



Lessons in Leadership

Josephine Gamez-Reyes, a student at northeast Portland's Faubion Elementary, takes part in a July 4 wreathing ceremony in Normandy, France for U.S. soldiers killed during the Omaha Beach invasion during World War II. Gamez-Reyes was part of a cultural and recreational tour of the United Kingdom and France as a Portland delegate in the People to People Student Ambassador Program.

Brown Leads Neighborhood Group

Willie Brown, a local African American and community activist, will serve as acting executive director of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods. Brown already serves the coalition as its board chair and said he will apply for the permanent director's post which is expected to be filled after Oct. 31.

African American, John Canda, who left the coalition on July 7 to fill the newly-created position of head of the Office of Youth Violence Prevention under Mayor Tom Potter. Ron Laster will serve as acting chair of the NECN board. Born in St. Louis, Brown's family moved to Portland to work in the north Portland shipyards when

he was one year old. "I think I qualify as a native," he said. "One of my favorite dishes is salmon." Brown has worked in the juvenile justice system, most recently as an assistant juvenile counselor. He has been a volunteer for the coalition and northeast neighborhood groups for 25 years.

Church Helps Families in Need

Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church announces their first ever "Be a Blessing" giveaway, Saturday, Aug. 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church parking lot, 3138 N. Vancouver Ave.

The community event was organized to help families prepare for the school year by meeting a variety of needs. Church members will contribute gently used furniture, clothing, backpacks, household and miscellaneous items.

For more information, contact Izora Green at the church, 503-282-9496.

Civil Rights, Faith Leader Dies

Rev. Aaron Hamlin

A memorial service to honor Portland Civil Rights leader and founder of the National Black Evangelical Association, Rev. Aaron McQueen Hamlin will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 9 at 1 p.m. at Irvington Covenant Church in northeast Portland. The ceremony will be officiated by Apostle Elbert Mondainé of Celebration Tabernacle.

Pastor Hamlin was a pillar in the African-American community in Portland and at large since the 1960s. His many contributions to the Christian faith and Civil Rights will be felt for many years to come.

Dear Deanna!

My niece is involved with a man old enough to be her father and I feel he's taking advantage of her. My sister, who is her mother, is willing to go along with this if it makes her daughter happy. I think it's statutory rape and is sickening because my niece is young and inexperienced. I'm at the point where I may call and report this to the authorities because it's not right. Is it worth the risk of losing my sister and my niece or should I leave it alone? -- Worried Aunt; Long Island City, N.Y.



Real People, Real Advice

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

neither here nor there because the children are here and must be taken care of. If the shoe were on the other foot, you would be in court on a regular basis. Dead beat moms are the same as dead beat dads and must still pay child support whether they like it or not and keep it moving.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd, Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Website: www.askdeanna.com

Dear Aunt:

It takes a village to raise a child and if your niece is underage then you should report it to the authorities. However, you should respect your sister and talk with her before making your move. Also, many people are going to be hurt by your decision and you must also ensure you have all the facts about the interaction between your niece and this man. If your research indicates your niece is truly being taken advantage of, the authorities need to put him in jail.

Dear Deanna!

I'm a senior citizen female and I'm very active in all areas of my life with no plans to slow down. I've worked hard enough in my lifetime and now I want to enjoy myself and do as I please. My adult children have an issue with my lifestyle and feel I should be at home watching television, knitting or being a grandmother. I refuse to be something I'm not and if I want to be intimate, socialize or spend my money it's my business. --Geraldine Thomas; Ft. Worth, Texas

Dear Geraldine:

If you have pep in your step and can get moving then your children

can eat your dust and let you continue living your life. You've paid your dues and you're entitled to more than babysitting and planting flowers if your foot isn't on a banana peel. However, you still need to practice caution and good judgment in all areas. You may be mature and wise and financially stable, but sexual diseases and HIV doesn't discriminate.

Dear Deanna!

I recently won a child support judgment against my children's mother and now she's having issues with paying the money. The children were placed in my care because she was not responsible, putting their lives in danger and not working. I still love her as the mother of my children, but their care and welfare is almost like a business transaction and must be fulfilled. Our mutual friends and family think I'm wrong to keep taking her to court but I think I'm right. --Ray; Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Ray:

You should've been a better judge of character before you had babies with this woman. That's

New Rules for Medicaid Requiring proof of citizenship

Oregonians applying for Medicaid programs will be asked to provide evidence of citizenship beginning Sept. 1.

Monday, the Oregon Department of Human Services provided details of the new requirement, part of a new law passed by Congress.

State and federal officials have pledged to make sure that no one who is eligible for Medicaid is denied services unnecessarily. Persons who cannot readily comply because of mental illness, homelessness, illiteracy or other legitimate barriers will receive special assistance. DHS estimates that as many as 3,000 persons may need state assistance in obtaining their documents.

In Oregon, the law affects persons receiving Medicaid-paid Oregon Health Plan coverage, long-term care benefits and family-planning services.

DHS Director Bruce Goldberg said the agency would assist Oregon-born persons by checking the agency's database of birth certificates going back to 1903 and available electronically from 1920. For persons born in other states, he said, DHS will provide information about how to order birth certificates and, in specified hardship cases, would pay the cost of obtaining the document.

The federal rules require applicants to provide original documents. Because applications are handled through the mail for benefits such as the Oregon Health Plan, Goldberg said, persons who do not want to temporarily give up originals may take them to a DHS field office to be copied.

Legal residents who are not citizens need to provide appropriate documents from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

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Promised Land

Move



First Service

Sunday

August 20, 2006

11:15am



Official Dedication Service

Sunday

October 15, 2006

Doors open @ 4pm