

## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### Rally to Shut Guantanamo

Local peace and justice groups are joining an international call to action to shut down the U.S. prison complex at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The protest is this Friday, Jan. 6, departing from the SW corner of Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW Broadway and Yamhill, in downtown Portland, before a march begins at approximately 5:15 PM.

Most held at the facility have been denied access to legal help; many have been exposed to harsh conditions that have been described as torture.

The National Religious Campaign Against Torture ([www.nrcat.org](http://www.nrcat.org)) and others are joining Amnesty on Jan. 11, the exact 10 year anniversary of the detention camp's opening, in Washington DC for a protest.

For local information call Peace and Justice Works at 503-236-3065 or Portland Peaceful Response Coalition at 503-344-5078.

### Everybody Reads: Heidi Durrow

What if everybody read the same book? We'd talk to each other about issues that matter, and we'd celebrate the power of books in creating a stronger community. For the tenth annual Everybody Reads program at Multnomah County Library, the selection is "The Girl Who Fell from the Sky," by Northeast Portland native Heidi W. Durrow.

This debut novel tells the story of Rachel, the daughter of a Danish mother and a black G.I., who becomes the sole survivor of a family tragedy. With her strict African American grandmother as her new guardian, Rachel moves to a mostly black community in Portland, where her light brown skin, blue eyes and beauty bring mixed attention her way. Growing up in the 1980s, she learns to swallow overwhelming grief and confronts her identity as a biracial young woman in a world that wants to see her as either black or white.

"I am thrilled and honored that *The Girl Who Fell from the Sky* is the Multnomah County Library's Everybody Reads 2012 selection," says author Heidi Durrow. "My hope is that the story — set in 1980s Portland — generates lively discussions about identity and belonging in my beloved hometown."

Readers can borrow or download the book or audiobook from the library; borrow one of the extra copies available at all Multnomah County libraries, Oregon Public Broadcasting, or Portland State University Library beginning in January (while supplies last). Readers are encouraged to share these special copies with friends, coworkers and neighbors. (Items checked out from the library must be returned or renewed as usual.)

Share your thoughts at a book discussion at your neighborhood library, local bookstore or elsewhere in the community.

Hear from author Heidi Durrow on Tuesday, March 6, 7:30 p.m. at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.

More information at [www.multcolib.org](http://www.multcolib.org).

### Pet of the Week



Are you looking for some bunny to love? Meet Donnie, MultCoPet of the Week! Donnie is very social, litterbox-trained and just 7 months old. Multnomah County Animal Services (MCAS) is an animal rescue shelter. We offer dog and cat licensing, lost and found pet services, and animal adoptions through our shelter in Troutdale. [www.MultCoPets.org](http://www.MultCoPets.org). Location: 1700 W Columbia River Hwy, Troutdale, OR 97060. Shelter Hours: Tues, Thur and Fri 11 am - 6 pm; Wed 12 pm - 6 pm; Mon closed; Sat and Sun 11 am - 4:30 pm.

### Good or Bad? Community Meeting on Elected Officials

Help identify the skills and abilities community members want in Portland's mayoral and city council candidates Thursday, Jan. 19, from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church, Carvlin Hall,

2408 SE 16th & Division.

Portland voters deserve to know whether mayoral and city council candidates have the skills, temperament, and wisdom to serve our community effectively if we elect them.

Join other Portlanders for a unique community forum in which community members will share their experiences working with city council members and use this information to identify the skills and abilities we want and need in

our elected city leaders.

A wide range of community and neighborhood organizations have joined together to sponsor this forum. The forum co-sponsors will use the input from the forum to develop a list of desired skills and sample questions community organizations and individual voters can use to help them evaluate mayoral and city council candidates.

Parking is available; nearest transit is the #4 Bus Line.

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C O M M U N I T Y C A L E N D A R

## PORTLAND JANUARY 2011

### BULLETIN BOARD

**THE SKANNER.com**

If you have an event you want to share with the community, email it two weeks in advance to *The Skanner* at [info@theskanner.com](mailto:info@theskanner.com)

Friday – Sunday January 6 -8

FABULOUS BRIDAL AFFAIR! Don't miss this free event if you are a bride-to-be. Portland area brides-to-

be have an opportunity to help recession proof their wedding. 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1441 NE 2nd Ave.

Saturday January 7

KICK START YOUR NEW YEAR WITH EAST PORTLAND COMMUNITY CENTER! Checkout various fitness programs, see other local vendors in our community, fitness specials & raffle prizes. This is a free community event. 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. East Portland Community Center, 740 SE 106th Ave. For more info call 503-823-3450.

Tuesday January 10

PORTLAND JOB FAIR! Free admission! Anyone looking for work in Portland is encouraged to attend this free event. Coast-to Coast Career Fairs will also be providing free resume critique.

11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Embassy Suites Portland – Washington Square, 9000 SW Washington Square Rd.

Saturday January 14

BYOF DAY (Bring Your Own Friend Day to IKEA). A nationwide in-store event inviting shoppers to benefit from a day out with their friends! Featuring: Free breakfast, IKEA food samples, free blue bags and much more. 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. IKEA, 10280 NE Cascade Pkwy.

FIRSTENBURG COMMUNITY CENTER HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR! The fair will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will include vendor booths, aerobics classes at the Center's gym and drawings for prizes. Firstenberg Community Center is located at 700 NE 136th Ave in Vancouver, WA