

Housing for women homemakers

abitat for Humanity is helping Nicole Williams and women like her to become home makers.



See Metro, page B1.

*Happy
New Year!*

Greg O'Quin 'N Joyful Noyze

Greg O'Quin knows all about faith and staying focused on a vision.



See Arts & Entertainment, page B3.

The Portland Observer ^{25¢}

Mrs. Frances Schoen—Newspaper
University of Oregon Libr
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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Retail forges ahead

With Christmas behind them, the next challenge for Portland-area retailers is to trim inventories to withstand the chill winds of January.

Urban Sprawl

As the urban West goes through the third major growth boom in four decades, some of the shiny Western cities are becoming their worst nightmare. Los Angeles symptoms -- bad-air alerts, traffic gridlock, loss of open space, huge gulfs between the rich and the poor -- are becoming impossible to ignore.

Clinton campaign funds under scrutiny

It is becoming increasingly evident as each week goes by that Clinton was an important participant in the Democratic Party's efforts -- some of it in violation of federal law prohibiting foreign contributions -- to raise an enormous war chest for the 1996 presidential election campaign.

Gingrich

Criticism by the nation's key newspapers may undermine Newt Gingrich's efforts to get re-elected as House Speaker. Gingrich has admitted that he misled the House ethics committee.

Beavers prevail

The Beavers won the Les Schwab Oregon Holiday Invitational Championship game with a 76-53 victory over McNary at the Chiles Center on Saturday night.

Gulf War aftermath

Army scientists have agreed to investigate a California researcher's claim that he has found a possible bacterial explanation for some illnesses suffered by Gulf War veterans.

Chevron pays for unsafe refinery

A Texas jury has ordered Chevron U.S.A. to pay nearly \$61 million to a contractor that claimed its workers were sickened by unsafe conditions at one of the oil company's refineries.

Rasheed takes a break

Rasheed Wallace, who plays power forward for the Portland Trail Blazers, will miss at least four weeks -- and possibly more than 13 games -- while his broken left thumb heals.

Vancouver gets big

With annexations, Vancouver will see its population almost double. Vancouver also will move into the No. 4 spot among Washington cities behind Seattle, Spokane and Tacoma and make it No. 2 in the Portland area.

U.S. 26 (Sunset Highway)

Motorists can expect a lower speed limit on the detour in the west-bound lanes between the Washington Park Zoo interchange and Sylvan interchange. Drivers are asked to avoid lane changes through the detour. The project to widen the highway is scheduled for completion in fall 1997.



Riding a blast of cold air from the Columbia Gorge, a surprise ice storm showered the Portland area with thousands of broken trees, power lines and telephone cables last Thursday. Photo M. Washington

County programs to assist needy

Low income households in need of financial aid to pay for winter heating bills can apply for Low Income Energy Assistance program (LIEAP), a federal program managed by Multnomah County's Department of Community and Family Services on Monday, December 2, 1996.

This program is designed to assist low income resident with their household heating costs. "Households must demonstrate energy costs for this one-time payment, which averages around \$190.00," said Nancy Culver,

Energy Assistance Program Coordinator. To qualify for energy assistance, applicants must be at or below 125% of the Federal Poverty level. Examples of the 125% level are:

* A household of one with a yearly income of \$9,675.00 or less.

* A household of four with a yearly income that does not exceed \$19,500.00.

To apply for LIEAP, County residents should contact one of the following community service centers in their neighborhood.

Locations in Multnomah County: (North

St. John's YWCA, 247-9131; (Northeast), Albina Ministerial Alliance 240-0828; (Northwest) Friendly House, 228-4335; (Downtown) Transition Projects, 823-4930; (Southwest) Neighborhood House, 246-1663; (Inner Southeast) Portland Impact, 239-4328; (Outer East, between 82nd & SE 162nd Ave.) Human Solutions, 248-3662; (Outer East, east of SE 162nd) Human Solution's Rockwood Office) 248-5215.

According to Culver, last year the energy assistance program served over 9,000 low income households in Multnomah County.

Urban League wants summit



Mrs. Narges Gammage, mother of the 31-year-old police choke hold victim in Pittsburgh and National Urban League President Hugh B. Price, calling on President Clinton for a summit on police misconduct and a national code of conduct for police.

Photo by Roy Lewis

National Urban League Asks President Clinton For A Summit on Police Misconduct and a National Police Code Conduct.

National Urban League President Hugh B. Price asked President Clinton to convene a summit on police misconduct and propose a national code of conduct for police.

