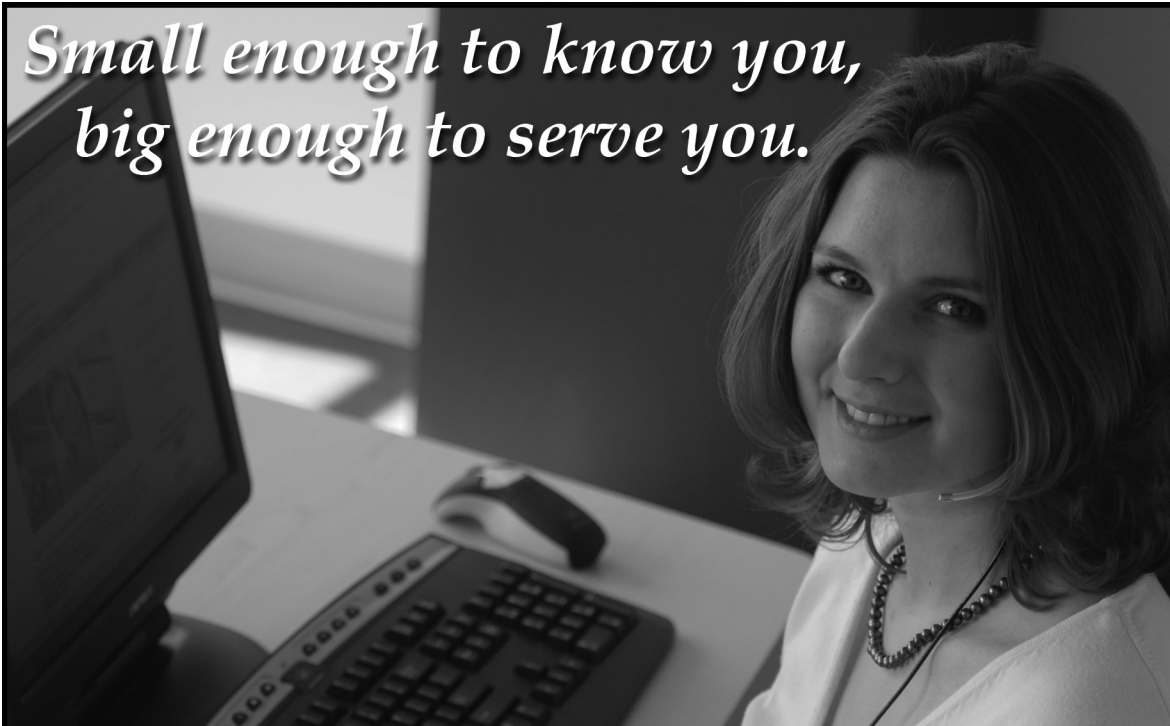


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IBEW continues tradition at The Grotto

IBEW Local 48 electrician Hilary Colbert puts a special touch on wiring one of the displays at The Grotto's Festival of Lights. For 20 years now, union electricians have volunteered their time while the National Electrical Contractors Association has covered the costs. This year, 35 electricians did the work. And it's a big job laying the wiring and hooking up control boxes and generators that power the 500,000 lights that make up The Grotto's displays. The Grotto Festival of Lights is open nightly through Dec. 30 from 5 to 9:30 p.m. The Grotto is located at NE 85th and Sandy Boulevard, Portland.

Rally promotes buying union-made goods this holiday season

Dozens of union members and activists helped shoppers choose safe, quality gifts that are union-made in the USA during a rally Dec. 10 in downtown Portland.

The event coincided with Interna-

tional Human Rights Day. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights — signed by the United Nation General Assembly in 1957 — guarantees all people who work do so under safe and favorable conditions, and that provides a standard of living that supports oneself and one's family, and some paid holidays — the same values as the union movement.

The Declaration also guarantees the right of all workers to join a union to negotiate for pay, benefits and human rights.

Rallygoers met at Verizon Wireless in downtown before marching to Pioneer Place Mall. Along the way they asked shoppers to buy union-made products, which guarantees they were made by people who were paid a decent wage and whose rights were respected.

Shoppers also were asked to sign a "health care for the holidays" pledge card and join with others in calling for affordable health care for all families.

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