

Portland and SW Washington

SPOTLIGHTS

Matt Dishman Block Party



PHOTO BY JERRY FOSTER

Local salsa band Pa'Lante entertains the crowd at the Matt Dishman Community Center block party Aug. 8. Between 200 and 300 people attended the event, which included food, games, rock climbing, arts and crafts and face painting.

PSU Lowers Tuition for Upcoming School Year

Tuition rates are going down 1.1 percent for students at Portland State University. That's due to some legislation passed earlier this year that increased funding for public universities. Portland State has the distinction of being the only public university in Oregon decreasing tuition for the upcoming school year.

The price cut will save full-time undergraduate students in the state \$90 for the 2015-16 school year, making tuition \$8,034.

"PSU is committed to doing everything we can to help students get in, be successful and graduate with as little debt as possible," said PSU President Wim Wiewel, in a news release.

The PSU Board of Trustees made the decision in a unanimous vote last Friday to overturn their decision in March by 4.2 percent, \$330 for the average student.

"We're all concerned about the rising cost of tuition in

Oregon," said Pete Nickerson, chairman of PSU's board of trustees, in a news release. "It's the board's role to be fiscally responsible while trying to keep tuition as low as possible."

Last month legislators voted to increase funding for higher education by 22 percent translating to \$700 million for the next two years.

Trevor Jacobsen, University Affairs Director for Associated Students of Portland State University, said though he cannot speculate as to whether students' protests over tuition played a part in the board reversing its decision, he is grateful nonetheless.

"Every little bit helps," Jacobsen said. "I'm glad that our administration kept their promise of fairly addressing tuition in the event of an increase in state dollars, but of course wish that the increase was lower."

"This means our options are to push the legislature for more funding; to cut offerings, programs, and make the university more efficient; or to raise tuition," Jacobsen said. "None of these are easy decisions or surefire fixes. Until the

state is able to begin re-investing in education in a serious way, students now and of future generations will continually be faced with the difficult decision to raise tuition or make cuts."

The presidents of Oregon's seven public universities thanked the legislature and Gov. Kate Brown for the additional funding, saying that the support will move more Oregonians out poverty and low-income jobs.

-Donovan M. Smith

Portland Will Rally August 15 to Support Iran Nuclear Agreement

At Pioneer Square in downtown Portland at noon on Saturday August 15, 2015, people will gather to show support for the historic Iran nuclear agreement reached several weeks ago between Iran and the UN Security Council's five permanent members (China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States) plus Germany. The accord calls on Iran to limit its nuclear activities to allow only a nuclear energy program in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions.

The Portland rally is co-sponsored by American Iranian Friendship Council-PDX, Americans United for Palestinian Human Rights, Friends of Sabeel North America, Jewish Voice for Peace-PDX, and Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility.

Vancouver School District Holds Free Festival to Help Get Kids, Families Ready for School

To help students and families prepare for the start of the school year, Vancouver Public Schools is hosting its second annual back-to-school-readiness festival.

The festival will take place from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Aug. 19 at Hudson's Bay High School, 1601 E. McLoughlin Blvd. in Vancouver. This event is free and open to all VPS students and their families.

The festival features food, entertainment, family-friendly activities, and information about early learning, counseling, health care, housing and other resources. It also will provide free immunizations, haircuts and gently used clothing. Approximately 50 district partners from the community will be in attendance to provide information and materials.

Go Ready is organized by the district's network of Family-Community Resource Centers, which provides support for families all school year long. The event is designed to serve the district's growing number of students and families eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Eligibility for subsidized meals is one indicator of poverty, which can affect readiness to learn.

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Thursday – Sunday, August 13 – 16

11TH ANNUAL NORTH AMERICAN ORGANIC BEWERS FESTIVAL: This year there will be 52 craft beers, ciders and meals from three dozen producers. The event will take place from noon to 9 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday at Overlook Park at the intersection of N. Fremont & N. Interstate). Hours are noon – 9 p.m. Admission is free, however but those attending must purchase a \$7 reusable cup and tokens for tasting will be \$1 each.

Saturday, August 15

SOUL STROLL 2015 (WELLNESS Walk): Join us for the 20th annual 2.4 or 5k Soul Stroll for Health. Show your support at the Soul Stroll, where the community comes together to celebrate but also to raise awareness of health disparities among the African American community. Families are invited to join for free food, music, dancing, massage and more. Ticket prices are \$20 per person, \$15 per person

Monday – Friday, August 17 – 21

ASK NICKY SUMMER CAMP: This camp serves youth 11 to 16 years old. Meals/snacks, sponsors, training certification, activities, field trips. Hosted by HUD/Homeforward. For more information please call (971) 330-3394 or email navladies@yahoo.com. The camp takes place daily from 8:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.m Community Education Center, 4625 N. Trenton St.

for a community or non-profit (minimum 10), \$25 per person for corporate sponsors (minimum 10). 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., Dawson Park, N. Williams Ave. To register, please go to <http://aahc.Portland.org/> or call (503) 413-1850

WE ARE BLACK, WE ARE PORTLAND: BBQ and community celebration with free food, DJ, live music and games. Join organizers to connect as a people locally through building relationships providing resources, discussing experiences as Black people and celebrating Black heritage. 2 p.m. – 6 p.m., Montavilla Park, Picnic Site A. 82nd & Glisan.

SEAPORT CELEBRATION: Come join the fun at the most family-friendly, fun-filled day of adventure on the river this summer. Enjoy live entertainment, interactive displays and demonstrations, free giveaways and prizes, \$10 jet boat rides and much more. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Port of Portland, Terminal 4, 11040 N. Lombard St.

Thursday, August 20

"SO I'M NOT REALLY CRAZY": THE INTERSECTION OF TRAUMA AND ADDICTIVE DISEASE: Counselor Ann Church will speak on maintaining recovery while coping with the aftermath of traumatic events. She will speak on 12-step principles that are effective anchors for healing. No charge to attend and open to all who are interested in recovery. 7 p.m., Hazelden Betty Ford Beaverton Center, 1500 NW Bethany Blvd. #240. RSVP requested to fgreen577@gmail.com or call (503) 707-9522.

Friday, August 21

FLICKS ON THE BRICKS: This week's movie will be Mrs. Doubtfire (PG-13). Admission to this fun and exciting evening is free. Just bring your low lawn chairs and blankets. The event kicks off at 7 p.m. with live entertainment followed by the movie at dusk. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Pioneer Courthouse square, downtown Portland.

Sunday, August 23

BLACK WOMEN FOR PEACE PRESENTS: 2015 PEACE FESTIVAL: Please join us for an inspiring afternoon of youth performances empowering youth, celebrating culture and promoting peace. Free and open to the public. 3 p.m., Benson Polytechnic High School, 546 NE 12th Ave.