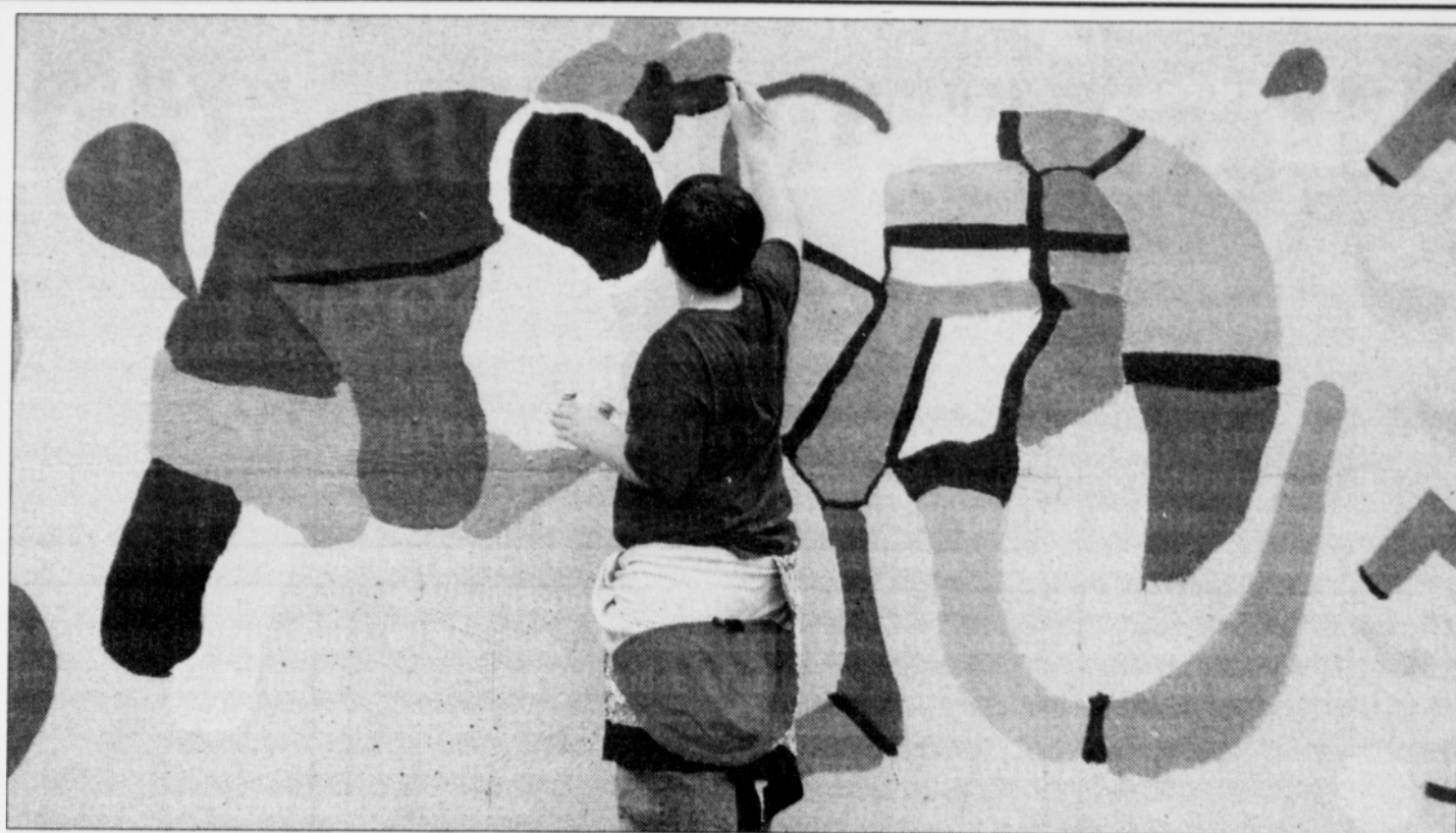


LAW & JUSTICE



A student at Gresham's Highland Elementary takes a paint brush to help create a mural on a wall that was previously blighted with graffiti.

Kids Paint Out Taggers

Gresham's Highland Elementary School finished the school year by taking a stand against graffiti.

The students designed and painted a mural to cover up unsightly graffiti on a wall behind their school.

"The students have done everything themselves," said 5th

Grade Teacher Christine Johnson. "They have spent weeks working on this and we've even linked designing the mural to math class."

The city's graffiti abatement program helped the students by cleaning and getting the wall ready for their mural. The city also provided the supplies used to paint the mural.

"We hope that when people see

the mural they will think twice about tagging it. Nationally murals have proven to be good graffiti deterrents," said Cathy Harrington Community Services Manager for the city. "We hope that this mural will inspire other groups to pick up brushes and help us fight graffiti in Gresham."

Investment Scam Nets Sentencing

Marvin Lee Armstrong, 60, of Portland, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Robert E. Jones to 51 months in prison for orchestrating an investment fraud scheme that targeted senior women.

