

Getting Winter-ready



Portland General Electric Employee Rick Weijo installs vinyl storm windows on the north Portland home of Elmer Miller.

Red Cross, PGE aid non-profit energy project

Portland residents can stay warmer for less this winter and prepare themselves for power outages, thanks to a new effort from the American Red Cross Oregon Trail Chapter, Portland General Electric and the Community Energy Project.

Specially trained Red Cross and Portland General Electric volunteers recently gave participants, who are limited income seniors and people with disabilities, a short course on dealing with storms and other emergencies, and lessons on weatherizing their homes and compiling an emergency supplies kit.

The Red Cross team explained how to put together a family outage and emergency plan, and what goes in a well-stocked kit including food, water, flashlight, battery-operated

radio, blanket and other essentials.

At each home designated by the Community Energy Project, a non-profit located just off Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard on Northeast Alberta Street, volunteers also weather-strip doors, install vinyl storm windows and compact fluorescent light bulbs, seal air leaks, insulate pipes, install energy-saving showerheads and faucet aerators, and caulk cracks around the house. Red Cross volunteers also explain the importance of relying on flashlights instead of candlelight, which has become a major cause of house fires during power outages.

The Community Energy Project offers various workshops throughout the city about weatherization, water conservation and lead poisoning prevention. Free materials are often available. For more information about the workshops, locations and times, call 503-284-6827.

"The Vision" by Charles Rex, demonstrates Kujichagulia, a Kwanzaa principal meaning self determination. Rex's work will be on display through Dec. 31 at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center on North Interstate Avenue, just north of Killingsworth St.



Kwanzaa Illustrated at Interstate Firehouse

Local African-American artists and community members will exhibit textiles, paintings, prints, drawings, photography and other mixed media works to reflect one

of the seven principles of Kwanzaa this month at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave.

A public reception will open the

exhibit on Thursday, Dec. 4 from 5 to 8 p.m. with traditional drumming by Calvert and Lasan Johnny. An IFCC-hosted Kuumba celebration is from noon to 5 p.m. on Dec. 31, to

celebrate the principal of creativity. Karamu, a community feast is at 4 p.m., the same day. For more information, call the IFCC at 503-823-2061.

Trimet Eases Holiday Shopping

TriMet eases the bustle of holiday shopping by adding a shuttle to transport shoppers to a Christmas Bazaar.

The shuttle will take shoppers from north Portland to the Christmas Bazaar at the Expo Center this weekend.

Running every half hour, the shuttle will pick up riders on the northwest corner of North Interstate Avenue and

Lombard Street between 9:45 a.m. and 7:45 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, ending at 5:45 p.m. on Sunday.

From the Expo Center, the shuttle will travel to Jantzen Beach and then to the north Portland site until 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 5:45 on Sunday.

For more information, call 503-238-RIDE or visit www.trimet.org.

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