Portland unveils new public toilet

Portland City Commissioner Randy Leonard has unveiled the first of a new line of public toilets called Portland Loos. The first Loo was installed adjacent to the Greyhound Bus Station in Portland’s Old Town, an area fraught with large homeless populations and late-night bars and clubs.

The city has long sought a cost-effective solution for providing those populations with a safe and sanitary 24-hour bathroom. Eventually, the city hopes to install Loos in other high-need areas similar to Old Town.

The design of the Loo is intended to deter illicit activity. Louvers at the top and bottom of the structure maintain internal privacy. The louvers are angled, however, to provide law enforcement the opportunity to observe the number of feet in the unit.

“There the Portland Loos are meant to be a unique solution to a universal problem,” said Leonard. “You can’t deny your basic human needs just because you can’t find a proper toilet. Everyone should have somewhere to take care of business with a little privacy and a little dignity, whether that person is homeless, the mother of three, or simply leaving a bar at 2:00 in the morning.”

To learn more, visit www.portlandonline.com/water/loo.

Does Your Medicare Coverage Have a Benefit?

Ask our members what they like best about FamilyCare’s Medicare Advantage Plans, and many times the first thing you’ll hear is a name. That’s because, as a Portland-based company that’s been serving Oregonians for over 20 years, we ensure that our members experience friendly, one-to-one service from our FamilyCare representatives, who are just a phone call away with caring, expert advice. Call the number below to talk to one of them about FamilyCare’s Medicare Advantage Plans that give you affordability, protection and a Jane.

Jane, foster mother of two and one of FamilyCare’s customer service representatives.

Jane, foster mother of two and one of FamilyCare’s customer service representatives.

The Asian Reporter’s special two-week Holiday Issue will be published on Tuesday, December 23, 2008.

Deadlines for this issue are:

News page display space reservations due: Wednesday, Dec. 17, 1:00pm

News page display electronic artwork due: Thursday, Dec. 18, 1:00pm

Northwest Job Market & Community Classified ads due: Friday, Dec. 19, 2:00pm

FamilyCare Health Plans is a Medicare Advantage Organization with a Medicare Contract.
**Artic Wings: Miracle of Migration**

Through Dec 31, 11am-5pm (daily), Burke Museum (NE 45th St & 17th Ave NE, Seattle). View Arctic Wings: Miracle of Migration, an exhibition organized by Inuit photographers. The display tells the international story of thousands of migratory birds from across six continents that live in our backyard part of the year, but depend on the politically contested Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for survival each summer. For info, call (206) 543-4500 or visit <www.burkemuseum.org>.

**Global warming, polar bear exhibit**

Through Dec 31, 10am-5pm, Burke Museum (NE 45th St & 17th Ave NE, Seattle). View Arctic Wings: Miracle of Migration, an exhibition organized by Inuit photographers. The display tells the international story of thousands of migratory birds from across six continents that live in our backyard part of the year, but depend on the politically contested Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for survival each summer. For info, call (206) 543-4500 or visit <www.burkemuseum.org>.

**Saké Shock**

Dec 9, 11am-5pm (except Dec 24 & 25), SakéOne (820 Elm St, Forest Grove, Ore.). Enjoy a flight of saké with autumnal food pairings, including chilli time cakes and salt cured salmon. The saké list includes 15 different varieties and 3 pricelists. The event is for people age 21 and older. For info, call (503) 530-2000 or visit www.sakeone.com.

**Oregon Nisei Baseball: The Early Years**

Through Jan 11, 11am-5pm (Th-Sat), noon-5pm (Sun), Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center (121 NW Second Ave, Portland). View Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center’s exhibit examining an exhibit of Nisei baseball teams and Pacific Northwest tournaments curated by Miki Yawu. The display features a T-shirt about the Oregon Nisei Legacy Center’s 10th anniversary, which was the center’s first exhibit back in 1998. For info, call (503) 224-1408 or visit www.orgnlc.org.

**FROGS!**

Dec 9-20, 11am-5pm daily, Oregon Public Broadcasting (503) 636-4707. Visit Frogs: From Asia to the Americas, an exhibit presented in collaboration with the Seattle Aquarium, which resulted in the ouster of the prime minister and other prominent government figures. For info, call (206) 623-5124 or visit <www.yassinaref.org>.

