

Portland and SW Washington

S P O T L I G H T S

Grumpy Old (Black) Men



PHOTO COURTESY OF PASSIN ART

"Two Black Guys Sitting Around Talking," is playwright Gus Edwards' comically thoughtful tour-de-force about Henry and Abe, former rivals for the love of a woman who find themselves continuing their conflict – by sitting on the same park bench every day. The show stars Jerry Foster and George Hendrix. A special matinee panel discussion is Saturday, April 5 and Sunday, April 6, with talkbacks featuring Edwards in person after the 3 p.m. performances. The show runs through April 13, Fridays, and Saturdays 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinees 3 p.m. Ethos/IFCC, 5340 North Interstate. For more information call 503-235-8079. To reserve tickets email passinart@yahoo.com. Tickets available at the door (cash and checks accepted).

Women's History Event with Sharon Gary-Smith at City of Portland

City of Portland's Women's History Month on March 27 at noon ends with a presentation titled, "Courage is Not An Option, But Some of Us Are Brave." Sharon Gary-Smith reflects on and honors women who are often unsung outside of our/their communities, but have been the way-makers and sheroes.

The speaker is a native-born Oregonian who tells her life story about working for social justice, and how the women of her mother's generation – and hers – inspire her to have courage every day.

The talk is Thursday, March 27 between noon and 1 p.m.

at the Portland Building, sponsored by DEEP (Diverse and Empowered Employees of Portland).

Multnomah Youth Commission 3rd Annual Rob Ingram Youth Summit Against Violence

On Saturday, April 5, the Multnomah Youth Commission's Youth Against Violence Committee hosts the Third Annual Rob Ingram Youth Summit Against Violence, at the Ambridge Event Center, 1333 NE MLK Jr. Blvd, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.,

The summit is free for youth ages 21 and under, with shuttle bus service to the summit departing from many area schools and community centers.

New aspects of this year's summit include more hands-on activities and in-depth exploration of Gang/Police, School, and Sexual & Dating violence.

The Multnomah Youth Commission established YAV in 2011, in response to the growing violence directed towards young people and the April 2011 shooting death of 14-year-old Shiloh Hampton. As the official youth policy body for the City of Portland and Multnomah County, the MYC does not tolerate these acts, which create a hostile and unsafe environment for all youth throughout the city and county.

For youth who'd like to be involved in the summit or YAV, please call the Multnomah Youth Commission at 503-793-1691 or contact the Youth Against Violence Committee Co-Chairs Mariam Ngoye-Dogo and Yessica Martinez Mulet at multnomahyouth@gmail.com. Register online at YAVSummit.com.

Tax Credit for the Severely Disabled or Disabled Children Reinstated

The 2014 Legislature passed SB 1534 allowing all taxpayers, regardless of income, to claim the severely disabled or disabled child exemption credit.

This immediately affects nearly 1,500 taxpayers who have filed, or are filing, their 2013 income tax returns. Those who haven't yet filed may take advantage of the credit; those that have already filed may amend their return. Previously, taxpayers above an income threshold didn't qualify.

The Oregon Department of Revenue is sending letters to tax practitioners and taxpayers they identified who claimed these exemptions, but didn't qualify because of the previous income cap. Attached to the letter will be an amended schedule with special filing instructions. Following the special instructions will ensure priority processing of the amended return.

Visit www.oregon.gov/dor to get tax forms, check the status of your refund or make tax payments, or call 1-800-356-4222 toll-free from an Oregon prefix (English or Spanish); 503-378-4988 in Salem and outside Oregon; or e-mail, questions.dor@state.or.us. For TTY (hearing or speech impaired), call 1-800-886-7204. Due to the amount of calls the department receives during tax season, you may experience extended waiting times.

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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

Saturday March 29

WE CAN HELP YOU APPLY FOR HEALTH INSURANCE EVENT. Please bring proof of income, photo ID (driver's license, ID card, etc) It's quick and easy to apply for health insurance. We can help! 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. by appointment (walk-ins welcome) North by Northeast Community Health Center, 3080 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. LOCAL VILLAGE MOVEMENT COMES TO NORTH PORTLAND. Villages are developed by a local

community to serve the local community. Join us for a meeting from 2– 4 p.m. at Columbia Cottages, 4339 N. Lombard (at N. Russell)

Monday March 31

JOIN US IN THE EFFORT TO BRING SINGLE – PAYER HEALTHCARE TO ALL OREGONIANS. Meet and hear Representative Lew Fredrick and Sumeeth Bhat, M.D. We will view "The Healthcare movie!" a 27 minute documentary on the US and Canadian Healthcare System. 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 NE Knott St.

Thursday April 3

FREE DANCE CLASS FOR ADULTS & TEENS. Learn to dance with the ease and energy of an African American! The free class will offer a chance to learn movements that form the basis of contemporary hip hop of today. Call to register 503-810-0496. 7 p.m. East Portland Community Center, 740 SE 106th Ave. Portland

Friday April 4

PUBLIC WELCOME TO CELEBRATION OF SMILES. Celebration of Smiles is a free event open to the public. To highlight the importance of early and regular oral healthcare. 4 – 8 p.m. Portland Children's Museum, 4015 SW Canyon Rd. Portland

Saturday – Sunday April 5 – 6

34TH ANNUAL TRILLIUM FESTIVAL & NATIVE AND HOURLY PLANT SALE. Every Spring leading nurseries from around the state come to Tryon Creek with a large range of native and hardy plant inventories available for purchase. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Both days. 11321 SW Terwilliger Blvd.

Sunday April 6

CELEBRATE THE SQUARE TURNING 30 AT SINGIN' IN THE SQUARE. A free community sing-along led by Thomas Lauderdale of Portland's own Pink Martini. 3-5 p.m. Pioneer Courthouse Square.