

Kwanzaa Marketplace -- Currently through Dec. 30, Saturdays and Sundays, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; the Kwanzaa Marketplace at Interstate Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate, offers a beautiful selection of home crafted culturally rich gifts to warm your Kwanzaa celebration.

Holiday Happenings



Theatrical Christmas -- Miracle Theatre Group invites the whole family to enjoy the Posada Milagro, the celebration reflecting upon the journey of Mary and Joseph in their search for refuge, Sunday, Dec. 16 from noon to 5 p.m. at El Centro Milagro, 525 S.E. Stark St. For more information, visit vilagro.org or call 503-236-7253.

An Evening In December -- Saturday, Dec. 15 and Sunday, Dec. 16, at 6 p.m.; experience the sights and sounds of the Christmas season through drama, music, carols and more at the Central Church of the Nazarene, 9715 S.E. Powell Blvd.



Zoo Lights -- The Oregon Zoo is alive with holiday lights through Dec. 30. ZooLights is a family tradition featuring illuminated life-size animal silhouettes, trees, buildings, walkways and the zoo train. There's also music from schools, churches and community groups. Hours are 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays. The festival is closed Dec. 24-25.



Christmas Ship Parade -- Currently through Thursday, Dec. 20, enjoy the beauty of Christmas with the beautiful holiday ships at the River Place Marina; visit christmasships.org for more information on this free event.



The Nutcracker -- Currently through Monday, Dec. 24, sparkling lights of the towering tree, the sweeping crescendo from the full orchestra and the dazzling land of swirling snow performed by the Oregon Ballet Theatre at Keller Auditorium, SW 3 and Clay. Visit obt.org or call 503-222-5538 for more information.

Holiday Concert -- Linda Hornbuckle and Janice Scroggins perform a holiday concert, Sunday, Dec. 16 at 6 p.m. at Mississippi Studios, 3939 N. Mississippi Ave. Tickets are \$15. For more information, call 503-288-3895.



Brass, Bells, and Wassail -- Friday, Dec. 14 through Sunday, Dec. 16, Kaul Auditorium Reed College, 3203 S.E. Woodstock, host the Portland Gay Men's Chorus annual holiday concert -celebration.

Holiday WrapUp Bazaar -- Saturday, Dec. 15, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., the Irvington Village Community Room, 420 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. will host the fantastic assortment of savvy boutiques, delicious desserts, artsy clothing vendors and more.

Wintersong 2007 -- Saturday, Dec. 15 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 16 at 2:30 p.m.; celebrate the holidays with Native American Ambiances and Jackson Berkley (co-founder of Mannheim Steamroller), for more information contact 503-226-2588.

The Grotto's Festival of Lights -- Sunday, Dec. 23 through Sunday, Dec. 30, gates will be open at 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., The Grotto, NE 85 and Sandy Blvd., welcomes all who seek the true spirit and meaning of Christmas; for more information contact 503-254-7371.

Tuba Christmas 2007 -- Saturday, Dec. 15, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Pioneer Courthouse Square, 701 SW 6 St. will host this free event with nearly 200 tubas playing festive music for the holiday season and sing-a-long carols.

Yuletide Spectacular -- Saturday, Dec. 15, at 3 p.m., Schnitzer Hall, 1037 SW Broadway, the Oregon Symphony brings the magic of the holiday season alive to enchant one and all; visit orsymphony.org for ticketing.

An Evening with Liv Warfield -- Friday, Dec. 14, Jimmy Mak's, 221 NW 10 Ave., will host an intimate concert featuring local celebrity Liv Warfield; performing hits from her debut album 'Embrace Me'; contact 503-295-6542 for ticketing.

Christmas At The Old Church -- Saturday, Dec. 15 through Monday, Dec. 24, Michael Allen Harrison will be performing at The Old Church, 1422 SW 11, at the 18th annual Christmas Concert Series. For more information contact 503-244-8499.

La Boutique Fantasque: The Enchanted Toyshop -- Friday, Dec. 21, thru Sunday Dec. 23, the Pacific Artist Ballet Theatre-youth company presents the enchanting holiday ballet; a magical tale of two children left forgotten overnight in a toyshop. Performances will be held at the Lincoln Performance hall, 1620 S.W. Park Ave. Call 503-224-4400 for ticketing and performance schedule.

The Polar Express -- Currently through Sunday, Dec. 23, take a train ride to the North Pole on the 'Polar Express' for a memorable journey that will thrill children young and old; contact 800-872-4661 for more information.

A Christmas Carol -- Currently through Sunday, Dec. 23, Portland Center Stage, Gerding Theater, 120 N.W. 11, presents Charles Dickens' classic tale of greed and redemption. For more information contact 503-445-3700.

PIR Winter Wonderland -- Presently through Jan. 1, Portland International Raceway, 1940 N. Victory Blvd., host the largest animated drive-thru light show in the Northwest; contact 503-821-4396 for more information.

A Fairy Tale Christmas -- Currently through Monday, Dec. 31, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, Pittock Mansion, 3229 N.W. Pittock Drive., transforms 23 rooms into enchanted fairy tales that come to life before your child's eyes. Call 503-823-3622 for more information.

