

# Group handles race, religious complaints

Editors note: This is the fourth in a five-part series about Eugene's human rights commissions. Friday's article will look at the Commission on the Rights of the Aging.

By TIM SCHELL  
Of the Emerald

The Commission on the Rights of Minorities is not a known resource to enough people in the community, according to newly elected commission president, Marjorie Moy Colcord.

Colcord, a Chinese-American resident of Eugene for 14 years, describes the Minority Commissions' present goal as "to become more visible, active and to resolve social problems."

The Minority Commission deals only with ethnic and religious discrimination, according to Clement Colcord stressed the need to fight "ethnic minority discrimination" in the Eugene area.

Most of the cases the Minority Commission handles are ones where employers are accused of racial discrimination when the job applicant is not hired.

It is hard to win these cases, said Colcord, and the Minority Commission has failed to win a case as of yet. The reason, said Colcord, is the job situation is so poor in the Eugene area that little hiring is done and many unsuccessful applicants file discrimination charges with little or no evidence.

Though the Minority Commission has failed to win a case, they have handled complaints. A complaint becomes a case only if it goes to a hearings official after mediation has failed to alleviate the dispute.

Recently a black veteran of the Vietnam War tried to get a job as an ambulance driver in the Eugene area,

Colcord said. He had been a medic in the war. The Minority Commission stepped in, and the veteran got the job, one month later.

Like the other four human rights commissions, the Minority Commission has nine members and operates on



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an annual budget of \$1,200. The nine commission members come from different backgrounds. Newly elected Chairer Marjorie Moy Colcord is a librarian at the Eugene City Library; Lewis Merrick, a black who works as coordinator of special problems for the Oregon State System of Higher Education; Kathryn Andrieu, is a white junior high school teacher in the Bethel school district, where she teaches courses in black literature; Phyllis P. Loobey, is white and works as an administrative assistant on affirmative action for the Lane Transit District; Shirley Minor, is black and the acting coordinator of Public Service Employment in Lane County's CETA program; Glenette Olvera, a Chicano who is a social worker; Joe Scovell, a Native American who is an elementary school teacher at Ida Patterson; Tokshin Yi, a Korean employed by the Oregon State Public Welfare Division, and Whitty Bass, a white who works with Upward Bound. Commission members serve terms from one to three years and are appointed by the Eugene City Council.

The Minority Commission meets the second Thursday of each month and meetings are open to the public. On that same Thursday there is a minority report in the Register Guard written by commission member Andrieu.

In last week's report Andrieu noted that Lane County Commissioners will hold a public hearing May 3, at 7:30 p.m. in Harris Hall. The proposed reorganization of Lane County's Affirmative Action Program will be presented.

In the last decade human rights has become a prevalent social concern, with people who have been discriminated against finally being recognized as equal citizens. The Minority Commission in Eugene is one place for a person who feels discriminated against because of his race or religious preference to turn for help.

## Tenants' bill debated before House committee

SALEM — Should tenants have the right to rent a house or an apartment for as long as they want, if they have occupied it for more than a year, paid their rent on time and obeyed the rules?

Wednesday the House Judiciary Committee heard both sides of the story.

Gary Roberts, deputy director of the Multnomah County Legal Aid Office, said that current law allows landlords to evict tenants for no reason. He added that tenants have no redress against eviction unless they can prove discrimination.

"Tenants have a right to feel secure in their homes," said Roberts. "They shouldn't have to worry about changing their kid's school."

Roberts said many tenants are unjustly evicted and cited as an example a black woman he knew who was evicted by a landlord from Alabama, who had recently bought the complex she lived in.

"I called him up to ask why he had evicted her," said Roberts. "He said, 'Well, I just didn't like her.'"

Under HB 2695, which the

committee is considering, landlords could not evict tenants who had lived in a dwelling for a year or more, except for certain reasons. Those reasons would include nonpayment of rent, irreparable damage to property or threats to the landlord, violation of the Residential Landlord Tenant Act, violation of the landlords' house rules, justifiable need to demolish the rental unit, permanent removal of the unit from the rental housing market, or if the landlord or his family wants to move in.

