

Community News

for North/Northeast Portland

Waiting Children



Juanita And Clarissa

Sisters Juanita and Clarissa both have large, toothy smiles and infectious laughs. They are two of approximately 180 Oregon children currently awaiting loving adoptive families.

Friendly Juanita plays well with other children. She enjoys typical pre-school activities such as playing with building blocks and dolls, and watching Sesame Street and Barney. A happy child, she can frequently be found singing and dancing about. With older children, she tends to be a follower.

Shy Clarissa is initially reserved around people she does not know. She enjoys playing with stuffed animals and dolls, watching children's

programs, and being with other children, particularly Juanita. She is a calm, contented child.

Despite the neglect they experienced in earlier life, Juanita and Clarissa are both normal, average little girls with no major delays. In an enriched home environment filled with loving attention and intellectual stimulation, there's no telling how far these two might progress.

Oregon agencies waive or reduce fees for families adopting older children and sibling groups. To learn more about the waiting children and the adoption process, call The Special Needs Adoption Coalition at 222-9661. Singles as well as couples are encouraged to inquire.



Gevelle

Several hundred children in the Northwest, including many of African-American heritage, are currently awaiting adoptive parents. These children have experienced extreme neglect or abuse, and now need the loving guidance of new parents to help them heal and grow. Some of the children are school-aged, some are toddlers and pre-schoolers, and many come in sibling pairs or groups. Meet one such youngster - a bright eight-year-old girl who longs for a mom.

Gevelle has a sweet disposition

and a delightful curiosity about her world. Adults as well as other children really enjoy being around her. She is an appreciative child, who truly enjoys the simplest activities.

This second grader is an excellent reader who learns fast and takes direction well. She has the added strength of being an attentive listener. Her teachers are already saying that she should aim for college. In addition to her academic skills, Gevelle is a talented dancer and singer. She enjoys dancing ballet, jazz, and rap, and has a lovely singing voice.

Although she will be sad to separate from her very nurturing foster mom, Gevelle wants a family of her own, and she is ready to take that step. Single moms are especially encouraged to inquire about this child.

Both adoptive and foster families are urgently needed for children of color. Oregon agencies waive or reduce fees for families adopting children in state care, and on-going financial assistance is often available. Foster families receive a monthly stipend. To learn more, call the Special Needs Adoption Coalition at 222-9661, or your local Children's Services Division.

Needed School Supplies Sent To Russia

School children from Trinity Lutheran School will be buying extra pencils, notebooks, erasers and other school supplies this fall to send to Russian school children through a first-ever project sponsored by Lutheran Hour Ministries.

The program, called "By Kids... For Kids," provides Lutheran school children all over North America the opportunity to purchase and pack school supplies for distribution in Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia. The purpose is to give the children "hands-on" mission experience and learn more about the religious history of Russia and new attitudes toward Christianity, while providing children in Russian schools and orphanages with much needed school supplies.

The program originates at Lutheran Hour Ministries in St. Louis, where Bruce Wurdeman, manager of North America volunteer services, directs the program. "We're expecting 400 schools to participate, and that's being conservative," says Wurdeman. That translates into about 40,000 boxes for Russian children.

In the first weeks of the program 136 Lutheran schools ordered over 13,850 boxes, and Wurdeman says that number continues to increase daily.

The process begins at Lutheran Hour Ministries headquarters in St. Louis where the "By Kids... For Kids" school kits are mailed to the participating Lutheran schools. Each kit contains standard-size school boxes to ship to Russia, instructions for conducting the school box project and five lessons about Russia for participating Lutheran teachers to use in their classrooms. The Lutheran schools pay \$1 per box to cover cost for the box and shipping to Russia.

In addition to standard school supplies put in the boxes, the school children will also include a postcard of their home area, a booklet of Bible stories in Russian, a small toy and a personal note from the student packing the box. The boxes will be shipped in February, March and April of next year, with distribution to the Russian schools and orphanages in April, May and June.

Local Volunteers Sought For Exchange Program

World Heritage, a not-for-profit student exchange organization dedicated to fostering cultural enrichment and intercultural understanding, is seeking enthusiastic volunteers to be Area Representatives for its program in your community. Representatives serve as liaisons for high schools, Host Families, Students, and World Heritage Offices as well as recruit qualified North American teenagers to go abroad. Volunteers are reimbursed for their expenses.

If you feel this is an ideal way to learn about other countries and cultures while sharing your local area with eager high school teenage students, please call Roger collect at (801) 969-9270 or 1-800-888-9040 for further information.

Lewis & Clark College Schedules Host Of Alumni Events

Revisit a favorite professor's class, listen to a jazz band, honor your distinguished fellow alumni and cheer on the Pioneers during Lewis & Clark College's 1994 homecoming, Thursday, Oct. 6, through Sunday, Oct. 9.

