

Observing Vancouver

County employee recognized

Lawrence Weaver, Clark County purchasing manager, was recently awarded the Certified Public Purchasing Officer (CPPO) certification designation.

Obtaining the CPPO designation is the highest form of recognition in the public purchasing profession.

It is administered by the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, Inc., under the auspices of the Universal Public Purchasing Council. Candidates must meet specific criteria established by the council including employment, education, purchasing and supervisory experience.

"Earning the designation demonstrates Lawrence's commitment to education and leadership within the purchasing profession," said Sharon Seekins, president of the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing.

Watch for Parks and Recreation brochure

The City of Vancouver's winter Parks and Recreation brochure will be mailed Wednesday, December 11 to over 72,000 homes in the Vancouver area. The brochure lists classes for every age and skill level. Most classes begin the week of January 6.

school, teens, youth, over 50, swimming, tennis, sports and special events.

Most classes meet at Marshall Center, Bagley Center, Luepke Center and schools in the area. People can register for classes by phone, fax, mail or walk-in. Visa and Mastercard are accepted.

City of Vancouver residents pay a lower fee for classes because their taxes directly support the city's Parks and Recreation Department. Residents in the newly-annexed areas will be eligible for lower in-city rates starting January 1.

Check the brochure for registration information and class details.

Winter break program keeps kids busy

Kids ages six and 12 can perk up school break with fun opportunities from the Vancouver Parks and Recreation Department. Classes meet at Bagley Center meet at Bagley Center, 4100 Plomondon.

Catch the wave at Clackamas Aquatic Park. Meet at Bagley Center. Bring a sack lunch and \$4 for locker. Monday, December 30, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$30 (\$20 city resident).

Winter Wonderful at Lloyd Center. Meet at Bagley Center. Bring a sack lunch. Introductory skating lessons, games, make a snowman. Friday, December 27, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$30 (\$20 city resident).

Enhance motorcycle skills in city classes

Motorcycle riding and street skills classes for beginners and those who need a skills endorsement to get a license is set at Bagley Center, 4100 Plomondon. The class runs three days, February 27, March 1 and 2 or March 13, 15 and 16. Class times are Thursdays from 6 to 9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 8

a.m. to 5 p.m. Motorcycles are provided. Bring a valid driver's license or Washington permit. Required dress includes: over-the-ankle shoes (high tops), long-sleeve shirt and long pants. Class is sponsored by the Vancouver Parks and Recreation Department. Fee is \$50.

Experienced riders can sign up for two-day safety course. Meet at Bagley Center on Thursday, March 6, 6-10 p.m. and Saturday, March 8, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Must provide own motorcycle in good working condition and certificate of insurance. Fee is \$50. Call 696-8006 to register.

Bank Of America Travel Card

Bank of America announced a new VISA credit card that offers a variety of free travel rewards, including airline tickets, hotel accommodations, vacation packages, cruises, weekend getaways, and car rentals.

Called Travel Choices, the new card enables cardholders to earn one point for every dollar in purchases charged, including points for balances transferred from other cards.

"We designed the new Travel Choices VISA card to provide customers with a wide range of travel benefits and choices," said Stephen B. Galasso, President and CEO of the bank's credit card subsidiary, Bank of America NA. "With travel rewards that start as low as 4,000 points, our customers will be able to take advantage of more affordable vacations."

Bank of America is introducing the new Travel Choices card on a limited basis through applications in

Oregon, Nevada and San Diego, with plans to expand the card to other markets beginning next year. The bank is also testing the card through direct mail solicitations.

For as little as 4,000 points, cardholders earn a free one-day car rental from Hertz or Alamo Rent A Car.

Rewards for free hotel stays range from 5,000 points for one night at Marriott Fairfield Inns to 10,000 points for free weekend nights at Marriott Hotels and Resorts, Courtyard by Marriott or Residence Inns.

Airline rewards range from 25,000 points for a free ticket on flights within the continental U.S. to 50,000 points for a free ticket to Europe. All airline travel is booked on major U.S. airlines.

At 5,000 points, cardholders can earn a free cruise for any third or fourth person on Royal Caribbean Cruise Line or up to two children free

with two paying adults on Carnival Cruise Lines. Accumulating 40,000 points earns a free three-night cruise for two on Carnival Cruise Lines, Norwegian Cruise Line or Royal Caribbean Cruise Line.

Cardholders can earn up to a maximum of 60,000 points annually and simply call a toll-free number to redeem rewards. In addition, cardholders receive \$150,000 of free travel accident insurance.