Holiday Artisan Market at Pioneer Courthouse Square -- Portland Saturday Market artisans brings their wares to the center of Downtown Portland, under the Burnside Bridge, midweek from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., for those last minute, thoughtful holiday gifts.

Grammy Contenders Named

Kanye West, Amy Winehouse and the Foo Fighters are among the leading Grammy contenders.

West received a leading eight nominations Thursday. Winehouse received six, including for best new artist, record and song of the year for her hit "Rehab," and album of the year for "Back to Black."

Best album nominees included the Foo Fighters, West and Herbie Hancock. Other best new artist nominees were Feist, Paramour, Taylor Swift and Ledesi.



Kanye West

Aretha Franklin and Mary J. Blige were nominated for best Gospel performance for "Never Gonna Break My Faith," featuring the Harlem Boys Choir.



Real People, Real Advice
An advice column known for its fearless approach to reality based subjects!

Dear Deanna!
I'm renting a room inside someone's house. The person I live with has started opening my mail and has begun to criticize me because of my finances. Yes, I have bad credit but this is my personal business. My credit report was good enough to get approved for the lease and that's all that matters. I've only been late a few times but I'm now on time consistently. How do I handle this situation of constantly being judged, ridiculed and second guessed?
--Anonymous; On-Line Reader

Dear Anonymous:
You signed a lease that opened you up for invasion of your privacy and you've handed them a key to your life. You should've entered this situation on a short-term lease, a per-

sonal post office box and an exit plan while you get your life together. Your old habits are hard to break and if you've been late then you deserve being second guessed. To save yourself some stress, save your money, break your lease and start on a fresh note that'll guarantee you success.

Dear Deanna!
My brother uses his children to pick up women and I don't like it. He takes the children to the parks and restaurants because he knows women will be there. When someone compliments the kids, he takes that as an opportunity to start his game, asking for phone numbers and pushing for dates. Things came to a boiling point when he was at a restaurant and a few of the women were there at the same time. How do I get him to see that it's wrong to do this?
--Jailyne; Myrtle Beach, SC

Dear Jailyne:
Instead of hating the player and his game, you need to become part of the solution and stop complaining. If it's obvious what your brother is doing, you should volunteer your time he can date. Yes, he's wrong for putting his kids in the middle and you're wrong for not saying anything before now. This isn't rocket science and if you want to mind his business and be nose, go ahead and make yourself useful and

babysit and keep it moving.
Dear Deanna!
My new girlfriend has a cat and this is now a problem. I didn't think she was one of those people that kiss pets, let them sleep in the bed and stuff like that. I was wrong. We were having dinner and I saw the cat in the kitchen on the counter licking its fur. I got sick, I was disgusted and we had an argument. The cat has become the deal breaker in this relationship. I really like her but if I have to make her choose the cat or me, I will. Any suggestions?
--Darryl Don't Like Cats; On-Line Reader

Dear Darryl:
Now this is a classic case where the dog is really chasing the cat. Your girlfriend is not going to choose you over the cat because this pet has been there during her tears, bad times and lonely nights before you came around. You're grown and you know that cats walk on kitchen counters and sleep in beds. Your best bet is to let her know that you can't deal with the kitty cat at her place but you're willing to move dates to your place and see what happens.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Website: www.askdeanna.com

Mayor Honors Edna Robinson

continued from Front

Robertson was a firm but low-key leader who knew when to stay in the background. Unlike some of her contemporaries in other offices, she did not become involved in electoral politics. "The candidate you're working against may be your boss someday," she commented at the time.

During meetings of coalition directors at City Hall, when some of her counterparts engaged in games of one-upmanship, Robertson would sit quietly in a corner and knit.

"Edna had more magnitude than we realized," Ford recalls. "She gave the program more cohesiveness than it's had since."

Since her retirement, Robertson's withdrawal from day-

to-day community activities has been fairly complete. A stroke in 1991 took away her mobility; she is confined to bed and a wheelchair much of the time. Her daughters Synetta, Terry and Felicia provide constant care.

Robertson's perspective is that of an inner-city resident, and like many of her neighbors she is not a fan of the new infill development she sees around her.

"In the last few years there have been three new houses, and four houses are empty," she says. "Unless you're rich, they're hard to get."

She sees a lack of neighborliness on the block compared to an earlier time when her neighbors, the Harris family, acted as surrogate guardians for her and her family. At one point, with her

neighbors' help and that of the Portland Police Bureau, a gang of drug dealers operating on the block were pushed out.

Robertson grew up in Birmingham, Ala., the daughter of a contractor and a maid. ("You'd call her a domestic engineer today," she says.) Although her mother lacked advanced formal schooling, she was well-educated through her own reading and study, she says. She moved to Portland in 1959, and joined the Model Cities staff in 1969.

Commenting on her award she said, "I was shocked. It's very nice that someone would remember me and give me an award."

City Council members will present awards to Robertson and 20 other groups and individuals at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 13 in Council Chambers at City Hall.



'Tis the season