

How to Protect Minors from Illegal Door-to-Door Sales Schemes

Bureau of Labor and Industries Commissioner
Mary Wendy Roberts

It is 10:00 p.m., and you hear a knock on the door. Wondering who could be visiting at such a late hour, you open the door to find a 13 year old girl, in a light windbreaker, standing on your doorstep. She asks you to buy some candy she is selling, and though it appears overpriced, you buy it out of sympathy. You ask her where she lives. She tells you. It's 25 miles from your home. As she walks away, you wonder how she got to your neighborhood, and if her parents know where she is. Then you get angry.

Self-Help Program Offered

"You can do it!" is the motto of the asthma and emphysema self-help program for adults, sponsored by St. Vincent Hospital and Medical Center and scheduled for March 3 through 14.

Persons who suffer from asthma, chronic bronchitis or emphysema, and their family members (at no additional cost) are welcome to participate in the two-week program. Sessions will be held Monday through Friday, except Wednesday, from 1 to 4 p.m.

The program is designed to help persons understand lung function and live with COPD. Specific areas to be covered include medications used by the emphysema patient; how to work and save energy; home exercise programs; oxygen equipment use; and breathing techniques.

A team of health professionals from different disciplines — including respiratory therapy, medicine, nursing, physical therapy, dietary and social work — present the program in a small-group format.

To enter the self-help program, persons need to obtain their doctor's prescription for its treatment.

For more information, persons may contact Jerry Stoney, coordinator of Pulmonary Rehabilitation at St. Vincent Hospital, 299-2291.

Scholarships

The Oregon Association of Public Accountants Scholarship Foundation will award a maximum of 10 one-year scholarships during the 1986-87 school year, according to Raymond A. Cass, Albany, Foundation chairman.

Cass said scholarships will range from \$500 to \$1,000 and will be awarded to qualified residents of the State of Oregon who are preparing for careers in accounting and who are enrolled or plan to enroll in an Oregon college or university.

Scholarship application forms may be obtained by writing to Cass at P.O. Box 1806, Albany, OR 97321, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Applications must be returned to him by April 15, 1986.

Award winners are selected on a basis of financial need, scholastic achievement, personal qualifications and professional promise. The Oregon Association of Public Accountants initiated the awards program in 1981 and since then has granted more than \$20,000 in scholarships.

In addition to Cass, members of the Scholarship Foundation board include Robert Boden, Portland; Alberta Cass, Albany; Gail DeLozier, Hillsboro; and Robert Gordon, Bend.

Energy Assistance to Resume

Salem — Payments for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) were in the mail on Friday, February 7th, after a suspension due to confusion about cutbacks under the Gramm-Rudman balanced budget act.

State Community Services Energy Assistance Program Manager Marian Milligan said that the final payment from the federal government has been received and agencies can resume taking applications and authorizing payments for low-income Oregonians. Oregon will not be losing any funds in FY86, due to a payment formula which specifies that states cannot fall below a certain funding level.

The program had been temporarily suspended two weeks ago and social service agencies were asked to put payments on hold until this was resolved at the federal level. All agencies have been notified and have resumed taking applications. Each agency has been authorized to spend their original allocation and estimates of expiration dates vary from February 10th through March 15th, depending on location.

Milligan suggested that persons who had appointments cancelled should contact their local LIEAP agencies and reschedule their appointments, as should persons who were unable to be served.

According to Milligan, it is unknown, however, how much will be cut next year when the deficit reduction bill takes full effect. Estimates have ranged from 18 to 20 percent, depending on Congressional action.

Changes are this young girl is employed by a company that uses the labor of children illegally to sell candy and other items door-to-door. Last week, as Commission of the Bureau of Labor and Industries, I imposed fines of \$53,550 on a Portland company for 93 violations of Oregon's child labor laws for employing minors illegally to sell door to door.

It is against the law in Oregon and many other states to employ certain minors in that kind of work. Yet companies all over the U.S., like the one in Portland, break the law by employing some minors in jobs that are unsafe at best.

Under Oregon law, 14 and 15 year

olds may be employed to sell candy and other items to businesses only, not door-to-door in residential neighborhoods. Minors under 14 are not allowed to be employed in either door-to-door or business sales of this nature. Sixteen and 17 year olds may sell door to door, but they must first obtain a photo ID card from the Bureau of Labor and Industries. ALL minors must have a work permit from the Bureau and the employer must have an employer certificate which shows they have the Bureau's permission to employ minors. All three documents are available free from the Bureau.

Employers should not ask your 14 or 15 year olds to sell past 6:00 p.m. and

16 and 17 year olds should not be working past 9:00 p.m. without special permission. Your child should also be provided with return transportation from the job site.

If your child is offered a job that would violate any of these rules, I urge you to contact the Wage and Hour Division of the Bureau of Labor and Industries in your area: Portland 229-5107.

Our laws and regulations are not meant to hamper the fund raising activities of non-profit organizations such as churches, Scouts or Campfire. Indeed, such organizations are exempted from these regulations, as well as paper boys and girls. Children participating in these activities have adequate supervi-

sion, work only in their own communities, in neighborhoods they know, and don't work late hours. I urge parents, however, to make sure their children carry proper identification while participating in these wholesome, legal activities, for safety's sake.

As a consumer, you can help stop the perpetuation of illegal employment activities by checking on the following before buying goods at your door:

Check to see if the child is selling for a non-profit organization. Though these minors are not required to carry identification, many do, or are obviously dressed in a group uniform.

If the child says he is employed to sell the goods, he must carry an ID card

with a photo, issued by the Bureau of Labor and Industries. Otherwise, the child is working for a company that is not following our child labor laws. If you suspect the child is employed illegally, please don't purchase the goods, and call the Wage and Hour Division of the Bureau of Labor and Industries nearest you. Your help is needed in curbing this exploitation of our minors.

It has been estimated that as many as 350,000 of the nation's 1.2 million underground gas station storage tanks may leak within two years, reports *National Wildlife* magazine. A small leak of only one-and-a-half cups per hour can contaminate as much as a million gallons of ground water in one day.



These Feature Grocery Items Are Just An Example Of What You Will Find In Your "Safeway Shopping Guide"

Look In Your "THIS WEEK" Newspaper Today For Even More Selection And Value For Your Dollar At Safeway



Bone-In Round Steak

Safeway "Select" Beef, Cut & Fix Swiss Style! Delicious!

\$1.39
Lb.

Save Up To \$1.59 Lb., No Limit!

Juicy Ripe Strawberries

First of the Season! Plump, ripe and full-flavored from Calif.

Dry Pint Bskt. **79¢**

Save Up To 60%, No Limit!

Med. Cheddar Cheese

Bandons, 2-Pound Loaf . . . Delicious Made-In-Oregon Cheese!

\$3.69
Ea.

Save Up To \$1.90, No Limit!

Town House Vegetables

Choose 17-Ounce Whole Kernel Corn Or 16.5-Ounce Cream Style!

4 For \$1

Save Up To \$1.20 On 4, No Limit!



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