



The Benson Dance Team is a committed group of young people working to improve their dance skills, academics and personal lives.

Local Dance Team Reaches Out

Raising funds for national competition

The Benson High School Dance Team is a cohesive group of dancers supporting one another in and out of school. They understand that it takes hard work and consistency to achieve the

goals they have set for themselves and the team.

One such goal for the team, which performs at the home games for the football and basketball season, school assemblies and special events, is to attend the USA National Competition for small hip hop groups later this year.

But in order for the team to go to California and compete, it needs

financial support.

Portland Public Schools does not provide the team any funds for this trip. With 75 percent of the team receiving free and/or reduced lunch, the cost of attending Nationals is out of the reach for most of our families. Contribution will provide the dancers with a once in a life time opportunity.

The girls need finances to cover travel, food, and hotel.

Contributions are currently being accepted. Make sure checks are payable to the Benson Dance Team in care of Benson High School and say Tax ID #93-6026394. Include your name and address and the team will send you a thank you letter along with an update of how it does in the national competition.

For more information, call Tracie Brothers at 971-645-3867.

Obituaries

In Loving Memory

Aug. 24, 1926 - Jan. 1, 2009

Services for Le Van Johnson Sr. will be held Thursday, Jan. 8, at 11 a.m. at Vancouver Avenue 1st Baptist Church, 3138 N. Vancouver Ave.

Interment will follow at Willamette National Cemetery. Arrangements Entrusted by Cox & Cox Funeral Chapel.



Sarah L. Richey

Services for Sarah L. Richey, who was born March 25, 1921 and died Dec. 27, 2008, will be Friday, Jan. 9 at 11 a.m. at Bethesda Christian Church, 109 N. Emerson St.

Interment will follow at Rose City Cemetery.

Arrangements entrusted by Cox & Cox Funeral Chapel.



Cartez Penix Celebrates 100th Birthday

A 100th birthday celebration was held in honor of Mr. Cartez Penix on Jan. 3 at Ainsworth United Church of Christ. Many family members and friends attended the celebration.

Mr. Penix was born on Jan. 6, 1909 in Bearden, Arkansas. He has been a resident of Portland for 65 years.

He came to Portland during World War II

to work in the shipyards. He lived in Vanport, until the flood of 1948. In the early sixties he operated the Parkway grocery store on Williams Avenue for 10 years, after that he worked the meat counter at Leonard's store on North Mississippi Avenue.

Mr. Penix retired in his late 80's



from the scrap iron business. He now spends his days watching television and talking on the phone. He and his wife, Shelly Mae, recently observed 30 years of matrimony. His only daughter is Carolyn Hinton.

Mr. Penix is proud to be the patriarch of six generations.

Dear Deanna!

I think it's disrespectful how my brother's wife pretends to be so helpless with the men in the family. My brother is a trucker and he's on the road most of the time working. She purposely calls the other husbands seeking help with her plumbing, car problems and calls to ask stupid questions. The women in the family see through her and think she's a big flirt. How do we address the problem without being viewed as "haters" or accused of jealousy? --Tina; Charleston, S.C.

Dear Tina:

This can be handled through dialogue and communication. Address the issue with your brother first and share your plans with him. Then address the concerns with your sister-in-law as a group. Provide solutions by giving her a directory of names, phone numbers and addresses for every problem she could possibly encounter. Lastly, each of you need to also talk to your spouse as well and issue boundaries in relations to



Real People. Real Advice
An advice column known for its fearless approach to reality based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

My mother plays favorites when it comes to my younger brother and sister because of who the father is. She is with my brother's father and she's trying to hold on to a failing relationship. My brother is a terror and gets away with everything because if he is disciplined, that causes an argu-

ment. I am sick and tired of my little sister being miserable, going through punishment while my mother makes a fool of herself. How can I get through to my mom? --Anita; Wilkesboro, N.C.

Dear Anita:

You're mature enough to see the problem so you should feel secure talking with your mother woman-to-woman. Simply point out the differences she makes between the two children and the harm she's placing upon your little sister. At the same time, you need to show her the flaws in the relationship without making it personal. Have this discussion in a neutral setting and also point out positive things as well as the negative and hope for the best.

Dear Deanna!

My grandmother is embarrassing because she's old and still trying to act young. It's annoying to see my grandmother trying to sing rap songs, smoke cigarettes and wearing jeans. My parents don't mind but I don't think its right. I feel that

she makes herself look foolish and she doesn't realize that people are laughing at her. I would like a few suggestions on how I can have this discussion with my grandmother without appearing disrespectful? --Amber; Oklahoma City, Okla.

Dear Amber:

Your grandmother is old enough to live her life without worrying about what you or anyone else thinks. You could learn things such self-confidence and the ability to love life from this woman. If she was smoking marijuana and dressing like a hoochie, you would have a legitimate problem. But since she's enjoying life, you should relax, take her shopping and be blessed that you have a grandmother that's on her feet and not deceased or in a nursing home.

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

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CALL 503-288-0033 FAX 503-288-0015
news@portlandobserver.com ads@portlandobserver.com
subscription@portlandobserver.com