**OAME A&E/Contractor monthly meeting**

Dec 14, 7-9am, Hamilton Hall/Red Cross Building (605 Barnes St, Vancouver, Wash.). For info, call (360) 896-3401 or visit <www.redcross.org>.

**OAME Business After Hours & forum**

Dec 14, 6-8pm, Waterfronters (CASE) Cascade Plaza (4141 NW Vancouver Ave, Portland). Join other minority, women, and emerging small businesses, pur- suers, buyers, lenders, and government agency contacts at the quarterly Business After Hours networking event. Participants are encouraged to network with other business owners in the community, which is preceded by a Coffee & Issues forum from 4 to 5pm. For info, call (503) 249-7744 or visit <www.waterfronters.org>.

**OAME A&E/Contractor monthly meeting**

Dec 14, 7-9am, Hamilton Hall/Red Cross Building (605 Barnes St, Vancouver, Wash.). For info, call (360) 896-3401 or visit <www.redcross.org>.

**Rudy Maxa’s World: “Rajasthan”**

Dec 14, 6pm, Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB). Watch “Rajasthan,” an episode of Rudy Maxa’s World exploring temples, palaces, backstreets, and countryside in and outside the state. To verify showtimes, call (503) 293-1982 or visit <www.opb.org>.

**Talk Time at Central Library**

Dec 14, 21 & 28, 1-3pm, Multnomah County Central Library, Room 202 (503 10th Ave, Portland). Join other English language learners in conversation about local events and share your experiences. For info, call (503) 988-5123 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

**Talk Time at Central Library**

Dec 14, 21 & 28, 1-3pm, Multnomah County Central Library, Room 202 (503 10th Ave, Portland). Join other English language learners in conversation about local events and share your experiences. For info, call (503) 988-5123 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

**Istanbul: Memories and the City**

Dec 16, 6-30pm, 325 Cornell St, Portland (near SE Carlton St & SE Milwaukie Ave, Portland). The book discussion is for people who want to practice spoken English. Talk Time is not a class, but an opportunity to participate in informal conversation circle for people who want to practice speaking English. For info, call (503) 988-5123 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

**PACCO holiday celebration**

Dec 17, 6-9pm, Holiday Park Plaza Penthouse (1300 NE 42nd Ave, Portland). Experience the music, dance, and food of the Philippines with the Portland Chapter of Commercio di Oregon (PACCO) for its annual holiday celebration. For info, call (503) 988-5123 or visit <www.pacco.org>.

**Pride of Baghdad**

Dec 17, 6-8:30pm, Belmont Library (3083 NE 28th Ave, Portland). Engage in stimulating conversation about books at a Fagautorres discussion sponsored by Friends of the Portland Public Library. The book for discussion is Omid Tahmooressi’s Istanbul: Memories and the City. Known as the “City of the Three Rivers,” Istanbul is a city of great contrasts: ancient Near Eastern architecture, bustling bazaars, bustling bazaars, and sleek modern high-rises. For info, or to register, call (503) 285-1994, e-mail <katie@pacco.org> or visit <www.pacco.org>.

**Buddhist monks’ alms rounds**

Dec 18, 1-3pm, SE Portland (near SE 82nd & SE Milwaukie Ave, Portland). Free event, held on the second Sunday of every month. The event includes musical performances. For info, call (503) 281-7960 or visit <www.buddhistmonks.org>.

**Visits to the region; the Vietnamese mossy frog, which is covered with moss and looks like a lichen in the forest, is one of the more than 1,000 species of frogs that are in danger of extinction. Frogs in our backyards part of the year, but depend on the politically contested Arctic National Wildlife Refuge for survival each summer. For info, call (206) 543-4500 or visit <www.burkemuseum.org>.

