

METRO

The Portland Observer

Celebrating Women's History Month

SECTION B

Community Calendar

My Naked Soul

Poetry N Motion, a Nite with Savon Lindsay, takes place Saturday, March 22 at Izogie's Fine Dining, 1301 N.E. Dekum St. Lindsay is the author of a startling autobiography *My Naked Soul*, the story of a black recovering addict. Doors open at 8 p.m. Admission is \$5.

Spring Revival

Wednesday, March 19 and Thursday, March 20, at 7:30 p.m., Bishop Lomax invites the community to attend a Spring Revival at 5637 N.E. 14th Ave. Bring your family and friends.

Get Your Garden Ready

Wednesday, March 26, from 2 to 7 p.m., People's Farmers Market, 3029 S.E. 21st Ave., will kick off spring with this free gardening event, featuring food samples, live music, gardening tips and more.

Tree-Mendous Spring Break

March 24 through 28, the World Forestry Center Discovery Museum will offer a variety of fun and educational activities included with museum admission. Activities include hikes in Hoyt Arboretum, scavenger hunts, face painting and more. For more information, call 503-228-1367 or visit Worldforestry.org.

Send in the Clowns

Character Clown Corps is a three-day workshop for people interested in performing at the Grand Floral Parade. Twenty participants ages 14 and up will be selected through an interview process. Applications are due by April 4 and are available at Rosefestival.org.

Learning English

Every Tuesday and Thursday, starting April 8 ending May 29, the SUN Center at Marshall Campus, 3905 S.E. 91st Ave., will offer the free open English as a Second Language classes to anyone interested. For more information, call 971-570-1384.

Spring Beach Cleanup

Saturday, March 29, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., SOLV needs thousands of volunteers for the 24th-annual beach cleanup to restore the coastline to pristine condition. To get involved, call 800-333-7658.

Kids Who Help K.I.D.S.

Sunday, March 30, from 9 a.m. to noon, kids 12 and under who bring a new clothing item with tags attached to their nearest Sweet Tomatoes Restaurant will receive a free breakfast meal; all clothing will be donated to Kids in Distressed Situations. For more information, visit websitesweettomatoes.com or Kidsdonations.org.

Camp Fire Incredible Kids

Camp Fire USA Portland Metro Council invites the public to honor any incredible child. Honorees will receive an award, coupons and their name in print. The fee is \$25 per child with registration available until March 31. For more information, call 503-224-7800, extension 142.

Concordia Candidate Forum

Tuesday, April 1, from 6:30 to 9 p.m., the public is invited to attend this free forum featuring candidates for the Portland Commissioners Position 1 and Position 2; the event is to be held in the Gym of McMenamin's Kennedy School, 5736 N.E. 33rd Ave. For more information, visit Concordiapdx.org.

Walk MS 2008

Saturday, April 12 and Saturday, April 19, rain or shine communities around Oregon and Clark County will take to the streets to raise funds and awareness in the movement toward a world free of Multiple Sclerosis (MS). To get involved, call 1-800-344-4867 or visit WalkMSoregon.com.

Rain Garden Workshop

Saturday, April 5 from 9 a.m. to noon, the Leach Botanical Gardens, 6704 S.E. 122nd Ave., will host the workshop teaching how to build a beautiful rain garden to capture rainwater runoff, followed by a community open house of the Botanical Gardens, from 1 to 4 p.m. To register, visit Welcometherain.org or call 503-652-7477.

Homebuyer Programs

PDC's homebuyer-assistance programs address the gap in home ownership rates between whites and communities of color. For information about the new and expanded homebuyers assistance programs, visit pdc.us/nhp or call 503-823-3400.

Accomplished Women Blaze Trail

Chamber leader promotes advancement

Gale Castillo is the first President of the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber and a founding member of the local chapter which is affiliated with the U.S. Hispanic Chamber in Washington, D.C. She is also the first Latina to have served as a Portland Development Commissioner.

The Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber is the largest Hispanic chamber in the Northwest with over 700 members. The group's mission is to work with all members of the community to increase the economic advancement of Hispanic-owned businesses. Chamber services and programs



Gale Castillo

include technical assistance to Latino businesses, scholarships for Latino students statewide, leadership and construc-

tion career training and monthly membership luncheon meetings.

Castillo also represents the chamber as a member of the Contract Management Group responsible for the management of the City of Portland's "Smart Park Garages". The CMG includes Star Park, the African-American, the Philippine American Chambers of Commerce and the Hispanic Chamber.

