

Emanuel Names Brenda Williams Employee of Month



Brenda Williams, a long-time employee at Emanuel, is the September Employee of the Month. Brenda received her award in a surprise announcement in the Courtyard Cafe on Sept. 21. Brenda has been employed at Emanuel since July 1979. She has filled

several positions, including Secretary to the public relations department, and now Secretary/Receptionist in Human Resources, considered one of the busiest positions in the hospital. Brenda's distinctive voice and spirited telephone style is unmistakable when calling the department.

Here is what some of those who nominated her have to say about her:

"Brenda is the Human Resources Goddess of Information. She is a wealth of knowledge and she shares that knowledge efficiently and pleasantly, without fail, to people from within and without the hospital."

"I have seen Brenda masterfully handle questions from a number of people standing in the reception area while also answering the deluge of incoming calls. Amazingly, she always remains professional and courteous and pleasant."

It would take two or three people to replace Brenda and Maintain the quality of service at that desk."

Tri-Met Partakes in Minority Business Day, Ups Goals

Tri-Met participated in "Minority Business Opportunity Day," Wednesday, October 10, at an awards luncheon held in conjunction with National Minority Enterprise Development Week.

The luncheon, co-sponsored by the Portland Federal Executive Board's Minority Business Opportunity Committee and the Northwest Minority Purchasing Council, will offer a unique opportunity for minority and disadvantaged firms to match their products, construction capabilities or other services, with needs of major purchasers throughout the region.

The awards luncheon, to recognize minority-owned businesses from the Portland metropolitan area, was held at the Jantzen Beach Red Lion Inn. Tri-Met joined twelve other government organizations in promoting the event which underscored ways in which minority businesses may compete for government contracts and procurements throughout the region. The theme of the luncheon was "Minority Entrepreneurs Achieving Excellence in America's Marketplace." The keynote speaker was former New Mexico Governor Toney Anaya.

An active participant in the region's commitment to hire qualified minority firms, Tri-Met last month raised its annual goal for doing business with disadvantaged businesses from 12% to 14% of total federal dollars available for contracting opportunities through Tri-Met. The agency exceeded last year's goal.

Year-Old Program Assists Landlords

The Community Policing Division of the Portland Police Bureau will open its fall schedule of the Landlord Training Program with a two-evening training on Wednesday and Thursday, October 17 and 18, 6:00 p.m., at Arleta School Auditorium, 5109 S.E. 66th Avenue, just south of Foster Road.

The training will be repeated five more times during October and November, including three more mid-week, two-evening sessions, and two Saturday daytime dates. Other locations will include the Bonneville Power Administration Building, 905 N.E. 11th Avenue, Room 223, near Lloyd's Center.

The trainings are open to the public, but advance registration is required. Although the Police Bureau is especially targeting an area of Southeast Portland for these fall trainings, property owners and managers from all areas of town are encouraged to attend. Landlords in the targeted neighborhoods are receiving letters of invitation.

Since the first seminar held in November 1989, the Landlord Training Program has instructed approximately 1,400 landlords and professional managers on how to keep illegal drug activity out of rental property. These participants represent 36,000 rental units in Portland and surrounding communities. In addition to the support of the Portland Police Bureau, the program has received assistance from the Portland Fire Bureau, Neighborhoods Against Crime and Neighborhood Revitalization. The program was developed by John Campbell of Campbell Resources, Inc., and is funded through a Clandestine Drug Lab grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

Minorities Take a Stand Through Community Events

by Angelique Sanders

Portland-area minorities of all kinds are kicking off the 1990s with a spirit of change, as illustrated in the last few weeks by events ranging from last Wednesday's Metropolitan Human Relations Commission meeting at the King Neighborhood facility to Anti-Racist Action National Convention at P.S.U. last Friday; a press conference the same day focusing on justice, equality and harmony (which took place at the Convention Center) to Native American Poet Reading at Clinton Street Theater.

Minorities are learning there strength in the community as their numbers grow. Hopefully, everyone is trying to make their voices heard, but sometimes it's difficult to keep track of where to go to speak for your rights. In this spirit, what follows are some minority events to attend in the following week:

Thursday, October 11

Coming Out Day: KBOO will broadcast a special forum from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 13

"Steps to Freedom 1990 Walk": Beginning at 9:00 a.m. from Terry Schunk Plaza will be a 5 kilometer pledge walk for labor and health rights in Oregon and El Salvador. Contact 236-7916 for more information.

"We the People Rally": 11:30-1:30 p.m., Pioneer Courthouse Square, sponsored by Metropolitan Human Relations Commission. Invited participants include: Bow and Arrow Club (Indian drummers), Kate Sullivan (Women Blues Band), Caton Lyles and Bruce Smith (African drummers), Palante and the Cuban Dance Ensemble, Bridges (gay and lesbian vocal group) and many more. Speakers include Congressman Les AuCoin, Mayor Bud Clark, Commissioner Sharron Kelley, Kathleen Saadat, Jeannette Pai, and Commissioner Mike Lindberg. For more information, contact Roxanne at 796-5136.

In closing, I wish to include a quote by Jeannette Pai: "This is the time for our community to stand firm on sending out a clear and decisive message that we will not tolerate hate/bias crime. We must also reaffirm our appreciation of the richness that comes with diversity."

The Portland Observer would like to take this opportunity to salute those involved in minority and struggling business enterprises...being a minority publication, we understand the dedication and perseverance it takes to keep up with the non-disadvantaged businesses. We dedicate this issue to all those with the courage and pride to keep the dream alive.

