



# PACS FAX

## Portland Adventist Community Services

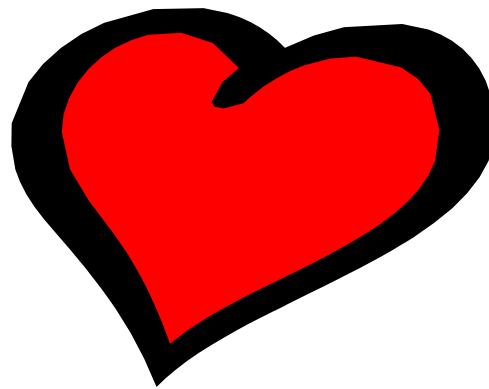
### Heart Hurts

She gazed at my name tag quizzically. “Portland Adventist Comm Svcs,” she said, pronouncing each word exactly as it was spelled. I glanced around. Two other people peered at me with equally puzzled expressions. Surrounded by vendors and their wares, I gave a short explanation about how we help feed the hungry and provide medical care for those with no medical insurance. I assured her that most everyone who worked with me were volunteers.

Suddenly her blue eyes became clouded. Her expression was wistful as she said quietly, “You know, I’ve thought about volunteering for Salvation Army or some place like that, but I never could.” She shook her head thoughtfully. “No, I couldn’t,” she said with more resolve. “It would make my heart hurt too much.”

There in the middle of a store, surrounded by other vendors hoping to make a sale, this woman unwittingly opened her heart to a total stranger. She had admitted what many of us never voice—helping people sometimes makes our hearts hurt.

As I grow older and more mature, I realize more and more how much your heart can hurt when you are faced with someone else’s extreme need. As we



strive to be more like Jesus, our hearts sometimes seem near to breaking.

Does your heart ever hurt? As you join hands with God to help your neighbor, is compassion painful? I think the Lord planned it that way.

When your heart hurts action happens. When your heart hurts resolve deepens. When your heart hurts retirement is not an option.

Yes, when your heart hurts you are reflecting the heart of Jesus. May all of our hearts hurt joyfully as we serve our neighbors in His love.

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#### Special points of interest:

- Check out our new website at: [www.portlandacs.com](http://www.portlandacs.com)
- Last year, because of the impact of hurricanes and other disasters, PACS was only able to obtain 60% of the food we normally have to give out.
- In spite of those setbacks PACS fed only 4% fewer people in 2005. All of them received adequate groceries. Our accountant is still scratching his head!

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### PACS Thrift Store Update

Yep, it opened! Our last newsletter announced our plan to move into the second building on our lot and expand our thrift ministry.

Thanks to you, C. G. Construction and an awesome crew of volunteers, it happened. You all have donated so many clothes,

furniture and other items that both stores are full. The volunteers, over 30 of them new to PACS, are busy pricing, displaying and selling all those items.

We have also been able to give more as people have needed it. We were contacted by the Ore-

gon Department of Unemployment. A man needed dress clothes for a new job. He came in and chose a suit, white shirt and tie. The Department later called to thank us for making it possible for him to start working the very next day. Praise the Lord!



## “Temple Builders” Capital Campaign Launched

It’s official. We feel strongly convicted that we should strive to eliminate the mortgage on our property. Each month we spend nearly \$10,000 paying for our buildings. Think what could be accomplished with those dollars if they were not committed to reducing debt.

And so we have decided to follow the example of Moses in the wilderness as he built the temple with the Israelites. Moses requested that they bring freewill offerings as they felt the Lord had blessed. So many brought offerings that Moses had to tell them it was enough.

Our governing board and our staff are leading the way by each pledging to give at least \$10 a month for three years. If 1,300 people will do this, our debt of \$468,000 will be wiped out.

Please consider becoming a “temple builder” with us. Many people are giving more and some cannot give at all. Whatever your situation, we ask God’s blessings on you. If you want to help us with this special project, please mark your gift “Temple Builder” or “Capital Campaign” and it will go directly to help pay off our mortgage.



*The Israelites brought freewill gifts, each as he could afford until the temple was built. They were so generous that Moses had to tell them to stop giving.*

## Changing of the Guard



We are pleased to welcome Elfrieda Barrett to our team as our health clinic coordinator. Elfrieda, or Ellie as we know her, comes to us with a rich background of management and administration. Originally from South Africa, Ellie has a charming way of expressing herself and a lovely soft accent.

We feel honored that Ellie has agreed to join us in this most important work. She is on a steep learning curve right now, but is willing to tackle any and every job. We thank the Lord for His blessing to us in Ellie, and ask special blessings from Him for her as she starts a new adventure in His ministry.

Welcome to the team, Ellie!

*When I’m hungry it’s a physical matter. When my neighbor is hungry it’s a spiritual matter.*

## News Notes

Thank you to Portland Adventist Academy for collecting lots of food this past month. They had a contest to see who could bring in the most. Someone got a pizza party, but we say “Congratulations” to all because everyone is a winner when they are helping others.

