

Enrique Azcorra and Jaime Azcorra Aragon consult Dr. Bill Borok (left), an optometrist at Kaiser Interstate.

Black Museum Organizes

Organizers for the Black Museum of Oregon will be hosting a committee and membership meeting at King Neighborhood Facility, 4815 N.E. Seventh Ave. on Thursday, Feb. 24 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Thursday, March 10 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The museum is still in concept form but hopes are to have a site within the next five years. The purpose of the museum will hold aspects of Black history and will enable the community toward dialogue and healing. Committees can last between three to six months. For more information, call 503-284-0617.

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Giving Kids a Healthy Chance

continued from Metro

but can't do anything about them," Tomlinson said.

In order to qualify for Kaiser Permanente coverage, a child's family must have an income below 250 percent of the federal poverty level and not be eligible to enroll in a private or public health plan. That translates to no more than \$47,125 a year for a family of four.

Under enrollment, a child is covered for emergency care, hospitalization, vision and hearing care, mental health care and prescriptions, with no charge for recommended immunizations, laboratory tests and X-rays. Medical office visits are only \$10.

Kaiser Permanente was working with the Oregon Health Plan previously, but they had to withdraw in 2003 over lack of reimbursement

costs. They then decided to start a program for low-income children as a replacement plan.

Although the program began last November, only around 450 students have signed up — less than 25 percent of the program's potential. Kaiser Permanente has extended the care opportunity to 24 elementary schools with high proportions of uninsured families, but are worried that people just aren't aware of this advantage.

Tomlinson said that outreach for the program has gone through various stages.

"We've put information in parent newsletters and put signs up at school. I've also contacted a lot of families individually," he said. "A large percentage of the families have been Spanish-speaking families and we have a translator. There's a fear with the families who aren't resi-

dents here that this is going to be reported to the nationalization service or something. I know there's hesitancy. All the information is entirely confidential and cannot be shared with anybody. Trust is a really big thing — that they can trust this program is good for them and their family."

Although the number of signups is low, Tomlinson hopes it's just a matter of time and spreading the information word of mouth.

Children from Portland to Salem are eligible at particular schools. In Portland, those attending Applegate, Beach, Grout, Humboldt, James John, Kelly, Lent, Sitton, Vestal, and Woodmere Schools can participate. In the Reynolds district, students enrolled at Alder, Davis, and Glenfair may participate. In the Parkrose district, students at Prescott and Shaver may enroll, as well as

students at Cherry Park, Earl Boyles and Gilbert Park in the David Douglas school district. Students at eight Salem schools are also eligible.

To figure out if your child qualifies, contact their school with questions.

Students Look Through the Eyes of MLK, Jr. with Essays

continued from Metro

have pretty neutral conversations."

Former school media assistant manager Regina Flowers and school parent Mandy Ellertson designed the annual competition to improve students' writing abilities and get the youngsters more

interested in Martin Luther King and Black History Month.

Top winners read their essays to parents, friends, teachers and other visitors on Feb. 12 at the Jantzen Beach Barnes and Noble Book Store.

School librarian Jane Morgan, who helped more than 40 youngsters prepare for the competition,

noted, "The event also provides writing examples required for the Oregon state standards of learning."

"This is the third year the school has held the competition here," noted store community relations manager Kendra Lay. A portion of the day's sales were donated to the school.

Dear Deanna!

I met a woman who feels that since I asked her out for a date then I'm entitled to pay. I took it upon myself to suggest we each pay for our own meal and take it from there. She canceled the date and doesn't want to see me. She made it worse by calling me cheap. How should this work? - Robert P.; Las Vegas, Nev.

Dear Robert:

A man that doesn't want to spend his money should be respected just like the fool that wines and dines just to get laid. Women need to learn that some men view money-spending dates as an investment. It's the man's choice if he wants to spend his money and the woman's choice if she wants to spend hers. You should discuss these things during the "getting to know you" process. You can certainly separate women's lib when it comes to a woman paying for a date or changing her own flat tire! Find another date and keep it moving.

Dear Deanna!

I'm a 24-year-old black man on the down low for two years now. There are many under cover males that see this as sex instead of a gay thing. Some men I talk to have families. Young kids are



Real People, Real Advice

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

doing it now thanks to phone lines and the Internet. If this keeps up, HIV will be worse than in Africa because believe it or not, down low brothers is worldwide. Don't you think so? -- Down Low Brother; Toledo, Ohio

Dear DL Brother:

You're honest in admitting your down low lifestyle. This is wrong because women don't deserve the betrayal and sexual risks. You and other down low brothers are simply bi-sexual if you're romancing men and women. HIV is already out of control and can only decrease if the cowardly, selfish and greedy down low

brothers keep it real and stop hiding in the closet and putting women at risk.

Dear Deanna!

Whenever times are bad and I have no one to talk to, how do I get comfort from the Bible? I hear people say turn to the Word and read scripture but it doesn't help me. I read but don't feel anything and never see anything happen. How can I get solutions from the Bible if I feel this way? -- Sherri; Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear Sherri:

Your earthly vessel is empty. You need to fill your heart with God's Word, your mind with Faith, and open your soul to the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Then as you pray and read the Bible, you'll hear the voice of God and recognize His presence as He orders your steps. If you're still in doubt, John Chapter 3 Verse 16 should give you a boost as you realize that God sacrificed his only Son for you, me and others.

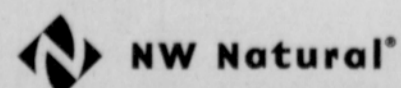
Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Website: www.askdeanna.com

There is in this world no such force as the force of a person determined to rise.

The human soul cannot be permanently chained.

— W.E.B. DuBois (1868-1963)

NW Natural proudly stands with our African American community in celebrating Black History Month.



Peninsula Little League 2005

(Serving the Youth of Inner North & Northeast Portland ages 5-15)
visit our website at: www.eteamz.active.com/peninsulalittleleague

<p>Softball Program</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Level</th> <th>Ages</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Minor</td> <td>7 - 9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Major</td> <td>10 - 12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior</td> <td>13 - 15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Questions contact: Mark Washington ~ 503-901-1722</p>	Level	Ages	Minor	7 - 9	Major	10 - 12	Junior	13 - 15	<p>Saturday, February 5, 2005 Early Bird Sign-ups (\$10.00 discount, 2/5/05 only) Saturday, February 12, 2005 Saturday, March 5, 2005 Peninsula Park Community Center 700 N Portland Blvd 10:00 am ~ 2 pm & Portland Observer 4747 NE MLK Jr Blvd 503-288-0033 Hours: 10 am ~ 5 pm (Mon ~ Friday)</p> <p>Participation Fee - \$85.00 (per player) \$150.00 Family Maximum (2 or more children) The fee includes prepay of fundraiser.</p>	<p>Baseball Program</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Level</th> <th>Ages</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>T-Ball</td> <td>5 - 6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Farm</td> <td>7 - 8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Minor</td> <td>7 - 9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Major</td> <td>10 - 12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior</td> <td>13 - 15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Questions contact: Michael Mangum ~ 503-957-6274</p>	Level	Ages	T-Ball	5 - 6	Farm	7 - 8	Minor	7 - 9	Major	10 - 12	Junior	13 - 15
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