Events & Announcements

Community Calendar 2017/2018

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Portland Metro SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

POPULAR FAMILY FUN: Praised by children and adults, 'Babe' tells the story of a plucky piglet and his barnyard friends. It features Australian scenery, award- winning special effects and funny dialogue. 2 p.m., Portland Art Museum, 1219 SW Park Ave. Portland, OR 97205.

KWANZAA FAMILY CELEBRATION: Story time, candle lighting with Joyce Harris, Kwanzaa Family Crafts, light refreshments. 10:30 a.m. – noon., North Portland Library, 512 N. Killingsworth St.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

LEAD POISIONING PREVENTION WORKSHOP: Attend this free workshop and learn how to prevent lead exposure in your home. Great for households with children, or pregnant women, especially those living in homes built before 1978. Qualified participants will receive a free kit of safety and testing supplies at the end of the workshop. 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., 5329 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5

FREE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM ENTRANCE – EVENING: The first Friday night of each month everyone gets in free. 4 p.m. – 8 p.m., Portland Children's Museum, 4015 SW Canyon Rd.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

FOREST THERAPY WORKSHOP: What will you notice when you relax your mind and connect with nature? This meditative and relaxing experience is hosted entirely outdoors, rain or shine. We will engage in about a half mile of slow walking, and non-vigorous activity. This is a free event. Pre-registration is required, please call (360) 382-0936 ext 224. 10 a.m. – noon, Columbia Springs, 12208 SE Evergreen Hwy, Vancouver.

Seattle Metro THURSDAY. DECEMBER 28

OPEN MIC NIGHT: Want to share your talent, tell a story, sing a song, read a poem or just sit back and enjoy? All ages, talents and abilities welcome at this family friendly event. 5 p.m. – 7 p.m., University Place Library, 3609 Market Pl. West, University Place.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

HABITAT REVIVAL: Join us for a restoration work party at Me-Kwa-Mocks. 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., 4503 Beach Dr. SW.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

NEW YEAR'S EVE EVENT AT NOON: Bring the kids for play time New Year's Eve crafts, face painting, hats, noise makers, a silly photo booth and more. FREE! 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Lott's Wet Science Center, 500 Adams St. NE, Olympia.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY: Savory and sweet holiday treats, party favors and much more. This is a benefit for Radical Women & the Freedom Socialist Party. Hors d'oeuvres and dessert buffet will be offered at \$10. The party kicks off at 8:30 p.m. and until 12:30 a.m., Hiawatha House, 900 Hiawatha Pl. S.

A NEW YEAR'S HIKE AT LEWIS CREEK PARK: Join a Park ranger to reflect on the passage of time in nature. Please dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes. Free. 10:30 a.m. – noon, Lewis Creek Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd. SE.

MUSEUM FUN DAYS! NEW YEAR'S EVE: Ring in the New Year by creating your very own musical shaker. Museum staff will lead visitors in a dance party to use your new noise makers. Normal admission prices, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Children's Museum, 1501 Pacific Ave., Tacoma.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

16TH ANNUAL POLAR PLUNGE AT MATTHEWS BEACH: Join us for a GINORMOUS GROUP PLUNGE AT high noon as we welcome the new year with a sense of rejuvenation and renewal. Costumes and festive energy are encouraged. The Polar Plunge is free. Registration starts at 10 a.m. and the plunge starts at noon sharp. Matthews Beach, 9300 51st Ave. NE.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3

PARENTING CLASSES: GRANDPARENTS/KINSHIP SUPPORT GROUP: Come and find support in raising children, more than 18,000 people in King County are raising other relatives' children. This support group helps with resources and a community to listen to you. 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., Atlantic Street Family Resource Center, 5150 S. Cloverdale Pl.

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opened his presidency with a dark inaugural address beseeching an end to "American carnage" but saw much of his agenda rejected, with members of his own party providing key votes against him. Divides deepened, with agreement elusive even on core national values. Americans were sadder, a "happiness" report found. Sales of the dystopic novel "1984" surged and a chilling stage adaptation came to Broadway.

Mass protests formed around the country, including droves of women who proudly deemed themselves "nasty," a label placed on Hillary Clinton in the 2016 presidential race. When U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren was silenced through arcane legislative rules. the words of her colleague, Mitch McConnell, became an unlikely rallying cry of feminists: "Nevertheless, she persisted."

That phrase echoed as a dizzying number of sexual harassment or assault allegations emerged against high-profile men and as thousands of victims of lesser-known men chimed in with two words that made clear the scope of the problem: "Me too."

There were, in this arguably awful year, moments to hail, stories too, of heroism and bravery that restore faith and give the heart a little hope. More than 80 schoolgirls, abducted by Boko Haram extremists more than three years ago in Nigeria, were released. In South Sudan, a boy abducted and forced into the army — mourned in a funeral two years ago after word of his gunshot death reached his mother — was alive after all, and returned home.

The Islamic State lost power as it was driven from Mosul, Iraq, and Raqqa, Syria. In the U.S., a total solar eclipse gave a break from the unending cacophony, with droves of sky-gazers standing shoulder to shoulder across a swath of the country.

A new calendar page brings with it the chance to start fresh. Jordi Casares, a 71-year-old retired bank employee in Barcelona, lamented the terrorism and radicalism that marred 2017 but said he, for one, is optimistic for a better 2018.

"It can't be any worse than this year," he said.

Associated Press writers Anita Snow in Phoenix, Joseph Wilson in Barcelona and Esther Htusan in Bangkok contributed to this report.





Travel Ban

On Jan. 27 — just a week after his inauguration — Donald Trump signed an executive order imposing a 90-day ban on people entering the U.S. from Iraq, Syria, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. The order stopped dozens of people who had already received visas from entering the country which prompted protests throughout the country, including this Jan. 28 rally at Seattle's Westlake Park. The American Civil Liberties Union also challenged the order in court, leading the administration to revise the details of the order. On Dec. 4 the Supreme Court allowed a third version of the ban to go through, allowing the administration to fully enforce new restrictions on travel from eight nations, six of them predominantly Muslim. Under the current version of the order most citizens from Iran, Libya, Syria, Yemen, Somalia, Chad and North Korea will be barred from entering the United States. The order also bans some people from Venezuela from traveling to the U.S.



