St Anthony's Catholic Church Parish Room, 3618 S.E. 79th Ave.; and Wednesday, Dec. 12, 6:30

– 8:30 p.m. at Fire Station 12/Central Northeast Neighbors' Community Room, 4415 N.E. 87th Ave.

For more information, call Kirsty Hall at 503-823-6981 or email Kirsty.Hall@trans.ci.portland.or.us.



An artists' rendering shows the proposed new library and open plaza coming to Concordia University in northeast Portland.

Concordia Learning Center Approved

Construction could begin in May

The Concordia University Board of Regents has voted to recommend that the northeast Portland College begin construction of a 74,000-square-foot learning center in May.

The building will double the capacity of the current university library,

and expand space for academic program centers, meeting rooms and faculty offices. The estimated cost of construction is \$15 million.

"This project will transform our campus and our neighborhood community," said Concordia University President Chuck Schlimpert. "Our ability to develop the learning center supports the vision that a university engaged in the community can pro-

vide expanded opportunities for its students and help its neighborhood thrive."

Concordia University officials have made a point of including community interests in all its plans for campus development. Neighbors will have access to library resources and meeting rooms in the learning center, and a new athletic complex will also be open to community use.

The learning center will be built on the current site of the university's soccer and baseball fields, and construction will finish in August 2009. Concordia will temporarily vacate its current athletic field until the new athletic complex is complete in March 2010.

The athletic complex will occupy

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