

HOLIDAY EVENTS



FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS
AT THE GROTTO

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**THE LARGEST CHORAL FESTIVAL
IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST**
PUPPET SHOWS • PETTING ZOO • CAROLERS
(Pony Rides, Family Photos, Seasonal Food and Beverages Available)

December 3, 1993 – January 1, 1994
Open 5:00 - 9:30 nightly (Closed Christmas Day and New Year's Eve)
Adults \$3.50 • Children \$2.50 • 2 years and under: Free

NECA / IBEW

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750 AMJAR
96.5

BOYDS

Thriftway

"Columbia's Christmas" Joins Business To Community

On Friday, December 10, 1993, Columbia Distributing Company will host a special holiday party for approximately 100 children from North Portland neighborhoods. Working with the Urban League and other area businesses, Columbia will provide an afternoon of tours, craft activities, singing, snacks and a visit from Santa.

Over 100 Columbia distributing employees will participate in "Columbia's Christmas" at the Swan Island Company facility. Employees will guide the children through the afternoon's activities, as well as run the tours and craft stations. Each child

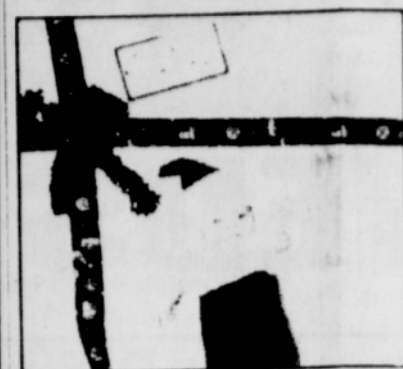
will receive a personalized stocking filled with gifts and treats.

According to company president, Edward Maletis, "Our employees volunteer year-round, but this event gives everyone the opportunity to work together to make the holidays a little merrier for some kids in our community."

Columbia Distributing Company is one of the largest beverage wholesalers in Oregon and has been in business since 1935.

Contact Rhonda Meadows, Human Resources Manager, at 289-9600, ext. 351 for more information.

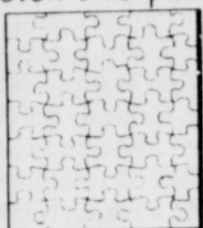
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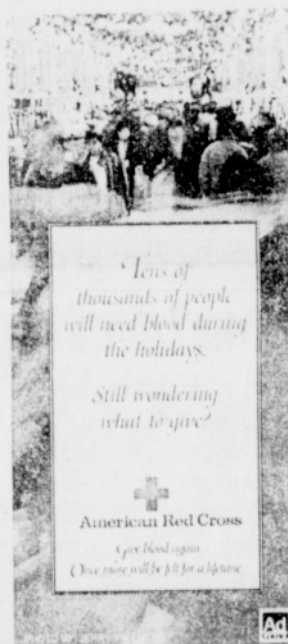
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The Portland Observer

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"I love you" is a phrase that will need blood during the holidays. Still wondering what to give? American Red Cross. Your blood is the gift that will save a life.

Fireplace Safety - A Holiday Must

A crackling fire in the fireplace can put anyone in a festive mood. To make sure your holiday mood isn't reduced to ashes, practice fireplace safety.

Fireplaces can be deadly if you don't care for them. There are many fireplace hazards. Sparks from burning wood can ignite clothing or draperies and may smolder undetected in carpets or furniture. Burning wood gives off highly flammable creosote, which can accumulate in the flue, and could lead to a chimney fire if the accumulation isn't cleaned out.

"Fireplace safety should be followed all year around. But, during the holidays, when the fireplace is more frequently used, it is even more important," says Jim Williams, a safety specialist with the Country Companies insurance group.

Williams recommends having the chimney cleaned and inspected at least once a year. This will clear out any soot and creosote that can ignite and burn.

Before starting a fire, make sure the flue is opened and remains open while the fire is burning. Don't forget to make sure the fire is completely out before closing the flue.

"Always have a screen in front of the fireplace that covers the entire opening.

This will help to catch flying sparks," adds Williams.

Fireplace maintenance is just the beginning, next you must practice safety while burning wood. Burn only seasoned wood and never start a fire with charcoal starter or gasoline.

"Never burn your Christmas tree

in the fireplace. Keep all decorations, wrapping paper, etc., away from the area around the fireplace," suggests Williams. "Once you are done using the fireplace dispose of the fireplace ashes only after they are stone cold. And when carrying them, use a metal container with a tight fitting lid."