**FACING EXTINCTION. FROGS! is on display at the Oregon Zoo through December 28. Picobono is the Vietnamese mossy frog, which is covered with moss, spines, and tubercles that help it blend in with moss and litter to avoid predators. (Photo courtesy of the Oregon Zoo)**

**Bob The Builder — Project: Build It**

Dec 19, 10am-12pm, Multnomah County East Building, 500 NE 4th Ave (near SE 3rd and 4th Ave, Portland). Join the Multnomah County Department of Community Services to build a Mystery Box, which includes materials to build a miniature building. For info, call (503) 249-7744 or visit <www.oame.org>.
Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation scholarship recipient Tran Trang (left) receives a certificate and congratulations from Clark College president Robert K. Knight. (Photo courtesy of Clark College)

Environmental Services launches "Freeze the Grease" campaign

The City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services is encouraging Portlanders to help keep the city's sewers fat-free with its new "Freeze the Grease, Save the Drain" campaign, which aims to remind people to keep household grease out of the sewer system.

Instead of pouring cooking grease down the drain or in garbage disposers, Environmental Services recommends pouring it in a three sizes of steel cans, a grease food scraper, and instructions. The build-up restricts flow and can block pipes completely, causing raw sewage to back up into homes or overflow into streets and streams.

Home garbage disposals don't keep grease out of sewer pipes, and products that claim to dissolve grease may dissolve a blockage, but will only cause problems further down on the line.

In conjunction with the campaign, the agency is offering free "Freeze the Grease, Save the Drain" kits, containing a plastic lid that snap on to three sizes of steel cans, a grease and food scraper, and instructions. To learn more, or to order a free "Freeze the Grease, Save the Drain" kit, call (503) 681-3678 or visit www.portlandonline.com/bes/freezeus/grease.

Better Business Bureau urges caution when giving gift cards

To learn more, visit www.bbb.org.

George Wu
Photographer

5383 SW Humphrey Blvd.
Portland, OR 97221
(971) 221-9300

To learn more, visit www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TS.
**Photography Show & Sale**

Through Dec 24, noon-6pm (Mon-Sat), 10am-3pm (Sun), Providence Milwaukie Hospital, Community Gallery, 10150 S.E. 22nd Avenue, Second Floor, Milwaukie, Oregon. View "Whimsy, Animals, and Nature," an exhibit of paintings by Lake Oswego artist and park ranger Mimi Matuda, whose whimsical images include a bear riding a bike, a fishing pig, cows enjoying coffee and donuts, and more. For information, call (503) 511-8344.

**On Going Events**

**Pulch art show**

Through Dec 27, 11am-5pm (Sat), Sequential Art Gallery & Studio (528 NW Broadway, Portland). Call (503) 224-8182 or visit <www.pulch.org>.

**Whirling Dervishes ceremony**

Dec 12-30, 9-11:30am & noon-3pm, Smith Center Ballroom (1825 SW Broadway, Portland). Watch the Oregon Whirling Dervishes ceremony performed by the group's Nine Whirling Dervishes in an elaborate wedding ceremony of ecstatic dance and devotional music. For more information, call (503) 988-5389 or visit <www.mysticwonders.com>.

**Photography and Sales**

Through Dec 24, noon-6pm (Mon-Sat), noon-6pm (Sun), Portland Art Museum, 121 S.W. Park Avenue (503) 226-2811 or visit <www.portlandart.org>. View "Photography and Sales," an exhibition featuring works by Chinese artists Baozhi Zeng and Demin Li. In addition, view the art of Bao Zhang who fuse personal experiences into broader artistic and political themes. For info, call (503) 225-4610 or visit <www.pacoma.org>.

**Japanese Garden**

Through Dec 26, 10:30am-5:30pm (Sun). View "Contemporary Impressions," an exhibit featuring contemporary ink miniatures by 40-year-old Ayaj Garg, a resident of Rajasthan, India. The ink miniatures are framed and matted prints, journals, calendars, postcards, and more. For more info, contact the Japanese Garden at (503) 682-5000 or visit <www.japanesegarden.com>.

**Museum of Contemporary Art**

Through Jan 13, 6-10pm to 8pm (Fri), 11am-6pm (Sat), Museum of Contemporary Art (127 E Main St, Hillsboro, Ore.). Enjoy a free performance by the Portland-based band "Tผืึญ" featuring three-part harmony folk-pop (aka featuring music from Thailand, Pakistan, and Bangladesh). For info, call (503) 615-5485 or visit <www.chiilabears.org/>. For tickets, call (503) 988-5182 or visit <www.fanta-movies.com>.

