July 14, 2010

The Portland Observer

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Kids enjoy the water spray ground at Blue Lake Regional Park.

Stay Cool at Blue Lake

Located just 20 minutes from down-Regional Park has a number of cool options for all ages and abilities.

water spray ground is a convenient substitute for those who are unable to make it into Blue Lake's swim area (children under age five are not allowed in the lake).

ground has a variety of fully autotown Portland, Metro's Blue Lake matic spray and streaming water features available for visitors who are either young or young at heart. Adjacent to the swim beach, the The non-slip surface, lack of standing water and location near the restrooms make the water spray ground safe for those with limited mobility or in need of a wheelchair. Blue Lake's natural backdrop also

The 3,500 square foot water spray provides plenty of shady spots and \$7 per van or bus.

Summer Cabaret -- Portland Center Stage presents Gavin & Susannah: An Intimate Evening of Musical Theater, featuring



Gavin Gregory and Susannah Mars with musical director Rick Lewis. Performances will begin at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, on

Thursday and Friday nights through July 23 at the

dense canopy, trees provide natural air conditioning for those look-

covered picnic areas.

ing to hike the trails, spot some wildlife or just get out of the sun. Entrance fees to both Blue Lake and Oxbow regional parks is \$5 per car or

Metro's Oxbow Regional Park on

the Sandy River also provide a space

for cooler temperatures. Under a

Mel Brown Live -- Portland jazz giant Mel Brown performs at Salty's on the Columbia every Friday and Saturday

night. Known as the "Gentleman of Jazz," Brown has a career spanning over 40 years.

Dine and Dance -- Zoo supporters get to dine and dance among the animals, Saturday, July 17, as the Oregon Zoo Foundation hosts its 11th annual summer bash "Zoolala: Animalia," presented by Spirit Mountain Casino. Along with untamed revelry and carnival fun, there will be live music and culinary delights from more than 20 of the area's top restaurants.

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Gerding Theater at the Armory

Dance under the Stars: Jazz in the City -- You're invited to enjoy local jazz at Pioneer Courthouse Square on Saturday night, July 17. Jazz in the City is part of Yoshida's Sand in the City weekend, a sand castle building benefit for Impact Northwest.

Angela Cheng in Recital -- Portland Piano International presents Angela Cheng, one of Canada's brightest stars, on Friday, July 16 at 7:30 p.m. at the World Forestry Center. The concert is part of the 12th annual Portland International Piano Festival.

The Whispers and Jeffrey Osborne -- One of R&B's



most beloved and popular vocal groups, the Whispers, joins hit solo artist Jeffrey Osborne for a Friday, July 22 concert at Spirit Mountain Casino. For tickets and more information, visit spiritmountain.com.

Prehistoric Predators - Enormous dinosaurs with lifelike ferocity are represented in an exhibit that continues through Labor Day at the Oregon Zoo. Visitors will follow a trail through an ancient rain forest, surrounded by the realistic animatronic creatures that roar, snarl and move.

Norman Sylvester Band -- Boogie Cat Norman Sylvester and his band perform Saturday, July 17 at Tillicum; Friday, July 23 at Domenic's; Friday, July 30 at Clyde's; Tuesday, Aug. 3 at Dawson Park; and Friday, Aug. 6 at Tualatin in the Commons.



A Taste of Paris -- Paris-based musicians of Caravan Palace, an electro gypsy-swing band, will be celebrating Bastille Day at the Oregon Zoo, Wednesday, July 14 as part of the zoo's Summer Concert Series.

Road to Equality Exhibit -- Clark County Historic Museum has opened its newest exhibit, Road to Equality: the Struggle for Women's Rights in the Northwest. The museum is located at 1511 Main St. in Vancouver. For more information, call 360-993-5679.

Highland Games -- Experience world-class Scottish athletics, dance, music, food and children's games at the 58th annual Highland Games, Saturday, July 17 at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham. Day admission is \$20 for adults and \$10 for youth. Children under 5 are free.

King Farmers Market -- The King Farmers Market is back each Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Oct. 31 at Northeast Seventh Avenue and Wygant Street, adjacent to King School Park. Food stamp users can receive up to \$10 in matching tokens.