Finally, Williams recommends these basic fireplace safety tips:

- Never leave a fire unattended.
- Keep children at least three feet away from the fireplace.
- Don't use cooking grills in the fireplace.
- Don't forget to have smoke detectors in place.
- Never store ashes in the house.
- Following all of these safety tips should help to make this holiday season a burning success.

Low Income Energy Assistance Program Started December 1, 1993

Multnomah County Oregon low income households in need of financial help to pay their winter heating bills will be able to apply for energy assistance at (See Below) starting December 1st. Households must have demonstrated energy costs to be eligible for this one-time only payment.

- Albina Ministerial Alliance 284-2776 Serves NE County
- Friendly House 228-4337 Serves NW County
- Human Solutions, Inc. 248-3662 Serves Outer East County
- Neighborhood House 246-1663 Serves SW County
- Portland Impact 239-4328 Serves SE County
- St John's YWCA 286-2165 Serves North County
- Transition Projects 222-4782 Serves Downtown Area

In order to better serve low income residents in Multnomah County, the program will change this year in that the LIEAP Offices will be extending the months of operation throughout the year. This will help reduce the line of people trying to get in for assistance.

Households must have a total gross income at or below 125% of the Federal Poverty Level to be eligible for the one-time energy assistance payment, which averages approximately \$200.00. The poverty guideline is established by the Federal Government and takes into consideration household size and income. For example, a household of one would be eligible for LIEAP with an annual income at or below \$8,713 or \$726 per month. The income level increases by \$3,075 per year, or \$256 per month

for each additional household member. (Income guidelines below.)

For an appointment, please contact the above agencies or call the United Way Energy Hotline 227-5437 9:00 - 3:00 for more

POVERTY INCOME GUIDE - LINES FOR OREGON -

EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 16, 1993

Size Of Family Unit	Annual Income 125%	Monthly Income 125%
1	\$ 8,713	\$ 726
2	11,788	982
3	14,863	1,239
4	17,938	1,495
5	21,013	1,751
6	24,088	2,007
7	27,163	2,264
8	30,238	2,520

For each additional number, add \$3,075 annually, or \$256 monthly.

Senators Deliver For North/Northeast Portland

Continued from front
hoods. I urge my colleagues to join Senator Domenici and me in supporting the passage of this important time-sensitive legislation."

Though the Senate passed the bill late the evening of the 18th, the drama was not over. Only a few days remained until Congress was scheduled to adjourn for its Holiday recess.

The U.S. treasury Department complicated the picture. Long disguised bureaucratic opposition in the Treasury finally emerged in the open on November 19th, as the action shifted to the House of Representatives, a more unwieldy body than the Senate.

Black Caucus Chairman Kweisi Mfume, who represents Maryland's 7th District, and Black Caucus member Eddie Bernice Johnson, representing Texas' 30th District, led the charge. Tammy Hawley, Chairman Mfume's Chief of Staff, and Auria Styles, Congresswoman Johnson's Legislative Assistant, played key roles. The House coalesced in an

amendment to keep the BDFAP alive.

The House passed the BDFAP-saving legislation late Monday night, November 22, the day members were scheduled to adjourn. Strong bipartisan support in both the Senate and the House, combined with the Energy Department's commitment to the BDFAP, eventually convinced the Treasury bureaucracy to lessen its opposition.

Minority-owned banks breathed a little easier last Tuesday afternoon, as across the country they began to realize they would not lose access to funds that serve as the basis of so many of their loans in the communities they serve.

Mr. Booker said, "the great thing about saving the BDFAP for inner cities is that it involved so much cooperation between so many people who are often on different sides of issues. Senator Packwood's Pam Pifer and Ms. Hawley and Ms. Styles cooperated closely. It is just great to see that our elected officials, and the

people running the BDFAP in DOE, recognize the benefits of pulling together on an issue so critical to our nation's inner cities."

Mr. Booker continued, "Many others in Congress helped saved the BDFAP funds for minority communities. I can't name them all, but I would like to personally thank some who I know helped accomplish this legislation: Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole and his Legislative Director, Greg Schnacke; Denise Ramones on Senator Domenici's staff; Senator D'Amato from New York and his staff member Becky Chapman; Maryland Congressman Albert Wynn and James Ballentine, his Legislative Director; Michigan Congressman John Conyers and his staff member Katherine Moore. Minority communities should be very grateful to these public servants and the many others who contributed to preserving the BDFAP."

Mr. Booker also expressed thanks to the Treasury for modifying its position.

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