

"Harvard Of Alternative Schools" Needs Tutors

The Harvard of Alternative Schools, an apt name for Portland's Albina Youth Opportunity School (AYOS), has survived more than 25 years during a time when school funding cuts are common.

During that period of successfully providing a creative education option for junior and senior high school students referred from Portland Public Schools and the Multnomah County Juvenile Justice Division, 3,500 students have passed through AYOS on their way to a high school diploma.

The secret of AYOS's success is in the low student to adult ratio and in the individualized plans created for each student to insure completion of credits for graduation. AYOS relies heavily on volunteer tutors to work one-on-one with students in reading, writing, social studies, science, language arts, and computer science between the class hours of 8:30 a.m. and 2:45 P.M.

tutors, based on their availability, tutor five hours per week—usually two days at 2-1/2 hours each. Those interested in tutoring, contact Irma August at 288-5813.

Firearm Mortality Increasing In U.S. While Motor Vehicle Mortality Declines

Firearm injuries may soon exceed motor vehicle crashes as the leading cause of injury death in the United States if recent trends persist, according to studies released today by HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala.

Already in 1991, more Americans were killed by guns than died in motor vehicle crashes in six states and the District of Columbia, according to the studies, published by HHS Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. By early in the next decade or even sooner, deaths from firearm injuries may overtake vehicle injury deaths nationwide. Firearm deaths include homicides, suicides, and unintentional deaths.

"It is appalling that in the world's strongest and wealthiest country, death by firearms is increasing at the alarming rate these studies find," said Secretary Shalala.

"In our three largest states, firearms are already the leading cause of injury-related death. And among young adults, aged 25-34, the crossover has occurred on a nationwide basis: firearms cause more deaths among Americans of this age than do other vehicle crashes or any other category of injuries," she said.

There were more firearm deaths than motor vehicle deaths in Califor-

nia, New York and Texas, as well as in Louisiana, Nevada, Virginia and the District of Columbia in 1991. In Maryland, the numbers of firearm and motor vehicle deaths were identical in 1991, and in Michigan motor vehicle deaths exceeded deaths from firearms by only 1 percent.

Nationwide, firearm mortality has been increasing while motor vehicle mortality has been declining, according to a report prepared by the National Center of Health Statistics (NCHS). In 1991, 43,536 people died as a result of injuries sustained during motor vehicle crashes and 38,317 people died as the result of firearm-related injuries. Among the firearm deaths, 47 percent were homicide, 48 percent were suicide, and 4 percent were classified as unintentional deaths.

The national motor vehicle crash death rate climbed 10 percent while the death rate due to firearms increased by 14 percent from 1985 through 1991. These trends accelerated from 1988 through 1991.

Shalala especially called attention to firearm deaths among children. "Before they reach the age of 16, old enough for a driver's license, each year hundreds of our children are killed by firearms."

The NCHS report examines injury deaths for the nation and by state for detailed race and ethnic groups in 1990-91. A related article by NCHS and CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control appears in the Jan. 28 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), with comments on the trend and proposed means for preventing many firearm deaths.

"There is a message of hope as well as a challenge in these new statistics," said David Satcher, M.D., director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "As a nation, when faced with high rates of injury and death from motor vehicles crashes, we developed a comprehensive plan to reduce motor vehicle deaths. It is working; motor vehicle deaths are going down. As a nation we can, and we must, do the same to prevent deaths from guns."

The increase in the firearm death rate during the late 1980s and into the 1990s reverses an earlier pattern. From 1980 through 1985 firearm mortality actually decreased by 11 percent. Motor vehicle mortality was already on the downward trend, declining 18 percent from 1980 through 1985.

Projecting from an analysis of data from 1968 through 1991, re-

searchers at CDC estimate that firearm deaths could exceed motor vehicle deaths nationwide by the year 2003. Using only the recent years, 1988-91, this crossover could occur even earlier.

Recent increases in firearm mortality have been greatest among adolescent and young adults. From 1988 to 1991, the firearm death rate for those 15-24 years increased by 40 percent and for those 25-34 the rate was up by 8 percent.

The firearm death rate is only 10 percent lower than the motor vehicle death rate for those 15-24, and the firearm death rate exceeds the motor vehicle rate for the 25-34 age group.

"Firearm and Other Vehicle Injury Mortality-Variations by State, Race and Ethnicity: United States, 1990-91," is published by the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Public Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services. Copies are available from NCHS at 6525 Belcrest Rd., Hyattsville, Md. 20782. Copies of the Jan. 28 issue of CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report are available at CDC's MMWR office, Room 5115, 1600 Clifton Rd., Atlanta, GA. 30333.

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Oregon State Bar Examines Complaints

The Oregon State Bar has received seven complaints regarding statements made at a news conference on February 1 by Portland attorney Ronald Hoevet.

According to state bar president William Wheatley of Eugene, the bar is responsible for maintaining and enforcing the ethical standards that apply to Oregon lawyers. "The legal profession is committed to the preservation of the legal rights of all citizens," said Wheatley. "The state bar is obligated to look into any situation where a lawyer's statements could affect a citizen's right to a fair trial."

