

Turning a Hobby into Profit

Soul Chain finds growth on Northwest 23rd

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A lifelong northeast Portland resident turned her hobby into a profit by opening Soul Chain Boutique in her own backyard.

Now Mona McDonald has embarked on a new chapter in her entrepreneurial dream by moving her shop to a new location in the busy and popular Northwest 23rd shopping district.

Soul Chain Boutique, 1524 N.W. 23rd Ave., sells original hand crocheted and knit fashion, including dresses, separates, scarves, sweaters, handbags and special orders.

"I learned as a young girl to crochet



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Mona McDonald expanded her crocheting hobby by opening Soul Chain Boutique in the 23rd Avenue Commons in northwest Portland.

and my mom knitted and crocheted all the time. One day I picked up the crochet hook again and made some

really nice things, so I decided to open a store," McDonald said.

She and her sister make all the items

in the store by hand, often using rare, imported fibers. For more information, call 503-243-5060.

Liquor in Supermarkets Draws Fire

(AP) — A group representing liquor store owners is strongly opposed to a state plan to let a handful of supermarkets in urban areas sell booze on a trial basis.

"We are concerned that once implemented, it will be difficult to remove these pilot stores and this experiment could be the catalyst leading to the collapse of Oregon's control system," said Marshall Coba, a lobbyist for the Associated Liquor Stores of Oregon.

The Oregon Liquor Control Commission has proposed allowing up to six grocery stores in urban areas to sell hard liquor for a two-year test period. The program is intended to increase liquor sales in the state by making purchases more convenient, while still keeping alcohol out of the hands of minors and intoxicated people. Only three stores have signed up so far — a Lamb's Thriftway and a QFC, both in Portland, and Ray's Food Place in Bend.

Judy Cushing, president of Oregon Partnership, warned that putting liquor in grocery stores would make it easier for minors to get access to it.



Ask Deanna!
An advice column known for its fearless approach to reality based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

I spent so much time raising my kids that I lost myself in my marriage. Next thing you know, my husband files for divorce, takes the house, the money and the kids. Now he's taking me to court for child support and I don't think it's right. I don't know

what to do as a housewife with no education. --Jeanie; Paoli, Penn.

Dear Jeanie:

If you had custody of those kids you would've beat the court doors off the hinges trying to get some money. Regardless of gender absent parents should pay child support. Like being homeless, divorce is not an overnight thing and you should've seen it coming. You knew what you were working with. Like they tell men, stop whining, get a job and handle your business even if you have to flip a few burgers.

Dear Deanna!

Years ago, my sister slept with my husband. Due to marital problems, I felt this was my fault. I haven't seen or talked to her in over 10 years. My ex-husband has since had 2 wives and 3 more children. This upset me so bad that I severed ties with my entire family. I need to

make peace with the family and my sister but don't know how. --Vivian Thomas; Charleston, S.C.

Dear Vivian:

Unless you threw your sister and husband in bed together and made them have sex then you did nothing wrong. You were entitled to be upset but 10 years is a bit much. Life's too short and if your sister died right now, you would be trying to crawl in the casket. Contact your sister, let the past be the past and get back to enjoying your family. Your husband wasn't much to lose because he's not with you or your sister.

Dear Deanna!

My neighbor has a two-bedroom apartment. Her 11 year-old twins—a boy and a girl sleep in the same room I'm thinking about reporting her because this isn't right. However I don't want her to think I have ulterior motives because my best

friend is next in line on the waiting list. I honestly don't like to see kids sleeping like that and I want to do something about it. --Darlene C; Denver

Dear Darlene:

You're not in their home at night so you have no idea how they're sleeping. Before you poke your nose in their business, why don't you go ask your neighbor about it? Don't mess around and get your feelings hurt and then you and your best friend end up on the street. If you really want to help, cough up the money so your neighbor can move to a bigger place then everybody will be happy.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or write: Deanna M, P.O. Box 88847, Los Angeles, CA 90009. Website: www.askdeanna.com

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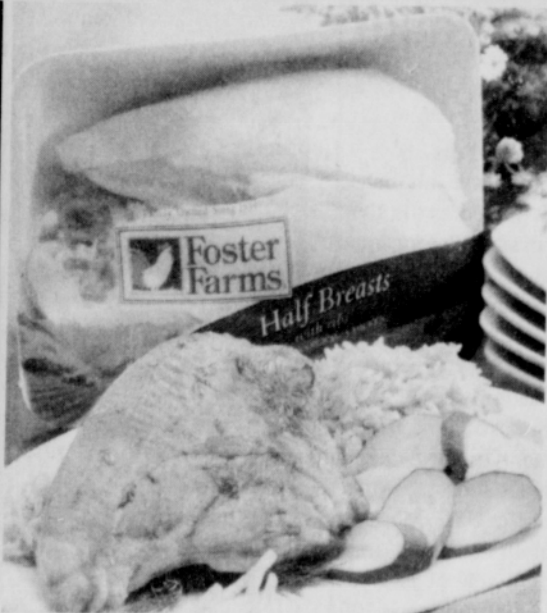
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