



Family Living

Reverse mortgage linked to LTC Care Insurance

CONTRIBUTED STORY FOR THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

In an effort to assist homeowners to purchase long-term care insurance plans, Congressman John J. LaFalce, D-N.Y. has authored legislation that would reduce the cost of financing U.S. government-insured reverse mortgage, while concurrently saving Medicaid funds from being eroded unnecessarily. As part of the "American Home Ownership and Economic Opportunity Act" (H.R. 1776), the bill was unanimously passed by the House Banking Subcommittee on February 15, 2000.

"Long-term care insurance can be an effective way to protect saving built up over a lifetime," LaFalce states, "and reverse mortgage allow seniors to access the equity in their home to pay the premium, with no monthly principal and interest due on such loans. Using a reverse mortgage to pay for long-term care insurance is a natural fit," LaFalce pointed out.

The Federal Housing Administration's reverse mortgage program enables homeowners age 62 and older the opportunity to turn their locked-up home equity into tax-free income—come while maintaining ownership and requiring no monthly repayment. Eligibility requirements are quite simple and do not impose any standards based on income, assets, credit or employment. By linking the reverse mortgage to long-term care insurance, homeowners can protect their saving against the potentially devastating expense of extended care.

Research Initiative announced to establish legal and monetary reparations for black Americans

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For more information, call (301) 603-8112.

The Harvest Institute, a nationally recognized black think tank announced that it is embarking on a national fact-finding mission to identify who and how black people were economically exploited, physically abused, and culturally crippled by centuries of slavery and Jim Crow segregation. The institute will develop the legal theories, financial justification, and facts support reparations. The Institute's fact-finding mission is predicated on the behalf that the American system of social democracy is obligated to deliver justice to those who society has treated unjustly.

The Harvest has national support from black elected officials, community organizations, black chambers of commerce, and business groups. It is seeking sources of information about specific instances in which private parties, business, and various levels of government supported and directly or indirectly profited or otherwise benefited from the laws and public policies of full black slavery and Jim Crow semi-slavery. Those laws and policies denied the natural rights of black people to enjoy life, liberty, pursuit of happiness and the fruits of their own labor. The Institute intends to identify individuals with historically documented links to slavery and Jim Crow, collect primary research materials, and hold public hearing. The Institute's finding will serve as a legal-moral basis for black people's reparation claims.

Making restitution for damages is rooted in our legal system and has been used by industrialized nations as a mechanism for apologizing and correcting institutional wrongs. Restitution's have been made to nearly every group that has claimed injury but black people.

White indentured servants received freedom dues. The United States allocated \$ 14 billion to Japan (The Point Four Plan) and Germany (The Marshall Plan) following World War II. Our government just gave over \$ 1 billion to Japanese Americans for relocating them during World War II. This reparations act through treaties for nearly two hundred years.

Even through it will be the purview of black people to determine the form of reparations to be demanded, i.e., money, land or tax exemptions, the Institute will seek to craft a formula and make recommendations regarding the amounts, forms, and delivery mechanisms. The initial focus will be on industries such as cotton, textiles, insurance, railroads, banks, tobacco, iron works, shipping lines, furniture companies, farm equipment, sugar, and other food stuffs.

The Institute's research will take a two-tiered focus: 1) full slavery and 2) Jim Crow semi-slavery. The hearings and research findings will be made public on an on-going basis.

Tri-Met's top employees recognized for service



Obeary Spires

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Tri-Met gave top honors for bus and MAX Operators of the Year at its annual employee recognition banquet Saturday. Obeary Spires of Northeast Portland earned the top distinction as Bus Operator of the Year. Gene Adrian of Oregon City earned the MAX light rail Operator

of the Year. Patricia Olson of Oregon City won the top title for part-time bus operator.

All the operators qualified based on outstanding driving records, customer service and attendance. The winners were elected by a vote of their peers.

"Our operators are in the forefront of providing riders with safe, reliable and friendly service," said Fred Hansen, Tri-Met General Manager. "We're all proud of these outstanding operators, who lead a great team in delivering thousands of rides a day."

Obeary Spires, 62, has been a bus operator at Tri-Met for 25 years. He's now driving line 10-Harold/NE 33rd Ave.

Adrian, 59, joined Tri-Met 10 years ago as a part-time bus operator and has been driving full time since 1992. In 1997, he began driving MAX light rail trains.

Olson, 38, began driving 14 years ago and serves customers on line 99X-McLoughlin Express during weekday rush hours.

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Urgent

Family In Need Of Help

Name: Trent T. Sims Date Of Birth July 8, 1998

Diagnosis: Myle dysplastic Syndrome

Acute Mylogenous Lukemia

Doctor: Lawrence Wolfe

Theodore Moore, Bone Marrow Specialist

Wish: Sesame Street Live-to let public be aware of his disease and if there are any clinical trials available worldwide.

Family needs the following:

(1) Prepared food for a family of 4, while baby is in the hospital, OHSU
10 RM #8 contact Octavia McKinney (Mother) at 418-5118.

(2) Money for Burial (21 Month old Male)

Contact Octavia McKinney at 283-4122 Home or 418-5118 Hospital



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Frozen.

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