

The Portland Observer 25¢

SIGN OF THE SEASON



Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Bailey's home at 1424 N.E. Dekum gives real meaning to the Christmas season. The Bailey home has been decorated each year by their son Jodell Bailey, who started decorating homes as a project for neighbors and friends. It has turned into a



Walter Bailey

booming business for the holiday season. The Bailey home has a sign which is decorated to let everyone know their son Walter Bailey, who plays for the Washington Huskies, will be going to the Rose Bowl again for the third time. Walter is a graduate of Benson High, class of 1988.

Packwood Makes Statement Concerning Allegations

At a time when public officials and public institutions are correctly under scrutiny and when cynicism about people in public office is at an all-time high, there must be accountability and responsibility for official actions and conduct. I am here today to take full responsibility for my conduct.

I believe I have an unequivocally strong record of support for women's issues. Furthermore, my office has been a beacon of opportunity for many women in Oregon and in Washington, D.C. My belief in women's rights and the political agenda of the women's movement has been one of the cornerstones of my political career.

But now all of my past record is clouded because of incidents in which my actions were unwelcome and offensive to the women involved.

This is clear; my past actions were not just inappropriate. What I did was not just stupid or boorish. My actions were just plain wrong.

Before commenting further, let me tell you a bit of my background and the evolution of my convictions on women in the workplace.

My childhood of the 1930s and 1940s was typical of the times. Male

and female students were on separate tracks, even in the co-educational public schools I attended. Boys took shop; girls took cooking, boys were doctors, girls were nurses.

Through college and law school it was the same. Even when I started to practice law in 1958, there was still a major debate in law firms about whether women should be made partners.

A sea of change occurred for me in 1960 when I was elected chairman of my county Republican Central Committee. It had a very gender biased structure. The women on the committee, equally competent or in many cases more competent than the men, were nonetheless confined to subordinate roles, doing tasks traditionally assigned to women. Seeing both their frustration and the waste of their talents, I moved these women into positions of authority and responsibility.

From that time forward all my political activities have been, for lack of a better term "gender neutral." Those who could perform best, regardless of gender, were given the greatest responsibilities.

I have had talented men and women as my Chief of Staff. Indeed, for the past

15 years women have held that position.

Great women and men have passed through my organization. Carol Crawford, one of my first hires in 1969 as a legislative assistant, was the Assistant Attorney General of the United States and is now a Commissioner on the International Trade Commission.

Bill Diefenderfer, my Chief of Staff on both the Commerce and Finance Committees became the Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Karen Phillips, who served on the staffs of both the Commerce and Finance Committees, is now a Commissioner on the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Alan Holmer, my second Administrative Assistant was subsequently Deputy United States Trade Representative.

During all of these years in the Senate, we functioned as a team. We were men and women bound together by a common and demanding cause and a serious purpose. The work was hard, but if the term "fraternal" can be used in a gender neutral sense, we were a political fraternity. We argued together,

sometimes vehemently, over policy. We ate and drank together. We joked and laughed together. We sang together. But through it all ran equality and merit and performance, regardless of gender.

In light of my commitment to women's issues and my deep belief that the workplace must be gender neutral, the current charges about my behavior trouble me in a profound way. I recognize now that my personal conduct has been at variance with these beliefs -- not because my convictions are not genuine, but because my conduct was not faithful to those convictions.

Although most of these incidents are a decade or two decades old, and no one's job or pay or status in the office was threatened, my conduct was wrong. "I just didn't get it." I do now.

I said I am here to take full responsibility for my conduct, and I do so. The issue here is my conduct, and conduct alone. I will not debate the recent accounts of my actions toward my staff and those who worked with my office. The important point is that my actions were unwelcome and insensitive. These women were offended, and I am truly sorry.

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Urban League Senior Center To Host 1992 Kwanzaa Celebration

The Urban League's Multi-Cultural Senior Center at 5325 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. will host a Kwanzaa Celebration from December 26-31. Kwanzaa is a 26-year-old African-American Celebration that combines traditional African principles with the African-American experience. Everyone is invited to attend the series of free Kwanzaa events.

Kwanzaa is a Swahili word meaning "first fruits." In 1966 Dr. Maulana Karenga added an "a" to the word and established a seven-day holiday he called Kwanzaa. For an increasing number of African-Americans, the annual celebration has become a time for reflection, rejoicing and coming together as a people.

