

Subscribe! 503-288-0033 Fill Out, Clip Out & Send To:

The Portland Observer

Attn: Subscriptions, PO Box 3137, Portland OR 97208

subscriptions are just \$60 per year (please include check with this subscription form)

NAME: TELEPHONE:

ADDRESS:

or email subscriptions@portlandobserver.com

Red Cross Gives Up Control of Katrina Aid

Makes new promises after botched disaster relief

AP - Criticized for its Katrina response, the American Red Cross will overhaul the way it handles future disasters by relinquishing control over some aid dollars and cracking down internally on waste and abuse.

The nation's largest charity promised the changes in a statement to a Senate panel Monday, following its acknowledgment last year that its \$2 billion response to the Gulf Coast storm fell short.

Responding to allegations of



Red Cross chairman Bonnie McElveen-Hunter



Senate Finance Chairman Charles Grassley

waste, the Red Cross said it was moving to standardize financial controls, hire more investigators to review whistleblower complaints and cede control to religious groups in some underserved areas.

"There is no excuse for the instances of improper conduct which impacted on our performance and response during Hurricane Katrina and on our continued relief and recovery efforts along the Gulf Coast," McElveen-Hunter said.

In a major shift, the Red Cross told the Senate committee that it will funnel money, training and resources to other charitable groups so they can establish shelters in areas where Red Cross local chapters have less presence.

It acknowledged the potential difficulties in ceding this power, but the Red Cross said it was committed to change and had hired a new vice president for diversity to coordinate the effort.

"These would be shelters the Red Cross would recognize and support financially but would not necessarily run," according to McElveen-Hunter, who said the

specifics had yet to be hammered out. "The Red Cross understands that partnership does not mean assisting the Red Cross in its mission, but helping others achieve the shared mission of serving the affected community."

The Red Cross, however, would not release - at Grassley's request - the details of hundreds of internal complaints made by employees and charities that allege fraud, safety violations and employment disputes. It cited the confidential nature of its phone complaint line. The charity also disputed as unfounded some whistleblower allegations made public by the Finance Committee last month - including possible theft as well as charges the Red Cross had inflated thousands of food orders from suppliers at a New Orleans feeding site in mid-September, explaining that it had relied on estimates from city officials.

Grassley said Monday that he appreciated the efforts but expressed concern that "their deeds match their good words." He said that the Red Cross response rejecting some whistleblower complaints "seems to quibble over inconsequential details" and that several of the allegations did expose problems in Louisiana.

"I worry that the Red Cross management still doesn't get it," Grassley said.

Fast Food Ads Target Blacks

AP - There are far more ads for fast food and snacks on black-oriented TV than on channels with more general programming, researchers report in a provocative study that suggests a link to high obesity rates in black children.

The results come from a study that lasted just one week in the summer. Commercials on Black Entertainment Television, the nation's first black-targeted cable channel, were compared with ads during afternoon and evening shows on the WB network and Disney Channel.

Of the nearly 1,100 ads, more than half were for fast food and drinks, such as sodas.

About 66 percent of the fast-food ads were on BET, compared with 34 percent on WB and none on Disney. For drinks, 82 percent were on BET, 11 percent on WB and 6 percent on Disney; and for snacks, 60 percent were on BET, none on WB and 40 percent on Disney.

The study in a pediatric medical journal accompanies separate research: a study indicating kids consume an extra 167 calories, often from advertised foods, for every hour of TV they watch; and a report suggesting even preschoolers get fat from watching more than two

hours of daily TV. The studies clearly illustrate "that the media have disturbing potential to negatively affect many aspects of children's healthy development," Amy Jordan of the Annenberg Public Policy Center at University of Pennsylvania wrote in a journal editorial.

"Such evidence offers increasing support for the American Academy of Pediatrics' recommendation that children older than 2 years spend no more than two hours per day with screen media, preferably educational screen media," Jordan said.

Obesity affects about 18 percent of black children, compared with about 14 percent of white youngsters, according to 2001-02 data. The rate was almost 20 percent for Hispanics.

BET spokesman Michael Lewellen said BET's target audience is blacks aged 18 to 34 and said its programming "does not target children."

Outley said black children are an attractive target for fast-food companies because many live in neighborhoods with easier access to fast food than healthier food.

The goal is to "get kids hooked at a very early age" so they become lifelong customers, she said.

