

**BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH**

**Our Prayers
Are With
Those In
the Gulf**

PORTLAND OBSERVER 25¢

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"The Eyes and Ears of The Community"

February 13, 1991

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The Observer wishes you and those close to you a very happy Valentine's Day

General Colin Powell Addresses Kids Program



Acting as a television news unit, students from a participating school in the Panasonic Kid Witness News Program "cover" a full day of governmental and political events in Washington, D.C. Here two "kids interview General Colin Powell, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, following an address he delivered to a group of members of Congress. The students are Shaun Glover, II, (left) and Yobelin Fernandez, 10, from the Ralph Bunche School (P.S. 125), New York City. During the 1990-91 school year, Panasonic Company is providing state-of-the-art video studios, portable equipment and instructional material to 100 public elementary schools in 30 cities. The students are learning organizational and communications skills through hands-on experience in operating the facilities, reporting stories and creating a variety of videos.

Free Health Screenings For Seniors (Age 55+ Offered at Neighborhood Sites)

- March 1** Westmoreland Union Manor, 6404 SE 23rd. Please call 233-5671 for an appointment (9 a.m. to 12 noon).
- March 8** Gresham Senior Center, 50 N.E. Elliott. Please call 665-7191 for an appointment (9 a.m. to 12 noon).
- March 15** Althenheim Retirement Center, 7901 SE Division. Please call 775-1583 for an appointment (9 a.m. to 12 noon).
- March 29** Urban League Adult and Senior Service Center, 10 North Russell. Please call 280-2639 for an appointment (9 a.m. to 12 noon).

Among services at the screenings are blood chemistry tests which include cholesterol, glucose and amnesia measurements, blood pressure, colorectal cancer take-home test kit, lung function and hearing testing. Vision and glaucoma assessments, nutritional

counseling and foot care evaluation are also usually offered. Appointments are necessary and may be made by calling the screening site. There is no charge for the screenings which are funded by Legacy Health System hospitals and healthcare organizations.

Community Wide Preschool Health And Developmental Screening Project

Screening Kids Informing Parents (SKIP) provides preschool-age children (and sometimes infants and toddlers) with screening in areas of general and dental health, hearing, vision, speech/language and motor skill development. It provides parents with information and connects them with services, programs and other resources appropriate to their children's particular needs and family income. Parents are also provided with fun-at-home activities to build their children's skill level and confidence.

The purpose of this project is to reach high-risk children through a cooperative multi-agency approach and

address their needs before health and developmental problems become a deterrent to success in school and life. Its purposes is consistent with a new federal law (Public Law 99-457) requiring identification and service to preschool-age children with special needs.

Screening is done by professionals and supervised college students who are studying professions directly related to the health and development of young children. Community members volunteer their time for the non-professional aspects of the screening. A play area for brothers and sisters is supervised by high school students from

parenting classes. Interpreters are provided to help non-English speaking families and to translate written materials.

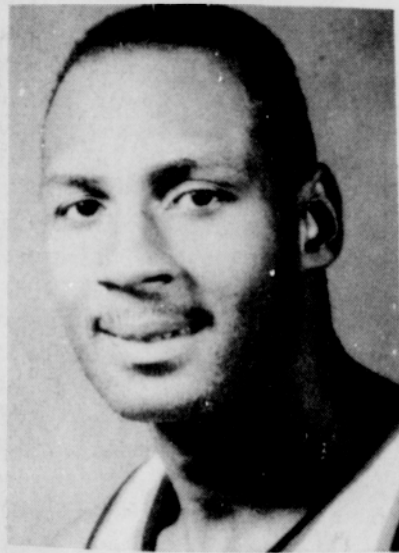
Professional time is contributed from private practice and the following schools and agencies: Oregon Health Sciences University, Portland State University, Portland Dental Hygiene Association, Portland Center for Speech and Hearing, Pacific University, Portland Community College, Mt. Hood Community College, University of Portland, Housing Authority of Portland, AMA Head Start, Multnomah County Department of Health and Human Services, Multnomah Education Service District, Portland Public Schools and

Participating East Multnomah County schools.

This effort is part of the Portland Leaders Roundtable, "Portland Investment Plan," to invest in our future by investing in our young people. It is a first step toward establishment and expansion of preventive programs for children in their early years and toward formation of linkages among schools and agencies that will assure a continuum of services to meet the needs of our young people as they develop.

SKIP is sponsored by AMA Head Start, City of Portland, Multnomah County, Multnomah Education Service District and Portland Public Schools.

Duckworth Visits Whitaker Middle School As Spokesman For Homeless Program



KEVIN DUCKWORTH

Portland Trail Blazer Kevin Duckworth will visit Whitaker Middle School, 5700 N.E. 39th Ave., Thursday (Feb. 14) in his first appearance as honorary spokesman for Portland School District's Homeless Program.

Duckworth speaks to students at

assemblies at 1 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. and will tour a converted school bus, dubbed the "Duckmobile," that will travel to local homeless shelters providing educational services for children. The traveling classroom, sponsored by Portland-area McDonald's Restaurants, will often be the first stop for youngsters on their road to-or back to-school.

Duckworth's efforts in the Homeless Program will help keep students, school staff members and the community aware of the special needs of homeless students.

Whitaker's assemblies also will feature "Shelter Boy," a Fox 49 videotape that focuses on one family's experiences with homelessness.

The Homeless Program is a component of Portland School District's Project Return, an effort to reach out to students who are not enrolled in school or who are at risk of dropping out or failing. For more information, please call Lionel Johnson, Project Return coordinator, 280-6587.

Roberts Announces Workers Compensation Board Member



Rudy Westerband

Governor Barbara Roberts announced that Rudy Westerband will fill a vacancy on the Workers Compensation Board, pending Senate confirmation. Westerband is replacing Dianne Perry and will serve the remainder of her four-year term, which expires in December of 1992.

Westerband, 42, brings years of problem solving experience to the Board. He is currently an Administrator for the Employment Relations Board. Westerband served as a City Attorney for Portland (1984-88) and as an Assistant Attorney General in the Department of Justice (1978-81). He has also served on the Portland Civil Service Commission and was a Multnomah Legal Aid Service board member.

The Workers Compensation Board is made up of three members. In addition to Westerband, Lynn Marie Crider will serve out her term, which expires in December. There is one vacancy remaining.

PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS OFFER PARENTING CLASSES

February Classes

PREPARING FOR DRUG-FREE YEARS

Whitman Elementary
7423 S.E. Flavel St.
280-6370

Feb. 12, 21, 28,
March 7, 14; 7 p.m.; \$10 fee; childcare

PREPARING FOR DRUG-FREE YEARS

Smith Elementary
8935 S.W. 52nd Ave.
280-6316

Wednesdays, Feb. 13, 20, 27,
March 6, 13; 6:30 p.m.; \$10 fee;

PARENT GROUP

Meek Elementary
4039 N.E. Alberta Court
288-4540

Thursdays, Feb. 14,
March 14; 8:30 a.m.
CHEMICALLY AFFECTED FAMILIES

Whitaker Middle
5700 N.E. 39th Ave.
280-5620

Wednesday, Feb. 20;
6:30 p.m.

SETTING LIMITS, RULES FOR CHILDREN
Marysville Elementary
7733 S.E. Raymond St.
280-6363

Thursday, Feb. 21; 7 p.m.; childcare