

Temporary Restaurant Licenses Required for Food Booths at Alberta Street Fair

Alberta Street Fair food vendors are required to complete an application for temporary food service license from Multnomah County Health Department. Applications must be completed two weeks prior to the event.

The food service license and inspection is a measure to prevent a possible food-borne illness in the community. The Health Department is able to point out potential problems and give helpful suggestions about serving food to the public.

On the day of the fair, a representative from the Health Department will meet with each food vendor. During this meeting, the representative will discuss important safety procedures for each operation, inspect the food stands, and issue each organization serving food a temporary restaurant license.

If you should have any questions, or would like an application for food service license please contact the Multnomah County Health Department, Environmental Health Section at (503) 248-3400.

"KIDS PREVENTING CHILD ABUSE"

Teach Pre-Teens to Safely Care for Children

Tubman School Students to Take Course sponsored by CARES Northwest

To mark Child Abuse Prevention Month, CARES Northwest will spend every Thursday in April educating sixth grade students from Tubman School about child abuse and domestic violence. At 10 to 12 years of age, children begin caring for younger children, experiencing greater peer pressure to use drugs and alcohol, and are just a few years from dating and the risks of becoming involved in a violent relationship. Each Tubman sixth grade class will attend one of five sessions held on consecutive Thursday mornings.

Tubman students will learn from physicians and police officers about domestic violence, shaken baby syndrome and other effects of violence on small children. Dr. Leila Keltner and Dr. William Bennett and Portland Police Officers Dan Costello and Lori Smith use props

Metro Council OK's Major Expo Center Renovation

The Expo Center is going to get a much-needed facelift, thanks to a vote by the Metro Council today. The Council voted to fund the construction of a new "Hall D". In the end, it will mean more business, more money and a better place for people in this region to use. Metro owns the Expo Center and operates it through the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission (MERC).

"We take our responsibility to manage these facilities very seriously, and this is what makes the most business sense," said Metro Council Presiding Officer Rod Monroe. "The building itself is old and some groups won't use it because it is simply not up to standards. The people of our region will be getting a much better facility without us having to spend one cent of tax money to do it."

THE PROJECT

Hall D was built in the early 1980's, and it has 60,000 square feet of exhibit space. It has an asphalt floor, no air conditioning, and a number of support columns throughout the space. These are three things that make it unacceptable to many potential users. The new Hall D will be similar to the Hall E model (built in 1997), and it will be connected by corridors to Hall E (to the south) and Hall C (to the north). The new Hall D will include 72,000 square feet of exhibition space and 30,000 square feet of support space that will include offices, a central kitchen and meeting rooms. (See attached sheets for plans and drawings).

"The people of this region deserve a first-class facility that will support itself while providing them with lots of benefits," said Metro Councilor Ed Washington (District 5). "This is a win-win for everyone involved." Councilor Washington represents the district that includes the Expo site as well as Northeast, Northwest, and downtown Portland.

The project will cost a total of \$15.8 million. Metro will finance the project using revenue bonds backed by Expo Center revenue. Metro will not use any tax payer money to pay for the rebuilding of Hall D. The project also includes \$750,000 for parking facility landscaping work and \$425,000 to develop and preserve a wetland site near the southwest corner of the property.

Metro will issue the bonds later this fall. Construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2000 with opening to come in the spring of 2001.

EXPO: THE HISTORY & THE FUTURE

Multnomah County transferred Expo to Metro in 1994. Metro took over full ownership in 1996 and it opened "Hall E", a state-of-the-art facility with 108,000 square feet. Hall E was home to the popular Smithsonian exhibit that attracted more than 400,000 people.

There are other sections of Expo that need attention in the coming years. Hall A was originally built in 1923 as a livestock building. Other portions (Hall B, C, East and C West) were added through the years. The main part of Hall C was originally designed as a rodeo arena.

such as eggs and toy dolls as well as radiographic images of infant's brains to illustrate their points. The "Kids Preventing Child Abuse" program was developed in response to the case of a 12-year old Portland baby sitter who shook a baby to quiet its cries. The result was severe disabilities for the infant.

