

"HMO Oregon" To Be New Name For Blue Cross And Blue Shield Of Oregon Subsidiary

"HMO Oregon" will be the new corporate name for Capitol Health Care, Inc., the managed care subsidiary of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oregon (BCBS). The new name becomes official November 1, 1993.

The name change is being made to help avoid confusion among consumers over the many different corporate names in the health care marketplace. "This step helps clarify which HMO company is affiliated with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oregon, the state's largest, most recognized health insurance company," said Roger Lyman, Executive Vice President of Managed Care and Internal Operations.

Whenever the HMO Oregon logo is used, it will be accompanied by the well-known "cross and shield" symbols, indicating its corporate affiliation. The symbols are owned by the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association; HMO Oregon is an independent licensee of the Association.

HMO Oregon's service area is the

largest in the state, extending from the Portland metropolitan area south along the I-5 corridor to the California border. Several additional counties are expected to be added in 1994. The transition from Capitol Health Care to HMO Oregon is expected to take several months to complete. During that time, the notation "formerly capitol Health Care" will appear with the HMO Oregon logo. The name change will be accompanied by an advertising campaign in the HMO service area to further inform consumers.

Capitol Health care, based in Salem, became a subsidiary of BCBSO in 1988. It has nearly 250,000 subscribers statewide. In the Portland area, some HMO subscribers are covered through Health Maintenance of Oregon (HMOO), which is also affiliated with BCBSO. HMO Oregon will assume HMOO's business over the next several months, but subscribers will not see any change in coverage or contracts.

Funding Aimed At Saving Lives

Home should be a safe place for everyone, but for millions of Americans it is the place they are least safe. The leading cause of injury to women in this country is battering by a husband or partner.

At the same time Oregon is launching a statewide council to support the efforts of local communities to end domestic violence, Sen. Mark O. Hatfield and Rep. Elizabeth Furse are sponsoring legislation in Congress to help fund such community efforts.

The Domestic Violence Community Initiative Act of 1993 would support demonstration projects in communities around the country that bring together leaders from each sector of the community to develop a coordinated plan for stopping domestic violence. Up to twenty million dollars in grants would be available if the Act is approved by Congress.

Domestic Violence coordinating committees already exist in eleven communities in Oregon, including Clackamas, Marion, Douglas, Josephine and Multnomah Counties. The coordinating committees work to ensure that all programs and agencies dealing with domestic violence operate smoothly together, including the courts, police, district attorney's office and shelter services for victims.

According to the Executive Director of the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, Holly Pruett, "We appreciate the leadership of Senator Hatfield and Representative Furse in their efforts to stop abuse and save lives."

The Coalition has worked for the past fifteen years to support and strengthen domestic and sexual violence programs in local communities and to change the underlying social conditions that cause this abuse.

Wyden Announces Innovative Grant Program To Community-Based Organization

U.S. Rep. Ron Wyden announced a grant award by the federal Centers for Disease Control to Self Enhancement, Inc. (SEI), a community-based organization which helps disadvantaged youth. SEI will operate a Youth Violence Prevention program, designed to steer at-risk youth away from violent activity.

"On many Portland streets, a deadly mix of gangs, drugs, guns and violence is taking away too many of our young people," Wyden said. "We want it stopped."

"SEI has been on the front lines working with young people, trying community-based strategies for steering young people toward a healthy future. I am pleased that I was able to locate a source of federal funds for SEI to attack the root causes of violence among our inner city youth."

SEI's program is designed to build self esteem and positive values. The grant focuses on education, work and community experience, building positive cultural values and norms, and a rigorous evaluation component to determine what strategies work best in reaching vulnerable children.

"Too often it is the bureaucrats who decide what is an effective program. With this grant, SEI—a community based program—will be in a position to assess results," said Wyden. "This approach is long overdue."

PDC
PORTLAND
DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEETING

Date: November 10, 1993
Place: Portland Building
1120 SW Fifth Ave., 11th Floor
Portland, Oregon
Time: 8:00 a.m.

Commission meetings are open to the public. A complete agenda is available at PDC or by calling 823-3200. Citizens with disabilities may call 823-3232 or TDD 823-6868 for assistance at least 48 hours in advance.

PDC is the City of Portland's urban renewal, housing and economic development agency.

Drug-Free Marshals

What do the Portland Observer, downtown businesses, local schools and the Drug enforcement Agency have in common? They all joined the already impressive ranks of the Drug-Free Marshals last week in celebration of Red Ribbon Week.

Red Ribbon Week is a national anti-drug program that promotes drug free living. Churches, schools and community groups nationwide set aside the week to hold anti-drug events and to present a unified and visible commitment toward the creation of a Drug Free America.

