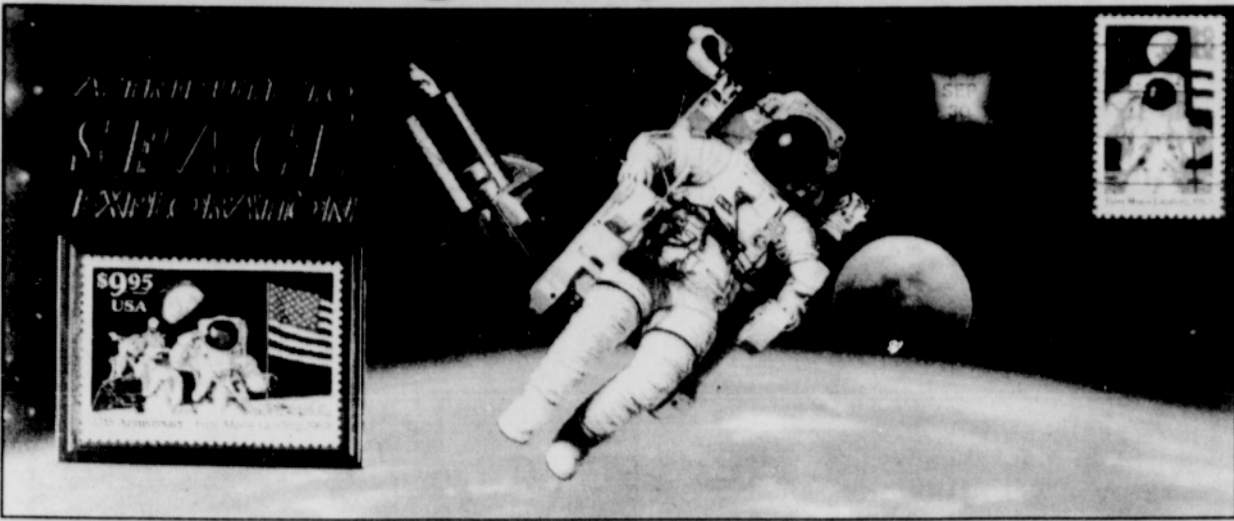


Moon Landing Stamps Return To Earth



A stamp marking the 25th anniversary of the first landing on the Moon, feature two astronauts and the American flag on the surface of the moon.

Space achievement souvenirs honoring last year's 25th anniversary of the moon landing are still available from the U.S. Postal Service.

This is a rare opportunity to own a collectable that has actually flown in space. The Postal Service flew a half-million stamps aboard the space shuttle Endeavor as part of the com-

memoration.

Upon their return to Earth, 10,000 of the stamps were encased in special protective mount and affixed to individually numbered insert cards that serve as certificates of authenticity. The insert cards are presented in special commemorative envelopes featuring a full-color panoramic

space scene painted by artist Keith Birdsong.

Signed and unsigned envelopes are being offered by the Postal Service. A number of other limited edition space achievement souvenirs are also available.

Telephone orders are taken at the U.S. Postal Service in Kansas City, Mo at (800) 782-6724.

Agency Litho Closes Doors Without Paying Workers

A local company, Agency Litho, 607 SW Idaho, shut down earlier this month without paying workers their final paycheck. Payroll records show that the firm owes 37 employees nearly \$88,000. At least \$59,000 of the amount due will be paid to workers out of the Wage Security Fund, which helps displaced workers by paying them an amount equal to their wages lost when a plant or a business closes. To receive payment, workers must first file a wage claim with the bureau's Wage and Hour Division. Former Litho employees

can call 731-4074 in Portland for more information.

Bureau officials say that the wages Litho owes range from \$119 to \$4,825. The Wage Security Fund, which is the nation's most comprehensive program to help such displaced workers, can pay up to \$2,000 per claim. Claimants who complete the necessary wage claim paperwork can expect to receive checks within three weeks.

The Wage Security Fund has been in the news recently because an Internal Revenue Service assessment

that could exceed \$3 million in taxes and penalties on payments made to workers since 1986, threatens the future of the Fund. The IRS maintains that the Fund should be treated as the employer of displaced workers and should therefore withhold income and payroll taxes, in addition to the employee's share of payroll taxes. BOLI is contesting the IRS assessment. During a March 1 news conference, newly-elected labor chief Jack Roberts pledged that "not one dime" of taxpayers' money would be used to settle the dispute.

Artist Sought For Fountain At Max Station

Tri-Met is seeking an artist to design a fountain and accompanying seating for a large public plaza at the future Sunset Transit Center Light Rail station at the junction of Highways 26 and 217.

Applications are due March 30,

1995. Tri-Met's Westside MAX, now under construction, is an 18-mile extension of Portland's Light Rail line.

Artists are required either to have experience with water feature or to team up with someone who does. Two or three finalists will be paid to create

proposals, with final selection in May.