The purpose of this program, now in its second year, is to prevent dangerous, harmful behaviors and improve the health of our children. CARES (Child Abuse Response and Evaluation Services) Northwest is one of the nation's largest child abuse assessment centers. Now ten years old, CARES sees 1200 children each year from the tri-county area and is a collaborative effort of Legacy Emanuel Children's Hospital, Kaiser Permanente and Doernbecher Children's Hospital.

These areas will require, at minimum, major structural improvements to meet building code and seismic requirements. MERC's long-term development plans include replacing all of those building with a third state-of-the-art hall that could be tied to a future light rail line and Columbia River marina. "We are looking to the future, planning for the future," said Metro Councilor Jon Kvistad. "The Expo Center represents an example of how strong fiscal management and vision can turn a public liability into a long-term asset the citizens can be proud of. We are working hard to protect the value the region's existing investments with no additional taxes." Councilor Kvistad is a long-time proponent of the Expo Center, and he helped to kick off this latest rebuilding campaign.



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Mercy Corps Field Update From the Balkans

Macedonia

People continue to come over the border at the General Jankovic/Blace crossing. It takes hours for vehicles to cross. Between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm today, only three cars came over, but several hundred people arrived on foot. Almost all of the refugees are leaving their cars, or are being forced to leave their cars, on the Serbian side.

Between 3,500 and 4,000 people are currently lined up on the Macedonian side of the border being processed by Macedonian authorities. Some have been there for two nights now, sleeping out in the open. Three trains arrived from inside Kosovo today at the border with thousands more refugees. Buses are stationed at the border and are taking people to points throughout Macedonia.

One woman died of a heart attack today in "no man's land" between the two borders.

Albania

Terry Heselius and the Mercy Corps' assessment team are in Tirana today. They are meeting with donor agencies and coordinating relief response. There are now over 100,000 refugees in Albania. Mercy Corps is shipping blankets and clothing for the refugees.

Montenegro

Mercy Corps staff in Montenegro are managing relief operations from a warehouse in Ulein where there are now more than 32,000 refugees. Most refugees coming into Montenegro from Kosovo first come into the town of Rozaj in Montenegro. From there, 80 to 90 percent of them are making their way down to Ulein. Mercy Corps is sending 50 tons of flour to Ulein and will continue to send additional relief items. Mercy Corps currently has flour in the port of Bar, procured through the US Food for Peace program.

Pristina

Sources in Pristina told Corps today that there was less violence directed at Albanians but that the Serbian military, police and paramilitary have stepped up their campaign of driving people out of town. An area known as "Sunny Hill" is now completely

empty of Albanians as Serbian authorities go door to door forcing people from their homes. Some believe people are being forced out of their homes so Serb forces can sleep there instead of in their barracks, which are being bombed by NATO.

A reliable source has reported that the fire has destroyed Mercy Corps' office in Pristina and an entire row of homes around it, including the UNHCR offices, have suffered a similar fate.

Overview of Mercy Corps Kosovo Relief Operations

Albania

1,500 baby packs with a two-week supply of vitamins, milk, rice porridge, baby lotion, and soap for one infant.

Blankets and clothing for 26,000 refugees.

Macedonia

Food for 29,000 refugees for two weeks.

ESTIMATED TOTAL REFUGEES TO BE ASSISTED AS OF 3/31/99: 100,500



Mercy Corps Kosovo

Mercy Corps began work in Kosovo in 1993. Over the past six years, Mercy Corps has provided more than \$30 million in relief and development aid to more than 250,000 people — reaching more than 10 percent of the total population. Mercy Corps assists all people regardless of ethnicity serving Albanians, Serbians, Croats, Montenegrins, and others in need.

Operations inside Kosovo have been temporarily suspended and all expatriate staff evacuated from the troubled province last week. Relief work continues in Macedonia, Montenegro and elsewhere in the Balkans. Mercy Corps will resume work inside Kosovo as soon as it is safe to do so.

How To Help

Financial contributions are urgently needed to help Mercy Corps

provide additional relief supplies to Kosovar refugees fleeing the country. A gift of \$35 enables Mercy Corps to provide a Family Food Pack that sustains a family of six for one month. All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

By Mail Donations may be sent to: Mercy Corps International Kosovo Relief Fund, Dept. N P.O. Box 9, Portland, OR 97207

By Phone Call 1-800-852-2100 to make an immediate credit card gift.

Online Click the "Give-On-Line" button on our website at www.mercycorps.org and make a gift via our secure server.

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