

# Voice of the NAACP

by Ellis H. Casson, President NAACP, Portland Branch

Last week I received from our National NAACP office a booklet - "Guidelines for Branches - Revenue Sharing." This was put out by the "Housing Programs Department" and I must say - "very interesting reading."

However, before this booklet came out some of us (NAACP, Urban League, AMA, NAHRW) have been concerned about President Nixon's program called "Revenue Sharing" and all that it

offers. It started out "dressed up" and looking good but the more we looked, the uglier it has become.

We have come to realize that the chief source of federal dollars of the cities is this new looking program wearing for the most part the same old dirty clothes. (Like the rest of these so called federal programs to help the poor.)

Then the question comes to mind, what do the cities do with the money they receive from Washington through this program (All we know is

what we read in the papers after the decisions are made.)

Well, the best evidence shows that they don't spend it on the services to the poor. On the contrary, the indications are that the money which the cities receive from revenue sharing is going for services and tax cuts favorable to middle-income groups.

We realize that every city is allowed to do "their own thing" with this money and for the most part are doing so with or without citizen's involvement.

In my brief study, I have found that cities are using revenue sharing funds to ease tax burdens or improve such services as police and fire departments as well as parks, financial administration and capital expenditure. However, the sad part is the number of cities who will apply this money to city's deficit so as to head off a tax increase.

Very few cities I've found are using their "free gift" to save social programs (head-start, child care, Model Cities, health programs for the poor, low housing, etc.) that have been cut off or cut back by President Nixon and his real concern for people.

Let us not kid ourselves about what is happening, (some of us have both eyes open) we are being had!!

Revenue sharing, like so much else in President Nixon's program, is a good way to help those who are already not so bad off. It is no way to help the poor. If the idea is to help those most in need, then the federal government will have to earmark funds in a very specific way. (Now if you think this is all just talk - then ask your city and county officials what they have done with these funds.)

The NAACP will be watching, raising questions and will state clearly that if "General Revenue Sharing," "Special Revenue Sharing," and the "Better Communities Act" does not benefit Blacks, poor and other minorities - then no one will benefit.

This is not a threat - just a friendly and concerned warning. See you next week!

## DAY CARE CENTER LUNCH MENU

### 4C MODEL CITIES June 25 - 29

**Monday**  
Sloppy Joe on 1/2 Bun  
French Fries  
Carrot/Celery Sticks  
Fruit Cup  
Milk

**Tuesday**  
Turkey Chow Mein  
Rice  
Tsd. Greens with Dressing  
Cranberry-Apple Crisp  
Bread/Butter/Milk

**Wednesday**  
Baked Beans  
Corn dog  
Catsup-Mustard  
Coleslaw  
Melon Slice  
Milk

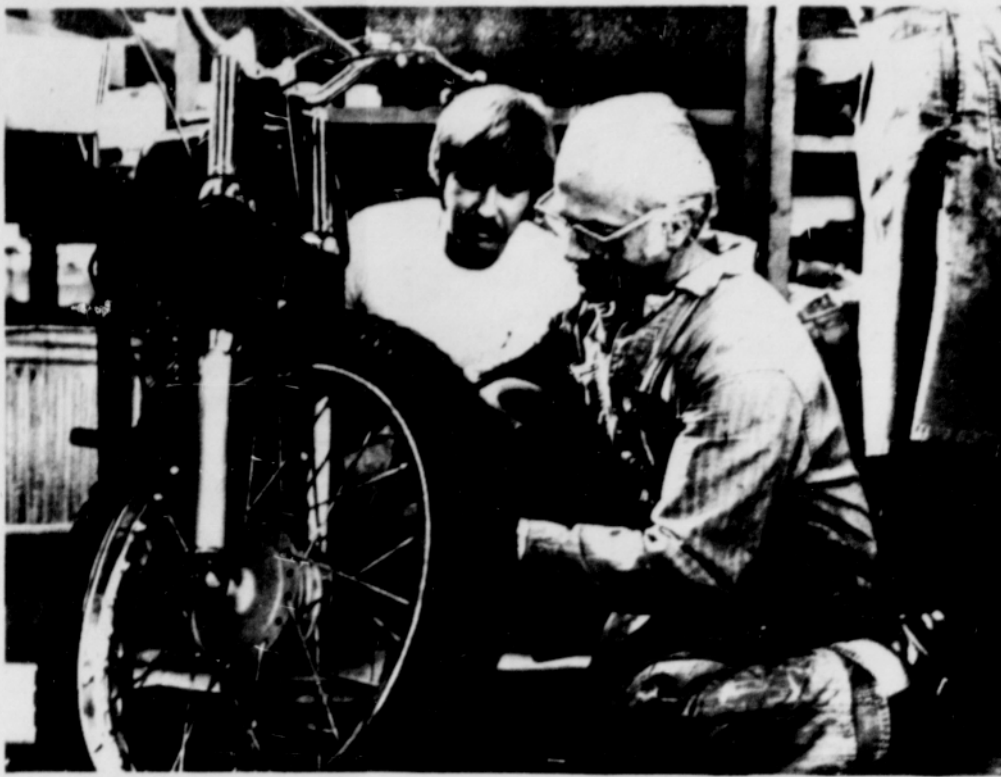
**Thursday**  
Pizza  
Cucumber Sticks  
Grated Carrot/Pineapple in orange Jello  
Chocolate Pudding  
Milk