Black Cellist Exhibits Talent



Ms. Karen Rose Patterson, accomplished cellist, has credits to her name including playing with such artists as Wynton Marselles and Ella Fitzgeralds, and she studied under Rostropovich. She also played in July at the first Annual African American Royal Court Coronation and Reception.

Ms. Patterson has performed at the Carnegie Hall, the White House, Tonhalle in Zurich Switzerland, and at Royal Albert Hall in London. Her musical abilities range from, but are not limited to, classical to jazz.

Are you getting all the benefits you qualify for?

Studies Find Many Unaware of Social Security Benefits

There is more to Social Security than benefits for persons over 62 years of age. Consumer Education Research Center, a national non-profit consumer group has been researching the Social Security systems and the benefits it provides since 1972. One finding is that, of the 50 million persons now collecting benefits, more than 15 million are under 62 and, surprisingly, the average age is only about 30.

Robert L. Berko, consumer writer and executive director of the Center, says the organization has been publishing and updating a complete list of available benefits (and how to qualify for them) for the past 16 years, due to billions of dollars left unclaimed. The Guide offers consumers of all ages an awareness of the benefits they are entitled to under the latest laws. The twelfth update (a complete revision) is now available.

The book contains a form to get a copy of your Social Security account showing all credits to your account and an estimate of the amount you will get upon retirement or disability. Workers must check their Social Security accounts frequently since any errors more than three years old will not be corrected. Often, the study found, workers have had too much deducted from their wages and were due a refund. In other cases, employers had not sent the correct amount to be credited to accounts. If you have records of the amount earnings and deductions, you will be credited with that money and the employer's share whether or not he ever sent the money to the government.

The 240-page Consumers Guide to Social Security Benefits Including Medicare is available for \$9 (plus \$2 P/H) from CERC, 350 Scotland Rd., Orange, NJ 07050 or by calling 1-800-USA-0121 (with credit card).

Strangely, the agency does not publish a comprehensive book for consumers that would inform them of all benefits due under Social Security and

who is eligible. In past years there were many pamphlets available which described various phases of the program. Now, under the present austerity budget, many of these have been discontinued and plans for new booklets scrapped. To make things worse, no office has a complete set of the few pamphlets that are supposed to be available.

Among the findings of the study group and included in the Guide are:

- In some cases parents of a deceased worker are eligible for benefits even if they never paid into the system.
- Many children are eligible for benefits even though their parents never paid into the system.
- Minor children and surviving spouse of a person who has worked under the SS system for as little as one day in each of six annual quarters can collect benefits.
- Income from investments, interest, annuities, rentals and royalties are not considered in determining eligibility--nor is income from a business in which the person was owner or partner if payments are made as a retirement benefit, purchase of equity or any of the above.
- Only income listed as payment for actual work will affect retirement benefits. And after age 70, even that restriction is lifted.
- A divorcee (either sex), 62 or older, who was married 10 years or more is eligible for benefits when the ex-spouse starts collecting retirement or disability payments. If the divorcee was later married and that marriage ended in death or divorce, this will not affect eligibility.
- The Supplementary Security Income (SSI) program provides benefits to aged, blind, physically disabled and even those with language handicaps. Even if these recipients own cars, homes, or other assets, no lien is taken against these assets and a person cannot be disqualified because relatives are financially able to support the recipient.
- Some benefits, such as SSI, do not require any work record by the recipient or his or her family.

76 Protech Guaranteed Auto Service Begins Where New Car Warranties End



76 Protech Master Technicians use state-of-the-art equipment and are required to complete a rigorous hands-on training program in the areas of tune-ups and emissions testing, wheel alignment, brake systems and air conditioning.

Many new car owners are not concerned about guaranteed auto service until they find the warranty on their car expired. This is when 76 Protech can offer the concerned car owner some assurance.

A new concept in guaranteed auto service, the 76 Protech network of over 600 certified stations provides written estimates and guarantees for all parts and labor on tune-ups and emissions testing, wheel alignment, brakes and air conditioning. They must then pass a written examination and performance test designed and administered by Colorado State University, a leader in auto motive education and advancement.

Because automobiles change continuously, 76 Protech certification runs only three years. To be recertified, the technician must pass a written test at a Protech Learning Center.

Unocal is careful to maintain the highest standards of quality at its 76 Protech dealers. Inspectors verify equipment standards and technician qualifications at every 76 Protech dealership on a quarterly basis.

76 Protech technicians receive their initial training and recertification at one of five 76 Protech Automotive Learning Centers located in Pasadena, Calif.; Corona, Calif.; Hayward, Calif.; Renton, Wash. and Honolulu, Hawaii. Sixty percent of the training takes place in the service bays, which feature the latest in top-of-the-line equipment. The remaining 40 percent of instruction is conducted in the classroom.

To qualify as a 76 Protech Master Technician, a technician must complete

"Tall Oaks From Little Acorns Grow"

David Everett, 1797



The Portland Development Commission has historically supported the participation of economically disadvantaged businesses in Commission projects. We know that healthy and growing small businesses are beneficial to the local economy. That's why PDC has taken steps to encourage use of emerging small businesses in construction contracts and purchases of other goods and services. In fact, 10% of certain contracts and purchases must include certified emerging small businesses. PDC sets voluntary goals of utilizing 5% minority business enterprises and 2.5% women business enterprises. We salute local emerging business because we know what's good for small business is good for Portland. If you have a business that may qualify and would like information on PDC projects or certification, contact David Nemo at 796-5348.



Working for All of the Earth

Caring for the Land and Serving People



USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region

In the tradition of caring service, the USDA Forest Service wishes luck and prosperity to the minority businesses everywhere