Sense of Community

continued from Front

scape," Andrews said. The housing authority has started the relocation process early, by talking with residents. In June they'll begin relocating residents who have three options: transfer to another public housing unit, move to an apartment that takes Section 8 vouchers or move to New Columbia, where they're given priority on the lengthy waitlist.

Andrews said about 15 of the 85

residents have already moved to New Columbia, which is still in the process of opening blocks and housing units. According to a housing authority timeline, the project kicks off with a six-month relocation process, followed by demolition of the units, then 18 months of construction. The new Humboldt Gardens will welcome back its residents and greet newcomers, at 100 N. Sumner, around the Christmas season of 2008.

CORRECTION: Vancouver's Community AME Zion Church invites the public to a free screening of "The Passion of the Christ" on Monday, April 10 at 7 p.m. The church is located at 3605 E. 13 St. For more information, call 360.693.4566.

Ingredients for life. SAFEWAY

Rancher's Reserve Angus Beef Round Tip Roast. 1.99 lb CLUB PRICE. Boneless. Cap off. SAVE up to \$2.30 lb.

Pork Loin Rib Half Sliced. 99c lb CLUB PRICE. Bone-in. SAVE up to \$1.60 lb.

Red Globe or Red Seedless Grapes. 10 FOR \$10 CLUB PRICE. Fresh from Chile. Club Price: \$1.00 lb. SAVE up to \$1.99 lb.

Foster Farms Split Chicken Breast. 99c lb CLUB PRICE. Ribs attached. SAVE up to \$2.00 lb.

Colossal Cooked Shrimp. 8.99 lb CLUB PRICE. 16 to 20-ct Tail-on. Frozen/thawed. SAVE up to \$8.00 lb.



So good, you can't stop thinking about them!

Signature

Made fresh to order with Primo Taglio Meat and Cheese on Artisan bread.

Tender Juicy Ribbs. A Great Selection Now available in the Meat Case!

Beef Back Ribs. 79c lb CLUB PRICE. Frozen. SAVE up to \$1.00 lb.

Pork Spare Ribs. 1.49 lb CLUB PRICE. Fresh. SAVE up to \$1.00 lb.

SAFETYWAY COUPON: \$1 OFF Any Package of Fresh Beef or Fresh Pork Ribs when you buy one McCormick's Pork, Steak or Chicken Rib. Not valid for Deli ribs.

Coca-Cola BLAK. 1.99 CLUB PRICE. 4-pack, 8-oz. bottles. Limit 4. SAVE up to \$4.00.

Safeway SELECT Ice Cream. 2.5 for CLUB PRICE. 1.75-qt. Selected varieties. Club Price: \$2.50 ea. SAVE up to \$2.98 on 2.

Lucerne Large Eggs. FREE CLUB PRICE. 18-ct. Grade AA. SAVE up to \$3.25 on 2.

Doritos Tortilla Chips. BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE CLUB PRICE. 13-oz. Selected varieties. SAVE up to \$3.49 on 2.

Marie Callender's Meals. 5.10 for CLUB PRICE. 12 to 21-oz. Selected varieties. Club Price: \$2.00 ea. SAVE up to \$9.95 on 5.

Dairy Glen Milk. 1.98 EVERYDAY LOW PRICE. Gallon. Whole, 2%, 1% or Fat Free.

Folgers or Millstone Coffee. 4.99 CLUB PRICE. 10 to 39-oz. Selected varieties. SAVE up to \$3.60.

24-Pack Budweiser, Miller or Coors. 13.99 CLUB PRICE. 12-oz. cans. Selected varieties. Plus deposit in Oregon. SAVE up to \$4.86.

Cheez-It Crackers or Gripz. 2.4 for CLUB PRICE. 8.1 to 16-oz. Selected varieties. Club Price: \$2.00 ea. SAVE up to \$3.98 on 2.

Shop at Home. We Deliver. safeway.com

APRIL

Price good thru April 11 with your Safeway Club Card

ALL LIMITS ARE PER HOUSEHOLD, PER DAY.

Items & prices in this ad are available at your local Safeway stores. No sales to dealers, restaurants or institutions. Sales in retail quantities only. Quantities of some items may be limited and subject to availability. Not responsible for typographical or pictorial errors. We reserve the right to correct all printed errors. On Buy One, Get One Free ("BOGO") offers, customer must purchase the first item to receive the second item free. BOGO offers are not 1/2 price sales. If only a single item purchased, the regular price applies. Manufacturers' coupons may be used on purchased items only - not on free items. ©2006 Safeway Stores, Inc.