PORTLAND OBSERVER
Vol. 6 No. 13 Portland, Oregon Thursday, February 12, 1976 10c per copy

4th Annual Black History Week Edition

Mrs. Opal Greaby receives ten year service award from President Gerald Ford.

Ford fires top HUD aid

The Government's top public housing official, H.R. Crawford was fired by President Gerald Ford.

The Justice Department is currently conducting an investigation on Crawford for possible conflict of interest. Crawford is one of the administration's highest ranking Blacks.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development where Crawford has served as assistant secretary for nearly three years, said the investigation involves his contracts with persons outside the department "concerning employment after government service."

The Justice Department has declined to comment on the investigation.

Crawford said he had informed HUD officials previously that he had planned to leave in April. After talking with his attorney, Crawford said he decided to quit even earlier.

"The question HUD has raised concern communications by me to persons outside HUD looking toward my possible, future professional associations," Crawford commented. "I have been advised that HUD referred the matter to the Department of Justice and as long as it is pending there, I will not comment further.

Ron Nessen, White House Press Secretary, told reporters when questioned that "his resignation was requested. That is correct." He said White House Counsel Phillip W. Buchen suggested to Crawford "it would be proper for him to resign."

The resignation letter was submitted Monday and Ford accepted it Tuesday.

In a statement to the press HUD said, "His resignation was requested and accepted in advance of his planned retirement because of questions raised with respect to possible conflicts arising from communication with persons outside the department concerning employment after government service.

"The matter has been referred to the Department of Justice and further comment would not be appropriate at this time."

Crawford was named to the job in 1973, by former President Nixon. This came at a time of irregularities in federal housing projects which prompted Nixon to call the government "the nation's biggest slumlord."

Crawford has won several awards for his work in public housing.

HUD said Crawford has "made substantial contributions toward improving housing for low and moderate income families."

As an employee at HUD, Crawford oversaw and administrated a wide range of government programs involving public housing.

Crawford, a native of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, has lived in Washington, D.C. for the past 25 years. He holds degrees from Howard University and American University, and has taught at Howard.

Inside

Ever think about the ordeals suffered by the early organizers of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters? James Lee was one of the early members. Read his story in the **Observer** 4th Annual Black History Week edition.

Foster grandmother honored

Mrs. Opal Greaby was one of the foster-grandparents selected to be awarded personally by President Gerald Ford for her ten years of service.

The Foster Grandparent Program -- sponsored in Portland by the Providence Hospital and the Portland Metropolitan Steering Committee -- provides part time employment for older citizens, working in child care centers.

Mrs. Greaby, who is 76 years old, works at Our Lady of Providence Child Center. She finds the work rewarding as she is able to provide love and special attention to some of the children. "the real reward is when you think you are doing something for somebody."

Mrs. Greaby came to Portland from Stockton in 1927. Although she had never worked, when her husband did she decided to seek employment. Her pastor

The Foster Grandparent Program -- a part of ACTION and funded through the Portland Metropolitan Steering Committee -- provides part time employment for older citizens, working in child care centers. The Portland program was one of the pilot programs after which the national program was patterned.

Approximately 38 grandmothers and grandparents work in the Portland program. They earn $1,640 a year and work four hours a day. The stipend is not taxed and does not effect their eligibility for other programs. To be participants in the program, individuals must be 60 years or older and have an annual income of less than $2,866 per person or $3,722 per couple. They also must have reasonably good health and enjoy being with children. They receive 40 hours of orientation and training.

Mrs. Greaby came to Portland from Stockton in 1927. Although she had never worked, when her husband died she decided to seek employment. Her position as a forster grandmother gives her a small income as well as somebody useful to do.

Mrs. Greaby has two children, Adeline Helser and Bill Greaby, who is a Vice President of U.S. National Bank. She has five grandchildren and seven great grand children.

Mrs. Greaby also has been selected to serve the Advisory Board of Our Lady of Providence Child Center.

When she was handed her award by the President, Mrs. Greaby, in her excitement made her usual exclamation, "That puts the frosting on the cake." She didn't realize the loudspeaker was on and that it was broadcast for the world to hear.

Goldschmidt vs Ivancie: Mayoral race surveyed

This is the first in a series of articles on the Portland mayoral race, which will explore the issues between the candidates. We begin the series with an analysis of significant issues.

Collapsing standard of living.

Since 1971 the collapsing economy has cost the American working population better than a 35 percent decrease in real incomes and necessary social services. Though the government officially estimates unemployment to be about eight percent nationally, the actual figure is at least double that. The Department of Labor (DOL) estimates the employable labor force in the U.S. is 92 million -- with seven million of that unemployed. Analysis of the DOL statistics reveals that the DOL does not figure into its statistics welfare recipients or certain groups of unemployed and underemployed (in particular those drawing no unemployment benefits). This figure also does not include the approximately seventeen million employed in non-productive employment (excluding military) which would actually bring the figure of unemployed up to 23 million.