Thank you to Wells Fargo and Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon for their gifts of \$1,000 each in support of the Health Clinic. We also appreciate the unrestricted gift of \$5,000 from the OCF Joseph E. Weston Public Foundation and a gift from the Employees Community Fund, Boeing, Portland of \$2,000 for an electric pallet jack to be used in our Food Distribution Program.

Thank you to the Pleasant Valley Seventh-day Adventist church for collecting wonderful warm clothing for the homeless and also having a great food drive to help us through what could have been a bleak holiday season.

Thank you also, to Sunnyside Seventh-day Adventist church for all the warm hats, mittens and other articles which appeared on their Christmas tree and got transported to us.





## PACS is on the Web

"Who is PACS?" "What services does PACS offer?" "How can I get involved?" These are common questions. Wouldn't it be great if you could get your questions answered quickly?

Well, [www.portlandacs.org](http://www.portlandacs.org) is the place! It has long been our dream to have an easily accessible website where people can learn more about who we are and what we do. Many times when people are researching an organization to determine how or if they want to support it they use the website as a tool.

There are some very exciting features of this new website that you should check out. One really great capability is the ability to actually

make a donation online via a secure web page.

Have you been thinking about volunteering? Now you can get the application from our website. If you or someone you know learns about PACS and wants to donate some time, the form to fill out is right at your fingertips.

There are many other



great areas in our website, but the one we are most excited about is our prayer request page. You may now submit a prayer request online. When we receive it we will include it during our daily prayer time. We hope that as you are a blessing to us, we can be a light and a blessing to others.

So, check it out. Let us know what you think. We will strive to make this interactive

site a place you'll mark as a favorite!

## Warm Fuzzy from the Mail Bag

Several years ago, when we first started writing grants, we were asked how we would know our goals had been achieved. Since our mission is to help people become self-

sufficient we replied that when no one needed our services we would know our goals had been attained. Needless to say our request was denied. But read the following letter we re-

*"Today I stand ready, pursuing life's challenges and I hope to carry along with me your generosity toward our fellow mankind,"*

ceived recently. Isn't this what it's all about?

Portland Adventist Community Services

To Whom it May Concern:

Dear Everyone!

Thank you for all the food assistance I have received in the past, as well as the low priced 2nd hand clothing and a reclining chair!

Today I speak from the heart in thanking each

and everyone of you who have given of yourselves to help lift up others who are less fortunate.

Today I stand ready, pursuing life's challenges and I hope to carry along with me your generosity toward our fellow mankind.

In short I no longer need your services.

Thanks again, and may God bless you all.

Sincerely,

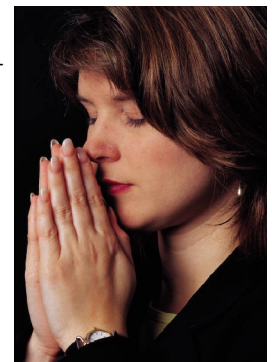
A grateful client

## Prayer & Wish List

- Tri-Met Bus Tickets to be distributed individually (Book of 10 individual tickets = \$19.50)
- Someone to help patients acquire free medication through indigent pharmaceutical programs.
- Razors
- Vegetables, canned (we're nearly all out)
- Feminine hygiene supplies

- Small shampoos, deodorants
- Sticky notes, small and medium
- Someone to take pictures of all our volunteers (over 200).
- 2006 Physician's Desk Reference
- Someone to do IDC9 coding in the Health Clinic
- Someone to help pick up donations on

- Monday or Thursday afternoons.
- Canned fruit
- Plastic grocery bags
- Toothbrushes for the homeless



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Portland Adventist  
Community Services

*People Active in Christ's Service*

*We're on the Web!*  
[www.portlandacs.org](http://www.portlandacs.org)

## Webkinz are Here

*We've got Webkinz in our Gift Shop. This is a hot new toy that is only available in a few places here in Portland. This is an online playground for the young-at-heart.*

### **What's a Webkinz™?**

A velvety-soft plush pet that's also a learning experience toy for children ages 5 thru 13!

There's a wide variety of Webkinz™ from which to choose. And each Webkinz™ comes with its own secret code that lets the pet owner enter Webkinz™ World via a secure website, maintained by Ganz®.

### **What will my child learn?**

Once logged onto Webkinz.com, your child will have fun playing games while learning.

The activities are arranged in age appropriate categories and are updated by Ganz®, keeping them interesting and enjoyable.

Your child will experience:

- Caring for others
- Quizzes and games
- How to handle money
- Making good choices
- The importance of balancing health, hunger and happiness

### **Is there an additional charge for the internet access to Webkinz World?**

NO! There is no charge to join Webkinz World. A one year membership, from the time you register your pet online, is in-

cluded in the price of the Webkinz™. Also there's no actual cash or purchases via Webkinz World. Once logged on, there is Webkinz Cash, which can be earned by the child and they can shop with the Webkinz Cash to care for their pets online, but it's all virtual, safe and secure. Visit [www.webkinz.com](http://www.webkinz.com) and take a tour!

