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Safe and Free at Matt

Dishman -- The Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 N.E. Knott St., has opened its doors to teenagers this summer as part of a plan to provide safe and free activities for youth, age 18 and younger through Portland Parks and Recreation. Registration is required.

Summer Reading for Kids -- Kids of all ages can sign up at any neighborhood library of the Multnomah County Library system for a free summer reading program that entices kids to read for pleasure and maintain the skills they learned during the school year, while also encouraging lifelong library use.

Science of Ripley's Believe It Or Not -- What's more amazing that Robert Ripley's legendary compendium of oddities, anomalies and fantastic feats? The science that underlies them! OMSI presents "The Science of Ripley's Believe It or Not!" a 6,000 square foot interactive exhibit that explores the real science behind the unbelievable. The collection of intriguing objects and astonishing artifacts is open through Sept. 7.



Summer Kids in the Park -- Another schedule of fun and healthy activities for kids during the summer months is now underway in three of Gresham's largest parks. Free and open to all kids under 18, events are scheduled for two hours every weekday at Main City, Vance and Red Sunset parks. A free lunch will be served, and kids can just drop in. No advance registration is required.

A.J. Java Hosts Concerts -- A.J. Java, a community cafe across the street from Peninsula Park at 6425 N. Albina Ave., welcomes the public to a series of free summer concerts each Friday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., and featuring Cuban sandwiches and a potpourri of Latin sounds.



Norman Sylvester -- Boogie Cat Norman Sylvester and his band perform Friday, Aug. 21 at the Lehrer Pub; Monday, Aug. 24 at 6 p.m. for Gresham Music Monday at the Gresham Arts Plaza; Wednesday, Aug. 26 at 6 p.m. at the Lewelling Neighborhood Concert Series at Ball-Michel Park in Milwaukie; Friday, Aug. 28 at 8 p.m. at for the Farewell Blues Party Jam at Halibut's, and Saturday, Aug. 29 at the Concordia University Music Festival.



Vancouver's Wine & Jazz Festival -- Hot jazz, fabulous wines, and fine art comes to Esther Short Park for the 18th annual Vancouver Wine & Jazz Festival, Friday, Aug. 21 through Sunday, Aug. 23. This year's event has one of the best concert lineups from the past 10 years, everything from Jazz, Latin, Brazilian, Mambo to Pop! For tickets and more information, visit vancouverwinejaz.com.

Farmers Market at the Square -- Local farmers,

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food producers and hot food vendors from all over the region fill Pioneer Courthouse Square, Portland's downtown living room, each Monday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. until Sept. 28.



Soulful Showcase -- Blacque Butterfly presents spoken word, live music and featured artists on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 8 p.m. at E'Njoni Café, African-Mediterranean cuisine at 910 N. Killingsworth St.

Bringing Back the Drive-in -- The last of two weekends of drive-in movies at the Portland Expo Center brings "Young Frankenstein" on Thursday, Aug. 20; "Poltergeist" on Friday, Aug. 21; and "Star Trek II - Wrath of Khan" on Saturday, Aug. 22. For more details, visit www.expodrive-in.com.

Chicago Steppin' Classes -- You have seen the R. Kelly video, now it's time to learn the dance. Groovin' High Steppers offer Chicago Steppin' classes at the Rockwood Community Center and the Colwood Golf Center. All levels are welcome. No partner is needed. First two lessons are free; \$20 monthly fee includes both locations. For an event schedule, announcements and more information, visit the website groovinhighsteppers.com

Portland's Saturday Market -- Portland Saturday Market in Old Town brings some of Oregon's best handmade products, good eats and live entertainment from street musicians and other artists. Located next to the Willamette River at 2 S.W. Naito Parkway, Saturday Market is also open every Sunday through Christmas Eve.

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

Fourth Sunday Jam Night -- A friends and family variety comedy show in a Saturday Night Live format with local recording and performing artists, bands, dance crews, poets, and drama groups, takes place each fourth Sunday of the month at 7 p.m. at Celebration Tabernacle, 8131 N. Denver Ave. The free event is open to the community.

Live Jazz -- Every Friday and Saturday from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Third Degrees Lounge at the River Place Hotel, 1510 S.W. Harbor Way. No cover or minimum purchase. For more information, visit pdxjazz.com.

Oregon Black History -- The Black Museum of Oregon group meets every Saturday, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 420 N.E. Mason St. For more information, call 503-284-0617.

Discount Admission -- OMSI visitors pay only \$2 per person for general admission on the first Sunday of each month as well as discounted admission of \$5 to the Planetarium, OMIMAX Theater and USS Blueback submarine.