

PortlandExtra

TODAY'S
BEST
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Nature Night

The Audubon Society of Portland will feature Jan Knott, who will relate his travel and photography experience and discuss his plans to return to Sri Lanka, at Audubon Nature Night 7 p.m. today at the Audubon Society of Portland, 5151 N.W. Cornell Road. It's free.

Raphael House will grow into its new home

The shelter for women who have suffered domestic abuse breaks ground today for increased services

By IRA PORTER
THE OREGONIAN

The Raphael House, a shelter for women suffering from domestic violence, plans to increase service to the Portland community when it moves to a larger, newly renovated building in November.

The location of the new site is confidential for safety reasons, though it is in the Portland area. Raphael House plans to renovate a building that the Providence Health System donated in February 1999. Shelter officials said they have received \$2.7 million in donations and grants from several organizations, leaving them \$80,000 short of their goal.

"The demand for this shelter is clearly overwhelming," said Mark Sherman, director of development and community relations for Raphael House. Currently, the agency has 20 beds for four to six families and two single women.

The new building, which will replace the existing building in Northwest Portland, will hold 33 beds with new furniture and provide rooms for 10 families and four single women. Shelter officials and other community members will hold a groundbreaking ceremony at 11:30 a.m. today at the amphitheater of the Washington Park Rose Garden.

Women who went through the Raphael House program will symbolically break ground.

"This new shelter is the most recent demonstration of this community saying that those who are experiencing this form of violence don't deserve that," said Mark Story, executive director of the shelter.

When the shelter is completed, Story said, Raphael House will be able to take in more than 200

more women a year.

Currently, the program still turns away eight out of every nine women who seek help.

The new location will be the third for the shelter since it opened in 1977.

Raphael has been operating at its current location in Northwest Portland since 1982. Story said it was time for a move.

"After 18 years we felt that we lost our confidentiality," he said. Too many of the women and children who went through the shelter knew its location.

Story underscored the importance of confidentiality for safety reasons. Women who stay in the shelter recently separated from their abusers, so there is a concern that the abuser might try to find them, he said.

Under Raphael House's emergency assistance program, women are given shelter for three to four weeks, along with food and clothing.

Raphael also has a transitional program that places women in low-cost housing for as long as 18 months while they recuperate following a separation from an abuser.

National statistics indicate that about four million women suffer domestic violence every year. Statistics from a study by the Multnomah County Health Department show that in 1999, one in seven women ages 18 to 64 was physically abused by a partner. The total number was close to 28,000.

According to the study, one in nine women in Multnomah County was assaulted last year, one in 14 was sexually abused and one in 20 was severely or moderately injured as a result of domestic violence.

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Salmon Corps member Jeanine Jim-BlueHorse (right) shows wild roses to Brandi Long (left) and Donnadae Placencia of Kenton Elementary School.

Photos by AMANDA COWAN
THE OREGONIAN

Preserving culture and spirit

Native Americans thrive in Salmon Corps, which has won the President's Service Award

By COURTENAY THOMPSON
THE OREGONIAN

Jeanine Jim-BlueHorse never imagined finding her direction in life would involve razing 10-foot-tall blackberry brambles with a chain saw or slogging through a driving rain to plant dogwood and hemlock trees along streams to help shade salmon.

A lifelong Portlander, she'd left college after just a year, working in retail jobs that didn't seem to lead toward her dream of publishing a magazine devoted to Native American news and issues.

Then last fall Jim-BlueHorse, 23, joined the Salmon Corps, an environmental service organization that provides opportunities for young, at-risk Native Americans to further their education and earn scholarships while working full time on salmon recovery projects in the Columbia Basin.

"It's really opened my eyes up to things," says Jim-BlueHorse, a member of the Washoe Tribe of California and Nevada. She is one of 500 young people, mostly Native American, who have benefited from the Northwest volunteer program in the past six years.

Today, the Salmon Corps will be awarded the nation's highest honor for volunteer service, the President's Service Award. The Salmon Corps is among 20 individuals and organizations to be honored at a White House ceremony.

