

Events & Announcements



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Jazz on Black Friday

Owuor Arunga — a world-renowned trumpet player and the musical director of the Grammy Award-winning hip hop duo Macklemore and Ryan Lewis — performed with the iconic singer Josephine Howell, recently returned from performing with Macklemore at the American Music Awards, at the first annual Black Friday Concert

Nov. 27 at the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute. Other featured artists included Black Stax, Otieno Terry, Adra Boo (Fly Moon Royalty), Dadabass, Yirim Seck, Marissa Garrett, and Olu Damar. Proceeds from the concert benefitted the youth arts and leadership development programs of the Umoja PEACE Center and Africatown.

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Reach Begins Work on Displacement In North/Northeast Portland

REACH's Community Builders Program has begun work to provide critical home repairs to help twelve longtime homeowners retain their homes and remain in their communities, thanks to a \$110,000 grant award from the Portland Housing Bureau. The award is part of the City's North/Northeast Neighborhood Housing Strategy — a five-year plan addressing the ongoing threat of displacement and gentrification in the neighborhoods that comprise inner North and Northeast Portland.

Lack of funds to make repairs to a critical home system (roof, plumbing, etc.) can often lead to someone losing their home. Through this grant, REACH is helping households retain their homes in an area of Portland that has experienced significant displacement of long-time community residents. All homeowners currently enrolled to receive critical repairs under this grant have lived in their homes for at least 25 years; 82 people are African American. These homeowners will receive up to \$9,500 worth of repairs to help them retain homeownership and, for many, remain in the community that provides them with an important gathering place for friends and family. "I am 88 years old and I really appreciate the work REACH will be doing to upgrade my electrical panel," says one enrolled homeowner. "This will help me restore my homeowners insurance and increase my home's value."

Repairs will include roof and gutter replacements; a new accessible bathroom; electrical panel replacements; and new furnaces and hot water tanks. A majority of repairs will be completed in partnership with local minority-owned businesses. More information is available at <http://reachcdc.org>.

Seattle News Briefs

Transit Service in Downtown Area to Be Rerouted and Delayed

On Dec. 4, transit service that operates through downtown Seattle, along Pine Street and near Westlake Center, will be rerouted or delayed due to street closures, crowds and traffic associated with the Great Figgys Pudding Caroling Competition from about 5:00 to 9:30 p.m.

Metro routes 7, 10, 11, 43, 47, 49, 216, 218, 219 and Sound Transit Route ST 545 will be rerouted during this event. It is expected that most other transit service in the downtown Seattle area will experience schedule delays due to crowds and traffic.

Visit <http://metro.kingcounty.gov/alerts> for specific

ic reroute and bus stop information. Transit reroute start and end times may be subject to change.

Visit <http://tripplanner.kingcounty.gov> to find out how to get to and from events and locations.

City of Destiny Awards Nominations Accepted Now Through Jan. 22

Nominations for the City of Tacoma's 30th annual City of Destiny Awards, which spotlights exceptional volunteers who have worked to drive Tacoma forward, are being accepted now through Jan. 22, 2016.

Eligibility requirements for each of the award categories are available on the current nomination form, which is available in hard copy at the various Tacoma Public Library branches and the TacomaFIRST 311 Customer Support Center (Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market St., 2nd Floor).

The current nomination form, and additional details about the City of Destiny Awards, is also available at cityoftacoma.org/destinyawards.

Alzheimer's Association Offers Caregiver Support Group in Kent

Caring for someone with memory loss? Do you need information and support? Alzheimer's Association family caregiver support groups provide a consistent and caring place for people to learn, share and gain emotional support from others who are also on a unique journey of providing care to a person with memory loss. Starting in January, meetings will be held the 2nd Wednesday of the month, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. at Kent Senior Activity Center, 600 E Smith Street, Kent. For information Susan Dailey at (206) 471-2351.

State Receives \$1 Million in Emergency Storm Relief

This week, Sens. Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, and Reps. Suzan DelBene, Dave Reichert, Jaime Herrera Beutler, Denny Heck, and Rick Larsen applauded the announcement that the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has approved \$1 million in emergency funding to repair highways and roads damaged by severe storms that took place Nov. 13 through Nov. 18.