The introductory rate on the new Travel Choices card is a fixed rate of 9.9 percent APR for the first six months from the date the account is opened, after which the rate is adjusted quarterly based on the Wall Street Journal prime rate plus 9.99 percentage points. The annual fee for the card is \$25.

consumers may call 1-800-349-BofA (1-800-349-2632) to receive or complete an application for the Travel Choices card.

Coping: "I Fear You"

BY DR. CHARLES W. FAULKNER

"If I don't fear you, then forget you."

The above remark seems to put the problem between black men and women in a nutshell. No matter how we dress up the issue, it can be reduced to the feeling in many by people that makes them want the person they can't have and not want the person who is attracted to them.

One might say, in other words, "when I fear you, or fear being rejected by you, it messes with my ego, it makes me feel inferior to you. It makes me feel inadequate as a human being. Even though I am angry with you for rejecting me, I can't feel good about myself until you accept me as a friend by giving me your phone number or by asking me for mine."

On the other hand, "when you

give me your phone number or ask me for mine, you are actually telling me that you want to get to know me and be my friend. This means that you think that I am better than you. This makes me feel superior to you and makes you inferior to me. Nobody likes inferior people. I know I don't. Therefore, I don't like you or want you. I only want people who are superior to me."

If you don't understand this simple psychology, you are going to have a lot of trouble in the real world of romance. Most people, of course, do understand this psychology and have turned it into a game. They feel that you are going to play it on them, so they play it on you first.

Thus, many people actually try to make you feel inferior to them by snubbing you, ignoring you, acting as if they are not interested in you,

failing to give you the phone number, failing to ask for the phone number, telling you only the good things about themselves criticizing you or simply playing "hard-to-get".

I could go on and on. It's basically a war with few rules and few winners. Most people play it. Those who don't get hurt. Even most of those who play the game get hurt because they want you only as long as you reject them; only as long as they can't have you.

Unfortunately, you are basically the same way. You want the other person only as long as they reject you. As soon as they submit to you, you don't want them anymore. It's a "crazy" psychology for insecure people. The name of this psychological game is "I love you, if I can't have you, but I don't like you, if I can have you."

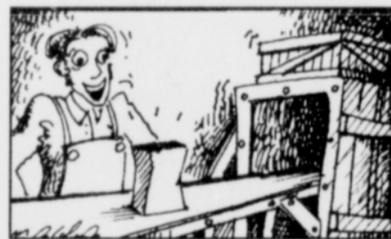
If you don't want to fight housing discrimination for yourself, do it for your kids.

Don't just find another apartment, call another mortgage lender, or talk with a different insurance agent. Ignoring housing discrimination won't make it go away. You need to report it. It's illegal to consider race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or family status in rental, sales, lending or homeowner's insurance decisions.



FAIR HOUSING IS THE LAW!

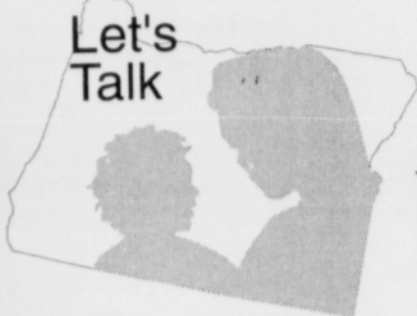
If you suspect unfair housing practices, contact HUD or your local Fair Housing Center. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development 1-800-669-9777 • TDD 1-800-927-9275



The first machine-made paper bags were created in the 1860s.

He is educated who knows where to find out what he doesn't know.

—Georg Simmel



Let's Talk

Learning Together Works

When you were a kid, did one of your friends ever help you with a math problem? Or maybe it was your friend, leaning over to you in a science class to say, "Hey, I don't get this. Do you?" You did get it, in fact, and you helped your friend to understand it, too. Indeed, those scenarios happened in virtually all of our school lives. Although it was informal, it was tutoring. It happens almost naturally with children in school—whether or not they have been instructed to tutor.

Now, in a booklet of compiled research, *Tutoring: Strategies for Successful Learning*, author Jennifer Fager describes what might be a typical scene in a classroom today with a purposeful tutoring program, and a trained student tutor:

One child sighs in frustration as he attempts a challenging math problem. He can't seem to figure it out and looks to the group member next to him. She leans over to see if she can help. She takes him through the problem step by step until it "clicks" and he's off and running on his own. Once he seems to get it, she only checks occasionally to make sure he is doing it right.

