

# METRO

The Portland Observer

## Las Posadas Across City

Christmas story events honor  
Mary's search for refuge  
See stories, El Observador page B3



38  
years of  
community service

SECTION B

## Community Calendar

### Lead Poisoning Prevention

Thursday, Dec. 6, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., the East Portland Community Center, 740 S.E. 106th Ave., hosts a free educational workshop focused on protecting your family from lead poisoning. Participants receive a free testing and cleaning kit. Call 503-284-6827 to register.

### Homeownership Help

Thursday, Dec. 13, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., the nonprofit Portland Community Land Trust will provide information on affordable homeownership opportunities. The orientation class will be held at the North Portland Library, 512 N. Killingsworth. For registration information, call 503-493-0293 or visit [pclt.org/buy](http://pclt.org/buy).

### Ranger Lantern Tours

Saturday, Dec. 15, from 7 to 9 p.m., with lantern in hand and a skilled ranger leading the way, explore the history of Fort Vancouver, 612 E. Reserve St. in Vancouver, Wash. Call 360-816-6243 for more information.

### Business after Hours

Roy Jay and the African American Chamber hosts Business after Hours with special guest speaker State Rep. Jackie Dingfelder on Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 6:30 p.m. at 888 S.W. Fifth Ave., Third Floor. RSVP by calling 503-244-5794.

### Weatherization Workshops

Thursday, Dec. 6, from 6 to 8 p.m., George SUN School, 10000 N. Burr, will host the 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.

### Arts and Crafts Fair

Wednesday, Dec. 5 and Thursday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., MHCC-Gresham Campus's College Center Room 1051, 26000 S.E. Stark, hosts the 38th-annual arts and crafts fair. For more information, call 503-491-7260.

### Crafts and Bake Sale

Saturday, Dec. 8, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Bread and Roses Center, 819 N. Killingsworth, hosts the craft fair and bake sale fundraiser for the Freedom Socialist Party and Radical Women. For more information, call 503-240-4462.

### Ceramic Guild Pottery Sale

Wednesday, Dec. 5 and Thursday, Dec. 6, Portland Community College's Rock Creek Campus (Atrium Building 3), hosts the largest collection of both creative and functional pottery available to the direct public. Call 503-848-0272 for information.

### Television Production

Saturday, Dec. 15, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m., the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate, will host the workshop teaching the basics for producing taped or live studio productions; \$20 fee. For more information, call 503-288-1515.

### 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.; 503-731-6622 for information.

### Literacy Volunteers Needed

The Volunteer Literacy Program at Portland Community College-Cascade needs volunteer tutors to provide free individualized instruction in basic literacy, English language, and math skills. Call 503-244-3898 or visit [oregonliteracy.org](http://oregonliteracy.org).

### Volunteer for Crisis Line

Want to make a difference in your community? Volunteers and advocates are needed for the Portland Women's Crisis Line. The needs include on-call advocates to respond in person or over the phone, outreach and educational efforts, and fundraising and administrative duties. Call 503-232-4176 for more information.

### Helping the Hungry

The Oregon Food Bank desperately needs your donations of nonperishable foods and funds. To find out how you can help, call 503-282-0555.

### African American Council

On the third Tuesday of each month from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. the African American Advisory Council meets at the King Facility, 4815 N.E. 7th Ave. For more information, call 503-823-0000.

## Director Engages Public in City Bureau

### Promoting safety and livability in changing city

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The chief executive leading a city agency that issues construction permits and reviews land use proposals is working to engage the public in the process.

Paul Scarlett sees his role as Director of the Bureau of Development Services as a problem solver.

He is on a mission to reach out into the community, working in partnership with city residents, public officials and industry representatives to promote safety in the construction trades, urban livability and economic vitality.

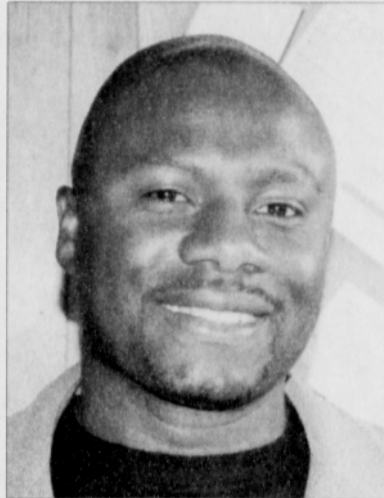
"I think of the bureau as a community resource," Scarlett said. "If we are not reaching out we are doing a disservice."

As a minority in a top level job, Scarlett is also thankful and feels

blessed for the opportunity he has been given. He uses the prestige and power of his office to promote diversity in the pool of people who compete for jobs and promotion. The goal is a diverse and culturally competent workforce.

Scarlett was recently awarded the city's first Diversity Champion Award based on the bureau's diversity efforts and accomplishments. There are 314 employees in the department and a total operating budget of \$35 million.