Last week, the members sent a letter to Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx, urging the DOT to approve emergency relief funding to repair heavy damage to roadways throughout Washington state.

King County Releases Legislative Agenda for Upcoming Session

Last week the Metropolitan King County Council gave its unanimous approval to a State Legislative Agenda that will allow counties to expand revenue options to support vital services such as infrastructure and public health throughout the state.

Community Calendar 2015

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WED. – SAT., DECEMBER 2 – 5

INVEST LOCALLY AT THE HILLTOP HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW: Hundreds of unique and handmade holiday gifts will be available at this event. Over 80 artists offering original handcrafted items including holiday ornaments decorations, pottery, jewelry and much more. 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Wednesday – Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday, Northwest Arts Center, 9825 NE 24th St., Bellevue.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING: Visit with Santa following the tree lighting ceremony, and have a hot cocoa and other treats. 6 p.m., Burlington Visitor Center, 520 E. Fairhaven Ave., Burlington.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE: Enjoy vintage holiday decorations and refreshments as you tour the Lakewood History Museum. Free and open to the public. 2 p.m., Lakewood History Museum, 6211 Mt. Tacoma Dr. SW, Lakewood.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: Dine on pancakes and enjoy holiday music, arts, crafts and games, deliver your letter and wish list to Santa, and have your picture taken with him. Children must be accompanied by a paid adult. \$8. 9 a.m. – 11 a.m., Cheney Boys and Girls Club, 8502 Skansie Ave., Gig Harbor.

SANTA ARRIVAL & TREE LIGHTING: It's a holiday wonderland at Country Village with live reindeer, caroling by local choirs all day long, gingerbread house displays, and visit with Santa himself. Santa arrives at 7 p.m. However, this is an all-day event running from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Country Village, 23718 7th Ave. SE, Bothell.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

CARING SANTA AT TACOMA MALL: Caring Santa provides a subdued and welcoming environment for children with special needs and their families to visit Santa. 8 a.m. – 9:30 a.m., Tacoma Mall, 4502 S. Steele St., Tacoma.

JOY TO THE WORLDS AUTHOR EVENT: Join bestselling mystery author and Bellingham local Maia Chance at the release of Joy to the Worlds Mysterious Speculative Fiction for the holidays. There will be other authors present too. 3 p.m. – 4 p.m., University Bookstore – Bellevue location, 990 102nd Ave. NE, Bellevue.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

SANTA PAWS AT PORT ORCHARD FORD: Get your pet's picture taken with Santa at this free event. All are welcome – no fur is required. While the event is free, organizers do ask that everyone consider bringing a donation of pet food, treats or toys to help support Kitsap Humane Society. Port Orchard Airport, 12300 Sidney Rd., Port Orchard.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

COMMUNITY CAROLING, COCOA AND COAT DRIVE: Join the Junction Association and West Seattle Kiwanis at the Farmers Market for a taste of the holidays and several activities to enjoy, and share the warmth with those in need. We will collect coats, blankets and warm items. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., West Seattle Junction, 4700 California Ave. SW.

The Council, in collaboration with the County Executive, develop an annual State Legislative Agenda that focuses on the positions that are most important to bring to the attention of the State Legislature. For the 2016 session, the County is stressing regional collaboration in finding the solutions that will allow King County to continue being a hub of economic development, job creation, and healthy communities.

The agenda calls for the Legislature to provide counties with the greater fiscal stability by revising county revenues to acknowledge economic realities and the double-digit growth in county population. The agenda asks Olympia to revise an outdated county revenue cap by factoring inflation and population growth.

The County is calling for the Legislature to follow up the adoption of the state transportation plan with legislation that develops maintenance plans for aging bridges and roads. The County also recognizes that even with the current economic resurgence, there are still struggling communities in our region, which impacts the health of those residents. The agenda asks Olympia to provide dedicated and sustainable revenue sources to keep residents healthy.