For a copy of the prospectus describing the project in detail and application guidelines, contact Mary Priester, Westside MAX Public Art Program, 710 N.E. Holladay, Portland, OR 97232; (503) 239-2291.

Portland Gray Panthers

Hollywood Senior Center
1820 NE 40th Avenue (off Sandy Blvd.)
503-224-5190

National Convention/April Meeting
March 30 to April 3, 1995
Get Your Raffles, now!

The Convention will be held in Philadelphia. Delegates are Bill Gordon & Bobbi Gary. It is a very expensive event. To help defray costs, we are holding a raffle at the April meeting, which will be held at Bill Gordon's house, 5022 SE 45th Ave.

It will be a report back from the Convention. Bill has donated a beautiful painting valued at \$350.00 Raffles are \$1 each or \$10 a book of 10 tickets. If you don't have any raffles as yet, see Bill. He's in the office on Wednesday, 11am-1pm. (They are selling very quickly.)

Maggie Recognized At AOA Celebration

Gray Panthers founder, Maggie Kuhn was recognized in September as the outstanding role model for Successful Aging by the Administration on Aging. The Celebration of Older Women recognized the significant contributions of older women who serve as role models for successful aging throughout the life cycle by contributing to public and community service and who serve as intergenerational caregivers. Dept. Of Health & Human Services Sec'y, Donna Shalala & Fernando Torres-Gil presented the award.

Phoners Needed For Check-In Service

Volunteers are needed to participate in a telephone re-assurance service by the family service division of the Portland Police Bureau.

The program pairs callers with isolated or lonely senior "subscribers," many who have been recent victims of crime or are a high risk of being a crime victim.

Volunteers are responsible for making one 10-minute call to each individual assigned to them at a prearranged time, five days a week.

If you are interested in volunteering your time to make someone feel safer, or know of someone who might benefit from getting a daily call, contact Jim Nelson at 823-0291

PSU Scholarships For Women

Applications are now being accepted at Portland State University for three scholarships available to help women continue an education which has been at some time interrupted.

Interested women must get and fill out the appropriate form, include letters of reference, a high school and or college transcript and a statement or essay regarding their personal goals.

Applicants will be considered for three different scholarships with grants/tuition waivers ranging from \$900 to \$5,000 per year. For more information, contact Diana Rector in the Women's Studies Department at PSU at 725-3510.

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What If You Can't Pay Your Taxes?

Was 1994 a bad year for you? did some crisis get you behind in your taxes? What should you do? Here's what you shouldn't do: don't ignore the problem. It's always in your best interest to honestly and accurately complete and file your income tax return by April 15 - even if you can't pay what you owe. However tempting, the problem will only get worse if you ignore it.

Fortunately, you do have options if you can't pay your taxes now. You can reach an agreement with the IRS to pay what you owe over time. In some cases, the IRS will accept less than full payment.

An Installment Agreement allows you to pay off your tax bill over time. Usually, if your bill is under \$1,000, the process is fairly obvious: you tell IRS how much you can pay

each month, and they tell you whether it's acceptable. You can even file Form 9465 with your tax return to get things started. Remember, as with a credit card, IRS will charge interest on the outstanding balance while you're making payments. This April, IRS may charge \$43 to apply for an installment arrangement.

If you owe IRS more than \$10,000, things get more complicated. You must complete detailed financial statement listing your assets, liabilities, income, and expenses. If you're in this situation, you might consider getting a tax professional to help you work things out.

If you can't pay your tax bill now and lack the resources to pay it completely over time, you may be a candidate for an Offer in compromise. The law authorizes IRS to ac-

cept less-than-full payment on a tax debt in specific circumstances. Basically, you have to demonstrate that you can give the IRS more in one lump sum than they could get if they seized and sold all your assets.

In essence, the amount you offer must come from a source the IRS couldn't get if they actually did seize your assets. Part of what you offer usually has to be borrowed from friends or family. Also, IRS will consider your likely income for the next several years when deciding if your offer is adequate.

Since you must offer IRS more than your "liquidating value," you need to know what that figure is before making your offer. Again, IRS has detailed financial statements for you to fill out. There are a lot of tricky in's and out's to negotiating an

Offer in compromise. Unless the tax bill you're trying to liquidate is very low, you're probably better off getting professional help. There are also a few technicalities regarding an Offer in Compromise. First, all accepted Compromises are a matter of public record. Next, if IRS accepts your offer, you usually forfeit any tax refunds for the next two years. Finally, remember the most important rule for both Offers in compromise and Installment Agreements: once you get the IRS to go along with what you propose, you have to stay current with your tax obligations. Failure to stay current with all tax obligations for at least five years will void the agreement and your liability will return. IRS will let you make a mistake once, but after you settle up, they're going to keep an eye on you.



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