

PORTLAND OBSERVER

Vol. 6 No. 27 Portland, Oregon Thursday, May 20, 1976 10¢ per copy

CREP provides free repairs

There are many homes in Portland that need minor repair and winterization. The Community Rehabilitation and Employment Program (CREP) is looking for these houses.

CREP offers free winterization for low-income homeowners. Services provided are roof repairs, repairs to ceilings and walls, repair and replacement of windows, weatherstripping of doors and windows, and repair and maintenance of furnaces.

The program, which is sponsored by the Portland Metropolitan Steering Committee, is unique in this area. It is designed to offer employment and training for unemployed persons. A by-product of the program is the much needed home winterization program.

"Many older homes in the city of Portland have become deteriorated and difficult to heat, because homeowners cannot afford to keep up repairs."

Mr. Gale Castillo, program director of CREP, explained. "The winterization program will make them liveable again and help reduce the fuel bills."

To be eligible for the CREP program the home must be located in the city of Portland and must be occupied by the owner. The home owner must meet income guidelines set by the U.S. Community Services Administration.

CREP is seeking homes that can be winterized within the next few months. Persons who believe they might be eligible should call Mr. Castillo at the PMSC office.



Mrs. Geneva Blake watches as window is repaired by CREP worker.



CARTER IN OREGON

Jimmy Carter spoke to shipyard workers at Swan Island yesterday as he brought his presidential campaign to Oregon. Carter answered worker's questions, discussing the relationship between jobs, exports of farm products, and the economy.

Summers resigns Human Relations position

Vern Summers has resigned from his position as director of the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission. Summers, who was appointed by Mayor Terry Schrunk, was the Commission's second director.

Summers told the *Observer* that he resigned because the Commission has not been allowed to function as it should. "The Commission does not have the power that it should in order to help people. The task of helping people - especially minority people - should be a priority, but the Commission has neither the power nor the staff that it needs if it is to do an effective job."

For the past year the Commission has come under fire from City Commission-

ers Connie McCready, Mildred Schwab and Francis Ivancie. The Commissioners were critical of the HRC involvement in the issue of whether shotguns should be used in police patrol cars. Commissioners Schwab and Ivancie were angry at the HRC's efforts to obtain an anti-discrimination ordinance for homosexuals.

The Commission was funded for a six-month period while the City Council contemplated its future. Upon completion of the six-month period, during which the HRC did a self-evaluation and wrote a new work plan, the Council was still divided. The program was refunded for another six months.

"The Human Relations Commission has

become a political football," Summers said. "Politics have no place in human relations. When this happens, games are played rather than programs 'being implemented'."

Summers is concerned about employment for Blacks in Portland. He explained that federal funds have come into Portland for hiring of minorities, but has not been used for this purpose. He feels that is why Portland is now under investigation for possible non-compliance by the U.S. Department of Housing and Administration.

Summers' resignation was accepted by the Commission at its Tuesday meeting.



Allen Jones

Jones gains executive post

Allen Jones has been promoted to the position of district executive of the Boy Scouts of America, Barlow Trail District. Barlow Trail takes in the area of S.E. 57th Street to 184th Street, from the Columbia River to S.E. Holgate.

Jones was associate executive of the Big Thunder District, which extends from North Portland to St. Helens for the past two years.

Jones, a former Cub Scout and Boy Scout, is a graduate of the University of California in Berkeley. A veteran of the Vietnam war, he was the recipient of a Silver Star.

The function of the district executive is to coordinate the activities of 2,500 boys, 900 adult leaders, and district committees; to raise funds, and to recruit boy members and adult leaders.

Jones is convinced of the value to urban youth. "Scouting provides a means to develop leadership abilities and independence, as well as providing activities boys enjoy."

While he was associate director of Big Thunder District, scouting became more viable in Albina and North Portland. "More responsible leadership has been developed, the type that stays involved and provides a strong base, but there is a great need for more parent participation. No youth program can be successful without the participation of parents," he said.

Jones is active in the Albina Lions Club, serving his third year as chairman of the annual awards fashion show. He also is entertainment columnist for the *Portland Observer*.

The new district executive's other spare-time interests include swimming, photography, fishing, horseback riding and writing - the latter a subject in which he became involved while working on a college newspaper.

The new assignment also brings his professional and personal life closer together; he's been living in the Barlow Trail district since coming to Portland.

Straub appoints Casson

Ellis H. Casson has been appointed by Governor Bob Straub to serve a three year term on the State Board of Education.

Also appointed to a three year term was Ms. Joyce Berry of Eugene. They replace Eugene Fisher of Oakland and Ms. Eleanor Beard of Lake Oswego. Casson is regional equal opportunity

director for the U.S. Highway Department. He serves as chairman of the Oregon Intergroup Human Relations Committee and is a member and Past Chairman of the Area II School Advisory Committee.

Casson is serving his third term as President of the Portland Branch NAACP.

NAACP protests cross burnings

An outbreak of cross-burnings in the Los Angeles area continue as Blacks attempt to gain protection from state forces. Officials do not believe that the cross-burnings are the action of an organized group. They are believed by some to be a reaction to Black protest of a recent school policy decision. The Los Angeles school board recently proposed a resolution forbidding bussing for desegregation.

Black ministers in the Los Angeles area have received death threats.

Mrs. Virna M. Canson, Regional Director, West Coast Region NAACP, said, "The burning of crosses on the lawns of Black citizens is a startling reminder of earlier times in the long, bitter struggle for equality waged by Black Americans."