The bar is reviewing the complaints to determine whether statements made by Hoevet violated the bar's ethical rules involving public statements made by attorneys. One such rule forbids a lawyer from making a public statement "intended to affect the fact-finding process," or which the lawyer knows would "pose a serious and imminent threat to the fact-finding process in an adjudicated proceeding."

Under the state bar's attorney disciplinary process, all complaints received by the bar are investigated. If the investigation shows there may be grounds for discipline, the complaint goes before the State Professional Responsibility Board. This board acts as a grand jury and can take any of the following actions on a complaint: dismiss the complaint; authorize additional investigation; issue a letter of admonition to the lawyer if a violation occurred but was not a serious matter; or authorize formal ethics charges against the attorney which, if proven, could result in formal discipline.

As in the American criminal justice system, an attorney accused of an ethics violation has due process rights. A lawyer under investigation for an ethics violation is presumed innocent pending the outcome of the matter.

Senior Peer Counselors Host First Annual Dinner Program

The Senior Peer Counselor (SPC) program of Metropolitan Portland will host its first Annual Dinner Program. "The Values of Senior Peer Counseling" on Friday, February eighteenth at Beaverton's Greenwood Inn located at the Allen Boulevard exit off Highway 217. A social hour begins at 5:45pm with the dinner and program at 6:30pm.

Hugh Scott, PSC President, and author of *The New Medicine Man: A Different Kind of Health Care For Elders*, will serve as Master of Ceremonies. The public is invited to learn from volunteer senior citizen peer counselors how they provide positive, practical help to other seniors and how to become a trained peer counselor.

Other presenters will address social, economic, spiritual and psychological values. Local speakers include Dr. Phyllis McGraw, long-term care consultant, Dr. William Lindsay, former Presbyterian pastor and Dr. John Thompson of Kaiser Permanente. There will be an 'Open Mike' period for questions and comments.

Staff and volunteers from senior center, hospitals, service clubs, churches and other community programs will learn how to sponsor a peer counseling project for seniors they serve. Those persons with family members or friends in need of a peer

counselor are urged to attend. Senior peer counselors encourage other seniors to lead more active and independent lives in their own homes as they deal with problems such as isolation, financial worries, or death of loved ones. One peer counselor notes that, "The best cure for what ails you is to help someone else who has the same problem."

PSC, part of a national grassroots movement, plans to add more peer counselors and project sponsors in 1994 to address the many senior needs unmet by medical providers and human service agencies.

For more information and Dinner reservations call Pat Paepfer at 684-4906.

Linda Hornbuckle And No Delay Friends

Since teaming up with former members of the Paul Delay Band in July 1992, Linda Hornbuckle has taken the Pacific Northwest by storm. Hornbuckle opened the Mt. Hood International Blues Festival with a stunning performance. She has captivated crowds at Portland's Waterfront Blues Festival, she was the opening act for B.B.

King and has played other musical clubs throughout the Northwest.

Linda establishes an immediate rapport with her audience. Linda and No Delay Friends is an award-winning ensemble offering a very satisfying afternoon of the blues. You will also be treated by the 1992 Cascade Blues Association Muddy Award best guitarist winner, Peter Dammann,

Louis Pain on the organ and other No Delay Friends. They perform in a concert format on Sunday, February 20, 1994 at Sunday Jazz at The Old Church.

Food, wine and beer served by Briggs and Crampton Catering will get jazz-buffs started at 1:00pm. The music starts at 2:00pm. For further information call: 222-2031, or 797-1718.

National Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week: Focus On New Law And Correct Use

Continued from front

safety seat is available. The belt should be tightened snugly and as low as possible across the child's hips. If an attached shoulder belt crosses the child's face or neck, use a booster seat or belt adjuster. Never use anything other than a car booster seat to elevate a child—pillows, cushions and household boosters can slide out from under the child making the belt less effective in a

crash. The effectiveness of any child safety seat is reduced when used incorrectly. Read the manufacturer's instructions carefully and be sure to follow those instructions. Safety seats must always be anchored to the vehicle with the lap belt exactly as specified by the manufacturer. Read the vehicle owner's manual for detailed instructions on correct installation of child safety seats in the vehicle.

Seats which have been involved in a crash must be replaced. Also, seats, which do not meet federal safety standards should not be used and MUST be destroyed so there is no chance that someone else will use the unsafe seat. Loan/rental programs are available throughout Oregon to obtain safety seats at a low fee. All 50 states and the District of Columbia have child restraint laws in effect.

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Vernon Splash Party

You are invited to Columbia Pool on February 17 for a splash party for grades 1-5. The fun will include:
• Swimming
• Penny Dives
• Water Basketball
• "Pea In The Pool" Contests
• Wild Water Games
• Popcorn

BRING YOUR SWIM SUIT, A TOWEL, AND \$1.00

Where: Columbia Pool, 7001 N. Chautauqua Blvd., 823-3669
When: Thursday, February 17, 3:30 P.M.-4:45 P.M.

This event is held during public recreational swim. Families are welcome. Children under age six must be accompanied in the water by an adult. **Portland Parks and Recreation**



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