**Oregon Ballet Theatre**

Dec 5-16, 1:30pm & 7:30pm, Newmark Theatre (541) 682-5000. Portland's Oregon Ballet Theatre presents "The Nutcracker." Among the performers are darsevices dance troupe Kassoum, Night Float, and many others. For info, call (503) 913-9786 or visit <www.myspace.com/hobbitshippodrome>.

**Virtual JFK**

Dec 12-24, 19-20, 22 & 23, 7:30pm, Dec 13, 20 & 22, 7pm, Dec 14 & 21, 6 & 22, 7:30pm, Dec 24, noon, Keller Auditorium (541) 682-5000. Portland: Watch the White Album Christmas, a holiday circus spectacle presented by Whidbey Island's Imago Theatre. Among the performers are darsevices dance troupe Kassoum, Night Float, and many others. For info, call (503) 913-9786 or visit <www.myspace.com/hobbitshippodrome>.

**Beasts! Book 2**

Dec 12-24, 19-20, 22 & 23, 7:30pm, Dec 13, 20 & 22, 7pm, Dec 14 & 21, 6 & 22, 7:30pm, Dec 24, noon, Keller Auditorium (541) 682-5000. Portland: Watch the White Album Christmas, a holiday circus spectacle presented by Whidbey Island’s Imago Theatre. Among the performers are darsevices dance troupe Kassoum, Night Float, and many others. For info, call (503) 913-9786 or visit <www.myspace.com/hobbitshippodrome>.

**Beasts! Book 2**

Dec 12-24, 19-20, 22 & 23, 7:30pm, Dec 13, 20 & 22, 7pm, Dec 14 & 21, 6 & 22, 7:30pm, Dec 24, noon, Keller Auditorium (541) 682-5000. Portland: Watch the White Album Christmas, a holiday circus spectacle presented by Whidbey Island’s Imago Theatre. Among the performers are darsevices dance troupe Kassoum, Night Float, and many others. For info, call (503) 913-9786 or visit <www.myspace.com/hobbitshippodrome>.

**OBT’s The Nutracker**

Dec 12-24, Dec 12-13, 18-22 & 23, 7:30pm, Dec 13, 20 & 22, 7pm, Dec 14 & 21, 6 & 22, 7:30pm, Dec 24, noon, Keller Auditorium (541) 682-5000. Portland: Watch Oregon Ballet Theatre’s presentation of George Balanchine’s The Nutcracker. Popular with young and old, the work is both a paragon of classical ballet and a meditation on childhood for all. For info, or to buy tickets, call (503) 2-222-5523 or visit <www.obt.org>.

**Beatles-Tour**

Dec 14, 1-2am, Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB). Watch an episode of Austin City Limits showcasing the world’s greatest and best love songs, performed by some of today’s hottest, and very best songwriters. For more info, visit <www.austin.citylimits.org>.

**Arbor Film Festival**

Dec 17-18, 7-9pm, Dec 17 (Program D): Dec 18 (Program F), 1201 SW Park Avenue, Portland: Ann Arbor Film Festival Center, Whitell Auditorium (1219 SW Park Avenue, Portland). Watch the Arbor Film Festival Tour Program, featuring 35 short films from the festival’s 2008 season. For more information, call (503) 724-5000. For tickets, visit <www.arbofilms.org>.

**The Wizard of Oz**

Dec 13-31, 7:30 & 9:30pm & 11:30pm (Sun), 7:30pm (Fri), 9:30pm (Sat), 7:30pm (Sun), 9:30pm (Sun), 5:30pm (Sun) and 7:30pm (Mon), 7:30pm (Mon). Call (503) 513-8404. Watch Imago Theatre’s fantastical "The Wizard of Oz" featuring live music, traditional Oz stories, and everyday life with intrinsic precision. For info, call (503) 224-8182 or visit <www.pulch.org>.

