

EL OBSERVADOR

Need for Bilingual Health Care Grows

Mt. Hood recruits non-native speakers

While the need for trained health care professionals continues to rise, there is also a growing need for bilingual health care workers. A new pilot project at Mt. Hood Community College is helping to fill that need by preparing non-native speakers of English for careers as Certified Nursing Assistants.

"There's a shortage of nursing assistants in Oregon," said Steven Storla, Career Pathways Coordinator. "More and more residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities have different ethnic backgrounds. They may be living in a nursing home where no one speaks their language."

The new CNA program provides a pool of bilingual applicants trained in health care.

The first 11 students to go through the nursing assistant



Pursuing the healthcare path, nurses connect in a meaningful way.

training program for bi-lingual speakers have just passed the Oregon State Board of Nursing Certified Nursing Assistant exam and are now Certified Nursing Assistants.

The Career Pathways model gives non-native speakers of English additional time with the material and language support to better prepare them for the CNA exam. Students attend theory and lab practice as well as 80 hours of practicum at a nursing facility, while participating in additional English language classes.

Since the pilot program was so successful, the training will be offered twice in the coming academic year. The next class will begin Sept. 24.

For more information about the training, contact Steven Storla, Career Pathways Coordinator, at 503-491-7251, Steven.Storla@mhec.edu.

Career Pathways trainings are short-term, job-focused trainings leading to employment upon completion.

Police Foot Patrol Welcomed in Parkrose

continued ▲ from Metro

While walking his beat, Slyter happened upon the family, then found them a shelter and arranged for a TriMet bus to take them and their belongings to their temporary home. But because the shelter lacked accommodations for the children, the family found themselves back at the park.

Discovering that they had returned, Slyter searched again for a shelter, and this time found help from a southeast Portland church. The church was able to provide the family with enough money for four days of meals and a place to stay long enough to secure other housing.

In a letter of commendation to Slyter, East Precinct Commander Michael Crebs wrote: "If it wasn't for persistence and unwavering compassion, it is unknown what would have become of this family. When it would have been easier to just look the other way and keep on moving, or given up at the first roadblock, you persevered and came up with a solution to a very difficult problem."

Those kinds of actions don't show up in the crime statistics, nor would Slyter's shadowing of a prostitute long enough to drive her and other prostitutes out of the area. Slyter's measurement of success will have to come from those who call Parkrose home.

Music, Food Supports Art Theater Studies

A musical and gastronomic event featuring Nelda Reyes, a Mexican performer, and Gerardo Calderon, a Latin American folk musician, takes place Saturday, June 23 and Saturday, June 30 between 6:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. at Oregon City's Mitzil Restaurant, 212 Molalla Ave. There is no cover charge but donations will be accepted.

As customary in Bohemian tradition, patrons will enjoy a taste of Mexico featuring special dishes offered just for this event in the intimate company of beautiful musical pieces, including Mexican, Spanish and Cuban "trova," boleros, ranchera, rumba, tango and other rich and exciting Latin beats.



Nelda Reyes

The evening is a fundraiser to support Reyes' invitation to attend the Summer Moscow Art Theatre School in Cambridge, Mass. — one of the world's leading schools for actors. Moscow Art Theatre School teachers bring to America the best Russian theatre tradition has to offer — the spirit and knowledge essential for the art of acting.

Reyes is studying at Portland State University for her Master's degree in theater while working as an actor and educator at Miracle Theatre Group.

Calderon has been playing Latin American folk music for more than 20 years and studied classical guitar at the Escuela Superior de Música in Mexico City.

Mexico City Considers Legal Prostitution

Regulations called necessary

(AP) -- The party that legalized gay unions and abortion in Mexico City said Wednesday it wants to make prostitution legal.

Mexico City legislator Juan Bustos of the Democratic Revolution Party, who submitted the bill last week, said the move is necessary to protect prostitutes from abuse and regulate the sex

industry. Corrupt police frequently use the current law not to arrest sex workers but as a threat to shake them down for bribes or sexual favors.

But President Felipe Calderon's conservative National Action Party said it had problems with aspects of the bill and that the goal should be

to get women out of prostitution.

In most Mexican cities, prostitution is considered the equivalent of a misdemeanor. In Mexico City, it is punishable by 12 to 24 hours in jail and fines equal to about \$51 to \$93.

Some cities have informal red-light zones where prostitution is tolerated, such as the border city of Nuevo Laredo.

The bill would legalize prosti-

tution in designated areas at least roughly 1,000 feet from schools, parks, churches and apartment complexes, though pimping would remain a crime. It also would require prostitutes to adhere to health standards or face punishments similar to those under the current law.

The new law would guarantee prostitutes' rights and make them eligible for government services, Bustos said.

Quake Rattles Nerves

(AP) -- A powerful earthquake rattled Guatemala and El Salvador, forcing terrified residents to flee shaking buildings, but there were no reports of casualties.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the June 13 earthquake had a magnitude of 6.8 and was centered in the Pacific Ocean some 46 miles south of the Guatemalan town of Escuintla. The quake occurred at a depth of about 40 miles.

Buildings in Guatemala City swayed for about 30 seconds and people ran into the streets. Parents formed long lines outside schools to look for their children, and authorities asked residents to stay out of high buildings.

Cocaine Production Grows in Peru

(AP) -- Despite increased drug-fighting efforts, production of the plant used to make cocaine has risen in Peru, the world's No. 2 cocaine producer, along with the amount of land used to cultivate coca, the United Nations said.

The findings come as President Alan Garcia has called for an intensified anti-drug strategy amid signs cocaine production

is flourishing in the South American country.

Peru has struggled to reduce cocaine production despite more than \$300 million in U.S. aid since 2000.

The U.N. Office of Drugs and Crime said in its annual report the amount of coca leaf grown in Peru increased 8 percent in 2006 from 2005, while the area cultivated with coca

grew 7 percent.

Analysts say Peru's rising drug production is largely the result of a crackdown in Colombia, the world's largest cocaine producer, pushing more coca growers across the jungle border between the two countries.

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Endangered Missing, Family Abduction



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January 31, 2007
Date Missing From:
Middletown, NY



Trinity Beharry
Current Age: 5
Date Missing:
March 18, 2006
Missing From:
Pembroke Pine, FL

If you have any information please contact:
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