Created in 1982, the annual awards are sponsored by the Points of Light Foundation and the Corporation for National Service.



After taking a sample of pond water, Salmon Corps students (from left) Hollie McIntyre, Teshanna Bradford and Breanna Serrano look for tiny fish during their session near Whitaker Pond.

"It's the validation of the work of the young people, the validation that native youth are making a positive impact in the community," says Chuck Sams, Northwest director for the Earth Conservation Corps, which launched the Salmon Corps in 1994. "Our elders call us *Wakanish Naknoowee Thluma*, the Keepers of the Salmon."

The Salmon Corps is a partnership of five tribes — the Shoshone-Bannock and Nez Perce tribes of Idaho, the Yakama Indian Nation of Washington, and the Warm Springs and Umatilla tribes of Oregon — along with AmeriCorps, the city of Portland, the U.S. Department of Energy, the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission and several corporations.

Sams said the idea is to provide training and educational opportunities for young Native Americans while helping the tribes and the region achieve the goal of salmon recovery by providing low-cost, motivated workers to do the "grunt work" of recovery: repairing stream sides, putting salmon eggs into headwaters of streams and planting native vegetation.

Corps members also do volunteer work for elders, such as grocery shopping or chopping firewood. Most of the work is on the reservations or lands ceded by tribes through treaties, but the corps also has a small urban program in Portland. Corps members get a living stipend to get them

through 1,700 hours of service in 11 months.

Students also can earn college credits through Portland State University and Grays Harbor College in Aberdeen, Wash.

The results, Sams says, can be measured in human lives:

♦ 40 percent of incoming Salmon Corps members arrive without a high school diploma or General Educational Development certificate. Within a year, Sams said, 75 percent of those graduate.

♦ 23 percent of corps members go on to post-secondary education.

♦ 47 percent of graduates in the past six years are now in family-wage-earning jobs, Sams said, many working in fisheries and wildlife management for tribes.

Jim-BlueHorse, like the other 55 corps members this year, will end her year of work with a \$4,725 college scholarship to get her back into business school and following her dreams.

Along the way, she's learned about the environment, passed on what she knows to Portland schoolchildren and learned about native culture and salmon, an important cultural and spiritual food for Northwest Native Americans.

"It's really satisfying knowing I'm doing something to improve the environment," Jim-BlueHorse said. "Maybe I won't get to see the benefit, but maybe my children will."

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THE OREGONIAN'S ACADEMIC ALL-STARS

Here are the seniors who have earned top grades from public and most private high schools in the Portland metro area. Alternative schools are generally not included. Most of the students are valedictorians with 4.0 or above grade-point averages (straight A's). The list, compiled from information provided by the schools, includes the student's name and three activities each was involved in.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

CLACKAMAS COUNTY

- COUNTRY CHRISTIAN**
Olivia Kovisto: Valedictorian, keyboardist for 24/7 New Fire Youth Praise Band, Who's Who Among American High School Students.
- DAMASCUS CHRISTIAN**
Nolan Nelson: Co-valedictorian.
Jeffrey Nelson: Co-valedictorian.
- LA SALLE**
Kira Goodwin: National Honor Society, Harvard Model Congress, student representative at district convocation.
- WESTSIDE CHRISTIAN**
Hyeun Bae: National Honor Society, Model United Nations, choir.
Ellise Lockwood: National Honor Society, softball captain, student body president.
Sarah McLaren: National Honor Society, drama.
- John Minthorne: National Honor Society, Thesplan Society president, volunteer mission to Cuba.
Noelle Perri: National Honor Society, choir/ensemble, drama.
Bethany Thompson: National Honor Society, choir, volleyball.
Abigail Thwing: National Honor Society, choir/ensemble, drama.

COWLITZ COUNTY, WASH.

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN

Christina Gragg: Valedictorian, student government, basketball.

