



Valentine's Day



Children Awaiting Adoption



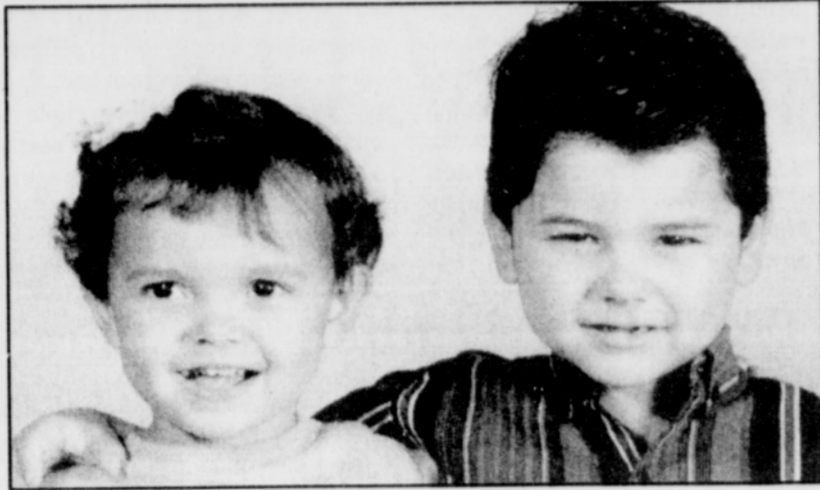
Randy

Five-year-old Randy, personable and affectionate, is one of several hundred African-American children in the Northwest currently awaiting adoptive families.

Randy is healthy, plays well with other children, and can entertain himself rather well. He enjoys playing with animated toys, riding his trike, looking at books, and fishing with his foster dad. This warm, friendly little boy has a contagious smile and a positive outlook on life. His caseworker describes him as having "one of the happiest dispositions of any child I've worked with."

Randy has benefitted from experiences in his nurturing foster family. His grandmotherly foster mom says she would adopt him if she were younger. Randy is ready to move on to a "forever family."

Adoptive families are needed for children like Randy.



Jorge and Jessica

Six-year-old Jorge and four-year-old Jessica are a brother and sister pair with diverse personalities but an unusually cohesive sibling relationship. They are among 180 Oregon children currently awaiting adoption.

When first removed from an abusive and neglectful home, Jorge was an extremely withdrawn, frightened little boy. Since then, he has developed better self-confidence and has learned many skills. Although on the reserved side, Jorge enjoys cooperative play with other children. He also plays well independently, keeping occupied for hours with his little army men. Jorge likes to be helpful around the home.

Vibrant and outgoing, Jessica can be a non-stop little chatterbox. Jessica likes to play with other children, but has had some difficulties with peers due to her tendency to keep adults well informed of what's

going on. Jessica enjoys shopping, dressing up, and playing with Barbie dolls. Like her brother, she enjoys being outdoors and riding a bike.

Intelligent children who learn quickly, Jorge and Jessica are on target academically and developmentally. Both have made tremendous progress in overcoming their past, and will continue to grow and blossom in a patient, nurturing home.

Single adults as well as couples are encouraged to consider adopting. Orientation meetings and adoptive parent training classes are offered in several locations.

Oregon adoption agencies waive or reduce fees for families adopting older children and siblings like Jessica and Jorge. To learn more about adoption, call The Special Needs Adoption Coalition of The Boys and Girls Aid Society - 222-9661.

Mount Hood Community College International Friendship's Valentine's Dance
The Mt. Hood Community College International Friendship Club is holding a Valentine's dance Feb. 10, 8 p.m. to midnight, in the college's Vista Dining Center. The dance is meant to serve as a friendship and cultural exchange between Latin American and American college students and the community. Americans can learn about Latin American music and how to dance to it. The public is invited to attend. For more information call Heather Burns, CASS program cultural specialist, at 667-7287.

Blazer Player Pledges For Vernon Kids

Continued from front

the program this year, and the fifth program in the city. Last month the fourth grade class at Humboldt Elementary School at 4915 N. Gantenbein, was adopted into the program.

Dudley, the starting center for the Blazers, is a 1987 graduate of Yale University.

He said he wanted to help motivate young people to "dream the impossible and then work to make it reality."

"I living those dreams today because family and friends taught me to believe in myself, to set worthy goals and to work hard to achieve them," Dudley said.

The "I Have a Dream" project was formed in 1981 in New York by Lang when he promised a group of Harlem sixth graders that if they stayed in school and pursued their dreams, their goals would come true. To make sure, Lange promised the children to pay for their college tuition.

Cupid Sends Financial Love Message

Many Valentines later, what do you get your longtime love when cupid arrives February 14? Through the years you may have shared dreams and even wished upon a star. However it's careful planning which makes those dreams come true, says Ron McCallister, CPA and financial planner.

Show how much you really care. Set in motion a financial plan for your future together. Financial planning may not seem romantic, but it isn't hard to dress it up. Buy your loved one something sweet, something sparkling, but also include a picture of your retirement lifestyle -- traveling, golfing, dining out.

You can make your future something to be excited about together, rather than anxious or concerned. Start by taking this three minute quiz on your financial planning status.

- Have you started a 401K program?
- Do you have life insurance to provide for your spouse in a case of death?
- Do you have a whole life policy you can borrow money against at a later time?
- Do you have a savings account?
- Have you made your wills?

If you answered "no" to all of the above, that's okay. Everybody has to start and starting small is important because if the project seems overwhelming, you won't stick with it. "Outlining your goals is a critical first step to achieving your target retirement lifestyle," says McCallister. "And the longer you wait, the harder it gets."

Starting small will give you the tools to plan for retirement and an exciting future together. Vacation homes, exotic trips, children's weddings and retirement income are all

financial goals that demand long term planning.

Ron McCallister is a CPA and financial planner in Beaverton, Oregon, with more than 25 years of experience.

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from husband, Mark

PDC

PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEETING

Date: February 15, 1995
Place: Portland Building
1120 SW 5th Avenue
Eleventh Floor
Time: 5:30 p.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.

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