"The National Urban League is going to pursue this to the fullest," said Price. "We will not rest until we see President Clinton take the leadership on this issue of police brutality against Black men. We don't want roadside judges and juries -- we want justice.

"Racial tensions are engulfing cities like Pittsburgh and St. Petersburg in the wake of confrontations between police and civilians," warned Price. "Since this problem threatens

the domestic tranquility of cities across the country and, when it careens out of control, endangers the lives of officers and citizens alike, it is a national crisis which requires presidential leadership."

"My Jonny had never been arrested before," said Mrs. Narges Gammage, mother of the 31-year-old police choke hold victim in Pittsburgh. "Jonny was a wonderful human being, he tried to do the right things, he had a paper route, he worked all through high school and college. He wasn't a threat to anyone, he was only 5 ft. 4" and weighed only 160 pounds. I'm pleading to President Clinton to do something," she said.

"We need to ask President Clinton about the police code of silence," said Mr. Jonny

Gammage, Sr., the father of the police choke hold victim. "Why did it take five white police officers to suffocate my 164 pound son? Even the good cops won't talk about the bad cops," he said.

"Too many citizens have lost faith in the criminal justice system," said Pittsburgh Urban League President Ester L. Bush. "We have had enough of all white juries acquitting all the officers. There is anger and frustration in Pittsburgh and high tension between the police and the community."

"It takes a riot to get attention to our problems," said St. Petersburg, FL., Urban League President James O. Simmons. "That's what we had when officers killed Tyrone Lewis. We call on President Clinton and local officials to address these problems and the sea of disparity of the African-American community. Let's end this poverty and hopelessness."

"We all see the tension, and we endorse the Urban League's call to the President to bring this problem forward into a summit," said U.S. Congressman William J. Coyne of Pennsylvania.

"Police need more training in conflict resolution, all police supervisors, especially street supervisors, must be accountable, and misconduct must bear a tolerance level of zero," said Ira Harris, Executive Director, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Officers (NOBLE) that represents nearly 3,000 of the nation's black law enforcement officials. "A climate has been created where white officers really aren't afraid of reprisals for their actions."

"We need equal protection and dignity, under the law," said the Rev. Sykes of St. Petersburg, FL. "We do not need police harassment added to the multiple problems we already face."

GAP helps low-income Families Stay Warm

Over the last 15 years, Northwest Natural Gas Company's Gas Assistance Program (GAP) has helped many of those in need pay their heating bills.

Each year contributions from the public, NNG's employees, customers and shareholders provide the needed funds for GAP. Since its inception in 1982, nearly \$3 million in GAP funds have been collected and disbursed. So far in 1996, \$170,000 in GAP funds have been distributed to needy households throughout Northwest Natural's service area in northwest Oregon and southwest Washington.

"Every dollar given to GAP goes to those who need help," said Dick Reiten, president and chief operating officer of Northwest Natural Gas Company. "Because of the generous support the program has received over the years, GAP has helped almost 50,000 households stay warm during the winter."

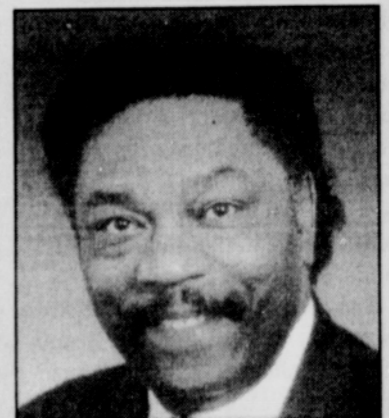
GAP funds are collected by the United Way and then disbursed to community action agencies throughout the company's service area. Each applicant is screened by an agency to determine eligibility.

Northwest Natural customers should look for the red and green envelopes in their November gas bills in which to send in their tax-deductible donations. Others can send their donations to United Way/GAP, 619 S. W. Eleventh Avenue, Portland, OR 97205.

Anyone requiring assistance should contact their local community action agency. Please send in your contribution today. You'll feel warmer knowing that someone less fortunate is warm too.

Apology: The following article is a correction for last week's misspelling of Roy Jay's name.

Roy Jay elected Visitor Association Treasurer



Roy Jay, President of Oregon Convention and Visitor Services Network was recently unanimously elected treasurer for the Washington County Visitors Association by the organizations board of directors.

He will replace Marx, Director of Sales for Sweetbriar Inn, who will be leaving to accept a similar position in Washington State with Heathman Management Group. Jay, who has been a long standing and active member of the WCVA Board will become an officer and executive board member starting in 1997 in succession for possibly the board presidency in the future.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is January 15th
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