

Business

Online Retailer Bans KKK, Nazi Sales

EBay, the online auction giant, has unveiled a new policy that will ban the sale of goods that carry a Ku Klux Klan or Nazi insignia, or otherwise "promote or glorify hatred, racial intolerance or racial violence."

In addition, eBay announced it would expand an existing ban on

the sale of "murder" memorabilia, including artwork and letters written by some of the century's most horrific criminals.

A recent eBay search for "KKK" items turned up 95 eBay auctions, while a search for "Ku Klux Klan" goods generated 42 hits. Up for bid are items that

include KKK medallions from the 1800s, priced at as much as \$500 and engraved with whips and nooses, and postcards featuring hooded Klansmen.

"As the eBay community expands around the globe, we are encountering different laws and different points of view as to what

constitutes illegal, offensive or inappropriate items," said Mike Jacobsen, the company's attorney. "Given our expansion, as well as feedback we've received from our users, we reviewed our policy and concluded that these changes are appropriate."

The policy change took effect

May 17. The company, based in San Jose, Calif., operates throughout Europe, Australia, Canada and Japan.

This marks the fourth time eBay has reworked the listing requirements. The company banned the sale of tobacco and alcohol in 1999 and pulled modern hate-

group material from the site in 2000.

At that point, eBay continued to allow the sale of KKK and Nazi items that were more than 50 years old and presented some claim of historical value. The new rule eliminates the sale of such material altogether.

Pacific Power Cautions Against Meter Tampering

Pacific Power is working to remind people that tampering with electric meters and stealing electricity is punishable by law and offenders face possible conviction, jail time, fines and community service. In addition, meter tampering and theft pose serious safety hazards that affect entire communities. When one person

tampers with an electric meter, everyone pays for it," said Gary LeMonie, Pacific Power's director of corporate safety. Not only does the theft result in increased costs for our company and customers, but tampering with a meter is very dangerous, to both the people involved and others.

Meter tampering may cause

severe electrical flashes; expose energized or involve other improper wiring, creating hazards to the public. Hidden traps created by the tampering may cause injury to meter readers, electrical workers, people walking by and children playing. In addition, electrical fires may result, putting other innocent people at risk.

Port Director Returns \$49,000 Raise

(AP) — Outgoing Port of Portland executive director Mike Thorne will return his \$49,000 annual pay raise after fellow commissioners complained that proper procedure was not followed in granting him the salary hike.

Thorne resigned two weeks ago so he could make plans to run for governor in 2002.

The Port said that it conducts an annual salary review for all of its employees, including the executive director. An independent counseling firm recommended raising Thorne's pay to \$243,980 a year, based on his performance.

"I don't negotiate or inquire into that process," Thorne said in a statement last week. "Since a mis-

take may have been made, I've decided to ask the Commission officers to review my salary increase and make whatever decision they choose." The Port's by-laws require that the nine commissioners approve salary increases for the executive director, but several members of the panel said they knew nothing about Thorne's raise.

Name Brand Clearance Store New to Broadway



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Jennifer Covert has opened Branded Outlet Store, a discount retailer with "name brand" merchandise at 1127 N.E. Broadway, across the street from Safeway, between Hollywood Video and Sleep Country.

A clearing house department store, selling "name brand" clothing and bedding at discount prices, has opened at 1127 N.E. Broadway.

Branded Outlet Store offers a wide variety of merchandise from famous stores in Chicago, Seattle and Los Angeles.

Owner and entrepreneur Jennifer Covert says the items are marked 40 to 80 percent below retail prices.

The brands include such names as Guess, Calvin Klein and Polo for women, men and children.

Discounts are also offered on home bedding and housewares "Come check us out," Covert said.

Branded Outlet Store is open Monday through Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tax Returns Show Californian Migration

(AP) — A big chunk of the population growth in Oregon during the 1990s came from California, according to federal tax data.

The Internal Revenue Service tallied 301,000 returns by California taxpayers who moved to Oregon from 1990 through 1999.