MULTNOMAH COUNTY

- CENTRAL CATHOLIC**
Catherine Conway: Soccer, basketball, track, volunteer work at Providence Child Care Center.
- Trevor Hoff:** Soccer, jazz band, literary publication.
- Marc Montanaro:** Cross country, tennis, mock political convention.
- COLUMBIA ADVENTIST ACADEMY**
Eric Ames: National Honor Society, student association president, football.
- COLUMBIA CHRISTIAN**
Katie Granberg: National Honor Society, yearbook, volleyball, track, student government.

THE NORTHWEST ACADEMY

Jenna Dixon: Vocal jazz, drama/musical theater, community service abroad.

PACIFIC CREST COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Deanna Jones: Valedictorian, community service.

PORTLAND ADVENTIST ACADEMY

Marie Baumgartner: National Honor Society.

Raymond Betz: National Honor Society, cross country, band.

Laurie Krause: National Honor Society, senior class chorister, volleyball.

Chad Wade: National Honor Society, senior class chaplain.

PORTLAND CHRISTIAN

Stephanie Christopher: National Honor Society, Journalism, yearbook.

Chad Edwards: National Honor Society, track and cross country, outdoor school.

Christi Woodburn: National Honor Society, student council, basketball.

PORTLAND LUTHERAN

Anna Gross: National Honor Society, principal's recognition award, student council.

ST. FRANCIS ACADEMY

Ruth Bachhuber: Valedictorian, volunteer work, creative writing.

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

Mary Ann Albright: National Honor Society, National Merit Commended Scholar, opera

arts training program.

Cristin Campbell: National Honor Society secretary, cross country and track, National Merit Finalist.

Francesca Englert: National Honor Society, Peer Helper, Ambassador Club leadership team.

Rebecca Fausel: National Merit Finalist, swimming and cross country, volunteer with Friends Across Generations.

Megan Hall: Rose Festival Ambassador, National Merit Finalist, Toyota Community Scholar.

Sophia Hermann: National Merit Finalist, soccer, volunteer.

Emily Hershberger: National Honor Society president, Metropolitan Youth Symphony, Poverty Awareness Day co-chair.

Elena Lesley: National Merit Finalist, Science Club officer, Marian singers.

Kathryn Schwartz: National Honor Society, National Merit Finalist, Thespians.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

THE CATLIN GABEL SCHOOL

Meabon Burns: Oregon Scholar, vocal award, sportsmanship award.

Anna Hare: Oregon Scholar, National Merit Commended Scholar, poetry and sportsmanship awards.

Giant Lin: Oregon scholar, Japanese and Spanish awards.

Elizabeth Reed: Oregon scholar, National Merit Finalist, computer science, mathematics and science awards.

John Rosenfeld: Oregon scholar, National Merit Commended Scholar, acting and English awards.

FAITH BIBLE HIGH SCHOOL

Rachel Bunch: Choir, American Sign Language, church activities.

JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL

Kevin Hettrick: Football, National Honor Society president, Big Brothers volunteer.

Kimberly Walker: National Honor Society, National Merit Commended Scholar, basketball.

Patrick Dundon: Amnesty International president, Model United Nations, flute.

Katherine Hatch: School newspaper editor,

tennis, retirement home volunteer.

Jeffrey Herbage: National Honor Society, track, cross country.

Christina Johnson: National Honor Society, Young Life, soccer, basketball and track.

Emily Vala-Haynes: School newspaper editor, National Honor Society, track and cross country.

Kathy Shultz: National Honor Society, volleyball.

Sean Ploughoff: National Honor Society, math tutor, basketball.

Amanda Lehmann: National Merit Scholar Finalist, National Honor Society tutor, swimming.

Amelia Fitz: National Honor Society, Student Advisory Board, track and cross country.

OREGON EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Allison Asarnow: Theater, National Merit Finalist, exchange student.

Elizabeth deRham: Soccer, tennis, snowboarding.

VALLEY CATHOLIC

Amaya Basta: Valedictorian, National Honor Society, senior class president.

YAMHILL COUNTY

CHEHALEM VALLEY ACADEMY

Katherine McGinley: Valedictorian, basketball captain, French.

PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BENSON HIGH SCHOOL

Jim Le: Vocational Industrial Clubs of America, PCC Regional Math Contest, valedictorian.

