

Inauguration Ticket Scams Warning

Buyers urged to use caution

A record number of Americans want to be a part of history and attend the inauguration of President-elect Barack Obama, but unfortunately, only 250,000 tickets are up for grabs and many of those have already been reserved. While many websites are claiming to sell tickets online, the Better Business Bureau is advising the public that purchasing scalped tickets could leave you out in the cold with empty pockets on Inauguration Day. The Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies is responsible for divvying out tickets to Congressional representatives. It is then up to the Congressmen and woman to hand out the tickets—which are free—to constituents the day before the inauguration.

Some members of Congress—who usually have several hundred tickets to pass out at their discretion—have received thousands of requests.

can't secure the tickets, the purchaser will likely already be en route to Washington, DC, before they receive the bad news that the broker couldn't provide the

ficer for the Better Business Bureau serving Oregon.

While there are a number of issues associated with purchasing inaugural tickets online, for those that are willing to assume the risk, the following steps should be taken to reduce the chances of being ripped off:

Paying with a credit card or through PayPal will provide protection and the opportunity for potential reimbursement if the company is fraudulent. Consumers should never pay with a cashier's check or wire money to a seller, as they will have no way to get their money back if the tickets do not arrive.

Because of the overwhelming requests for tickets, some members of Congress are planning to distribute tickets via a lottery system. Constituents can contact their local Member of Congress or U.S. Senators to request tickets and get their name in the hopper.

...an American looking to be a part of history might travel all the way to Washington, D.C. and spend Jan. watching the swearing in from their hotel room.

The fact that tickets haven't even been distributed to the members of Congress yet hasn't stopped online scalpers from trying to rake in cash from patriotic Americans. A CNN.com report found that some online ticket brokers were selling VIP seats for upwards of \$20,000 each. While many online brokers offer a money-back guarantee if they

promised tickets.

"Considering these online brokers won't even know for certain they have tickets until just before the Inauguration, an American looking to be a part of history might travel all the way to Washington, D.C. and spend Jan. watching the swearing in from their hotel room," said Robert W. G. Andrew, chief executive of-

Dear Deanna!

For five years I've been madly in love with a good friend. We've talked about having a relationship, but the timing was never good. Next thing you know he married a girl who was pregnant because his family thought it was the mature thing to do. After a year he got into trouble with her family and now he's in jail for seven years. We write and talk on the phone and he knows I love him. I respect his marriage but my love is getting stronger. Should I express my feelings to him? -- *Very Confused; Las Vegas, Nev.*

Dear Confused:

Let's do the math. One man went half on a baby with someone else plus one wedding equals two and you're not in the equation. You're

Ask Deanna!



infatuated and want what you can't have. He wasn't interested when he was free because he married someone else. He's interested now because he's on lockdown. Remain as friends because he can't do nothing for you but tell you what you want to hear. Save yourself some heartbreak because when he gets released he's going to his wife and child and you'll be crushed again.

Dear Deanna!

I just learned that my husband may be the father of my five 5-year old nephew. I found out by accident. My husband was talking on the phone, laughing and joking and I heard him say that he thought my sister's son was his child but he never did a DNA test. I remember when we started dating he used to say he thought he left his ex-girlfriend pregnant. When my sister popped up pregnant, she said it was a one-night stand. How do I investigate this situation peacefully? -- *Worried Wife; Columbus, Ohio*

Dear Wife:

Regardless of the outcome people are going to be hurt and trust among all parties destroyed. If you feel in your

heart that it's worth it, get the process started with your husband first. Ask him if he dated your sister and if he's the possible father. Have the same discussion with your sister and if they're on the same page, have a DNA test. The timing between his relationships is crucial but only time, faith and personal maturity can save your marriage and family relationships if this is true.

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

PCC Considers Smoking Ban

The board of directors of Portland Community College will hold a public hearing on the college's recently revised tobacco policy. The board meeting is set for 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 20, in the auditorium of the Moriarty Building, on the Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth St. It is

open to the public. College officials announced in June that PCC will go tobacco-free in the fall of 2009. PCC will be the first community college in Oregon to prohibit the use of tobacco products on its campuses. It will join two tobacco-free schools, Oregon Health & Science University and

the Oregon College of Oriental Medicine. At the start of this fall's term, PCC reduced the number of locations designated for smoking. The tobacco policy affects students, staff and faculty, as well as all visitors to PCC's campuses and centers.

Thanksgiving for Homebound Seniors

Loaves & Fishes Centers, the Meals-On-Wheels People will deliver more than 1,000 hot turkey dinners to homebound seniors on Thanksgiving Day next Thursday. The organization will also host community Thanksgiving Dinners at several locations. "A traditional holiday meal with turkey and all the trimmings will be delivered by volunteers to our most frail and isolated seniors on Thanksgiving Day," said Loaves & Fishes Executive Di-

rector Joan Smith. "We are so grateful for the community volunteers who spend part of their holiday making the day brighter for these seniors." The community is invited to join with others for a Thanksgiving Dinner at one of these locations between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Nov. 27: Beaverton Loaves & Fishes Center, 5550 S.W. Hall Blvd.; Belmont Loaves & Fishes Center, 4610 S.E. Belmont; Elm Court

Loaves & Fishes Center, 1032 S.W. Main St.; North Plains Loaves & Fishes Center, 31450 N.W. Commercial and Vancouver Salvation Army, 1500 N.E. 112th Ave., Vancouver. For more information, call 503-736-6325.

Oregon Electorate

continued from Front
fore moving to KPTV earlier this year. He has done polling all over the northwest for candidates so obscure even he can't remember their names, to heavy-hitters like former-Mayor Bud Clark and former-Governor Neil Goldschmidt. Hibbitts estimates he's called over 900 hundred races, and claims he's only been wrong about two times, which is corroborated by Bruce Williams, KPTV's managing editor. "He knows the areas, he knows where the votes are," said Williams of Hibbitts. Williams said that when the

station decided to hire a political analyst, Hibbitts was only name on their list. KATU didn't return an inquiry for comment. "It's a huge get," said Lynn Siprelle, a former television reporter and proprietor of the blog oregonmediainsiders.com. Siprelle explained that Hibbitts is a formidable communicator who can explain complex issues in simple language. Robert Eisinger, associate professor of political science at Lewis & Clark College, said that since Hibbitts is not affiliated with any campaign he's not "immersed in needing to win" and can give more even handed analysis.

Barack Obama School

continued from Front
that the proposal have either a special significance to the school community, honor a national or state leader who has died, or be named after some physical characteristic like a

flower or geographical landmark. Shelby said suggestions for Clark K-8 @ Binnsmead will remain open until Feb. 25 with the ultimate decision by the school board coming sometime this spring.

Subscribe! 503-288-0033
Fill 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

in Print
diversity

Participate in Democracy **Vote**
The Portland Observer
Election Ballots On Way
People of color find a political fit
ONE-ON-ONE
Premiere bonds live theater to live basketball

To contact **The Portland Observer**
Call 503-288-0033 ads@portlandobserver.com



"We are about neighbors helping neighbors improve their community."
- Mary Harrell at Friends of Trees 503-282-8846

To order street trees, visit www.FriendsofTrees.org
Enter the coupon code below to receive 10% off your yard or street tree order:
SOBSN10
Friends of Trees
Growing Healthy Communities

shop online
NEW SEASONS MARKET
NOW DELIVERING
Your favorite neighborhood grocery store now delivers groceries right to your home or office.

www.newseasonsmarket.com
you click. we deliver. (or pull up for pick up)