At the same time, there were 131 Oregon taxpayers moving to California — giving Oregon a net gain of 170,000 Californians. Much of the migration to Oregon was driven by the recession that hit California — especially the aerospace industry.

At the same time, Oregon's high-technology economy boomed, creating opportunities for displaced California workers.

In suburban Washington County, jobs at Intel grew from 4,000 in 1990 to more than 16,000 now. As the California economy recovered in the late 1990s, housing and other living costs climbed, driving low-income, low-skilled workers to seek jobs elsewhere.

Tri-Met Courthouse Square Office Reopens

Tri-Met's refurbished Customer Assistance Office at Pioneer Courthouse Square reopened Monday.

The office has new summer hours from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays. The staff assists customers with questions or special needs, sells tickets, bicycle permits and passes at the office.

Northeast Portland Women at United Way

Quin Sweetman of northeast Portland has joined United Way as a communications associate.

Sweetman is responsible for media relations, public relations strategy and assisting with special events.

Prior to joining United Way, she was an assistant account executive for public relations at Cole & Weber, and has four years experience in public relations and fundraising activities.

She has a Bachelor of Arts in communication from the Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth. She is also a member of



Quin Sweetman

the Public Relations Society of America and X-PAC.

United Way is the largest health and human service fundraiser in Oregon and Southwest Washington, raising more than \$21 million throughout Multnomah, Clackamas and Washington counties in Oregon and Clark County in Washington.

Funds help more than 450,000 people locally through programs that invest in positive experiences for children and youth, strengthen families, enhance senior independence and meet emergency needs.

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC HEARING



10 a.m., Tues., June 12
Room C,
4012 SE 17th Avenue,
Portland

The Proposed Program of Projects includes:

PROJECT	Federal Share	Local Share	Total Budget
Vehicle Purchase	320,000	320,000	640,000
Customer Information Equipment	18,000	18,000	36,000
Project Marketing Staff	141,000	141,000	282,000
Bike Program	75,500	75,500	151,000
Alternative Transportation Center	30,052	30,052	60,104
Non-Commute Trips	52,500	52,500	105,000
Job Retention Program	97,000	97,000	194,000
Service to Employment Areas	443,800	443,800	887,600
Bike & Pedestrian Improvements	80,000	80,000	160,000
Shuttles to Rural Areas	446,100	446,100	892,200
Shelters & Lighting	132,000	132,000	264,000
Total:	1,835,952	1,835,952	3,671,904

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing, if so requested by any interested person, will be held by the Tri-County Metropolitan Transportation District of Oregon (Tri-Met) in Room C, 4012 S.E. 17th Avenue, Portland, at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 12, 2000. The purpose of this hearing is to consider projects for which federal FY01 Sec. 3037 Job Access funds from the Federal Transit Administration is being sought. Persons requesting that this hearing be convened should contact Tri-Met's Finance Administrator by telephone at 503-962-5850 or in writing at 4012 S.E. 17th Avenue, Portland, OR, 97202 by Wednesday, May 30, 2000.

All projects have been selected through Tri-Met's planning process, which incorporates public involvement, and are programmed in the Metropolitan and State Transportation Improvement Programs. No persons, families or businesses will be displaced by the projects. Projects described above are in conformance with comprehensive land-use and transportation planning in the area.

In the event a hearing is held, Tri-Met will afford opportunity for interested persons or agencies to be heard with respect to the social, economic and environmental aspects of the projects.

A person requesting a sign language interpreter shall give Tri-Met at least 48 hours notice of the request by contacting Tri-Met at 503-962-4831 or TDD 503-962-5811, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

If any interested person requires information regarding the Program of Projects described in this Notice or Tri-Met's transit development plan they may contact Tri-Met's Finance Administrator by telephone at 503-962-5850 or in writing at 4012 S.E. 17th Avenue, Portland, OR 97202. The Program of Projects described in this Notice constitutes Tri-Met's final FY01 § 3037 Job Access Program. Any amendment to any program will be duly advertised to the public.

Bruce Harder
Executive Director, Finance & Administration, Tri-Met

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