"We can create opportunity and make it possible for others to complete," Scarlett said. "I'm doing what



Paul Scarlett

I think is right."

Scarlett began his career in Portland as a city planner in 1989. His initial work on the Albina Community Plan for north and northeast Portland won him a special achievement award from the American Planning Association.

He said he learned from the Albina planning process that a city planner doesn't have all the answers.

"I feel we came out with a plan that embraced what the community wanted," he said.

Reaching out into the communities and engaging people in the process, he said, makes the agency successful.

During his two years as director of the bureau, Scarlett has been instrumental in creating a service-oriented culture and developing new programs

to achieve efficiency and improved service, as well as increasing outreach efforts in the community.

The experience has been vital in a city that's vastly changing and is challenged by an influx of new residents along with major commercial and residential developments.

In addition to his job responsibilities, Scarlett is a certified USA Track and Field Coach. He attended college on a track scholarship and competed in the sprints and relays.

He has been the sprint coach at St. Mary's Academy since 2000. Last May, several athletes under his leadership medaled at the State Track and Field competition.

Scarlett received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Community and Regional Planning from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. He holds a Master of Science degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Portland State University.

He currently resides in north Portland with his wife and three children.



Quilt historian Mary Bywater Cross shows off one of the colorful quilts of the late Hattie Bell Anderson at the Cascade Campus of Portland Community College in north Portland.

## Quilts Exhibit Honors Local History

### Hattie Anderson's collection on permanent display

Quilts made by the late Hattie Bell Anderson have been donated to the Cascade Campus of Portland Community College to reflect the traditions of African-Americans in north and northeast Portland.

The Hattie Bell Anderson Quilt Collection has a new permanent home in Jackson Hall at the campus in north Portland, thanks to the generous donation of quilt historian Mary Bywater Cross.

The collection consists of four quilts, hand-made from strips of colorful cloth and flour bags. The exhibit, located in the interior first-floor hallway of Jackson Hall features the quilts encased in special plexi-glass with short descriptions of how they were made next to each one. Nearby is a plaque with a photo of the late Hattie Anderson along with a history of her life.

The collection serves as an introspection of the African-American art style found in quilts and represents the local community and campus that Anderson used to inhabit. Anderson was a member of the Morning Star Baptist Church where Cross was able to share the quilts with the church's Bible study class taught by

Alberta Phillips. Several members remembered Hattie and confirmed the heritage and traditions of her quilts with those of their mothers and grandmothers.

"Quilts, no matter their age and condition, have a wonderful way of celebrating an individual's uniqueness and her time and place in the community and of providing encouragement, strength and self-respect," Cross said.

Anderson was born in 1894 in Rushton,

Cross said Anderson was proud of the fact that she was the first African-American member of a quilting club on Portland's Westside, the Northwest Quilters in the 1970s. She died in 1990.

Anderson was known for her improvisation, in which patterns and materials were never the same from one quilt to another or even within the quilt itself.

"My brain runs different," Anderson once told Cross. "The designs are in my head. I just make up my mind how I want them to look. When you follow a pattern, you lose a lot of materials. Anyway, I like quilts better my way of doing it. It makes it attractive when you have so many different colors together."

Cross first saw an Anderson quilt in 1987 when she made a presentation to a quilt study group. Later, the quilt was offered to her. In 2006, Cross was able to purchase three more. Earlier this year, she decided she wanted to find a home for them at a place where the community could share their history.

"I wanted to find a home where the quilts would be available for viewing," she said.

Cross has published numerous articles on quilts and their histories and is an active presenter and lecturer in

*Quilts, no matter their age and condition, have a wonderful way of celebrating an individual's uniqueness and her time and place in the community.*

— Mary Bywater Cross, quilt historian

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## Multicultural Film Fest Tackles Global Warming

### With Al Gore's 'An Inconvenient Truth'

We are a modern society with conveniences that boggle the mind: lighting, heating, cooling systems; washing machines, dryers, dish-washers; plasma screen televisions; trains, cars, busses, boats, airplane service, our cups runneth over! And the "run-over" has become inconvenient — to the tune of staggeringly rapid global warming.

Has this subject been avoided? Have conversations been pulled from media coverage? And is someone paying right now? Could that someone be you? Whether you believe, disbelieve or are unaware is immaterial. Neither ignorance nor disbelief grants us a pass around the effects of global climate change.

The Jefferson High School Multicultural Film Festival, founded by educator and community activist J.W. Doncan, invites the community to inconvenience ourselves for our own benefit for a free showing of "An Inconvenient Truth", the documentary from Al Gore that won him the Nobel Prize.

The film will be shown on Monday, Dec. 10 at 6 p.m. in room C-39. You will learn why media coverage on global warming has also risen and is abuzz about this film that discusses the scientific facts behind global warming, explains how it has already begun to affect our environment, talks about the disastrous consequences if the world's governments and citizens do not act, and shares what each individual can do to help protect the Earth.



an inconvenient truth