

## Revenue Department Mailing Out Federal Retirement Refund Checks

The Oregon Department of Revenue is in the midst of mailing refund checks to eligible retired federal employees and their beneficiaries. Many recipients already have received their checks and other are on their way.

"We are very pleased that these refund checks are in the mail and will be in the hands of federal retirees and their families," said Ben Gille of the department. "We know all retirees have been waiting for these refunds for quite awhile."

Gille advises those who have not received a check to be patient. "We've received thousands of verification forms and we will continue to process refunds for the next few months."

He reminds those eligible to receive a refund to send in a verification form as soon as possible if they already haven't done so. Federal retirees and their beneficiaries must accurately complete and return verification forms provided by the Department of Revenue. Eligible federal retirees can get the forms by

calling 503 378-4988, or toll-free in Oregon 1-800-356-4222 (January through April only). For TTY (hearing or speech impaired only), the year-round toll-free number within Oregon is 1-800-886-7204. In Salem the number is 503-945-8617. These numbers are answered by machine only and are not for voice use. Telephone hours are Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:10 p.m., except Wednesday when the hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:10 p.m.

The verification forms and instructions also are available on the department's Web site at [www.dor.state.or.us](http://www.dor.state.or.us)

The information needed on the form includes number of months worked before and after October 1, 1991, and federal pension amounts for each affected year. Civilian federal employees who receive a pension from the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and are unsure of their service months may contact the Revenue Department at the above numbers for that information.###

## Free Vision Screening Offered

**FOREST GROVE** - March has been proclaimed National Save Your Vision Month. To celebrate, the Pacific University College of Optometry reminds the public that it's network of community Vision Centers are providing free vision screenings for people of all ages. Screenings are available by appointment and are offered at Pacific University Vision Centers located in

Downtown, Northeast and Southeast Portland; Cornelius, and on the Pacific University campus in Forest Grove. For more information and to schedule screening at any Pacific University Vision Center or through the College's Off-Site Screening Program, please call (503) 357-5800. Evening and weekend hours are available upon request.



U.S. Congressman Maxine Waters (center) and entertainer and philanthropist Bill Cosby (second from right) congratulate their friend, ESSENCE magazine editor-in-chief and Essence Communications, Inc. (ECI), senior vice-president Susan L. Taylor (second, from left), on being the first African-American to receive the Henry Johnson Fisher Award from the Magazine Publishers of America (MPA). Joining Waters and Cosby are ESSENCE cofounders Edward Lewis (far left), ECI publisher and chief executive officer, and Clarence O. Smith (far right), ECI president. The Henry Johnson Fisher Award, now in its thirty-fourth year, is the magazine industry's highest honor. The award recognizes people, who have dedicated their lives to the magazine business and helped the industry thrive and expand, or who through their editorial policies address social, political, economic or lifestyle issues. Cosby presented the award to Taylor, who was saluted along with Rodale Press, Inc., president and chief operating officer Robert J. Teufel at a gala held in New York City at the Waldorf-Astoria. (Photo by Star Black)

## Portland-Area Students may apply for a Health Care Scholarship

**PORTLAND, Ore** - The Kaiser Permanente African American Association will award three \$500 college scholarships to high school seniors to study health care and one \$1,000 scholarship to a student currently enrolled in a health-related program at a two of four-year college or university. This is the first year the scholarships are being offered. They are to support African-American students in Northwest Oregon and Southwest Washington pur-

suing careers in health care.

The scholarship program is open to African-American high school seniors and undergraduate college students (currently enrolled at a non-profit, accredited college or university) who have a grade point average at or above 2.75.

To apply for a scholarship, send the following information:

### A resume;

Transcript of high school or college classes;

A 500-word essay about the area of health care you are pursuing and career goals;

Two academic or professional letters of reference.

Mail items to:

Kaiser Permanente African American Association of the Northwest

Kaiser Permanente Building  
500 N.E. Multnomah, Ste. 100  
Portland, OR 97232-2099

**Deadlines for applying is Fri-**

**day, April 16.** For more information about the scholarship call (503) 813-4823 or send an e-mail to [Webmaster@Kpnw.org](mailto:Webmaster@Kpnw.org).

The Kaiser Permanente African American Association provides a forum to encourage professional and personal growth, career development, opportunity, and enhancements in the work environment for African-Americans within Kaiser Permanente and to facilitate diversity initiatives within the organization.

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*The NAACP Congratulates  
the Corporation of the Year.*

From your more than \$100 million in loans to African Americans to your increased spending with minority-owned businesses to our partnership to launch the NAACP Community Development Resource Centers, we recognize Bank of America's continued dedication to serving our communities.

We look forward to working with you to find more ways to improve the day-to-day lives of all people.