

METRO

The Portland Observer



Tax Preparer Mistakes Cost Consumers

Better Business Bureau study on tax-preparation companies brings warnings
See story in Law/Justice, page B2

SECTION B

Community Calendar

From Harm to Hope

Monday, April 21, from 7 to 9 p.m., hear the many stories of how gentrification has impacted long-term members of the black community at the First AME Zion Church, 4304 N. Vancouver Ave.

Family Issues Debated

Family issues will be the focus of a mayoral candidate public forum with Sam Adams and Sho Dozono on Saturday, April 19, at 1 p.m. at Mississippi Studios, 3939 N. Mississippi Ave. The event is sponsored by urbanMamas and Central Portland Families.

Candidate Forum

Sunday, April 20, from 2 to 5 p.m., a community coalition is sponsoring forum with candidates for Portland mayor, city council and the U.S. Senate. The public event will be held at the University of Portland's Buckley Auditorium.

The Rule of Law

Tuesday, April 29, at 6:30 p.m., the Hollywood Theater, 4122 N.E. Sandy Blvd., will host the 2nd-annual Youth Film project, featuring creative student films on the rules of law.

Breaking the Cycle

Every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month, at the Calvary Christian Church, 126 N.E. Alberta, Brother Eric Carson invites men of all walks of life to join a safe and confidential men's forum examining issues and struggles that arrive in life by networking together; for more information, contact 503-422-8573.

Walk MS 2008

Saturday, April 19, take to the streets to raise funds and awareness in the movement toward a world free of Multiple Sclerosis. To get involved, call 1-800-344-4867 or visit WalkMSoregon.com.

Remodeling Seminars

Saturday, April 19, beginning at 9:30 a.m., Neil Kelly Showrooms at 804 N. Alberta St., and 15573 S.W. Bangy Road in Lake Oswego, will host free kitchen and bath remodeling seminars. For more information, visit Neilkelly.com or call 503-335-9204.

Spiffin' Up MLK

Saturday, April 19, SOLV and neighborhood businesses and community members will work together to pick up trash, clean graffiti and remove street debris along Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. To get involved, visit Handsonportland.org.

Health Wellness Fair

Wednesday, April 23, from 4 to 8 p.m., Self Enhancement, Inc. will host a wellness fair to promote awareness to children about nutrition, health and fitness.

Town Hall

Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to noon, State Sen. Avel Gordly and Sisters of the Road invite the public to join in an open forum on homelessness in Mt. Tabor Hall at Portland Community College's Southeast Center, 2305 S.E. 82nd Ave.

Free First Fridays

The Portland Children's Museum has partnered with Target to provide free admission to everyone the first Friday of each month from 5 to 8 p.m.

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 assistance programs, visit Pdc.us/nhporcall 503-823-3400.

Walk Run for the Animals

Saturday, May 3, beginning at 7:30 a.m., at the Esther Short Park in downtown Vancouver, a walk-run will benefit the Southwest Washington Humane Society. To get involved, visit Southwesthumane.com.

Learning English

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

Tax Help in Rockwood

VITA tax aide for low-income families will assist clients by appointment only on Wednesdays, from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Rockwood Community office, 18709 S.E. Stark. For reservations, call 503-816-1530.

Hip-hoppers with 'Cred'

Cool Nutz on national stage

BY CHARITY PRATER
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Terrance Scott, otherwise known as the artist "Cool Nutz," isn't slowing down anytime soon.

The Voice of Northeast Portland has been in the rap business since 1992, when he decided to turn a hobby of break dancing and DJing into a job as a rap artist and released his first cassette.

His career in the music industry has been uphill and down with a crumbling Atlantic Records contract, the never-ending change of the music industry and the long hours traveling. According to Scott, it has all been worth it.

"Traveling around the world and being able to tour alongside the artists that I grew up listening to has been the best part of being in this business," he says.

Since his beginning, he has released six albums and has sold over 70,000 albums. He is the co-owner of Jus Family Records and has toured with big dogs like Wu-Tang Clan, Ja Rule, Tech9, Run DMC, among others.

continued ▼ on page B3



Portland's hip-hop extraordinaire Cool Nutz is well received on a tour of the rap venue Union Scene in Norway where he performed last February in one of a series of concert dates in the Scandinavian country.

Portland's music backbone DJ OG One, also known as David Jackson, concentrates on being a positive role model to youth in addition to making appearances on national television.

STEVELENZPHOTOGRAPHY.COM



DJ OG One strives for positive influence

BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

For local music producer David Jackson, finding ways to influence youth positively has become a life challenge.

Better known as DJ OG One, Jackson recognizes that the civil-rights leaders of previous generations made way for role models in the form of hip-hop stars, and he strives to counter the resulting stereotypes.

"If the entertainment business is what's influencing our young people, then I need to make sure that I position myself in that industry to hopefully provide a balanced image to kids that you don't have to sell drugs or be disrespectful to women to be successful," he told the Portland Observer.

That's why chances to mentor at inner-city high schools equal the importance of packed shows at downtown clubs in the view of the 41-year-old Jack-

continued ▼ on page B3

Community Support Grows with College Expansion

Concordia scholar from Jefferson High

A gala celebrating Concordia University's "Success to Significance" campaign and the ground breaking of a new library and learning center on the northeast Portland campus was held last Thursday with Portland Mayor Tom Potter presenting Jefferson High School senior Cinthia Hernandez with a four-year, full-tuition scholarship.

Mayor Potter announced the establishment of the scholarship, which the University has honored with his name, at his State of the City address in January and delivered at Jefferson High School.

The criteria for the awarding of the scholarship was a minimum 2.5 GPA, a 480 verbal SAT score and strong letters of recommendation. In addition, the student must have demonstrated an ongoing involvement in community service.

Hernandez lives in northeast Portland and is the eldest of three children. At Jefferson, she is a senior-class representative, the varsity women's soccer-team captain and is involved in dance. She also participates in the Oregon Leadership Institute, a program designed to help Latino middle-school students develop leadership skills, learn about opportunities for post-secondary education and explore the various options.

Annually, she helps organize an assembly for Cinco de May by writing plays and poems dealing with the history of Mexico. She also has a part-time job on the weekends.



Concordia University President Charles Schlimpert (left) presents Jefferson senior Cinthia Hernandez with a full ride scholarship in a ceremony Thursday attended by Portland Mayor Tom Potter.

Nate Waas Shull, Youth Engagement Coordinator in the Mayor's Office said, "I've worked with Cinthia in the community for four years and it's just so gratifying to see her moving forward in this way, through the help of Concordia."

In 2005, the university began an out-

reach program to strengthen and invigorate its efforts to connect and serve its community, which it has been a part of for 103 years.

During the 2005-06 academic year, Concordia University students, faculty, and staff contributed nearly 223,000 hours

of practicum, internships and service learning hours. They served over 10,000 community members, half of which were youth.

The university has a stated goal to be a "net contributor" to the community as a

continued ▼ on page B3