

Family Living

A Children's Fair

A Children's Fair will be held Saturday, August 16th from 10am to 3pm at the Lutheran Inner-City Ministries, NE Martin Luther King Blvd. and Skidmore St. All families, child care providers, and children are welcome to participate in games, music, dance, fun, and entertainment.

Child Care Providers will be eligible for drawings and special certificates of appreciation from Albina Ministerial Alliance. Families will have an opportunity to get information about a variety of services, meet child care providers, and try out fun activities to enhance children's development.

There will be a D.J., stories from the Multnomah County Youth Librarians, a children's parade with Bobby Fouthier, storytelling with Askari Nywesi, "Fishing" for children's books from Oregon Public Broadcasting, face painting, a sandbox treasure hunt, bubble play, a soccer and baseball clinic, and much, much more!

Sponsors include: Lutheran Inner-City Ministries, Albina Ministerial Alliance, the N/NE Child Care Task Force, Family Child Care Networks, Metro Child Care Resource & Referral.

ALENA MARSHALL



WAWERU GATIMU



ANDRAY JACKSON



MELINDA O'FERRALL



Area students earn tuition to college

Four deserving young high school graduates will go to college this fall thanks in part to the scholarships they have received from the Phil Reynolds Scholarship Fund.

The Reynolds scholarships are awarded to Afro-American high school seniors preparing to enter a college or university to achieve success in their chosen fields of

endeavor.

This year's students are Melinda O'Ferrall of Jefferson High; Alena Marshall of Wilson High; Waweru Gatimu of Wilson; and Andray Jackson of Benson High.

Phil Reynolds helped many young men and women during his life pursue education as the more preferable, rewarding way of life. It is to his memory as a dedicated Oregon pio-

neer that the scholarship fund was established in 1983.

O'Ferrall has set the medial field for her goal in life with a future degree in the arts or sciences. She plans on attending Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta, Ga.

Marshall will be attending Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas with an eye toward a doctor of pharmacy.

Gatimu graduates with high honors from Wilson. He has an interest in the human eye and plans to enter the field of optometry. He plans to attend the University of Oregon.

Jackson has selected Seattle Pacific University to further his education in the field of business administration and a future bachelor of science degree.

Adults Help Inner-City Kids

Experience Corps of Portland is looking for volunteers age 55 and over to help improve scholastic achievement and the overall quality of life of school children.

Starting in September, this expanding program will operate in six Portland elementary schools: Atkinson, Humboldt, Kenton, Lent, Vernon and Woodlawn.

Experience Corps volunteers serve in teams and perform a variety of activities based on their talents and interests and the needs of the school. Examples include fundraising, working with computers, and assisting with after school activities. Helping with reading activities is especially important. Stipends are available for volunteers who commit to at least 12 hours a week.

Call Shirley at 249-0469 for more information.

Serving the Community Instead of Serving Time

By MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

With the number of legal scrapes that Chuck Lewis experienced as a young man growing up in Southern California, he could easily have wound up serving a jail term instead of serving his community.

"But God saw fit to give me a chance at a better life," says Chuck, now a sergeant for the Federal Government Printing Office Police in Washington, D.C.

As a boy, Chuck often spent his school days running the streets and his evenings stealing hubcaps and getting into other mischief. Before long he landed in front of a judge whose patience had almost run out but who gave him one more chance.

Chuck packed his bags and headed for the Army. There he met

people who believed in him and taught him self-discipline. He served in Vietnam and joined the military police, discovering it was far more productive to help young recruits steer clear of trouble than looking them up after they crossed the line. It was a lesson that he's been applying throughout his more than 40 years in law enforcement.

"We have to catch these kids between ages six and 13, and make a positive difference in their lives," says Chuck, a member of the Black Police Association and president of the Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge #2 in D.C. "I've learned that many of the kids who get into trouble are a lot like I was as a kid. Most of the time they just need a second chance, somebody to believe in them. I understand that some young people are violent and need to be separated from the

rest of society for a time, but most of them are not violent offenders.

"Everybody seems to be talking about trying more children as adults, but we have to remember that they are still kids. It sure makes more sense to treat them with love and get them involved in something constructive and meaningful before they get into trouble."

Chuck is right. Studies have shown trying children in adult courts does not deter criminal behavior. A new study in Florida, for example, found that those young people tried as adults committed new crimes sooner after their release from prison, and perpetrated more serious and violent crimes than those tried as juveniles. That's because adult courts and adult prison lack the dedication, counseling, and treatment that help offenders rehabilitate them-

selves. Rather, adult jails are crime schools where young convicts learn from the worst possible role models--hardened criminals.

This fall the U.S. Senate will vote on a bill, S.10, which could mean more children than ever being thrown into adult prisons. The House already has passed an equally harsh companion bill, H.R. 3. We must act now to protect children from being trampled by gutless politicians seeking to prove they are "tough on crime" by voting for harsher punishments against young offenders.

Call your Senators while they are home during the month of August to support crucial changes to S.10. Tell them that we mustn't allow children to be tried in adult courts and thrown into adult prison where they will only learn to be better criminals; be sub-

jected to harassment, assault, and rape; and face increased risk for suicide.

Tell them that we must invest in intervention and prevention on the front end and do something to stop the flow of guns into our children's communities and homes.

And if our children are unfortunate enough to land in court, tell your Senators to make sure children get a juvenile court process and the kind of education and psychological treatment that will help them lead productive lives.

"Not only does imprisonment rob too many youths of a chance for a better life," Chuck says, "but it robs society of the benefit of their potential good. I will always think of the kind of life I might be leading right now if I didn't get the opportunity to start over."



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To learn how we can work together to help your community, call "Our Neighborhoods First" at PGE: 503-464-8091.



Free Vision Screenings

OFFERED FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL



More than ever, children depend on a healthy visual system and good eye health for development of essential learning skills such as reading and writing.

As a community service, Pacific University College of Optometry Eye and Vision Centers and affiliate clinics, provide free vision screenings for infants, pre-schoolers, school-age children, and adults. Although screenings do not take the place of a complete vision exam, they do provide important information about visual clarity, eye health, and eye coordination ... information key in identifying and treating the vision and eye health problems of children. Eye doctors stress the importance of regular vision care prior to or early in the school year to detect and treat vision problems before children fall behind in their school work.

Our free vision screenings take about 30 minutes and do not cause discomfort. Screenings may be scheduled during evenings, weekends and regular business hours. Interpreter services can be arranged upon request. We also provide vision screenings for schools, businesses, and community organizations.

To schedule an appointment and for more information about other vision care services, please call

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NORTHEAST PORTLAND

248-3821

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