Roberts said he thought the

one-year period would give landlords the time to decide whether they want to rent to a particular tenant indefinitely.

"There probably is a class of tenants that landlords don't want to be saddled with," he said. "This bill will give landlords a year to make that decision."

But Warren Bowman, representing a Portland property management company, argued that time and circumstances can turn good tenants into bad tenants.

He cited a woman tenant with four young children who, four

years ago, moved into an apartment complex his company manages.

"She was a fine tenant," he said, "but now her children have grown into problems and one of them has fist fights with other children in the complex."

Bowman said that if landlords are to provide a good environment for the people who live in apartments, they have to be able to control who comes and goes.

He added that having to show cause for an eviction would be an additional burden for landlords.

## Panel to hold herbicide hearing

By SARAH McDONALD  
Of the Emerald

A hearing on House Bill 3230, banning the use, formulation, delivery or sale of herbicides and other substances containing TCDD (tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin), will be held before the Senate Environment and Energy Committee this morning.

Any substances containing, or that can produce TCDD, will be deemed unsafe on raw agricultural commodities immediately on passage of the bill. One local citizen's group will be testifying in support of the bill.

"The bill will stop the use of chemicals which are causing health problems in people, wildlife, and livestock, and damage to crops near forest land," says Ann Tattersall, member of CATS (Citizens Against Toxic Sprays). 2,4,5-T, an herbicide containing TCDD, has been found to do genetic damage to any species it comes in contact with, according to CATS research.

"It can cause mutations, and even affect the fir trees which it's supposed to be helping," said Tattersall. "If the trees are affected by the sprays, it could set back the growth of future generations of firs."

The use of the herbicides 2,4,5-T and Silvex is now banned by court order on Lane County's Federal forestland. "The bill would

put power behind the county commissioners. Right now they can't control private use of the chemicals," remarks Tattersall. The court order could also be removed at any time.

"It's probably impossible for an absolute ban to get through this legislature. There's a fair chance that a bill with significant impact could be passed," she said, pointing out the State Government Operations Committee as a possible stumbling block.

"They're very conservative, and

could amend the bill," Tattersall explained. "Then, if it's still a good bill it should get passed by the house."

Wilbur McNulty of the Primate Research Center in Beaverton will be there to ask for the use of TCDD in research and also to support the bill.

Representatives from private forest industry are expected to testify against the bill. They want to continue using TCDD because it is the quickest and easiest way to kill brush.

## Solar (Continued from Page 3A)

rate piping systems involved, plus a separate storage tank. The water is heated at the solar collector, and then flows to the heat exchanger. From there it is transferred again to the storage unit, and then later to the living areas.

Whereas active solar systems store and transfer heat from collection points to a final use point, passive solar has no moving parts or air movement. Passive solar energy involves all facets of home construction, particularly the design. Insulation, window locations, site preparation and the external environment, such as shade trees, all play an important role in passive collection.

The idea in a passive structure is to design it using natural materials, lighting and radiation to heat the structure. The advantage, in cost factors, is passive solar heating systems do not add to the cost of the home, while active solar types do increase initial costs.

The only known passive structure in Oregon is a greenhouse near Noti. There are some local

residents planning to design a passive solar house for the area, but most of this area's solar energy is of the active type.

Just as there are several varieties of solar home systems, there are several types of radiation: direct, diffuse and reflected. The radiation or solar rays has a special name also — insolation.

Direct insolation is sunlight arriving at a collector location that has not been scattered — also called direct beam radiation.

Diffuse insolation is sunlight scattered by atmospheric particulates that arrive from a different direction than sunlight. Since Oregon often has cloudy, wet weather, planners expect to receive more diffuse insolation.

Reflected insolation is a small amount of radiation not absorbed by the natural or man-made environment, and is thus reflected back onto the collector. Some solar systems have developed reflectors to accompany the collectors, intensifying the radiation.

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