

## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### 'First Families' Social in Vancouver

Sparked by the recent publication of a book telling their story, some of Vancouver's earliest African American residents are inviting "First Families and Friends" to a community picnic starting at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8 at the city's historic David Douglas Park.

The event celebrates families chronicled in the book, "First Families of Vancouver's African American Community: From World War II to the 21st Century."

People are asked to bring their own picnic fare, plus potluck dishes if desired. The planners will have extra plates, flatware, napkins and water on hand if needed. The park has no cooking facilities and does not allow alcohol.

In a brief program starting at 2 p.m., Bob Knight, Clark College president and early friend and supporter of the First Families book project, will deliver a personal welcome to the families. Musical performances and other activities will take place throughout the afternoon.

Members of Vancouver NAACP Branch #1139, which was founded by the original community in 1945, will be selling "First Families" books at the picnic.

For more information, call Ralph Griffin, 360-980-6203; or Juanita Young 360-921-9482.

### Applications Accepted for State Police

Oregon State Police (OSP) is preparing to hire for several recruit trooper positions starting September 13, 2012 at 9:00 a.m., when the Department will begin accepting applications using the State of Oregon's E-Recruit electronic application system.

The Department's first use of the State of Oregon's E-recruit electronic application system proved very successful in October

2011 when the goal of 800 applicants was exceeded in just six hours. Because of how quickly the application goal was reached the first time OSP used the E-recruit electronic application system, Evans said persons interested in applying should start the process now by going to the Oregon State Police recruiting website at [www.osptrooper.com](http://www.osptrooper.com) to learn about what it takes to successfully apply.

Those who believe this is the opportunity they have been looking for can create an account to start building a profile, but please follow the instructions detailed on the website to apply.

Find out more at [www.osptrooper.com](http://www.osptrooper.com).

Questions about the application process can be directed to the OSP Recruitment Unit at 503-378-4175.

### Vancouver NAACP to Co-Sponsor Mini-Leadership Advocacy Training

NAACP Branch 1139 and YWCA Clark County co-sponsor a free mini-leadership advocacy training on Saturday, Sept. 15, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., in the YWCA Community Room, 3609 Main Street, in Vancouver. This training will take place during the NAACP monthly membership meeting time and is open to the public. Light refreshments will be available.

Emijah Smith, Community Organizer for the Children's Alliance, will conduct the training, which will cover how to communicate with lawmakers, get your message in the media, build community and get others involved, and related topics. Her presentation will focus on advocating for children, but the knowledge and skills can be applied to any issue.

Anyone interested in learning about basic grassroots advocacy is welcome at this training. The NAACP is especially eager to

### Meles Memorial



PHOTO BY JERRY FOSTER

Ethiopians all over the world mourned the passing of Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, who died Aug. 20 in Belgium. In Portland, community members held a memorial services at the June Key Delta House, Sunday, Sept. 2. Meles is credited with rebuilding the Ethiopian economy after a devastating civil war and making it one of the United States' most important allies in Africa.

involve people of color, lower income community members, and others who tend to be under-represented in the electoral and legislative process.

For more information, please contact

Emijah Smith, Community Organizer at [emijah@childrensalliance.org](mailto:emijah@childrensalliance.org) or 1-800-KIDS (5437) x25.

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## PORTLAND 2012

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**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)

#### Thursday September 6

**THE STANDARD VOLUNTEER EXPO.** The Standard supports many local and regional non-profit organizations at the Standard Volunteer Expo, the Portland community has the opportunity to learn about them all. Come sign up to volunteer with

the organization of your choice. 11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Pioneer Courthouse Square.

#### Saturday September 8

**THE GIFT OF LITERACY 2012.** Come celebrate International Literacy Day with organizations that can help you with reading, citizenship, GED preparation & learning English. Central Library, 801 SW 10th Ave. 1 – 4 p.m.

**MADISON FESTIVAL IN THE PARK.** This is a fundraiser that will benefit participating organizations in Madison High School. Enjoy a concert, craft fair, and a families market and much more things for kids to do and enjoy some good food too. Noon – 5 p.m. Glenhaven Park.

#### Thursday September 13

**OREGON VOICES CONVERSATION PROJECT SERIES CONTINUES.** Elliot Young, Borderless Migration Globalization and Changing Communities event

begins at 6 p.m. in the Oregon Historical Society Pavilion. Free Admission

#### Saturday September 15

**STURGEON FESTIVAL.** This free, fun family event offers opportunities for the entire family to learn about fish and other animals in and around the Columbia River. Join us from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Water Resource Center, 4600 Columbia Way, Vancouver, WA

#### Sunday September 16

**PORTLAND CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS 25TH ANNIVERSARY FAMILY DAY.** Celebrate 25 years of Portland's premier arts venues with free performances theater tours and a variety of children's activities. This is a free event. Noon – 5p.m. 1111 SW Broadway (at SW Main). Portland.