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# Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

## R&B Hall of Famer Dies

### Tenor fronted the Flamingos and the Dells

(AP) -- John E. Carter, the R&B lead tenor and two-time inductee into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, is being remembered after his death on Friday at the age of 75.

"We have lost an incredible voice that graced two of the most significant vocal groups of all time," said Terry Stewart, president and CEO of the hall of fame. "As a member of both the Dells and the Flamingos, Johnny was one of a select few artists inducted twice into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame."

Carter, who was known for his falsetto, was the last surviving founding member of the Flamingos. The classic doo-wop group gained fame with such hits as "Golden Tears" and their reworking of the pop classic "I Only Have Eyes for You."

Carter left the Flamingos for the first time in 1957 to do military service, and left perma-



Johnny Carter (front, left) as a member of the Dells.

nently in 1960 to join the Dells, which had been formed in the early 1950s by some of his high school friends from Harvey.

Stewart noted that the Dells

were one of the longest-running R&B vocal groups. The quintet had no personnel changes after Carter replaced original lead tenor Johnny Funches.

The Dells' 1954 breakout hit, "Oh What A Night," sold more than a million records when it was reissued in 1969 with Carter on falsetto lead. The Dells were also famous for "Stay in My Corner," one of the first R&B hits to run more than six minutes.

The group toured extensively with Dinah Washington and later with Ray Charles. The Dells also came to the attention of Quincy Jones, who coached them into a more eclectic vocal style, incorporating jazz, soul and Broadway sounds.

The Dells, consisting of Carter, baritone lead Marvin Junior, and backup singers Charles Barksdale, Michael McGill and Verne Allison, served as technical advisers on Robert Townsend's 1991 movie, "The Five Heartbeats," which was loosely based on their careers.

The Dells performed publicly for one of the last times in 2004, when they did an outdoor concert in downtown Chicago to celebrate their induction into the hall of fame.

The Flamingos were inducted in 2000.

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## Art & Culture Night

Colored Pencil Night is Portland's multicultural living room of artists, performers and aspiring young people as they gather each month for an evening of laughter and tears.

This month's event is held Friday, Aug. 28, at United Way of the Columbia-Willamette, 619 S.W. 11th Ave. The celebration begins with an art reception at 5:30 p.m. An open mic begins at 6:30 p.m.

Special honors will go out to local Persian peace poet Dr. Ali Khajavi, features UK-born singer Sharon Martini and New America Media award-winner Ronault LS ("Polo") Catalani talking story in traditional Indonesian-style.

Featured artists include African American painter Bobby Fother; contemporary Thai mixed-media artist Nim Xuto; and Mexican magical realist Jesse Vásquez.

Dinner will be vended in a variety of bites and plates by Portuguese/Angolan/Brazilian chef Julieta Capuia.

Colored Pencils is an all-volunteer event open to all ages, ethnicities, and skill levels.

Advertise with diversity in The Portland Observer  
Call 503-288-0033

## Jackson Mom Supports Tribute

The King of Pop's mother said in a letter made public Monday that next month's global tribute for Michael Jackson in Vienna is "a wonderful idea" and an event that her son would have loved.

The Sept. 26 concert — being planned by Jackson's brother Jermaine — will take place in front of a 17th-century palace in the Austrian capital. The performers haven't been announced, but the event is expected to draw thousands of people.

"An event of this dimension not only keeps Michael's spirit alive, more than that: It gives millions of fans the opportunity to experience his music and celebrate the life of my son," Katherine Jackson wrote. "I am



Pop star Michael Jackson rehearses June 23, two days before his death.

sure Michael would love it." Michael Jackson died aged 50 on June 25.

Event promoter Georg Kindel has said the tribute was originally planned for London's Wembley Stadium on Aug. 29, which would have been Jackson's 51st birthday, but that Jermaine Jackson decided instead on Vienna. Austria is home to many castles, and Jermaine has said Vienna was chosen as the venue because his brother "loved castles."

Jackson's mother also reached out to fans, saying she was "overwhelmed by the worldwide love and support that my beloved son Michael has received over the past month."

## Hip Hop at Fernhill Park

Emmaus Church hosts their first annual Hip-Hop in the Park on Sunday, Aug. 30 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Fernhill Park, located on the corner of Northeast 37th Avenue and Ainsworth Street.

The concert will showcase several national recording artists, including Odd Thomas, Propaganda, and Theory Hazit — all of whom have roots in Portland.

Organizers from Emmaus Church, which meets at 4046 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., noted that Portland's successful Concerts in the Park series rarely features hip-hop music.

Emmaus' lead pastor, Cole Brown, saw this as an opportunity to serve an underserved



National hip hop artists Odd Thomas (left) and Propaganda will perform Sunday at Fernhill Park in northeast Portland.

segment of the community. "We're simply doing this because we love hip-hop and we love the people who love hip-hop," said Brown, who formerly worked for hip-hop producer

Teddy Riley (Doug E Fresh, Jay Z, Snoop Dogg). "We want to provide an event where people of all ages, backgrounds, and beliefs can have a genuine and communal hip-hop experience."

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**SPIRIT MOUNTAIN CASINO**

**Main Attractions**

- August 28th -- Rick Springflied
- August 29th -- Spirit of Asia

**Summit View**

- August 27th -- Comedy by Jack Mayberry & Mark Salvat
- August 28th -- Jazz with Bill Hughes
- August 28th -- Classic Rock and Hoo Doo

**Raindrops Night Club**

- August 27: Dance/R&B by Ocean 503
- August 28th & 29th: DJ

**Mountain View Sports Bar**

- August 28th -- Country/Rock with Jay "Bird" Koder

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**Proper Festival at Kenton Park**

The 16th annual PROPER Festival, a multicultural entertainment, art and popular networking event that unites communities across all lines and ages takes place Saturday, Aug. 29 from noon to 4 p.m. at Kenton Park in north Portland.

Free food is included in partnership with the event's partner, Celebration Tabernacle and sponsor, the Portland Development Commission.

Special musical guests will include E.D. Mondainé & Belief and Michael Allen Harrison.