

Minority Entrepreneurs Trade Show

Job creation is focus of annual event

The Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs (OAME) is presenting its 24th annual Luncheon and Trade Show on Thursday, May 10, beginning at 10 a.m. and concluding at 3 p.m. at the Oregon Convention Center.

The tradeshow will host over 120 small and large businesses exhibitors; state, county and federal government agencies; and business development resources that assist minority, women and emerging small businesses. Tradeshow admission is free and luncheon tickets are still available for \$65.

"The OAME Trade Show is a

personal, face-to-face forum to make sales, network and obtain resources among businesses large and small, new entrepreneurs, business development and coaching resources," said Sam Brooks, OAME founder and chairman of the board.

This year's theme is "Partnerships: Create Jobs."

A panel of OAME members and supporters will discuss how partnerships have created opportunity for minority women and emerging

small businesses. Brooks will mediate the discussion where the panel members include Sandra

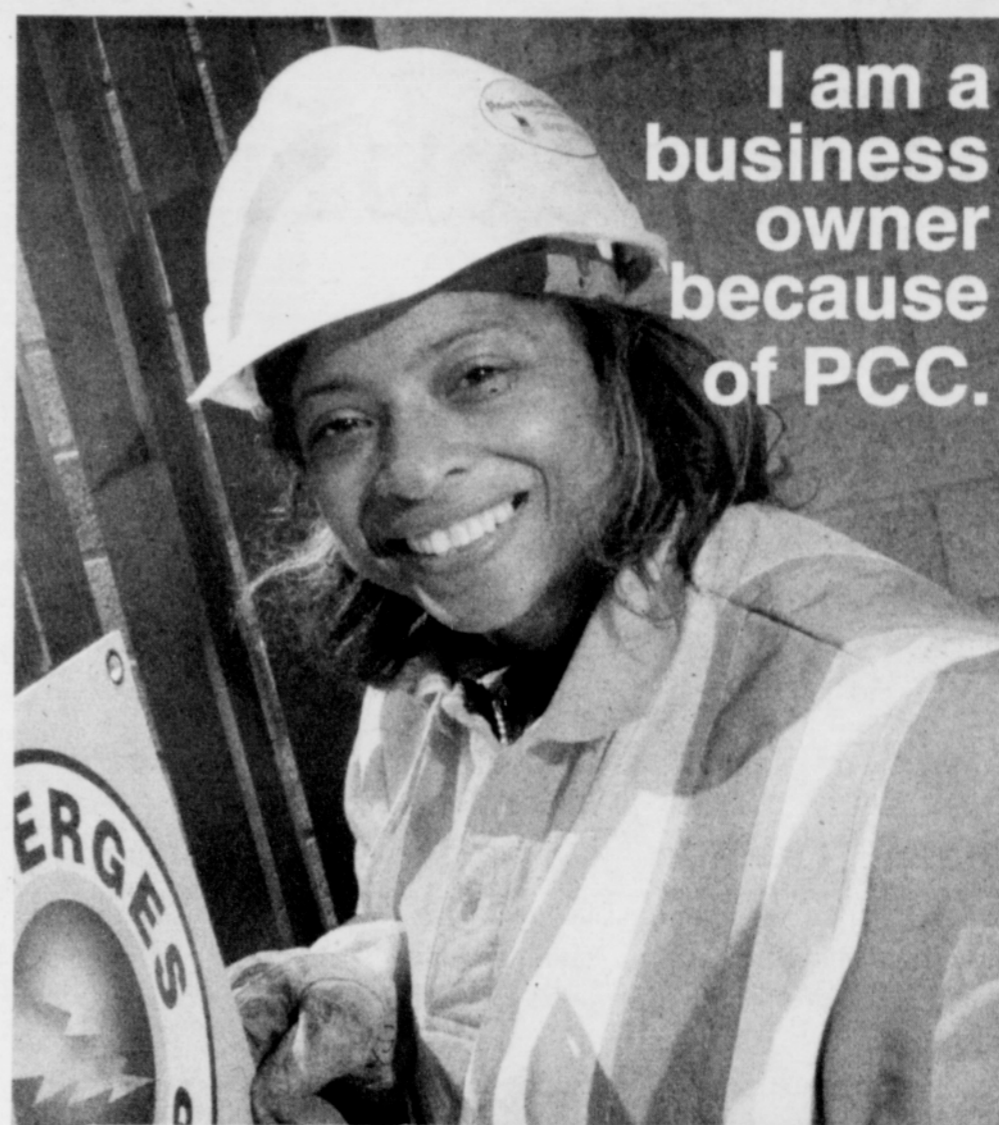
McDonough of the Portland Business Alliance; Mel Sears of Parsons Brinckerhoff; Andrew Colas of Colas Construction; Simone Brooks of Brooks Staffing; and Cheryl Myers of the Oregon Governor's Office.

The Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs was founded in 1987 to promote minority, women, emerging small business owners, entrepreneurship and economic development.

For registration, exhibit and luncheon information or reservations, visit oame.org or call Modena Perry at 503-249-7744.



Sam Brooks



After graduating from PCC, Sharon Maxwell-Hendricks entered the construction field and stood out as one of the only African American women. Twenty years later, she still stands out—now for her success as the owner of Boanerges Group LLC, a general contractor in North Portland.

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Kenton to Open Farmers Market

Food and fun on Fridays starting June 1

Portland Farmers Market is breaking ground on a new farmer's market location in the Kenton neighborhood in north Portland, where residents can buy local produce and goods and hear local music on Friday nights, beginning June 1, from 3 pm to 7 pm.

"We are thrilled to partner with local community leaders and business owners to open this new market in the heart of the growing Kenton business district," said Jaret Foster, senior market manager of Portland Farmers Market. "The participation of neighboring businesses, the unique location, and the live music will create a festive, street-fair atmosphere."

The market, located at North McClellan Street on each side of Denver Avenue, will feature 35 vendor stalls brimming with farm-fresh produce, meats, cheeses, baked goods and other specialty foods.

The Kenton Business Association and Kenton Neighborhood Association played an integral role in bringing the market to the historic neighborhood. Surrounding businesses, including Cason's Fine Meats, E-San Thai Cuisine, Kenton Station, Pizza Fino, Po's shines Café, Posies Bakery and Café, and others, will stay open to engage with market vendors and shoppers.

"We are grateful to Portland Farmers Market for helping to bring this market to our neighborhood," said Jessie Burke, chairperson of Kenton Business Association and owner of Posies Bakery and Café. "The market will be such a boon for our budding business district, attracting both local residents and other Portlanders to downtown Kenton every Friday."

Burke added that the Kenton

Business Association has desired a farmers market in the neighborhood for some time, and after a community survey, they learned residents and business owners were both supportive and excited about an afternoon market.

As with all other Portland Farm-

ers Market locations, Kenton market, which will be the eighth weekly market location, will enable shoppers eligible for SNAP benefits will be able to receive \$1 tokens using their Oregon Trail Card to purchase fruit, vegetables, meat, bread, cheese and some baked goods.

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