

# Events & Announcements

## Community Calendar 2017

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### Portland Metro

#### FRIDAY – SUNDAY DECEMBER 15 – 31

**COME SEE THE LIGHTS ON PEACOCK LANE:** This is a very popular Portland tradition. Each house in this quaint SE Portland neighborhood has been decorating for Christmas for decades. Dec. 15, 16, and 17 will be for-pedestrians-only nights. 6 p.m. – 11 p.m., SE Stark St. and SE Belmont St. and one block off SE Cesar Chavez Blvd.

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

**“SANTA CUTS” IS TRIMMING KIDS HAIR NOT TREES AT THE SALVATION ARMY IN N. PORTLAND:** The Salvation Army and Hands of Favor are providing free haircuts to underprivileged youth ages 0 – 18. There will also be free hair products, hair care education and a visit from Santa. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., The Salvation Army, Moore Street Community & Workshop Center, 5325 N. Williams Ave.

**KWANZAA CELEBRATION:** Join us for a free community Kwanzaa celebration and a ticketed Karamu feast. The celebration is free. The Karamu feast is \$20 for 7 years and older, \$6 for children 4 to 6, free for children 3 and under. To purchase tickets call (360) 991-7389. 3 p.m. New Direction Community Church, 5300 MacArthur Blvd., Vancouver.

**COOKIES WITH SANTA:** This is an event where the members of our chapter come together to ensure the children of our community enjoy the Christmas holiday. This year we are serving the Rosa Parks Elementary Community in N. Portland. Free. 10 a.m. – noon, June Key Delta Community Center, 5940 N. Albina St.

**NAACP MONTHLY MEETING:** After a short potluck, the business meeting will begin and guest will speak. All are welcome. 10 a.m., Vancouver Housing Authority, 2500 Main St., Vancouver.

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

**HOLIDAY CONCERT: CASCADE HOLIDAY CHORUS:** Cascade Holiday Chorus an all women a cappella group, invites the community members to this free concert of holiday favorites, snacks and mingling. Free. 7 p.m., Willow Room, Clark Commons, Marylhurst University, 17600 Pacific Highway, Marylhurst.

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

**THE BEAT GOES ON MARCHING BAND HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE:** Join The Beat Goes On Marching Band with their high-energy brass, rock and roll style for this performance in the square. 11 a.m. – noon, Pioneer Courthouse Square.

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## Nikki Brown Clown Hosts Kwanzaa Party

Nikki Brown Clown is teaming up with Sabin CDC & Black Parent initiative to host an interactive show that’s fit for all ages from 10 a.m. to noon Dec. 21 at Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 NE Knott St. The event will feature a special Kwanzaa story time with Nikki Brown Clown, special appearances by Sadie the Housing Hippo (sponsored by Sabin Community Development Corporation), Leon the Literacy Lion (sponsored by Black Parent Initiative), a marketplace featuring Black-owned businesses and music by Chata Addy, the Music Man. There will also be prizes, refreshments, arts and crafts. For more information email [pdxbrownclown@gmail.com](mailto:pdxbrownclown@gmail.com) or call (503) 954-9519 or visit [www.facebook.com/events/2112722312291019/](http://www.facebook.com/events/2112722312291019/).



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## Portland News Briefs

### Former Mayor Vera Katz Dead at 84

Vera Katz, former mayor of Portland, passed away Monday. She was 84.



Vera Katz

The German-born Katz moved from New York City to Portland in 1962 and became the first woman to serve as Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives in 1985. Later, she campaigned for mayor of Portland on a platform that included reducing crime rates and promoting public transportation.

She was elected the 49th Mayor of Portland in 1993 and served three terms until 2005.

During her first term, Katz endorsed the Yellow Bike Project, which drew national attention to Portland’s artistic and bike-friendly culture.

“Vera Katz was larger than life. She made an indelible impact on Oregon and Portland over four decades, from the early 1970s to after the turn of the new millennium,” said Mayor Ted Wheeler in a statement. “All of us in public service can aspire to her boldness, her candor, and her humanity.”

“On a personal level, I attended school with her son, Jesse, and cannot separate Mayor Katz from Vera Katz the mother,” continued Wheeler. “My heart goes out to her family and friends during this difficult time. It’s rare that someone as accomplished in public life makes a similar impact in their personal life. Vera did. Our community will miss her tremendously.”

A visionary urban planner with the ability to reach across the aisle, Mayor Katz oversaw plans for the internationally known Pearl District and neighborhoods along the Willamette River that changed the city into a hipster haven and international tourist destination.

A champion of the arts, Katz also presided over construction plans of Lan Su Yuan, an intricate Suzhou-style Chinese garden in the heart of the city’s old town that draws visitors from around the world.

In June 2003, a statue of Katz was erected on the Eastbank Esplanade. The following year, the bicycle and pedestrian trail was officially renamed the Vera Katz Eastbank Esplanade in her honor.

Katz endured a long battle of cancer that be-

gan in 2000 with her diagnosis of early stage breast cancer. Four years later she was diagnosed with a more serious cancer. This month, she developed acute leukemia after undergoing dialysis for more than a dozen years following cancer treatment.

### Joint Office of Homeless Services Announces Severe Weather Strategy

On Dec. 10 the Joint Office of Homeless Services opened its first severe-weather warming shelter of the year and released the following information on its severe-weather strategy for 2017-2018.

The Joint Office declares a severe weather event whenever any of the following conditions are met:

- Temperatures forecast at 25°F or below
- Forecasts predict at least an inch of snow in most areas
- Overnight temperatures forecast at 32°F or below, with at least an inch of driving rain · Other conditions, including severe wind chills or extreme temperature fluctuations

The Joint Office continuously monitors National Weather Service forecasts for downtown Portland (97204), Portland International Airport (97218) and Troutdale (97060). If any meet the thresholds for severe weather, the Joint Office notifies Multnomah County’s communications office and 211info, which alerts service providers, first responders and community members who’ve requested notice.

The alerts list available night and day shelters, alongside details on transportation. On days that fall short of the thresholds for emergency response, the Joint Office may still send alerts about services.

For those interested in volunteering, Transition Projects is providing special 90-minute training sessions for adults 18 and older interested in volunteering at a severe weather warming center. Go to [211info.org](http://211info.org) to sign up.

Volunteers will do hands-on work and should be comfortable working with people experiencing homelessness. These active shifts take place on the coldest nights of the year, so having reliable transportation in inclement weather is important.

Outreach providers need winter gear they can pass out now, so folks outside are ready for the cold, and to have in reserve during an emergency. Having the right gear staged in the right places before a crisis will help providers better focus on direct services and life-saving efforts in the moment.

Needed items include warm socks, waterproof gloves or mittens, waterproof winter coats, sleeping bags and warm blankets, fleece hats, tarps, hand warmers, and rain ponchos.

For drop-off locations and other tips, call 211 or go to [211info.org](http://211info.org).

### Genealogical Forum of Oregon Seeks Stories about the Spanish Flu

*Bulletin*, the Genealogical Forum of Oregon’s quarterly publication, is seeking stories, essays or research articles focused on the 1918 Spanish flu — one of the worst pandemics in history, resulting in the

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