**Ann Arbor Film Festival**

Dec 17-18, 7-9pm, Dec 17 (Program D): Dec 18 (Program F), 1201 SW Park Avenue, Portland: Ann Arbor Film Festival Center, Whitell Auditorium (1219 SW Park Avenue, Portland). Watch the Arbor Film Festival Tour Program, featuring 35 short films from the festival’s 2008 season. For more information, call (503) 724-5000. For tickets, visit <www.arbofilms.org>.

**Museum of Contemporary Art**

Through Dec 26, noon-6pm (Sun & Dec 24), 6pm (Jan 2), 6pm (Jan 7). For tickets, call (503) 222-4480 or visit <www.nwta.org>.

**Japanese Garden**

Through Dec 26, noon-6pm (Sun & Dec 24), 6pm (Jan 2), 6pm (Jan 7). For tickets, call (503) 222-4480 or visit <www.nwta.org>.

**Museum of Contemporary Art**

Through Dec 26, noon-6pm (Sun & Dec 24), 6pm (Jan 2), 6pm (Jan 7). For tickets, call (503) 222-4480 or visit <www.nwta.org>.

**Museum of Contemporary Art**

Through Dec 26, noon-6pm (Sun & Dec 24), 6pm (Jan 2), 6pm (Jan 7). For tickets, call (503) 222-4480 or visit <www.nwta.org>.

**Japanese Garden**

Through Dec 26, noon-6pm (Sun & Dec 24), 6pm (Jan 2), 6pm (Jan 7). For tickets, call (503) 222-4480 or visit <www.nwta.org>.

**Japanese Garden**

Through Dec 26, noon-6pm (Sun & Dec 24), 6pm (Jan 2), 6pm (Jan 7). For tickets, call (503) 222-4480 or visit <www.nwta.org>.

**Japanese Garden**

Through Dec 26, noon-6pm (Sun & Dec 24), 6pm (Jan 2), 6pm (Jan 7). For tickets, call (503) 222-4480 or visit <www.nwta.org>.

**Japanese Garden**

Through Dec 26, noon-6pm (Sun & Dec 24), 6pm (Jan 2), 6pm (Jan 7). For tickets, call (503) 222-4480 or visit <www.nwta.org>.

**Japanese Garden**

Through Dec 26, noon-6pm (Sun & Dec 24), 6pm (Jan 2), 6pm (Jan 7). For tickets, call (503) 222-4480 or visit <www.nwta.org>.
By Allison Rupp

The Asian Reporter

December 9, 2008

**“Little Things” show makes holiday art giving easy**

**By Allison Rupp**

By photo emulsion.

**Birds of a feather**

*The following is a list of Multnomah County School Districts:*  
- Centennial School District: (503) 760-7990  
- Corbett School District: (503) 695-3612  
- David Douglas School District: (503) 340-2809  
- Gresham-Barlow School District: (503) 618-2462  
- Parkrose School District: (503) 406-2118  
- Portland School District: (503) 916-2512  
- Reynolds School District: (503) 461-7200  
- Rivardla School District: (503) 469-4111  
- Multnomah Early Childhood Program (Portland): (503) 282-2475  
- Multnomah Early Childhood Program (Kootenai County): (503) 282-4100

**Warner Bros. makes new release movies available through VOD in China**

---

**The Asian Reporter’s special two-week Holiday Issue will be published on Tuesday, December 23, 2008**

**Deadlines for this issue are:**

- News page display: space reservations due: Wednesday, December 17, 1:00pm  
- News page display electronic artwork due: Thursday, December 18, 1:00pm  
- Northwest Job Market & Community Classified ads due: Friday, December 19, 2:00pm
Job Opportunity

We are seeking qualified candidates to be part of our dynamic public service organization.

CRISIS INTERVENTION SPECIALIST

$4.082 - $5,815 per month

Job information, applications, and benefits information are available from:

Clark County Human Resources
1300 Franklin St., 5th Floor, Vancouver, WA
Apply On-line at <www.clark.wa.gov>
Job Info Line: (360) 397-6018
Relay: 1-800-833-6834

EQUAl OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

---

SUSHI CHEF

Palace Casino in La Center, WA is seeking an experienced Sushi Chef. Willing to top pay rate for qualified individual. Must be bilingual with Asian Language and English. Apply in person at 318 N.W. Pacific Hwy., La Center, WA 98639.