Homecoming weekend highlights include class "sit-ins" featuring old and new courses, Friday, Oct. 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; the Arts Alive opener with the Hart/Green Jazz Quartet, Friday, Oct. 7, at 7:30 p.m., in Evans Auditorium, alumni tickets \$7; a tailgate party at the Griswold Stadium parking lot from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 8, followed by the homecoming football game between the Lewis & Clark Pioneers and the Simon Fraser Clan; and the alumni awards brunch at noon, Sunday, Oct. 9.

For complete homecoming information, call the homecoming hotline, (503) 768-7950 or 1-800-753-9292.

Trade Career Classes Open

Many Oregon Tradeswomen Network members got their start in the trades through B-FIT (Building Futures in Industry and Trades).

This is a pre-apprenticeship training program for women who want to have careers in the building and construction trades.

The six-month program provides hands-on experience in many basic skills, as well as trade math, job search and interviewing skills.

Classes are held at the Rock Creek Campus of Portland Community College.

Fall term classes started Sept. 19. Some scholarships are available. Call 244-6111, extension 7432.

Dad's Oil Service

Speedy Service
Friendly Call
For Quote



heating oils

Best Cash Prices
104 NE Russel
Portland, OR 97212
282-5111

Trainings Offered To Enable Childcare Providers To Serve Disabled Children

The Arc of Multnomah has announced that it has been joined by Oregon Health Sciences University in offering their innovative KICS training to childcare providers throughout the state of Oregon. As part of this unique partnership and for a limited time, the trainings will be offered at no charge, with the cost to participants absorbed by OHSU.

KICS, or Kids in Community Settings, is a comprehensive training which enables childcare providers to acquire skills needed to include children with developmental Disabilities in childcare programs already in place. The training, which was developed by The Arc of Multnomah under a grant from the Oregon Developmental Disabilities Council, is equally adaptable for childcare cen-

ter staff including those in work-site facilities, and family childcare providers.

Presented in two half-day sessions, the eight hours of training offer valuable, comprehensive information addressing types of disabilities and general child development, and provide ideas for adapting activities to include all children. The training also assists childcare providers in complying with the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act).

Noting that 600,000 families nationally have young children with developmental disabilities, OHSU has incorporated KICS to enhance its "Raccoon Project" which is also a training program on how to include children with special needs in childcare programs. With the guid-

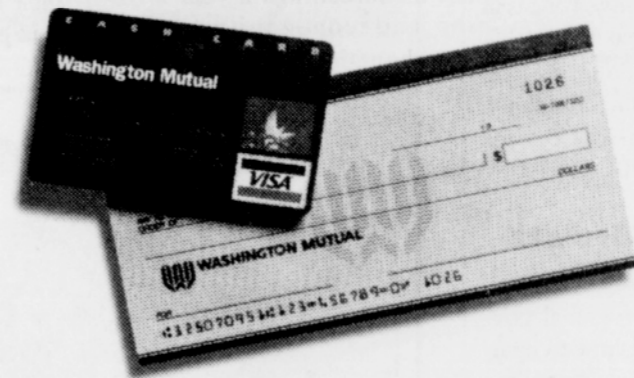
ance of OHSU professionals, additional emphasis will be placed on creating teamwork between the provider, schools and other professionals involved in a child's life, and on updating training materials. The "Raccoon Project" is part of a comprehensive interdisciplinary program funded by the federal government which was started by OHSU in 1992.

The KICS trainings are offered in a variety of sites throughout the tri-county area, and in other communities upon request. A nominal charge for the training manual will be asked of those participants who live outside of Multnomah County.

Providers interested in taking the trainings are asked to call Mary Magee, KICS Coordinator, at The Arc office, 223-7279.

Call (503) 288-0033 to learn about Advertising in
The Portland Observer

We don't gift wrap our
free checking.
But we do include a
thoughtful card.



Washington Mutual's Classic Checking™ has no minimum balance requirements and no monthly service fees. Plus it includes a Washington Mutual Cash Card™ that lets you conveniently access your checking account at stores, restaurants and cash machines all over the world. So stop by and get a good deal on checking and a good deal more. Washington Mutual
The friend of the family™

1-800-756-8000

FDIC Insured

10TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR EMPLOYERS

EMPLOYER'S
KIT
SURVIVAL

Everything you need to know
to stay in compliance

October 3, 4, & 5
Portland Conference Center • 300 N.E. Multnomah

(across the MAX line from the Oregon Convention Center)

Registration fee for three days, \$355. For registration information, call 731-4073.

SPEAKERS INCLUDE

MARIA ESCHAVESTE, Administrator, Wage and Hour Division, US Department of Labor;
MARY WENDY ROBERTS, Commissioner, Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries;
Paula Barran and Rick Liebman, Lane Powell Spears Lubersky and Campbell,
Lee Bercot, First Interstate Bank; Richard Busse, Attorney; Jorge Espinoza, Portland Community College;
Kelly Hagen, Cooney and Crew; and Jim Shore, Williams, Zografias, Peck and Atwood



SPONSORED BY THE BUREAU OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR EMPLOYERS PROGRAM
MARY WENDY ROBERTS, COMMISSIONER