The foundation of Kwanzaa are the Seven Principles of blackness or Nguzo Saba. Each night of Kwanzaa celebrates a different principle. The seven principles and this year's schedule of events are as follows:

Dec. 26, Umoja (Unity) -- To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation and race. The Black Educational Center presents a children's Program from 2 - 4 p.m. Dec. 27, Kujichagulia (Self-Determination) -- To

define ourselves, name ourselves and speak for ourselves. The Sirius Study Group presents an African History Jeopardy Game from 3 - 5 p.m.

Dec. 28, Ujima (Collective work and Responsibility) -- To build and maintain our community together. The Coalition of Black Men presents a Trigt to the Elders from 7 - 9 p.m.

Dec. 29, Umjamaa (Cooperative Economics) -- To build and maintain our own businesses and profit together from them. The Black Educational Center presents the African Marketplace from 7 - 9 p.m.

Dec. 30, Nia (Purpose) -- To collectively build and develop our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness. Graduation Ceremony for youth in the Urban League Rites of Passage Program from 7 - 9 p.m.

Dec. 31, Kuumba (Creativity) -- To do as much as we can to leave our community more beautiful than when we inherited it. Community organizations present Karamu (The Big Feast) from 6 - 9 p.m.

Jan. 1, Imani (Faith) -- To believe in our parents, teachers, leaders and in our people. Families are encouraged to celebrate this day with activities at home.

Project Network Plans Holiday Celebration Honoring African Heritage

Project Network, a program for chemically-dependent pregnant mothers and their children located on the Emanuel Hospital & Health Center campus, will sponsor a traditional holiday celebration for 50 children of Project Network clients and members of the community who have worked with them throughout the year on Thursday, December 17 from 3:30 - 5:30 at 2749 North Kerby, Portland.

The Christmas party will feature an African-American Santa who will present the children with gifts donated by Legacy Health System employees. Legacy Health System selected Project Network to be the recipient of the gifts from their 1992 gift-giving tree.

In addition, the Black Education Center will present an educational program on Kwaanza. Kwaanza is a non-denominational African-American cultural event based on the harvest cel-

ebrations held in many African communities.

The seven day holiday is observed from December 26-January 1, and is based on seven principles: unity, self determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith. Each night celebrants observe one of these principles with a candlelighting ceremony followed by activities which reflect the theme for the evening. Gifts are given to the children on the last day of the celebration for the good work they have done throughout the year.

Legacy Health System includes: Emanuel Hospital & Health Center, Good Samaritan Hospital & Health Center, Holladay Park Medical Center, Meridian Park Hospital, Mount Hood Medical Center, Visiting Nurse Association and Managed Healthcare Northwest/PPO.

Holiday Trims Offered To Boys and Girls

Boys and girls from North Portland --ages 16 and under -- wanting to look their holiday best can get free haircuts Monday, December 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Salvation Army's Moore Street Community Center, 5335 N. Williams Avenue in Portland.

In its tenth year the holiday program offers professional cuts to any kid on a first come first serve basis.

The haircuts enable children to feel good about themselves during a very special time of the year. For more information call 282-2571.

Needy Children Receive New Shoes

On Saturday, December 12, William Temple House took 155 children from Portland Public Schools, the Independent Living Program, Youth Progress and other foster care programs and purchased new shoes with funds provided by the Friends of William Temple House.

The children, ages 5-18, were taken by bus to Volume Shoe Store on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in three shifts (9am, 11am and 1pm). They then return to William Temple House for a holiday party. Activities include videos, games, crafts and story-telling, a clown also provide entertainment. Party times were set for 11am, 1pm and 3pm.

Various groups have donated items or reduced their fees for the event.

Participating organizations include Nike, Laidlaw Transportation and Christ Community Church.

"We are particularly excited about this event because it directly touches needy kids," said Giny Finch, chair of the Friends of William Temple House. "What a wonderful thing to do at Christmas time."

The Friends of William Temple House raise funds for the agency through an annual membership drive. In the past five years, the group has raised over \$57,000 for William Temple House programs. Their mission is to provide direct client aid.

A nonprofit organization, William Temple House provides free short-term counseling and emergency services. This is accomplished without government or United Way funds. The agency has served the greater Portland metropolitan area for 27 years and is located in the historic Mackenzie House in Northwest Portland.

Martin Luther King, Jr.
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