

Assistance League receives \$2,000 check



Assistance League of the Columbia Pacific members were presented with a check for \$2,000 from the Windermere Foundation at the organization's Nov. 7 fall luncheon. The luncheon is an annual celebration of volunteer contributions to the organization's philanthropic programs benefiting Clatsop County school children in need. Pictured, from left, are Pam Ackley of Windermere Realty Trust and Karen Radditz, president of the Columbia Pacific chapter of the Assistance League. For information, go to assistanceleaguecp.org

Just say 'no' to hosting

Dear Annie: Christmas is around the corner, and my mother has asked me to host Christmas at my house. (Roughly 30 people will be there.) I do not feel my house is big enough, and hosting an event at my house gives me extreme anxiety! I hosted last year, but only because I was guilted into doing so. My house is just average size, but it's the largest of my sisters' and mother's. While everyone seems to be having a good time, I'm constantly worried about how cramped we are, how messy my house is getting, if there's enough food, etc.

DEAR ANNIE



ANNIE LANE
Creators
Syndicate Inc.

I can't enjoy myself. I really do not want to host again, but don't know what to tell them. Please help. — *Not Feeling the Christmas Spirit*

Dear Not Feeling: The magic word is "No." It really is that simple. And though you truly don't owe anyone an explanation, you have an easy one to reach for, if you must: You hosted last year. It's someone else's turn. Let them huff, hem and haw, and sort it out amongst themselves. But stand your ground. If you agree to host again and end up resentful, you'll only have yourself to blame.

Dear Annie: I'm trying to figure out how the dynamics of the dating world work. I'm 62. I met a lady not long ago and she seems really interested in me. In my younger years, I might have flirted back and encouraged the young lady's affections. But at my age, I'm not interested in leading anyone on. I would like to just be friends with this woman. If she wants more, what should I do? Any advice? — *Not Interested*

Dear Not Interested: The kindest thing that you can do is

to nip this woman's interest in the bud before it blossoms into a bigger crush. The next time you're speaking with her one-on-one, whether in person or over the phone, gently say something to the effect of: "I feel I should mention that I'm not interested in dating, but I think you're terrific and would love to become better friends, if you're up for that." Will it be slightly awkward? Yes, but only for a moment, and you'll breathe easier afterward knowing you've been honest.

Dear Annie: Recently, you responded to a reader with some walking tips for safety. Please add that walkers should wear reflective clothing so that they will be seen. (White/light-colored clothing does not count as reflective.) Far too often, when driving to and from work, I see people out walking in dark-colored clothing. The only reason I haven't hit one is that I am paying close attention. This is especially important with time changes and longer periods of darkness.

I wear a reflective vest and my dog wears a flashing reflective harness when we walk. I'd rather be safe than sorry. — *MJ from Massachusetts*

Dear MJ from Massachusetts: Indeed your advice is especially relevant as we've now entered those dreadful months when it's dark by 5 p.m. Reflective vests are affordable (around \$8 online and at stores such as Walmart and Dick's Sporting Goods) yet priceless in the protection they might afford. I love that you have a reflective harness for your pup, as well, and would encourage anyone who walks a dog at night to take such measures.

RELIGION BRIEFS

Grace Episcopal

The Rt. Rev. Michael Joseph Hanley, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon, presides at the 10 a.m. Sunday service, and will act in his role as chief priest and pastor. He will visit with the congregation following the service, when he will be available for questions.

There is a Thanksgiving Eucharist Celebration at Grace Episcopal Church, 1545 Franklin Ave., at 7 p.m. Wednesday, with music featuring Thanksgiving

hymns.

Dec. 1 is the First Sunday of Advent, which the church celebrates at the 10 a.m. service with the lighting of the first of four candles in the Advent wreath. The labyrinth will be available for walking from 3 to 6 p.m. Sunday. A labyrinth introduction is offered at 3 p.m. upon request. It takes an average of 30 minutes to complete the walk.

For information, call the church at 503-325-4691 or go to graceastoria.org

First Baptist

First Baptist Church of Astoria, 349 Seventh St., is hosting its annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner at the church on Sunday, after the worship service, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

A Service of Thanksgiving begins at 10:45 a.m., and concludes with individuals sharing what they are thankful for, which they will write on leaves to be placed on the Thanksgiving Tree.

For information, call the church at 503-325-1761.

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110 Announcements

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We are going to be closed for Thanksgiving so below are our deadlines for this upcoming Holiday.

For Tuesday the 26th, and Thursday the 28th Classifieds will be closing at Noon on Monday the 25th. Thank you and Happy Thanksgiving!

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CQ TQW AVYPL YA MQWNC
YPUNWCX ZWPYUV-LYPG?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THAT MEDICATION CAUSES PEOPLE TO BECOME SARCASTIC, SO BE CAREFUL OF ALL THE SNIDE EFFECTS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals Z

11-21 CRYPTOQUIP

MC ML LHTO LUJL
DAZO-RHMCLMAO LDIA MC
ADI LDLJWWB TAZWOJA JAP
WMLLOHOP TR? OBOCDHO
UDRO ADL!
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF "THE WIZARD OF OZ" HAD GOTTEN SET IN GERMANY, DO YOU THINK IT WOULD INCLUDE MUNICH-KINS?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals S

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In One Ear