

METRO *Life*

LIFE IN THE PORTLAND METROPOLITAN AREA

The Portland Observer

Not Your Typical Work Day



Habitat for Humanity was one of the many community organizations that benefited from Key Bank of Oregon's Neighbors Make The Difference project. Eighteen Key Bank volunteers spent the afternoon pitching in to help with a Habitat for Humanity home renovation project on NE 6th Avenue.



Photos Courtesy of Key Bank and their employees



Instead of financial statements and transactions, Key Bank of Oregon employees attended to planting flowers, tutoring kids and collecting food for the homeless, Sept. 14.

As part of "Neighbors Make the Difference" day, more than 800 Key Bank of Oregon employees left their jobs for the afternoon to volunteer in their communities. Key Bank employees dedicated 3,200 hours to nearly 60 different projects.

Volunteers accomplished a wide variety of tasks, from painting playground equipment and

helping low income families refurbish their homes to cleaning up areas in their home town. More than 100 Key Bank volunteers pitched in to help local seniors with yard work, home maintenance and arts and crafts projects. Six public use areas, including neighborhoods, parks and recreational areas were cleaned up, weeded and replanted. Some 130 volunteers collected clothes, food and donations for battered women's shelters, homeless shelter, low-income families and refugees.

Governor Barbara Roberts issued a letter of commendation

to Key Bank volunteers, and mayors from 17 cities and towns stretching from Portland to Eugene proclaimed Sept. 14 "Neighbors Make the Difference" day. Except for a handful of locations, Key Bank branches and offices closed at 1pm that day.

"We call ourselves 'America's Neighborhood Bank,' and to us, being a good neighbor means getting involved with our communities and helping others," said Ted Winnowski, CEO and president of Key Bank of Oregon. "Our branches and offices picked their own volunteer projects, which gave

employees a chance to choose projects they deemed important to their individual communities. We hope our closure did not inconvenience our customers too much and we hope they share with us our pride in being able to help in our communities."

"Neighbors Make The Difference" is a corporate-wide program. The 10 Key Banks in Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Maine, New York, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming completed 745 projects for local, not-for-profit agencies. 12,234 Key employees worked 48,997 hours in their communities to

complete these projects.

KeyCorp (NYSE:DEY) with assets over \$32 billion, is a multi-regional bank holding company headquartered in Albany, New York. As "America's Neighborhood Bank,"

KeyCorp avoids overcrowded marketplaces, concentrating its resources in smaller communities. KeyCorp focuses its business on consumers and small to medium sized commercial enterprises.

Portland Police Chief To Keynote Mentorship Program

Portland Police Chief Charles Moose will discuss the value of higher education during a reception for African American high school students in Portland. The reception will provide information about when and how to select a college, the application process, college life and financial aid.

The reception, sponsored by the Linfield College Mentorship Program, will be held Thursday, Sept. 23, from 6 to 7:30pm, in the foyer of Peterson Hall on Linfield's Portland Campus, 2255 NW Northrup. Moose will discuss the value of higher education and how students can benefit from attending college.

A group of Portland professionals are giving something back to their community by reaching out to help young people succeed and achieve

their dreams.

Led by Portland businessman Baruti Artharee, president of Coast Industries, a group of Linfield College alumni organized the Mentorship Program and designed it to provide role models and support to African American students attending Linfield. The mentor remains available to the student if needed and provides them another avenue for support or assistance. A student group meets on a weekly basis to socialize and discuss issues of concern. In addition to serving as role models and providing support, the mentors can also help the students establish a network in the Portland area that will benefit them after their college years.

The idea for the Mentorship Program began during a fund raising

effort initiated by Byron Brown another Linfield alumnus, to establish an endowed scholarship in memory of Frazier Sparrow, a Linfield alumnus who was killed in a car accident in 1989. As funding for the scholarship progressed, so did the desire for the former college classmates and friends to remain in contact and give something back to young people in their community and alma mater.

Linfield President Vivian A. Bull will attend the reception along with John Reed, dean of enrollment services; Dave Hansen, dean of students, and several Linfield students and faculty members. Members of the Mentorship group will also be in attendance. For more information, contact John Reed, 472-4121, ext. 279.

Students To Have Access To Computer Network

A U.S. Department of Education grant of \$80,000 will allow the Oregon Department of Education to connect elementary and secondary students and staff to Internet, an international computer network.

Internet is a system of about 12,000 interconnected networks used by an estimated 12 million people worldwide. It includes the network of the Library of Congress, NASA and many universities and technology companies throughout the world.

"This connection will have a significant effect on learning," said State School Supt. Norma Paulus. "As well as using the library that's down the

hall, students will now have access to information systems throughout the world."

Oregon students and staff will use Internet mainly for electronic mail which will allow them to exchange information and collaborate on projects. "For example," Paulus said, "students in Nyssa might exchange data on a science project with students in New Zealand."

The system, called the Oregon Public Education Network (OPEN), will connect schools to Internet through North WestNet using a model implemented in Lane County earlier this year.

Students and staff in schools not connected to a hub to access OPEN can dial in to Internet as long as they have a microcomputer and modem.

OPEN is expected to be operational this fall. There will be some minimal start-up costs for school and education service districts, but the expenses will be a fraction of what it would cost if each district acted independently.

The network will allow connected school districts and the Oregon Department of Education to communicate instantly. "This is a quantum leap from our current practice - mailing letters and making phone calls," said Paulus.

KINCO Helps Kids International

Kinco International has announced plans to donate a portion of its profits to the Boys and Girls Clubs. The non-profit agency services over 5,000 "at risk" youth in the Portland area.

Kinco, a Portland-based industrial and sports glove wholesaler, will donate \$1.00 to the Boys and Girls Clubs for every one dozen

pairs of insulated gloves it sells this season. Kinco's gloves can be found at welding supply and safety supply stores in Oregon and nationwide.

"I am a business owner and parent who is very concerned about the direction many American kids are taking," commented Bruce Kindler, Kinco's president. "I know this con-

cept is not a novice one, but it is my hope we can possibly set an example for other businesses to consider contributing to a youth-oriented charity."

If you have questions or need additional information, please call Pamela Rains at the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Portland Metropolitan area at 232-0077.

**LOOK FOR OUR MBE SPECIAL
SEPTEMBER 29 & OCTOBER 6**