

# Portland and SW Washington

S P O T L I G H T S

## Nikki's New Playgroup



PHOTO COURTESY NIKKI BROWN CLOWN

Nikki Brown Clown leads a new playgroup at Happy Cup Coffee, 446 NE Killingsworth St., on Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m., followed by a free craft project with the UpLife Community Arts Center. For more information go to [www.uplifepdx.org](http://www.uplifepdx.org).

For more information, contact the Lincoln City Visitor & Convention Bureau at 800-452-2151 or visit [www.oregoncoast.org](http://www.oregoncoast.org).

## Register Kindergartners Now for Fall

Children who are five years old on or before Sept. 1 are ready to be signed up for kindergarten. School offices close for the summer so it's important to get the word out early to families and the community. Families needing help determining their neighborhood school should call 2-1-1, email [children@211info.org](mailto:children@211info.org) or text their zip code to 898211. Free interpretation is available. "Register for School by June" materials are available at [www.multco.us/sun/register](http://www.multco.us/sun/register)

Registering for kindergarten before June 1 is one of the easiest ways to put children on a path for success in school.

Kindergarten transition activities vary by school, but can include summer reading programs, kindergarten transition programs and family orientation. All of the activities are designed to help children become comfortable with the classroom setting and reduce anxiety that parents often feel about leaving their kindergartener on the first day of school. Children learn their teacher's name, meet their classmates, tour the school and learn basic classroom etiquette—all things that help them get focused for learning earlier in the school year.

## Multnomah County Elections: Ballots Are in the Mail

Multnomah County Elections announces that the U.S. Postal Service has begun mailing ballots today, Wednesday, April 29, for the May 19 special election.

Each of the county's 445,216 registered voters will receive a ballot. Multnomah County voters who do not receive a ballot by Thursday, May 7 can call the county elections office at 503-988-3720.

Multnomah County Elections is asking voters to help test out a new ballot tracking system in this election. Participating voters will receive alerts at several points on their ballot's journey. Text, email or voice alerts will tell voters when the Elections Division has mailed ballots and when a completed ballot has been received back at the elections office. Alerts will say whether the ballot has been accepted or whether it has a non-matching signature or another defect that requires further action by the voter. Voters can participate by signing up at <https://multnomah.i3ballot.net>.

A voted ballot can be sent to the elections office with one first-class stamp or by dropping it off at any official drop site in Oregon. To find a drop box locator in Oregon, go online to [www.sos.state.or.us/dropbox/#](http://www.sos.state.or.us/dropbox/#). Multnomah County voters looking for a convenient drop site also can go online at <http://web.multco.us/elections/multnomah-county-official-ballot-drop-sites>.

Voted ballots must be received by 8 p.m., May 19. For more information about the May 19 election, please visit [www.mclelections.org](http://www.mclelections.org).

## May Day Fundraiser for Black Midwives

Come celebrate International Midwives Month with a special screening of "Bringin' In Da Spirit," narrated by Phylcia Rashad. It's a documentary celebrating the history of the Black midwives who committed themselves to holistic answers in the face of powerful misconceptions about the practice.

The event is Friday, May 1, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., Terrell Hall, Room 122PCC Cascade Campus, 72 N Killingsworth St.

After the film, Shafia Monroe will moderate a panel discussion with Pastor E.d. Mondiane, Mariah Taylor and Willie Poinsette with reflections on the film and their stories about the midwives in their lives, the role that Black midwives play today and how to get more women to become midwives. After the discussion join the panelist, guests and the ICTC members for refreshments, socializing and purchase ICTC -T-shirts.

This is a fundraiser, reserve your spot by April 28 at [www.ictcmidwives.org](http://www.ictcmidwives.org).

## Cinco de Mayo on the Oregon Coast

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at the 7th Annual Fish Taco Cook Off! Join us in the Culinary Center in Lincoln City on May 2 from 11am to 2pm. Restaurants from around the region will compete for the best fish taco on the Oregon Coast.

Fresh-made fish tacos from Roadhouse 101 will be available at the event as well as tacos from Pelican Pub and Brewery, Hearth and Table, and Lincoln City Mayor and restaurateur Don Williams. Taste tacos from each restaurant, then vote for your favorite with the Peoples Choice Award.

Ballots will be available during the cook-off at marked locations inside the Culinary Center.

Admission to the cook-off is free with fish tacos available for \$1.50 each. Craft beer and local wine will be provided by the Wine Cellar @ the Eventuary, and an assortment of desserts from Captain Dan's Pirate Pastry Shop and My Petite Sweet.

The Culinary Center in Lincoln City is located at 801 SW Highway 101 on the fourth floor of City Hall. Four annual cook-offs are hosted by the Culinary Center: the Jambalaya Cook-Off in February, the Fish Taco Cook-Off in May, the Wild Mushroom Cook-Off on Oct. 3, and the Chowder Cook-Off Nov. 14-15.

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## PORTLAND 2015

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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 May 1

MAY DAY CELEBRATION WITH MORRIS DANCING AT DIRECTOR PARK. Come watch ritual Morris Dancing and celebrate May Day! 10 a.m. – noon. Director Park, Lower Terrace.

### Saturday May 2

RHS GROUNDBREAKING AND BBQ. Following the

ceremony there will be a free BBQ lunch and self-guided tours of the campus. 10 a.m. Roosevelt High School, 6941 N. Central St.

18TH ANNUAL MAY DAY CELEBRATION. Mother's Day gifts for sale, bake sale, Flower Baskets for sale, handmade outdoor items for sale, rummage sale and much more. Fun for the whole family. 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Family of Christ Lutheran Church, 2500 NW 129th St. Vancouver.  
**Saturday – Sunday May 2 – 3**

2015 DOUBLE ALL-DAY SHAPE NOTE SINGING. Come sing early American Shape note music with us! Beginners are welcome! This event is free and open to all ages. 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. both days. The Little Church, 5138 NE 23rd Ave.  
**Saturday – Tuesday May 2 – 5**

31ST ANNUAL CINCO DE MAYO FESTIVAL. This event is the main fundraiser for the PGSCA's. Charitable activities will feature fun activities for

all ages, including Authentic food, live entertainment, carnival rides among other activities. Adults 13 years and older \$8; 6 to 12 years old \$4; 62 and older \$4; 6 years and younger free. 11 a.m. – 11 p.m. The festival is closed on Monday May 4. Tom McCall Waterfront Park.

### Monday May 4

RACE TALKS 2, COMMUNITY POLICE FORUM TO IMPROVE RELATIONSHIPS. Come give your input. Be part of the solution in Portland. 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. Grant High School Cafeteria, 2245 NE 36th Ave.

### Saturday – Sunday May 9 – 10

Mother's Day show and sale at Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden. The Garden will be in peak bloom. Come join us and view the garden. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Both days. 5801 SE 28th Ave.