Since 1971 inflation has increased forty percent. As of June of this year budget cuts in state, municipal and federal level dropped social services about fifteen percent -- this was before the mad rush to implement austerity and belt tightening was on.

Trade unions have gotten only ten to twelve percent wage increases (twelve percent in Portland), most of which has been in pension percentage increases, which have been undermined by better than a fifty percent increase in taxes (federal, state, property, gasoline, liquor, sales, etc., etc.).

Congressman William Moorehead of the Joint Economic Committees Urban Affairs subcommittee noted that 61 percent of high unemployment cities reduced social services by 3.6 percent of their aggregate budgets; fourteen of the high-unemployment states reduced services by three percent; approximately 140,000 public service jobs were eliminated (fourteen states); almost half of capital construction projects (hospitals, schools, libraries, research facilities, mass transit, etc.) were cancelled or halted. At least ten percent of social services were eliminated in 1975.

In the face of this, the employed workforce has been sped-up, which is reflected even in the DOL statistics which reveal a 5.5 increase per manhour. Employed workers have simply had to maintain the same productivity as the larger workforce. This has resulted in an increase of heart attacks which up to 75 percent is attributable to work conditions. Another 200 to 300,000 deaths can be attributed to brutalizing workforce conditions.

Portland's budget last year was $265 million, with debt obligations of $1.7 million -- debt services on that is annually $665,000. Portland's credit rating is triple A, but its tax base is shrinking, its population dropped a little over one percent over the last three years. Officially only 107 people were layed off from city jobs last year, but hiring freezes and other mechanisms actually hide the social service cut backs.

Portland relies on about $8.5 million from federal government revenue sharing, while the county relies on $6.1 million. Portland relies on the county, which is bankrupt, for the funding of much of its social services, allocating only three percent of the budget for services (education, health, welfare), while 66 percent of its budget goes to wages.

Mayor Neil Goldschmidt in November said his response to the declining economy would be "belt tightening and laying off..." and when the belt is tightened as much as it will go and revenue sharing monies are exhausted "that's when the public will have to make a decision."

The decision is now before the people of Portland: who offers the program that will stop the quick lurch toward 'belt tightening' austerity and collapse.

Portland Observer launches subscription campaign

The Portland Observer will sponsor its first nationwide subscription campaign. From our knowledge, such a subscription drive has never been undertaken in this part of the country.

We try to keep our readers throughout the country informed about local and national news as to how it relates to the Black community. Ninety-five percent of the total Black population in the state of Oregon is located in Multnomah County.

Also, **The Portland Observer** would be a wonderful gift anytime of the year, anniversaries, birthdays, graduation presents for students leaving the area, a moving present...

We are happy to offer to the community an opportunity to earn money for their organizations.

Hopefully the days of trying to raise money through popcorn selling, candy selling and raffles will become a thing of the past.

The Yearly subscription rate is $7.50 per year. For each subscription sold, the seller receives $2.50. This is a wonderful opportunity for churches, schools, clubs, fraternities, sororities and other community organizations to raise extra money. Also this is an opportunity for individuals to earn money on the side.

An example of the money which can be raised is if a club with 25 members held each member responsible for three subscriptions, the club would earn $187.50. If a church with 200 members held each member responsible for three subscriptions, the church would earn $1,500. This holds true for schools, and other organizations.

A housewife selling 80 subscriptions per month could earn $200 per month.

A student selling 50 subscriptions a month of the **Portland Observer** would earn $125 per month.

Let's start the ball rolling. Now is the time to begin to put extra money in your pocket and strengthen the leading Black newspaper in the Northwest.

Names in the News

Cleveland Gilerease was invited to attend a special three-part White House briefing on President Ford's tax cut and spending proposals, current energy policy and initiatives, and budget issues. The briefing was conducted by the President's Top Economic, Energy and Budget Officials. Out of 38 persons attending, three were Black.

Howard J. McElroy has been named vice president and personnel director for all Lipman's stores. McElroy comes to Portland from Minneapolis where he was manager of compensation services for Dayton-Hudson Corporation, parent firm of Lipman.

McElroy joined Dayton-Hudson in 1968 after four years with Ford Motor Company in industrial relations department.

Howard McElroy is a member of Bethel AME Church. Mrs. McElroy is a college graduate and is the musician for the Bethel Youth Choir.

Ralph Bell retired from the United States Army after twenty years of service. He served as editor of the post newspaper. Bell is entering Mt. Hood Community College to study journalism. He has lived in Portland for one month.

