

## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### LGBTQ Fair Housing Information Session and Town Hall Forum

The Q Center hosts an information session Thursday, Nov. 15, on fair housing laws intended to protect the sexual and gender minority and other communities. Guest speakers will include representatives from the state Bureau of Labor and Industries, the Fair Housing Council of Oregon, the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Cascade AIDS Project (CAP).

If you feel you have experienced discrimination in your attempts to procure housing, or if you know someone who has, this information session is intended to inform you of your rights under the law.

For more information about this community education project of Q Center, please visit our web site: <http://www.pdxqcenter.org/FairHousing>.

This event is free and open to the public.

### Portland Mayor and Civic and Religious Leaders to Observe Day of Homelessness Awareness

On Friday, Nov. 16, civic and religious leaders will join members of faith communities and people of goodwill to observe the third annual Day of Homelessness Awareness in Portland and Multnomah County.

The Day of Homelessness Awareness begins with an early morning walk starting at First Baptist Church, 909 SW 11th Ave (enter the church through the Taylor St. entrance) at 7:30 a.m. The walk will end at First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson. Coffee and pastries will be provided.

Following the walk, a forum on housing and homelessness is scheduled titled "Linking Arms: Affordable Housing and Homelessness in Our Community," with David Leslie of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, Portland Mayor Sam Adams, and Cameron Whitten, whose advocacy on behalf of the homeless community, culminating in a 55-day hunger strike, led to the City of Portland, Multnomah County, and Metro partnering with Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon to convene the forum.

The forum is free, but space is limited; to register, call Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon at 503-221-1054.

### Back at the OCC



PHOTO COURTESY OREGON CONVENTION CENTER

The Oregon Convention Center has brought back Mark Williams as its director of event services after a two-year hiatus. Williams joined the OCC in 1995 as a lead utility worker and progressed through the organization as a set-up supervisor, event coordinator, and director of event services. Williams joined the Oregon Zoo as business operations manager in 2010 and also managed sales for DWA Trade Show and Exposition Services.

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## PORTLAND 2012

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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 November 16

PORTLAND PARKS AND RECREATION'S NATIVE AMERICAN FAMILY DAY. Native American Day at EPCC will feature a variety of activities: Native Youth art show, tribal maps, arts & crafts including T-shirt airbrushing (bring your own T-shirt) Family swim 5:30 – 7 p.m. Open swim 7 – 9 p.m. Fun festival all starts at 3:30 p.m. East Portland Community Center, 740 SE 106th Ave.

#### Friday – Sunday November 16 – 18

CLARK COUNTY EVENT CENTER HOLIDAY GIFT FAIR. Thousands of gift ideas from area vendors,

photos with Santa, holiday décor showcase, free stage entertainment and much more. Call for hours 360-397-6180. The Clark County Event Center, 17402 NE Delfel Rd. Vancouver, WA

#### Saturday November 17

EASTSIDE BLUEGRASS SERIES: BLUEGRASS/OLD TIME. A concert series featuring Bluegrass American Traditional Music in the main auditorium at the Freedom Foursquare Church facility, 660 SE 160th Suggested donation \$10 per person (children free) 7 – 9:30 p.m.

PIONEER PLACE SANTA ARRIVAL. Join Pioneer Place in welcoming Santa to Portland! He will be arriving at Pioneer Courthouse Square at 10 a.m. to lead a family-friendly procession down SW Morrison Street to Pioneer Place. Get ready for a morning of Songs, Santa and surprises!

#### Saturday & Sunday November 17 & 18

WINTERGARDEN: YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD HOLIDAY BAZAAR. Pictures with Santa, baked goods, plants, games and much more. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. both days. St. Aiden's Episcopal Church, 174th & Glisan St.

#### Sunday November 18

JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION AT PORTLAND CENTER STAGE'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE. The event will take place at the Gerding Theatre at the Armory located in the Pearl District. Visitors can expect a wide array of free and fun activities. 3 – 8 p.m. 128 NW 11th Ave.

#### Thursday November 22

12TH ANNUAL FREE THANKSGIVING FEAST-IVAL. Noon – 4 p.m. Thanksgiving dinner with vegan and vegetarian options and live music, story telling. Come join us on this special day. Donations welcome. Celebration Tabernacle, 8131 N. Denver Ave.

#### Friday November 23

TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY. The day after Thanksgiving thousands of Portlanders will gather at the square to celebrate the lighting of the spectacular 75ft tree. With a big tree, colorful lights and Portland's largest community sing-a-long this is an event you won't want to miss. Pioneer Courthouse Square. Fun starts at 5:30 p.m.