Being big supporters of Red Ribbon Week, Drug-Free Marshals from all over the country were out in full force spreading the Drug-Free Marshal pledge and swearing in new Marshals. In Portland, the head Marshals visited with several downtown businesses and the Drug Enforcement Agency's Drug Demand Reduction Unit getting them to swear to uphold the seven points of the Drug-Free Marshals pledge and receive their Marshal badges.

The Drug-Free Marshals campaign was originally launched in Los Angeles in April where more than 500 attendees watched as the FBI swore in over 200 kids as Drug-Free Marshals. To become a Marshal, kids ages 5 to 12 had to qualify in a Marshal contest, submitting a picture, song, essay, etc., on how they would create a drug-free community. The campaign was brought to Portland with a similar kick-off event earlier this summer where 32 contest winners were sworn in as Marshals. There are now over 70 Drug-Free Marshals in Portland.

The Drug-Free Marshals campaign is sponsored and supported by several Portland churches, schools and businesses and coordinated by the Church of Scientology's Lead The Way to a Drug-Free USA program. It



(From left to right) Vicki Scherer, Matt Worlock, Kasia Monson, Nick Manson, Brenna Safft

also has an impressive membership list including members of the Multnomah County Sheriff's Dept., Ron Wyden, Senator Packwood's office, FISH Emergency Services and KVAN radio. The Marshals also just returned from a trip to Washington D.C. where they met Marshals from 13 other cities around the country to swear in congressmen and senators.

As part of upholding the pledge, the Marshals meet with community leaders and school groups, promoting the Drug-Free Marshal contest and making new Marshals. The kids also get educated on the various aspects of living in a drug-ridden society to tell other kids they meet. Angie Mann, spokesperson for the Lead The Way and Drug-Free Marshals, commented, "Firemen educate the kids about drug-related fires or accidents; the police can tell them about drug traffickers getting arrested and being sent to jail; drug and alcohol rehabilitation institutions teach them what it is like to try and kick a drug addiction, and busi-

ness owners can tell about what it is like to have employees on drugs. If kids are well educated on the different effects drug use creates, they will be less inclined to start taking them," Mann stated.

"The Drug Free Marshals get to learn about drugs straight from the source of those who are most closely dealing with the problem and the effects and then they get to pass their knowledge on to other kids. It's a great responsibility that the kids love having."

Enjoying a 100% drug-free congregation themselves, the Church of Scientology is known for its support of drug-free solutions and working with a wide variety of organizations, especially each state's Red Ribbon Week coordinators.

For more information about the contest, how your group can participate in the Drug Free Marshal program or how you can become a Drug-Free Marshal, contact Angie Mann at the Church of Scientology at 228-0116.

Hatfield, Furse Introduce Domestic Violence Bill

Statistics show growing problem in Oregon, nation

Legislation that would authorize \$20 million for local coalitions against domestic violence has been introduced in Congress by Senator Mark Hatfield and Congresswoman Elizabeth Furse.

Hatfield and Furse cited statistics that indicate growing escalation in domestic violence cases nationwide and in Oregon. Domestic Violence is the single largest cause of injury to women. Each day ten women die from the effects of beatings. In Oregon, 36 percent of the homicides in 1993 involved domestic violence.

The Domestic Violence Community Initiative Act of 1993 would authorize funding for demonstration projects in an effort to coordinate strategies to deal with the problem at

the local level. The concept is already being explored in Portland, where police, health care providers, educators, domestic violence program advocates, and others are teaming up to develop a coordinated approach to break the cycle of violence.

Hatfield said the idea for the legislation arose out of meetings he had with the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and other groups in Portland several months ago.

"I found that a lot of the groups were doing a good job in their particular areas but there was little interaction or coordination among the various players," Hatfield said. "This legislation will provide the mechanisms

to develop local coalitions and build on the excellent work being done by so many different groups and organizations."

"If we can help the organizations who are on the front lines to work together" Furse said, "Then we can maximize our resources to help women put their lives back together as quickly as possible."

The bill provides authorization for up to \$20 million for demonstration projects selected by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. Specific action plan should be developed that address prevention, intervention, and awareness, and each program would be evaluated for effectiveness every two years.

Letter To The Editor

Send your letters to the Editor to:
Editor, PO Box 3137, Portland, OR, 972108

Social Security Questions And Answers

Question: Will Social Security accept photocopies instead of original documents as evidence to support a claim?

Answer: No. The person processing the claim must certify that he or she has seen the original document or a certified copy of the original. Documents can be altered and the alteration will not be visible in the photocopy. All original documents will be returned to you.

Question: I'll be 64 next June and I plan to retire then. When do I need to file for my Social Security benefits?

Answer: You should call Social Security's toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213, and set up an appointment to talk with a representative about your retirement plans now. Under current Social Security laws, many people can get additional benefits by filing a retirement claim that goes into effect in January even if they don't plan to retire or cut back on their work until later in the year.