"P" is for the Pointer Sisters and the pop singers recite the alphabet like it's never been heard before on an upcoming episode of "Sesame Street", the award-winning series for pre-schoolers, produced by the Children's Television Workshop. The Alvin Ailey Dancers are also to be featured on the series.

"Dear Pen Pal", the segment of the Children's TV show, "Big Blue Marble" which invites children to correspond with others around the world, has reached a registration of almost half a million: Pen Pal exchanges have involved a Soviet pen pal group from Sverdlovsk, a school for the blind in Texas, a child in an iron lung and other handicapped children. "Big Blue Marble" is sponsored by ITT as a public service and distributed internationally.

Dave Boggan, the newly appointed Management Service Director for the City of Portland is thirty years old and he came to Portland from Flint, Michigan. Mayor Goldschmidt believes he has the answer to the city's fiscal problems. Mr. Boggan is handsome and single.

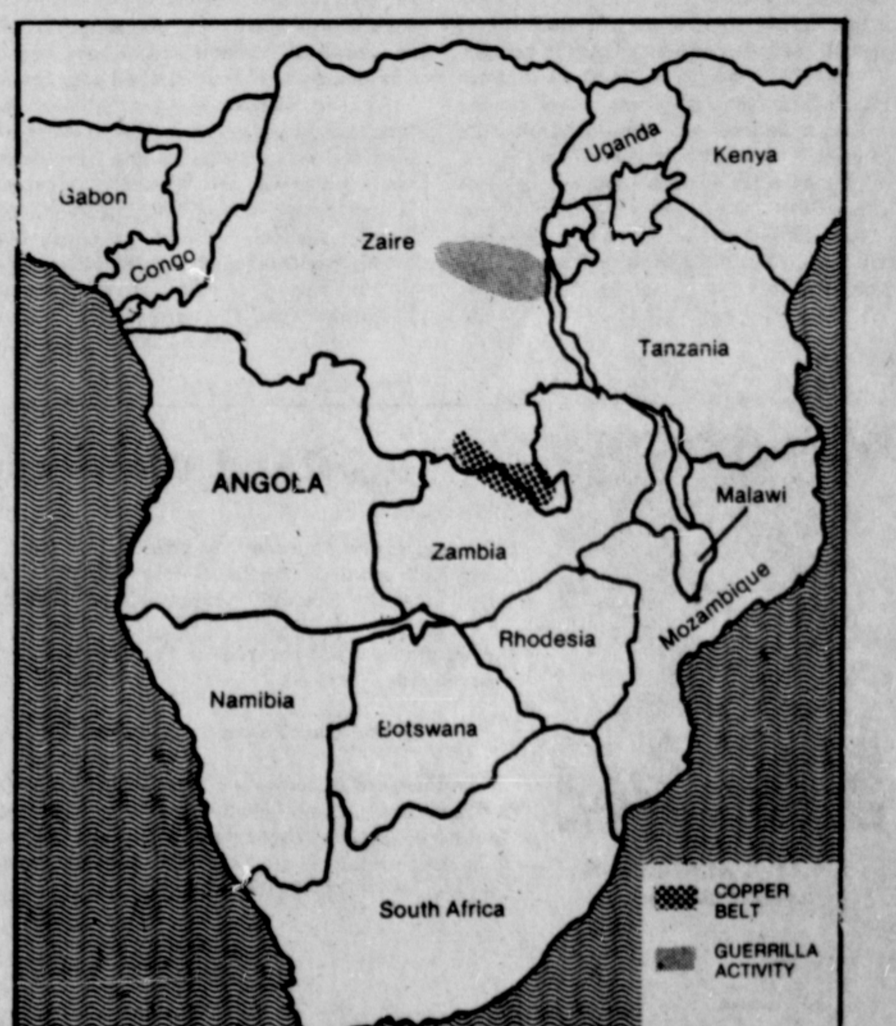
Steve Lowen Executive Director for 4C has announcedhis resignation effective June 1st, 1976. He is going back to complete his medical degree.

Joycelyn Hendrix, a new teacher at Lincoln High School from California, is married to Ken Hendrix. Joycelyn loves growing plants, people and most of all the students at Lincoln.

Natalie Harris, from California, but born in Washington, D.C., has moved to Salem to work for the State Consumer Service Division. She is 25 years old, single, and an AKA.

Dr. Milton Lee, M.D. and his lovely wife Sharon are newcomers to Portland. Dr. Lee is on the Kaiser Hospital staff.

Dr. John Anderson, M.D. also recently moved to Portland and works at Kaiser Hospital.



People's Republic of Angola was recognized by the Organization of African Unity. (See page 2)