

EL OBSERVADOR

Remembering Katrina Victims

Local artist Malaina Guzmán will dedicate an altar this Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) to those who have lost their lives to Hurricane Katrina. You can see the altar free throughout the month of November at the outdoor MAD/50 Art Space located at 1332 S.E. 50th Ave. one block north of Hawthorne Boulevard.

Día de los Muertos, now celebrated Nov. 1, is an indigenous holiday that was once a month long celebration in México, as well as in parts of Central and South America, and altars during this month traditionally aid in keeping the memories of loved ones who have passed on.

According to Guzmán, most immigrants do not continue Día de los Muertos traditions once they arrive in the U.S. Through her art, she aims to "expose people who are not familiar with the holiday to another way of looking at death as part of the circle of life, and to encourage people to continue their traditions of honoring and remembering their ancestors and loved ones."

Festivities for Día de los Muertos vary depending on the country and region, but, accord-



Local artist Malaina Guzman creates a Day of the Dead shadowbox altar to commemorate victims on rooftops during Hurricane Katrina.

ing to Guzmán, "No matter where they are held they celebrate life with food, music, skeletons, smiles and tears."

Guzmán's colorful contemporary shadowbox altar is mixed media of acrylic, clay, plastic and wood. In

addition to broadening appreciation of Día de los Muertos traditions, she hopes her shadowbox altar will stimulate thoughts and conversations about the tragic hurricane of 2005 and its aftermath.

Out of the Grave Entertainment

Dead soldiers reappear to dance the crazy night away

Once again the Miracle Theatre set aside time for all things morbid with a lively Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) show of dance, music and spectacle, reviving its popular version of la carpa (which means "tent" in Spanish and refers to the irreverent vaudeville that toured the Southwest in the early 20th century).

In the style of a United Service Organization canteen show of the 1940s, "La Carpa del Ausente" is a swinging salute to life and a poignant tribute to soldiers no longer with us (el ausente means "the absent one").

Los muertos nostalgically bring to life the entertaining acrobatics, clever comedy, boogie-woogie music and jitterbug dance steps without ever losing sight of the political satire inherent in the traditional carpa.

Shows are scheduled Friday, Oct. 26 through Nov. 11. Tickets available at the theater box office, 525 S.E. Stark or by calling the theater at 503-236-7253.

Mexico's Day of the Dead festival is an observance with very ancient roots. For pre-Hispanic cultures, life was considered to be no more than a passing moment, a dream from which one would awaken.

Today, the Day of the Dead is celebrated each year on Nov. 1. On this night it is believed the dead return from beyond to visit with the living. Special foods are prepared, breads are baked, altars to the dead are built in homes, and cemeteries are cleaned and decorated with flow-



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE DAVIS

A Day of the Dead production at Milagro Theatre stars Sharon Martini (from left) as a 1940s-era entertainer giving personal attention to serviceman Jorge Arredondo with Kate Mura.

ers. The souls of the dead are said to return from the afterlife to visit the living, where they consume the food and drink left for them, enjoying the brief pleasures of life once more.

Father's House Pastor Arrested

Detectives have arrested a pastor accused of sexually abusing eight women associated with a church known as Father's House, which serves a Spanish-speaking population at 1737 N.E. Alberta St.

Sergio Alvarizares, 38, of Ridgefield, Wash., was charged

with one count of rape, two counts of attempted rape and 10 counts of sex abuse.

The investigation began on the last Sunday of September, when officers were called to Father's House on a disturbance call. Several members of the church were arguing with the suspect about

allegations of improper sexual contact. Later that night six women called the authorities to report a sexual assault.

During the investigation, detectives identified two additional alleged victims. A grand jury then returned an indictment.

Midtown Lockdown

continued from Metro

for their cars the next day.

It turned out that they were able to clear the area by late afternoon upon determining it to be a false alarm.

Groups of officers, including a K-9 unit, were sweeping the hotel for explosives as part of a security detail anticipating the arrival of Michael Chertoff, secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The three dogs trained to identify explosives in quick succession each smelled something on a car that triggered them to alert.

People in the hotel and in surrounding buildings were soon warned of the threat and told that they could leave, but would not be

let back in if they did until the all-clear was given.

Portland Police spokesperson Brian Schmautz immediately suspected a connection between the incident and a counterterrorism conference at the Doubletree.

Schmautz said the federal, state and military officials were staying at the hotel and probably carried residue from various explosives, bullets and guns that caused the alert, but police couldn't rule out the potential for some type of explosive device without calling in the bomb squad.

The squad soon located the owner of the car who had participated in earlier exercises, later determining that explosive residue had likely remained on the vehicle.

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- Life in the Womb
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- Life of Those Hurt by Abortion

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Have you seen me?

Missing and Exploited Children
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Endangered-Missing



ANGELICALIVINGSTON
Current Age: 9



PORTIA WASHINGTON
Current Age: 55

Date Missing: June 10, 2006
Missing From: West Columbia, SC

Angelica and her grandmother were last seen in the company of Kenneth Lynch. His whereabouts are currently known; however, the child and her grandmother have not been seen since June 10, 2006. The vehicle shown in the left corner of Lynch's photo is the grandmothers tan 2005 Ford Focus with South Carolina plates 682SEH, which was found in Seattle, WA on June 18, 2006. Anyone who may have seen Angelica, Portia, Lynch or the grandmother's vehicle is asked to call police.



KENNETH LYNCH
Current Age: 47

If you have any information please contact:
The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
1-800-THE-LOST (1-800-843-5678)

This public service announcement provided by the Portland Observer Newspaper.

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