---

Portland State UNIVERSITY COORDINATOR

The Coordinator of New Student Programs position at Portland State University supports the undergraduate enrollment management strategies of the University by developing, planning and participating in pre-enrollment and orientation events for newly admitted students and their families. For more information on this job opening, please visit our website: <www.hrc.pdx.edu/openings/unclassified/GSA-003.htm>.

---

The Asian Reporter's special two-week Holiday issue will be published on Tuesday, December 23, 2008

The deadline for Northwest Job Market and Community Classified ads is: Friday, December 19, 2:00pm

---

City of Portland
ASSISTANT PROGRAM SPECIALIST

Approximate Monthly Salary: $3,610 - $5,562 after six years

The Assistant Program Specialist for the Portland Water Bureau’s water conservation program will perform professional administrative and program support duties. The water conservation program strives to provide excellent customer service and technical assistance for residential, business, commercial and industrial customers interested in water efficiency. To learn more about this position and to apply via the Internet, go to <www.ci.portland.or.us/jobs>. All completed applications for this position must be in the possession of the Portland Bureau of Human Resources no later than 4:30pm, Monday, December 22, 2008.

The City of Portland is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

---

PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Urban Renewal Agency for the City of Portland, Oregon

Portland is internationally recognized for its quality of life, distinctive neighborhoods, and robust transit system. Playing a key role in keeping Portland, Oregon, one of America’s most livable cities is the Portland Development Commission’s mission. PDC is the City’s urban renewal agency, charged with bringing together resources to achieve Portland's vision. We're currently looking for qualified individuals to complement our workforce for the following positions:

■ LEAD GRANT PROGRAM COORDINATOR

We offer a generous host of benefits as part of our efforts to keep PDC a positive, healthy and productive place to work. PDC values diversity in its work force and is committed to Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action.

Apply online at <www.pdc.us/jobs>
Portland Development Commission
222 NW 5th Ave., Portland, OR 97209
Jobline: (503) 823-3463

---

Experienced ALASKA!

Trident Seafoods is looking for men and women to work at our remote Alaska shoreplants & vessels. Free round trip flights to jobsite. Requires papers to work in the U.S., the ability to work 16 to 18 hours per day, and pass a drug test, criminal background check, and physical. Pay starts at $7.15 an hour / $10.72 overtime plus a bonus on vessels. Please come to an orientation and interview on 12/20/2008 at 9:00am sharp! Holiday Inn at the Airport, 8439 N.E. Columbia Blvd., Portland. For more information please call (206) 789-8545.
We are now hiring interpreters for all languages, especially: Somali, Tigrinian, and Bosnian, Portuguese, Cambodian, Punjabi, Lao, Thai, Tibetan, Greek, in the Vancouver, Portland, and Salem areas.

INTERPRETERS NEEDED!!

Telelanguage Services is hiring individuals fluent in English and all Asian languages. Work casual, flexible hours, exciting opportunity. Earn $$$ while helping your community. Call: (503) 535-2173

2008 ADVERTISING RATES & ORDER FORM:

- Special “Business Card” Display Ad:
  - $65 per week
  - $145 for 3 consecutive weeks
  - $265 for 6 consecutive weeks

- Box Ad:
  - $200 per week
  - $400 for 3 consecutive weeks
  - $850 for 6 consecutive weeks

- Community Classified Page
  - $20 per week
  - $40 for 3 consecutive weeks
  - $80 for 6 consecutive weeks

- Name Listing (4 lines maximum – up to 10 words):
  - $12 per week
  - $74 for 3 consecutive weeks
  - $145 for 6 consecutive weeks

Prepayment required with Business Card and Name Listing Ad. Add $1.00 per week for color headings. All rates are subject to change without notice. All advertising is subject to approval. Advertisers must complete and return a prepayment slip with all advertising orders.

Discount applies to new subscribers only. <www.sparrowtravel.com> Don’t just dream of that perfect vacation… experience it! Sparrow Travel Services offers cruises, car rentals, group tours, family vacations, honeymoons, and more on our site: <www.sparrowtravel.com> (800) 487-9746 or visit <tracey@sparrowtravel.com>.

