

**The Reading Tree
Presents Its 9th Annual
Silent Auction And
Punch Party**

Sunday, April 28th 1pm-6pm 2116 N.E. 18th (near Tillamook)
Special Music by: Goldie Irby, Sam Jackson, Joseph Thomas, The Dorseys, etc.

Auction items such as: Japanese dinner for 4, Autographed Blazer Basketball, Cakes, Pies, Boat trip, Mountain Cabin for weekend, Roses delivered, etc.

Help us prepare for the 20th year of the Reading Tree in Irving Park and the 4th year in Alberta Park.

Tickets are \$2.50 or PAY AT THE DOOR.

For more information call Betty Walker at 281-1768.

The Reading Tree is a summer program in Irving and Alberta Parks in Northeast Portland. It has been at Irving Park for 17 years and at Alberta Park for 3 years. The Reading Tree is a community based, positive reading activity program where children, parents, volunteers and staff, together, can share in building reading skills, story telling, phonics and songs. The program is free.

In 1969, Irvington reading Houses were established for youth of all ages within the community. In 1971 this idea was expanded to start the Reading Tree Project in Irving Park. Working together, youth and adults from Irvington and adjoining area came to participate where they share and learn together.

**Graduate Record
Examination (GRE)
Review Course**

Portland State University's Division of Continuing Education is offering a Graduate Record Examination (GRE) review course that is designed to help students maximize their performance on the GRE, a test that is used by many colleges and universities as an objective instrument to evaluate candidates for admission to graduate programs. Taught by experienced instructors, the review course provides students with a methodical review of material covered on the GRE, in-class student exercises, and home study materials complete with answers and explanations.

The GRE review course meets Saturdays 9am-5pm, April 27, May 4, 11, and 18, 1991 on PSU campus. Tuition is \$185.

To register, send payment payable to Portland State University, Division of Continuing Education, PO Box 1393, Portland, OR 97207; or phone 725-4832 with your VISA or Mastercard number.

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Proposed Cuts To Dart Programs Resulting From Measure 5

Johnny Jones (not his real name) is a 14 year old student who was brought in for day treatment by his parents. He had been in the public school system and several different treatment programs before he came to Tio Nicks Adolescent Day Treatment Program. Johnny was diagnosed as a conduct disordered child who was also aggressive. He was too disruptive for the regular classroom environment, he was behind in his grade level, he did not respond well to the guidance of his parents at home, he had no close friends, and at times he was the target of aggressive behavior from other students because of his inability to manage his emotional responses well. Although Johnny was diagnosed as seriously emotionally disturbed he had to wait almost a year before an opening was available. During that time he was

not in school for several reasons, most of which were included in his treatment as issues he and his family had to address. Johnny's parents are not eligible for Title XIX. His parents income is not enough to pay for his treatment and support the rest of their family. He is not included under the services available for handicapped students under the guidelines of the public schools. If he were not in this day treatment program he would not be able to receive the treatment he needs.

Tio Nick's is one of the programs operated by the Center for Community Mental Health. It provides therapeutic counseling services as well as educational services for fifteen seriously emotionally disturbed adolescents. The program is located in North East Portland. It is funded through the Childrens

Services Division to serve children who are not able to benefit effectively from the regular educational system due to problems with their behavior. These children need the special structure provided by a therapeutic setting with more individualized instruction and individual counseling for the child and their families.

Johnny is only one of many children in the state of Oregon who are enrolled in Day and Residential Treatment (DART) Services. Johnny is among 61% of children currently served who will be involuntarily discharged from treatment should the proposed cuts by CSD be implemented as planned. Due to the impact of Measure 5, CSD has been placed in the position of eliminating services to any children whom they are not mandated to serve under the

Title XIX program (Welfare Eligible). CSD is proposing to reduce the budget in several ways by cutting the budget 16.5% for all DART programs; by funding only the children on welfare; by transferring the administration of the DART Programs to the Department of Mental Health and by channeling all referrals for Day Treatment through the EPSDT (Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment) system. Should these policies be implemented 63% of the children currently served throughout the state in the DART programs would be without service (those who are not on welfare). Several programs throughout the state who do not have any welfare recipients in their programs would close.

It is not certain how the services for those children who are not on Wel-

fare would be provided. The public schools and the Department of Mental Health are already struggling to provide services at the current level. Certainly the children deserve to be treated in a therapeutic setting that prevents them from eventually becoming part of the residential care system or the juvenile justice system.

We are asking the legislature of the State of Oregon to consider the long term effect of the elimination of these treatment services from the state. The most needy children would be eliminated from treatment, approximately 75% of the programs, located primarily in the rural and hard to reach areas of Oregon, would be eliminated as they would be unable to operate with the limited number of eligible children in their programs.



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