Because research shows that an organized tutoring process can be a powerful learning tool for all involved, many educators across the Northwest are putting this tool to use. To help others who would like to know more, Fager pulled together a brief "Northwest Sampler" of tutoring programs from Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington.

Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington to tell how they work.

The booklet first profiles the three types of tutoring:

Peer Tutoring: The tutor and tutee are about the same age, grade, or academic status. Both students "speak" the same language, so in general they tend to feel comfortable with this process.

Cross-Age Tutoring: The tutor is an older student; the tutee is the younger. This arrangement has many of the benefits of peer tutoring, and it tends to confer status on the younger student who now has an older, higher-status friend.

Parent/Volunteer Tutoring: The tutor is an adult from outside the school. Because adult-student pairs are not as likely to become distracted as student-student pairs, less supervision is needed by the teacher.

While schools and organizations don't implement tutoring programs in the same ways, there are some common elements that need tending so that they are successful. And whether tutors are kids in fourth grade, or adults well into their forties, it is critical that they are trained properly. While there are many benefits to tutoring, there can be some pitfalls, too.

This column is provided as a public service by the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, a nonprofit institution working with schools and communities in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington.

MicroAge announces full technical scholarship

The growth of Microsoft Windows NT, Microsoft's Network and Desktop Operating System, is out-running the number of individuals fluent enough in the software to install and maintain the technology. Microsoft estimates there are approximately 2,500 Microsoft Certified Systems Engineers (MCSEs) worldwide. The number of MCSEs needed is expected to grow to 150,000 by turn of the century.

For that reason, MicroAge Infosystem Services is establishing a series of scholarships for individuals in the Pacific Northwest who wish to pursue careers as Microsoft Certified Systems Engineers (MCSEs) and

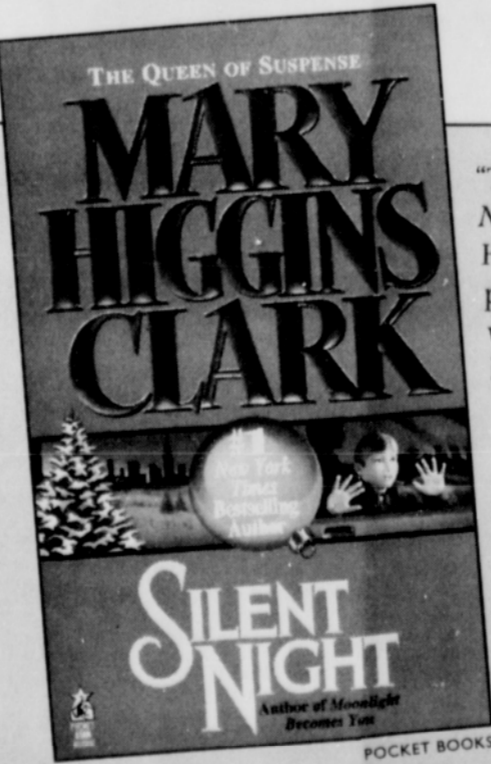
Microsoft Certified Product Specialists (MCPs). MicroAge is a national systems integrator and technical training provider specializing in Microsoft networking and application training. The MicroAge Scholarship program is awarding 10 partial scholarships to individuals seeking MCSE or Product Specialist certification. Applicants may apply for these scholarships by contacting MicroAge directly. MicroAge can be contacted directly by calling 206-637-1056 ext. 232 or faxing to 206-637-1079. There are a limited number of applications and scholarships available so interested parties should apply as soon as possible.

Sunset transit center garage topped out

Crews completed concrete work on the third level of the 592-space parking garage at Sunset Transit Center. Only minor concrete work, facades and lighting remain to be finished by Drake Construction Co. The garage will be open for bus commuters this March, with route 89/Rock Creek providing service to downtown Portland. An attendant will be stationed at the garage for security. At the transit center, crews are building the glass block elevator walls, installing canopies over the MAX platform waiting areas and finishing stairways.

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Call: 503-288-0033



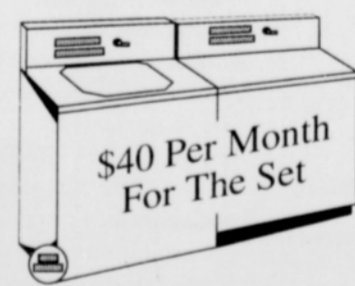
"The brilliance of *Silent Night* is that [Mary Higgins] Clark is a real pro, and one of the few writing today who knows how to construct a holiday-time story that's genuinely thrilling and suspenseful."

—David Walton, *Detroit News*

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