Vinh Nguyen Phuoc: Valedictorian, Health Occupation Students of America.

CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL

Robbie Chan: Harvard Book Award, senior class vice president, tennis team captain.

Allison Pribnow: Soccer, volunteer work in Bolivia, school newspaper.

Kalin Schenold: Choir, drama.

FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

Charity Saul: National Honor Society, student council, concert choir student director.

Sunmi Yi: National Honor Society, Spanish Club, volunteering.

GRANT HIGH SCHOOL

Meredith Crandall: National Honor Society,

tennis, saxophone.

Elizabeth Decker: National Merit Scholar, swimming, student government.

Gillian Gafford: Volunteering, golf, Spanish.

Chi Ha: National Honor Society, Multicultural Club president, student council vice president.

Katherine McCulloch: Academic All-Star, Northwest Youth Corps, cancer research.

Andrea Pinkerton: Dance team, church activities, service trip to Papua New Guinea.

Sarah Reinstein: Outdoor school, Amnesty International, photography.

Natalie Christiansen: Piano, church activities.

Elizabeth Sanders: Amnesty International secretary, outdoor school, Amigos de Las Americas.

Lindsey Tripp: Academic All-Star, violin, cross-country/track.

Alena Tupper: Amnesty International president, photography, National Outdoor Leadership School.

Eric Vollmer: Design competition winner, tennis team captain, choir.

JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

Ma Vang: National Honor Society president, Math Engineering Science Achievement (Mesa).

Haben Woldu: National Honor Society, Math Engineering Science Achievement (Mesa).

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

Jordana Berres-Paul: National Honor Society, March of Dimes youth council, cheerleader.

Brianna Carlisle: Constitution team, International Baccalaureate diploma, cross country.

Sylvan Goldberg: National Honor Society, cross country, lacrosse.

Emma Pollack-Pelzner: Zimbabwean marimba band, All-Around Academic All-Star, founder of a tutoring program.

Amanda Morganroth: Constitution team, Model United Nations, figure skating.

MADISON HIGH SCHOOL

Robert Lambert: National Honor Society president, golf, football.

Katherine Rykken: Student government, National Honor Society, Key Club president.

Nicole Arendt: National Honor Society secretary, Key Club secretary, student advisory

committee.

Julie Thomas: Foreign exchange student, volleyball, student council.

Chi Kim Nguyen: Valedictorian, student body co-president, All-American cheerleader.

MARSHALL HIGH SCHOOL

Nadia Ali: Senior class treasurer, National Honor Society treasurer, Oregon Ballet Theater.

Zachary Edner: Basketball, valedictorian, PSU Viking Scholar.

Travis Edner: Basketball, valedictorian, PSU Viking Scholar.

METROPOLITAN LEARNING CENTER

Christopher Cotrell: Honors Latin, National Merit Scholar.

Rebecca Verhoeven: Advanced French and Russian.

ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL

Crystal Roberts: Student body president, valedictorian, Mayor Katz's student advisory council.

WILSON HIGH SCHOOL

Reina Abolafia: PSU clarinet ensemble, All-State Honor Band, Western Invitational band conference.

Margo Arnold: American Invitational Mathematics, OSU Jumpstart Art Program, stage crew and scene artist.

Rachel Beckman: School newspaper, National Honor Society co-president, student council.

John Gregory: Track.

Shane Hawke: Tennis, youth soccer coach, All-State chess.

Courtney Heizenrader: OSU Presidential Scholar, Outdoor School student leadership award.

Madeline Lee: Yearbook photographer, Pep Club co-chairman.

Steve Nelson: Valedictorian, Portland Sailing Team, baseball team co-captain.

Jill Pinkstaff: Oregon Live Intern, cross country/track, teacher with Students Today Aren't Ready for Sex.

Amy Seely: National Honor Society, soccer, Rose Festival Queen.

Kimberly Smith: Instrumental music, Swing Dance Club president, Woodrow Wilson Scholar.

Katie Thonstad: Outdoor School, Model United Nations, Camp Fire.