After Ashley Viewed

The Portland Playhouse, 602 N.E. Prescott St., recently opened their doors with the new dramatic play "After

Ashley." This play uses vari-

ous forms of realism, sarcasm,

and satire in a modern setting.

It displays various forms of

fiction and exploitation that

intrude on the need for per-

sonal privacy when suffering.

ten by Gina Gionfriddo is bril-

liant, controversial, and abso-

lutely hilarious; comparable to

a modern version of Oscar

Wilde. The Portland Playhouse

theater company accommodated their guests with of free

coffee, food and alcohol do-

nated by the Portland Brewer

Company, Peet's coffee, and

Weaver and Directed by Brain

Weaver, "After Ashley" play-

ers are a wonderful collabora-

tion of talented performers to

the stage from various acting

backgrounds exceeding from

NY International Fringe Festi-

val, We Players of Oakland and

the local Stark Raving Theater

Although, After Ashley's

acting was phenomenal, loud

dialogue ladden music garbled

characters speaking at one

point during the performance.

mances of the Portland Playhouse

and get information on the web

Look for upcoming perfor-

in Portland.

Produced by Michael

Costco International.

After Ashley, the play writ-

BY ANGELA GABRIEL

Natalie Cole

Fights Back

life everything she has.

her best at all times.

Helping with AIDS Awareness

Eight-time Grammy winner Natalie Cole, 58, hasn't

The acclaimed singer "gets real" with Jet magazine

and opens up about being diagnosed with hepatitis C as

well as how she's coping with kidney failure. "I hope

nobody I know gets it. I hope they find a cure," she said.

Despite her illness, Cole says she still wants to look

"Honey, I can't be looking sick and be looking bad.

Some things are not acceptable. You got to roll with it,"

Jet's Dec. 8 issue is currently on sale.

thrown in the towel on her career. In fact, she's giving



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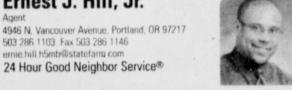
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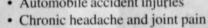




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LICENSED BARBER'S WANTED

along with Beyonce Knowles at portlandplayhouse.org. "Potluck in the Park" Fundraiser -- Sunday, Dec. 7, from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the Acadian Ballroom, 1829 N.E. Alberta St. presents the Tom Grant Band featuring Nancy Curtin, Kate Davis, Rebecca Kilgore, Toni Lincoln, Shelly Rudolph, Ron Steen and Dave

Concert Night -- Thursday, Dec. 4, at 8 p.m., in the Mt. Hood Community College Theater-Gresham Campus, will present an evening of jazz to the community; free admission, for more information, call 503-491-7158.

Captein. For more information, call 503-546-

6800 or visit potluckin.org.

Benefit Fashion Show -- Friday, Dec. 5, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Aloha High School, 18550 S.W. Kinnaman Rd., present an evening of fun fashions to benefit the Oregon Food Bank,

Sex, Choice and Rock & Roll Benefit --Aladdin Theater, Saturday, Dec. 6, at 8 p.m., an all-star line up to benefit Planned Parent-

Coming Home: Illusionist Jackson Rayne -- Sunday, Dec. 7, at 7 p.m., the Illusionist Jackson Rayne, alumni of Skyview High School, in Vancouver; tickets are available at the door.

Norman Sylvester Band --Friday, Dec. 12, at 9:30 p.m. the band will take the stage at Gemini's in Lake Oswego and at 9 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13, live at the Candlelight. For more information, call 503-281-5989.



MTV marks the 10th anni-

versary of its AIDS aware-

ness campaign this year with

an hour-long documentary by

U.S. singer and Destiny's Child

founding member Kelly

The music channel launched

"MTV Staying Alive" in 1998,

and has produced films, com-

petitions and celebrity tie-ins

to educate young people about

the risks of HIV and AIDS

and encourage them to talk

diary featuring Rowland, who

The latest initiative is a video

Rowland.

about it.

Kanawaksooma (Quiet Thunder) Celebration -- Saturday, Dec. 13, from noon to 10 p.m., Mt. Hood Community College invites the public to join the annual pow-wow. This free celebration offers authentic music.

artists and musicians share an evening of spoken word and music at the Miracles Club, 4069 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, each Wednesday's, between 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Bob the Builder -- TVs Bob the Builder and his Can-Do Crew invite aspiring young builders to help get the job done in a hands-on traveling exhibit at the Portland Children's Museum. The 2,000

> dia exhibit invites exploration and teamwork for children and families. The show runs through Jan. 19.

797-4000 or visit omsi.edu.

In "The Diary of Kelly Rowland," the 27-year-old

helped launch the successful

girl band Destiny's Child in

1990. The group split in 2005.

travels to South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania and the United States and meets young people affected by HIV/AIDS and those trying to educate people about the risks.

"It places HIV/AIDS out in the open, and in doing so creates an openness of dialogue on the 'taboo' subject," MTV said in a statement.

The video can be watched at staying-alive.org.

Kelly Rowland

dance, crafts, food and entertainment. Poetry at Miracles -- Local and national

square-foot, multime-

OMSI After Dark -- OMSI After Dark is a night at the museum for the 21 and over crowd filled with food, drink and science fun; \$10 fee. For more information call 503-

Sunday Night Jazz -- Jazz enthustasts can enjoy listening to the

River Room at Chinook Winds Casino Resort in Lincoln City. No cover charge.

Live Jazz -- Every Friday and Saturday from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Third Degrees Lounge at the RiverPlace Hotel, 1510 S.W. Harbor Way, will host the ongoing weekend series featuring Portland's rich jazz scene with no cover or minimum purchase. For more information, visit pdxjazz.com.

> Open Mic Night -- Every Wednesday night at 7 p.m., Proper Eats Market and Café, 8638 N. Lombard St., host open mic night.

Sliders Grill -- Sliders Grill, 3011 N. Lombard, features an eclectic assortment of performers on the main stage, accompanied by delicious food. Call 503-459-4488 for more information.

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

Oregon Zoo Buck Tuesdays -- On the 2nd Tuesday of every month, the zoo hosts 2-Buck Tuesdays when guests can tour the zoo during regular zoo hours for the discounted price of \$2 per person!

OMSI \$2 Days -- The first Sunday of every month can spark your passion for science at the OMSI when admission is just \$2. For more information, visit OMSI.edu.

> Music Millennium Free Shows -- The Music Millennium, 3158 E. Burnside, hosts in-house live performances. Enjoy free music and the opportunity to meet local artists. Call 503-231-8926 for a schedule.



Northwest Breakout Show -- Friday, Dec. 26, at 9 p.m., enjoy featured artists such as Liv Warfield. MyG, Soul Pand many other hiphop performers at the Doug Fir. 830 E. Burnside.

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