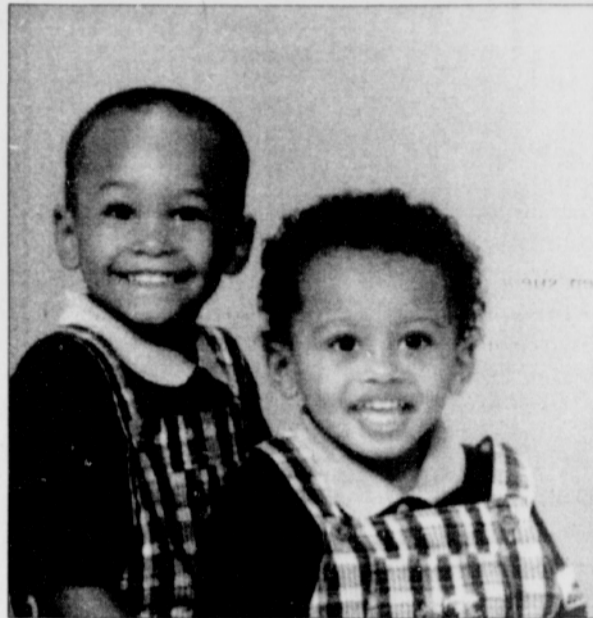




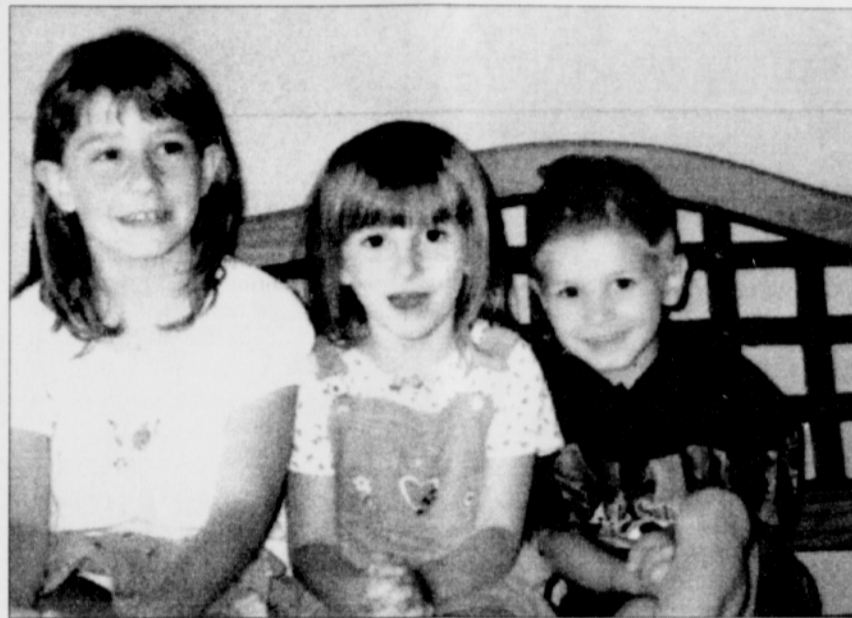
Family Living

B lack H istory M onth

CHILDREN WAITING FOR A HOME



Left: Bobby & Linton



Right: Misty, Crystal, & Wilbur



Kathleen

To find out how you can help call the Special Needs Adoption Coalition at (503) 222-9661 or 800-342-6688.

This Valentine's Day can you open your heart and home to the approximately 6 thousand children in state care? These children are in need of foster and adoptive parents who can offer them love, security and safety. At any given time,

approximately 250 are available for adoptive placement. Would you consider being a foster or adoptive parent? The following children are currently waiting for placement in adoptive homes.

Kathleen, age 6, has a wonderful

smile and a strong sense of determination. This social little girl loves to dance and be sung to. Kathleen loves going to kindergarten and riding the "big yellow bus." Kathleen is permanently developmentally

impaired and the family that adopts will need to give her the constant attention and supervision she deserves. Parenting Kathleen will be challenging, but very rewarding. If you are patient, kind and understand that successes come in many forms, please consider loving this little girl for life.

Meet Bobby and Linton who are 4 and 2 years old. These boys are loving and affectionate and have a strong bond with each other. Bobby, who loves to play outdoors, also enjoys reading a book and has an extensive vocabulary. Most of all, Bobby likes his role as big brother and enjoys playing with Linton and assisting him in new skills. Linton is a busy

toddler whose bright eyes are filled with curiosity. While somewhat delayed in physical and speech development, he is very content playing with his cars and trucks and keeping himself busy. These exceptionally close brothers require a family who can be good advocates and help them reach their potential.

Misty, Crystal and Wilbur are 8, 6 & 4 years old. There are lots of good things happening for this fun group and they are doing well. They need a forever family that can help build their confidence and encourage their dreams. All three love school and are very hard workers. Crystal and Wilbur require special help in some academic areas, Wilbur looks forward to an

active energetic dad who will encourage and share in his natural love for the outdoors. Misty especially needs a family to help her feel secure and trust adults again. These siblings have made it through tough times, and now need a family who will give them the encouragement, praise, and positive reinforcement they deserve.

We welcome single adults as well as couples. Fees are reduced or waived for families adopting children in state care. To learn more about adoption, call The Special Needs Adoption Coalition at (503) 222-9661 or 800-342-6688. If you want to become a foster parent or how you can help the children in Oregon, call 800-331-0503.