**Friday**  
Tuna Salad  
Tomato  
Cherry Cobbler  
Hot Muffin/Butter  
Milk

## Revenue sharing

(Continued from page 1) where most of the Blacks were undercounted are being shortchanged."

Describing themselves as "appalled by federal inefficiency or inability," the letterwriters urged Shultz to "use the revised Census data and whatever other information is at your disposal to revise the general revenue sharing allocations in order to reflect the Black undercount. In this manner, you will be giving communities with large numbers of Blacks their equitable allocations of revenue sharing funds."



Buddy Hart of Gresham, left, and Al Johnson of Portland repair a motorcycle in Portland Community College's Small Engine Repair program which is retraining many adults for a new career.

## Vocational Rehab assists students

Fifty percent of the 52 students enrolled in Portland Community College's Small Engine Repair program are there with financial assistance from the State of Oregon's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. Five students are age 50 and over.

It isn't easy to retrain for a new career when you've been out of school for 10, even 25 years, but PCC's individual approach to teaching fundamentals of repairing small engines is making re-education palatable... even enjoyable to these school returnees.

The Small Engine Repair program, offered at the Cascade center, prepares students for entry-level positions performing general maintenance and repairs of motorcycles and other recreational equipment, farm and home power implements, and marine outboard motors. Students progress entirely at their own rates through use of multi-media instructional materials and actual on-the-job experiences.

The student begins the course in a brightly lighted room lined with yellow, orange, and green workbenches which are equipped with slide viewing and tape playback equipment. Here the student uses his workbook and prepared lessons presented via tape and slides to learn the fundamentals of small engines. "You can look at the parts first hand...feel them, and see how they work

together," says Charles Slagill of Portland, who at 50 has retired from the army and is now planning to start his own small engine repair shop when he completes the PCC program.

A student may repeat any lesson as many times as he wishes until he is certain of the concepts without interfering with the progress of other students. He must disassemble and assemble various types of small engines and then test their performances on a dynamometer. If the engine doesn't run, it's back to the workbench. "The program allows you to learn as much as you can in your own time frame," says Buddy Hurt, who is retraining for a new career after an on-the-job injury ended his future in the construction business.

Al Johnson, who was a diesel mechanic before an injury forced him to look for a new career, believes the most helpful part of the program is the "actual experience of working on live engines while in class." After applying basic concepts in the learning laboratory, students move to the shop area where they work live engines. "Nothing leaves our shop without running as good as new," says head instructor Don Laas.

Even though they may be changing careers in mid-life, PCC's Small Engine Repair students are optimistic about their futures. It seems that the use of small engines,

especially in recreational equipment, is increasing by leaps and bounds as Americans have more leisure time, and there is a real demand for people who know how to repair and maintain these engines.

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## Hughes

(Continued from page 1)

from Blacks themselves," he is no longer active in community activities. "I'm trying to reach out for something different," he explained.

Mr. Hughes is an active member of Vancouver Avenue Baptist Church. Much of the inspiration that has kept him going he attributes to Mrs. Edward Berry. He enjoys entertaining people, having them laugh and being happy. Fishing, long hikes and basketball are some of

his hobbies. He said he "likes anyone who can be intelligent."

Bob has visited 48 of the 50 states in the U.S., and also Canada and Acapulco. He is at a mellow age and knows what he wants and what he wants to do. Therefore, when asked his description of his type of woman, Bob was short and to the point: "She must be intelligent, decent in appearance and an excellent homemaker!"

## Indian musicians teach, perform at PSU

Chatresh Das, Indian, Kathak dancer who is currently participating as a guest instructor in three Portland State University summer session Indian dance workshops, will give a performance in Kathak dance at 8:30 p.m., Thursday, June 21 in the Smith Memorial Center Ballroom.

Kathak dance is a blending of ancient Hindu and Muslim

cultures. It was originally a religious dance by which mythological stories were transmitted. Das has studied Kathak for 18 years under his guru, Pandit Ram.

Accompanying Das will be Zakir Hussain, a tabla player, who is also guest-teaching three tabla classes this summer at PSU. Admission is \$1.50 general and \$1 for students.



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