Question: I'm 63 years old and I've been off work for the past few months with some medical problems. I want to go back to work, but my doctor says I should retire. If I apply

for Social Security benefits now, won't my checks be reduced?

Answer: Social Security retirement benefits are reduced five ninths of 1 percent for each month you receive them before age 65. At age 63, that would be a 13 percent reduction, however, there is no reduction if you qualify for disability. So you should apply for Social Security disability benefits at the same time you apply for Social Security retirement benefits. The retirement application can be processed more quickly than the disability application, and the benefit amount initially will be reduced. If your disability application is approved, your benefit amount will be increased.

Question: I received a letter from Social Security that they plan to review my disability claim. My condition hasn't changed, and I am not working. Why am I being reviewed?

Answer: Social Security disability benefits are paid to people who are disabled and unable to do substantial work. The law requires that Social Security disability cases be reviewed periodically to see that beneficiaries are still disabled. The frequency of the review depends on the severity of your impairment and the likelihood

of improvement. If your condition has not changed and you are working, your benefits will not be affected.

Question: When my ex-husband retires, can I receive wife's benefits even if we're divorced?

Answer: If you and your ex-husband were married for at least 10 years and if you are at least 62 years of age and currently unmarried, you will be eligible to receive divorced wife's benefits based on his Social Security work record. If your ex-husband is at least 62, you can receive divorced wife's benefits even if he is still working and not yet drawing his own Social Security retirement benefits if you've been divorced from him at least 2 years.

You can receive up to half of your ex-husband's benefits if you wait until you're age 65. At age 62, you receive about 38 percent. Any benefits payable to you do not affect those payable to his current wife or minor children.

For Social Security or Supplemental Security Income Assistance telephone 1-800-772-1213.

For speech and hearing impaired assistance, call 1-800-325-0778.

Urban League Career Awareness Day

What: Urban League "Career Awareness Day"

Who: Local high school students

When: Saturday, November 20, 1993, 8am to 2pm.

Where: Portland State University, 724 SW Harrison, Portland

The 20th annual Urban League of Portland Career Awareness day, designed to help local high school students learn about a wide variety of career options in a single day will convene Saturday, November 20, 1993, 8am to 2pm. This event offers employers an excellent opportunity

to market career opportunities in their fields to a large audience of urban youth. The day's schedule includes round-trip bus transportation for the students, career workshops motivational speakers, selection of a scholarship winner, lunch and a career fair where students can visit employer booths.

Crime Stoppers Case

Crime Stoppers Case #93-42: Update Case Double Homicide

Portland Police Bureau Homicide Detectives, in cooperation with Crime Stoppers, are asking for your help in solving a double murder.

On Sunday, November 3, 1991, at 11:20 in the morning, the bodies of 30 year old Belinda Faye Flannigan and 33 year old Gerald Phillips were found in room #24 of the Ara-Bel Motel, at 11324 N.E. Sandy Boulevard. According to the Multnomah County Medical Examiner's Office, both subjects had died from gunshot wounds.

Homicide investigators have been able to establish that Flannigan and Phillips were reportedly both seen alive as late as 9:30 in the evening, Saturday November 2, 1991, which was the night before their bodies were found.

Homicide investigators have identified a male subject believed re-



Belinda Faye Flannigan



Gerald Gleen Phillips

sponsible for the murders, but do not have enough evidence to make an arrest.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information reported to Crime Stoppers, that leads to an arrest in this case, or any unsolved felony crime, and you need not give your name. Call Crime Stoppers at 823-HELP.

Investigator:
Detective Sue Hill
Homicide Detail
Portland Police Bureau
(503) 823-0479
Crime Stoppers Coordinator
Officer Henry Gropper
Investigative Support Unit
(503) 823-HELP
(503) 823-0497

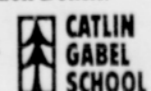
PENNY PINCHER ALERT: THE CATLIN GABEL RUMMAGE SALE IS NOVEMBER 4-7.

Thursday, November 4, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
(Opening Day: 25% markup)
Friday, November 5, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday, November 6, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday, November 7, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Sports equipment. Toys. Furniture. Treasures. And more. All to benefit financial aid at The Catlin Gabel School.

You'll find it all at the Multnomah County Expo Center between November 4 and 7. And there's a free shuttle from the Tri-Met stop at Jantzen Beach.

So come to the 49th Annual Catlin Gabel Rummage Sale. But be forewarned. Your thumb and forefinger are going to get quite a workout.



It's time once again for the Catlin Gabel Rummage Sale. And your chance to pinch pennies on over 60,000 square feet of outstanding merchandise.

Including clothing for men, women and children. Books. Housewares.

And more. All to benefit financial aid at The Catlin Gabel School.