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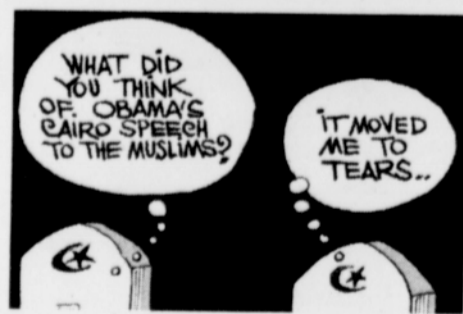


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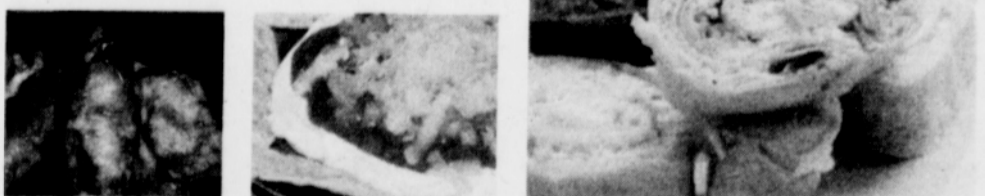


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# Fred Meyer

What's on your list today?

## LOCAL NEWS

# Working for Equity

### Lifetime of work honored on MLK Day

Linda Banks, a human resources diversity specialist at Portland General Electric, Monday received the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the World Arts Foundation.

Banks received the award at the foundation's 26th consecutive "Keep Alive the Dream" event in celebration of the life and work of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the Highland Christian Center in northeast Portland.

Banks was recognized for her more-than 20 years of service to the community including serving as a World English Institute volunteer for 12 years, a board member for Uniting to Understand Racism for 11 years, a volunteer for the Multicultural Resource Center for the World Affairs Council, and co-creator of PGE's Diversity Summit, one of Oregon's premier diversity training conferences that examines workplace diversity and best practices.

Banks is currently leading the planning the upcoming PGE Diversity Summit 2011: Maximize the Power of a Changing Workforce set for Friday, April 15 at the Oregon Convention Center.



Linda Banks receives a lifetime achievement award from the World Arts Foundation which was recognized Monday at the foundation's annual "Keep Alive the Dream" Martin Luther King Jr. Day tribute in northeast Portland.

"The Lifetime Achievement Award is a testament to Linda Banks' unwavering commitment to the community and acknowledges her ongoing work in the areas of equity and diversity," said Arleen Barnett, PGE's vice president of administration. "Linda is one of our strongest diversity advocates and her contributions have helped shape our diversity programs at PGE. We are very proud of her and this achievement."

Banks also is recognized within

PGE for her commitment to diversity. She has earned awards such as the PGE Excellence in Diversity Award for her work in shaping PGE's diversity programs since the 1980s when she had the idea for the creation of PGE's first diversity network, the African American Network.

PGE is a longtime supporter of the World Arts Foundation, a non-profit established in 1978 to promote and preserve African American contributions to American culture.

## Critical Help for Heating

### Timely boost as winter cold peaks

Oregon's Senators Jeff Merkley and Ron Wyden announced Friday that the State of Oregon will receive approximately \$44 million to help families who are unable to pay their heating bills during the winter.

The funding amount is an estimate from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. As part of the federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), the grant is administered through local Community Action Agencies across

the state.

The program provides low-income families with assistance paying for energy bills, home weatherization, and energy-related repairs.

"Families shouldn't have to choose between paying their utility bills and paying for the next meal, but all too often they do," Merkley said. "This energy program provides critical assistance to Oregon families struggling to pay their monthly heating bills. The program stimulates the economy and

helps keep families warm."

"With temperatures dropping in Oregon and only a third of the way through the winter, this announcement couldn't come at a better time," Wyden said. "Low-income families have enough to worry about in this difficult economy without having to choose between heating their homes or putting food on their tables."

Information on eligibility requirements and how to apply for assistance is available through Oregon Housing and Community Services at oregon.gov or call 1-800-453-5511.