She is also the co-owner of Cascade Centers, Inc., one of the largest privately held companies that provides Employee Assistance Program services and staff development throughout the United States.

Before taking on the responsibilities of the Hispanic Chamber, Castillo operated a retail store: Bellissima Fine Gifts and a

continued ▼ on page B6



Judge Adrienne Nelson

Law career leads to judge

Adrienne Nelson is the second African-American female judge in Oregon's history.

Judge Nelson was appointed in February 2006 by Gov. Ted Kulongoski and elected to a six-year term in November 2006 in the general election.

Born in Kansas City, Mo., and raised in Arkansas, Nelson moved to Oregon in July 1994. She graduated from Gurdon High School in Gurdon, Ark. in 1985 as the first black valedictorian since integration.

Nelson attended the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville Summa Cum Laude and earned a bachelor arts degree in Criminal Justice and English in 1989. She graduated from the University of Texas at Austin School of Law in 1993.

Prior to taking the bench, Judge Nelson was a practicing attorney in Portland and handled a variety of legal matters, ranging from criminal defense to labor relations to union matters to family law matters to employment law matters.

Nelson is active in a number of professional activities and has won numerous awards for her public service.

In addition to her professional activities, she sits on the Girl Scouts Beyond Bars Advisory Board and is a former member of the Black United Fund of Oregon Board of Directors.

Building careers in public service

Kal J. Robertson is helping students enter careers in fire, police, ambulance and other public services as the Director of the Emergency Services Department at Portland Community College's Cascade Campus in north Portland.

A Mississippi native, she graduated from Alcorn State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree and served on the faculty at Oregon State University. She received her Master's of Science degree from Portland State University and taught

at PSU while completing her master's degree in counseling education.

At PCC, Roberson is charged with recruiting students and members from the immediate community to educational programs that help prepare students for careers in emergency medical services, 911 dispatching, firefighting and other emergency career choices.

As a result of her partnerships, the City

continued ▼ on page B6



Kal J. Robertson

Executive achieves top post

Anita Decker became the Chief Operating Officer of Bonneville Power Administration last October, overseeing a not-for-profit federal electric utility that markets more than a third of the electricity consumed in the Pacific Northwest.

She oversees the internal management of the major line functions in the Portland-based agency which includes power services, transmission, internal business services, energy efficiency and fish and wildlife.

Decker has spent over 27 years in the electric utility industry. She previously

continued ▼ on page B6



Anita J. Decker



Lolita Burnette

Lolita B. Burnette joined the Portland Development Commission in January 2007. As the primary representative between PDC and community groups, she helps to cultivate positive relationships, implementing and directing strategies and programs to ensure PDC supports community values, goals, equity and diversity.

continued ▼ on page B6

Promoting the community

Students Bring International Perspective

Academic all-stars

Two students who bring international perspectives to education have been selected to represent Clark College on the 2008 All-Washington Academic Team.

Jennifer Patterson and Men-Ok (Irina) Ziyu, who both reside in Vancouver, will be among 62 students from Washington's 34 community and technical colleges who will be recognized on Thursday, March 20, in Olympia. Former Washington Gov. Gary Locke is scheduled to be the keynote speaker.

Patterson credits her upbringing in Las Vegas, a city that attracts tourists from around the world, with creating her deep-



Jennifer Patterson



Men-Ok "Irina" Ziyu

seated fascination with other cultures. She left her job in retail as an assistant manager and was drawn to Clark's degree program in international studies.

Ziyu came to the United States from Russia in 2004, leaving behind family and friends, her education at a medical university and her job. She spoke no English.

After taking English as a second language (ESL) classes at Clark, Ziyu wanted to pursue her education further. She enrolled in general education classes and soon discovered her passion for chemistry. Now she is studying to become a nurse and works as a chemistry tutor.

Women's Art, Women's Vision



Remedios Rapoport's "Gentle Revolution" promotes art activism.

A Women's History Month art exhibit at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave., supports and inspires positive activism and a celebration of an engaged citizenry.

Remedios Rapoport's "The Gentle Revolution" is a stunning collaborative exhibit of sculptures and paintings. Emerging artist Jacquelyn Bond presents watercolor political pin-up illustrations.

Rapoport received a Project Grant Award from the Regional Arts and Cultural Council for creation of a filete mobile. She works in the traditional Argentinean filete art of sign painting, which is a very playful and vibrant style reminiscent of vaudeville or circus signage.

They combine beautifully with Bond's equally mischievous illustrations.



Jacquelyn Bond's "Wake Up, America!"