Mail, Fax or Deliver with payment to:
Asian Reporter Classifieds, 922 N Killingsworth Street, Suite 1A, Portland, OR 97217-2220
Fax: (503) 283-4445 * E-mail: <ads@asianreporter.com>

For Visa, Mastercard, or American Express payment only:

FOR SALE

Mattresses
BED: ALL NEW
QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATTRESS
and box set. Still sealed in plastic with factory warranty. Can deliver. (503) 828-8927

COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS
Print artist works with elders to create books of memories

By Toni Tabora-Roberts

The Asian Reporter

Portland artist Shu-Ju Wang's American mom was recently diagnosed with Alzheimer's. (Shu-Ju came to the U.S. as a student in the '70s and has maintained very close ties with her host family.) It was this news that inspired her latest project and exhibit, "Relay/Replay: Artist's Books that Illuminate the Creative Lives of the Elderly," currently on view in the John Wilson Special Collections room at Multnomah County's Central Library in downtown Portland.

Initially, Shu-Ju thought of this as a project she would do with her mom, but she quickly recognized it could be done with other community elders. She envisioned using "photographs, old family documents, maybe old letters, passport pages ... anything we could dig up." The idea was to work with seniors who are experiencing various stages of memory loss to create "a book of mementos." She intended to use Print Gocco (a small self-contained printer) to create the limited editions of books that could be distributed to the families. Other than those ideas, Shu-Ju wanted to keep the process very open to collaboration and interpretation.

On a lucky break, Rose Schnitzer Manor, the first resident facility she approached, was receptive to the idea. Shu-Ju first had to interview with the facility and then train as an official volunteer. The manor's activity director identified four residents who would work one-on-one with Shu-Ju. Each artist's project took on a different process and scope. (The names of the artists are not included to protect their privacy.)

In working with the first senior, it took some time to figure out the direction of her book. In one eureka moment, however, Shu-Ju and her collaborator agreed to do a book of watercolors. Though it was a departure from the original idea, Shu-Ju was happy to work with her in a collaborative and interpretive manner. The book included images that are more abstract and some longer had any documents of her past. Her project became a process of creating images from her life and memories. Shu-Ju marveled at her creativity and her use of imagery in relation to her life. "She would find an image, like a dishtowel, and then she would write a little thing that related to the image. They also really read like words of wisdom." Feeling that the prints read like notes to her family, Shu-Ju helped the resident design a book with colorful pages resembling envelopes.

The third book became a group project that included the elder's adult daughter. In many ways, it was exactly the type of book Shu-Ju had first envisioned going into the project. "[The daughter] coming to see her mom, going through the photographs and documents, the family time, the remembering — the first time I walked in and saw them looking through the album, I thought, 'this is exactly what I pictured in my head!' A lifelong mahjong player, the third book was inspired by the game's tiles, spread out in a chronological series of images.

The final project was with a senior who had a career as a professional artist. Though suffering from great memory loss, the senior was in her element when creating art. Her book included images that are more abstract and some prints of found objects with accompanying words inspired by their conversations.

The books are visually stunning and a delightful representation of the different elders who collaborated with Shu-Ju. The exhibit is just another great reason to visit the beautiful Central Library.

"Relay/Replay" is on view through December 31 at the Multnomah County Central Library in the John Wilson Special Collections room, located at 801 S.W. 10th Avenue in Portland. Hours are 2:30 to 5:30pm on Tuesday, 3:30 to 7:00pm on Wednesday, 10:00am to 2:00pm on Friday, and 2:30 to 6:00pm on Saturday. To learn more, call (503) 988-5123, or visit <www.multcolib.org/about/mcl-wilson-special-collections> or <www.fingerstothebone.com>.

---

When insurance becomes simple, life becomes simple.

Make your life peaceful, secure and easy with fair quotes on all kinds of coverage, including auto, home, business, health* and life. Get clear, easy-to-understand information — all from one company.

Simplify your life with American Family Insurance. To find an agent near you, visit amfam.com.

AUTO HOME BUSINESS HEALTH* LIFE

*Some products not available in every state.