

YPOP celebrates the holidays with annual buffet

DIANA SCRIVNER
Staff Writer

Fresh aromas will tickle your nose and warm your heart as participants in the Young Parents Opportunity Program (YPOP) celebrate the holidays tomorrow with their annual lunch prepared by 75-year-old Florence Bell.

"It's a wonderful way to celebrate the end of the first term," said Linda Durham, YPOP instructor.

The lunch is hosted by a number of volunteers and was started in 1992 by Bell, Durham said.

YPOP is a comprehensive educational program housed in the Family Resource Center (FRC), which serves young parents. It helps teens continue their education, increase their parenting skills and prepare for employment.

Bell explained that she and others from the Welfare Advisory Board wanted to find a way to connect with the people they serve.

"When I was on the Welfare

Advisory Board, we wanted to get involved in what we were doing, so we started this," said Bell.

She took her idea of having a lunch to YPOP advisors and they liked it. Every year, Bell has provided and prepared a home-cooked buffet of meatballs, rolls, salads and desserts. Her husband Ed Bell also helps by setting up tables and bringing in supplies.

Although the Welfare Advisory Board dismantled three years ago, Bell has continued on with the lunch.

"I didn't want to drop it; I felt like the kids were deserving of it. I wanted them to know I cared," Bell said.

Besides being a nice way to end the term, there are many ben-

efits to having this lunch. It teaches the students how to host a nice party and shows them different ways that they can do community service, according to Durham.

"There are so many (benefits) it's really wonderful," said Durham.

The Lions Club and The Com-



Florence Bell has cooked and prepared the buffet lunch for YPOP students since 1992. Here she is at last year's lunch with husband Ed.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO BY LINDA DURHAM

munity Partnership Team of the Department of Human Services in Clackamas County also contribute to the holiday lunch by giving gifts for students and their children. They supply each parent with a sweatshirt, and give him or her toys and books for their children.

"I thought that it was really cool that someone would do that

for us," said student Shanna Watman, of the efforts of the volunteers.

Every year after food is served, the students, staff members and volunteers share with the group the things they are proud of or have accomplished over the term. According to Durham this is a fun time for the students as well as the volunteers.

"The social interaction with each other" is what student Kylee Feagin enjoyed last year at the lunch and Feagin is looking forward to this year. "We can all just eat and mingle," she said.

"We appreciate what they're doing," Bell said about YPOP students. "They're turning their lives around and they deserve a second chance."

Bridges offers path to success

KRISTIN WISER
Staff Writer

A holiday food drive and a graduation ceremony Dec. 7 are two highlights of the Bridges program this month.

Bridges, a tuition free program that started last year, prepares students, ages 16-22, for the challenges that lay ahead of them in both college and the job market by adding a sense of direction and helping students become successful. The program covers such areas as stress management, personal wellness, expanding options, and increasing self-awareness.

Leslie Black teaches the class that is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 to 11:50 a.m.

"Because it is about success in college we look at the whole

person...anywhere from spirituality to...money," explains Black.

The Bridges' food drive, to help the hungry in the community, was initially prompted by a quote by John Adams brought in by student Amanda Yates:

"There is no experience better for the heart than reaching down and lifting someone up."

"This (quote) probably best describes Bridges," Black adds.

There are currently nine students enrolled in the program. The low number is due to the lack of awareness of the program and of its content, which is offered in the Career Planning section of the college catalog as HD202-04 and HD208-04 to be taken together, for a total of 6 credits.

Every student in the class is participating in the operation of the food

drive. They are looking to collect non-perishable cans and boxes of nutritional food.

Along with the food drive the students are also caroling at the Childcare Center located in the Family Resource Center.

These two community service projects come just before their Dec. 7 graduation.

"Each student graduates with a personal action plan," said Black. News Anchor Julie Emory is set to be the guest speaker at the ceremony.

The donation boxes for the food drive are located in the Family Resource Center as well as in Student Services. Bridges students are asking for your support by donating food to their food drive to help the less fortunate throughout the community.

Speech Team brings home award



MANDY GOOD/ Clackamas Print

Nash Carey accepts the second place debate award on behalf of himself and his partner Kindra Hazen at the Greater Portland League hosted by Mr. Hood Community College on Nov. 16.

Y2K: ITS performs equipment checks

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date is?" If it knows today is Dec. 1, 1999, then you need to check it out. Does it know that the day after Dec. 31, 1999 is Jan. 1, 2000? Those are simple things you can do in your home and around the workplace," said Rothi.

Rothi doesn't anticipate any problems going into the next millennium, but if there are, Clackamas will be ready.

"There's going to be some bumps. I can't predict what the bumps are. They'll iron themselves out pretty quickly. I don't think the planes are going to fall out of the sky. People are watching and working on the systems making sure it's ready to roll," said Rothi.

ITS will perform checks on equipment to help ensure system compliance.

"There are many elements involved in this," said Milton Reuck, help-desk technician.

ITS will be doing system checks to make sure the date will roll over.

"If someone has a problem with their PC's, I help them. If I can't help them over the phone, I send someone over to help them," added Reuck.

ITS does not support anything other than the basic computer software. Any individual software incorporated into the system may not be supported by ITS. PageMaker is one of the programs not supported by ITS.

"We don't support those sys-

tems so they're not our concerns," said Reuck.

ITS still has a three-page list of equipment they are checking off as they run through the software.

The library has been checking through their system independently.

"To the best of my knowledge Dynex, Ebsco, and Newsbank are compliant," said Terry Mackey, collection management librarian.

The library did everything that needed to be done over the summer.

Clackamas is well on its way to millennium compliance and no problems are foreseen.

"We're not done yet. We still have some equipment we are working through. Will we be done by Jan. 1, 2000? Absolutely," exclaimed Rothi.

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