Armstrong was ordered to pay

full restitution of \$239,063 to his victims and to serve three years of supervised release.

Armstrong admitted that beginning in October 2006 and continuing through December 2007, he promised three senior women that

he would invest their money for them. Instead, he took their money and spent all of it for his own personal use.

Jones ordered Armstrong to pay restitution, stating, "I don't know how you sleep at night."

Food Stamps at Record Level

Need grows through tough times

More Oregonians than ever before continue to count on public services to help their families get through economic tough times. Demand for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits (SNAP, formerly food stamps) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families increased again last month, and the trend is expected to continue into next year.

In May, a total of 706,653 Oregonians received SNAP benefits, an increase of 17 percent from one year ago and 46 percent since the beginning of the recession in July 2008, when Oregon's unemployment rate was just above 6 percent. Last month, a total of 26,885 families received temporary assistance — up 5 percent from a year ago and 35 percent from July 2008; this program is available only for very low-income Oregon families.

SNAP benefits provide an important bridge for people who are unemployed or underemployed and earn too little to meet their basic nutrition needs. TANF helps families pay for shelter and other necessities that parents would not be able to otherwise afford. It also provides case management services for families struggling due to unemploy-

ment, underemployment or incapacitation of a primary wage earner.

In order to keep up with the increased demand, DHS has transformed its intake process to reduce wait times and eliminate backlogs. Because of our streamlining efforts, Oregonians receive their SNAP benefits an average of nine days sooner



than they did before — and in most places across the state, it is same-day service.

There are 160 DHS locations across the state where Oregonians can apply for SNAP, TANF and other benefits for which they may be eligible. Many state and federal programs have online applications: Go to oregon.gov/DHS/assistance.

Urban League Reaches Out

The Urban League of Portland will hold its annual membership meeting on Wednesday June 30, from 5:30 pm to 7 p.m. at the Rose Garden Arena's Rose Room.

The public is invited to celebrate the organization's achievements and share ideas about its future, as the League enters its 65th year serving Oregon.

As unveiled in the Urban League of Portland's State of Black Oregon report deep disparities for African

Americans in Oregon has had a significant impact around the state.

The League will report on its follow-up work and future efforts to achieve the policy changes recommended in the State of Black Oregon report.

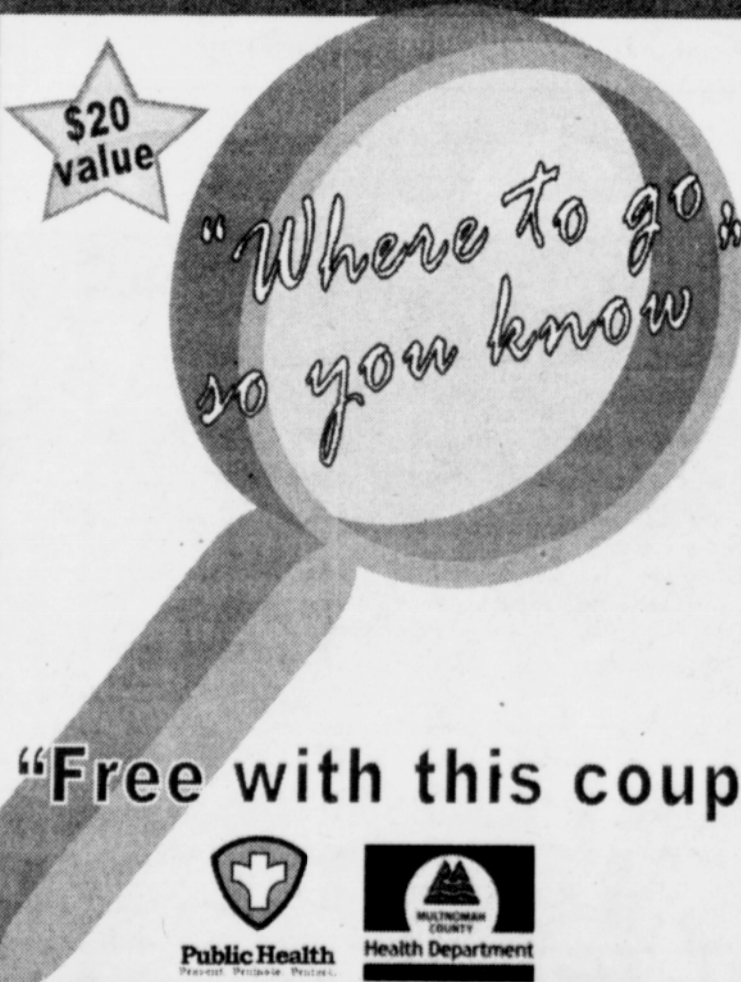
The annual meeting is a unique chance to meet and connect with Urban League of Portland board members, young professionals and staff. Refreshments will be provided at the event.

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Northeast Health Center
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Portland, 97211

Se habla español: other interpretation by appointment.