Housing authority names two new commissioners

CONTRIBUTED STORY FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The housing authority of Portland (HAP) welcomes new commissioners Nicholas Fish and Sharon Pert. Appointed to the Board of Commissioners by Portland Mayor Vera Katz, Fish will work actively on the commission as a representative of the city of Portland and Pert will represent the city of Gresham.

"We are fortunate to be lead by the quality of our board members, their commitment to HAP, and their concern for people of low income," said Denny West, Hap Executive Director. Both of these appointments from different corners only increase the strength of our excellent board."

A partner in the law firm, Kell Alterman & Runstein, L.L.P., Fish is chair of its Employment Law Practice Group. He specializes in labor and employment law and general civil litigation. Prior to that he was a partner in the New York City Law firm, Levy Pollack, Ratner & Behrooz, P.C. and chair of the Manhattan Community Board Five. "Prior to relocating to Portland, I was an advocate for affordable housing in New York City," Fish said. "I look forward to working with the Board and staff of HAP and the citizens of Portland to meet the challenge of providing decent, affordable housing for low income residents of Multnomah County."

Fish received his law degree at Northeastern University School of Law in Boston, Mass. And his bachelor's degree from Harvard University. Currently he serves as chair of the Hatfield School of Government Advisory

Board at Portland State University, secretary for the district Court of Oregon Historical Society, and board member of the Portland State University Foundation.

He is a member of the Oregon and New York State Bars, the national Employment Lawyers Association, and the AFL-CIO Lawyers Coordinating Committee. Fish replaces Bob Naito who served on the Board for close to 12 years.

Pert has worked for CENTURY 21 Columbia Realty for 31 years. A former Realtor, she now works in the administrative office. In addition, Pert teaches fair housing classes to new real estate agents in her firm and attends the Fair Housing conference every year. She is also a landlord and manages her single-family properties.

In other community activities, Pert has been a member of the Gresham Planning Commission and is currently a member of Gresham's Community Development and Housing Committee where she works on affordable housing issues and home ownership in the community. An avid history buff, she serves as a volunteer with the Gresham and Troutdale historical societies.

"My hope is to ensure that clean, safe and reasonable living accommodations are there for all who need them in the area that we serve." Said Pert. "I look forward to a rewarding term with HAP and have already met some very nice people who are happy in their work."

Petri replaces Claudette Lavert who served on the Board for six years.

The Housing Authority of Portland provides affordable housing services for over 20,000 low income and very low income people throughout Multnomah County, and its commissioners are representative of the county. The Commission includes one HAP resident commissioner's two appointments by request of Multnomah County Chair, two appointments by request of Mayor Gresham and four Portland-area appointments. All commissioners are appointed by the Mayor of Portland and approved by the Portland City Council.

For more information, please contact HAP Public Affairs

Sponsors sought for food program

CONTRIBUTED STORY FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) is looking for organizations to sponsor summer food service programs for children under age 19. The Summer Food Service program makes food available to children from low-income families. Lori Hancock, U.S. Department of Education representative, acknowledged the importance of sufficient food for children to promote normal development and cognitive function. "We need to feed children nutritious foods that promote cognitive function and health every chance we get so they come to school ready to learn. They should be set on a path of lifelong healthy eating habits. Food programs must be partners in education."

Sponsoring organizations must fully capable of managing a food service program and must be one of the following:

For more information about the Summer Food Program, training dates and workshop locations, contact Darla Wilson, Summer Food Service coordinator: (503) 378-3579, ext. 468; or E-mail: darla.wilson@state.or.us; or visit the Department's website: <http://www.ode.state.or.us/stusvc/nutrition/sfsp/index.htm>.

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IT'S A WAY OF LIFE

Lighten up your winter. Clip this.

the 5 most excellent and important things to do if the lights go out

- 1 Get ready. Now.** Outages can happen any time. Make an outage kit—flashlight, battery powered radio, non-electric alarm clock, candles (and candle holders for safety), matches and manual can opener. Did we mention batteries? Lots of fresh batteries. Also, rather than risk losing the great American novel you've been working on, make sure you have a good surge protector for your computer.
- 2 "Hello PGE." Make the call. In Portland, 503-464-7777. Outside Portland, 1-800-544-1795.** Most folks call with two questions: "Do you know I'm out of power?" and "When will it be fixed?" PGE's EasyCall, our automated phone system, handles both: you can report an outage or hear an estimated repair time and get other details. It helps to have your PGE account number ready.
- 3 Don't cross the line.** If you see a downed line, get away. Warn others. And call PGE immediately. If you're driving and a line falls on your car, stay put. Do NOT get out of the vehicle until help arrives. Bottom line: Any line you see should be considered "live" and dangerous.
- 4 Safe at home.** Hats on! During an extended outage, stay warm with a cozy cap and loose layers of warm clothing. Check on elderly neighbors. During an outage your freezer will keep food frozen about two days—but keep the door shut as much as possible.
- 5 Generate with care.** Got a portable generator? Never plug it into a wall outlet. You could start a fire, ruin your wiring or even back-feed power into the outside lines, endangering repair personnel.

PGE has plenty of other information to help you get through power interruptions safely. For free brochures on preparedness and electric safety, home generators and other topics, call 1-800-542-8818.

Portland General Electric

My PGE account number