"In the late 19th century the government turned its back on Blacks and left their welfare to white racists who rioted burned and killed." Today, many public officials have turned their backs. The

default today is like the default at the turn of the century. The results today are the same."

"Those who would do violence against Blacks feel they have sanction and tacit approval. NAACP sought in vain to sound the alarm and warn the State Chief Law Enforcement Officer, Evelle J. Younger, Attorney General. The Association's request for a meeting was viciously denied. We await, apparently in vain, for action from the California State Legislature."

"Cross burnings and violence continue as long as violent racists can take solace from inaction by the Chief Law Enforcement Officer of the State of California and others in high places."

"We call on NAACPers and all persons of good will to help us sound the alarm. We urge that candidates for political office be measured by their commitment to act to end the violent wave against Blacks."

Eugene forms NAACP branch

Initial steps have been taken toward the formation of a branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in Eugene.

Procedures established by the national organization require that a proposed new branch must be sponsored by an existing branch to assure that members of the new branch are fully cognizant of NAACP policies and purposes.

The Corvallis Branch of NAACP is fulfilling this role for the proposed Eugene Branch. Calvin O.L. Henry, past president of the Corvallis Branch and chairman of its Membership Committee, was appointed by Corvallis Branch President Rollie Smith to represent the branch in assisting those interested in the formation of the Eugene Branch.

With the assistance of Henry a Eugene NAACP Steering Committee was

recently formed. Co-chairman are Razz McCleay and James E. Jenkins. Recorder is Gerald M. Thompson.

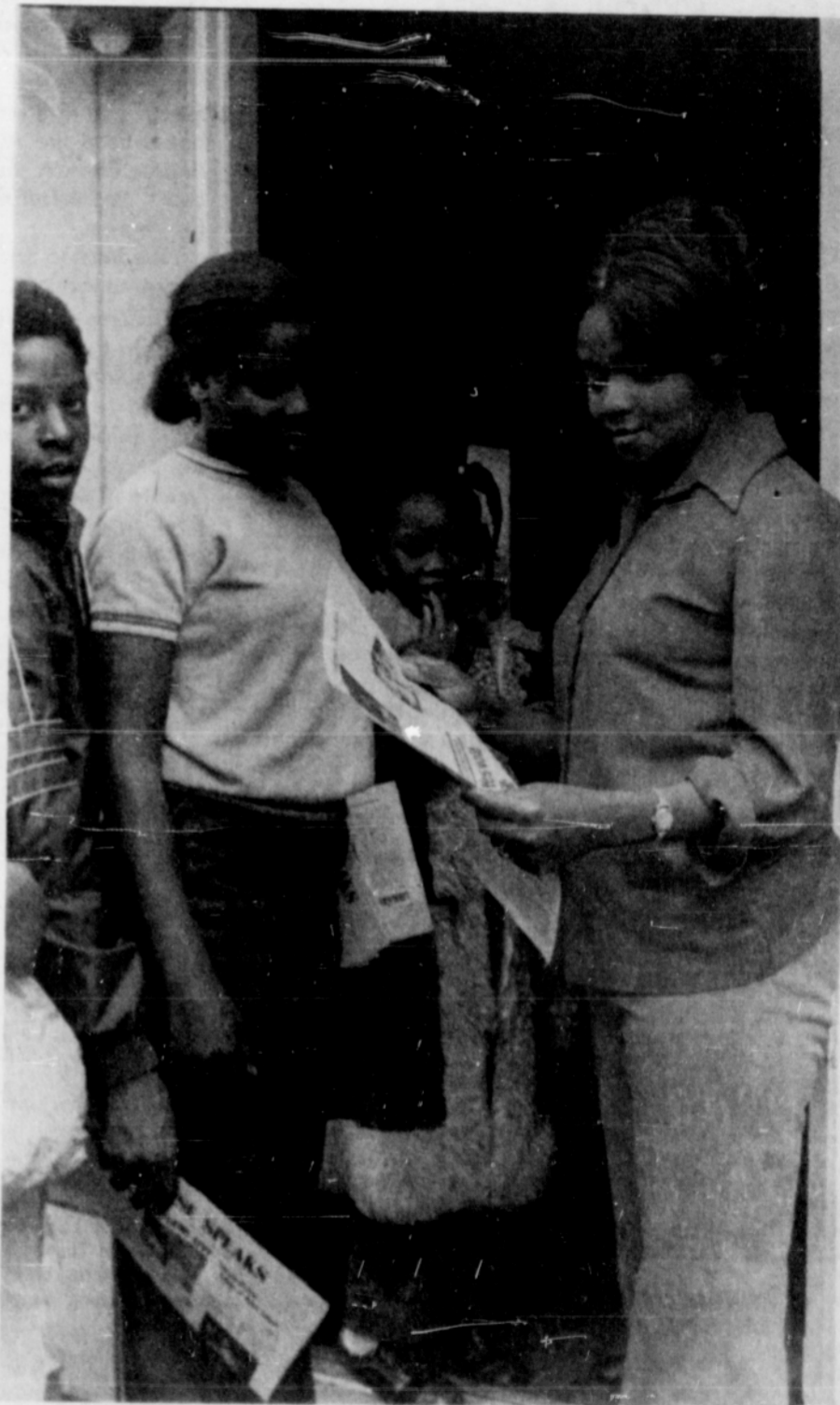
NAACP by-laws require that there must be fifty NAACP members in the community before a proposed branch can be chartered.

At last report the proposed Eugene Branch had 36 members.

It is hoped to have sufficient members so the Eugene Branch can be approved for a charter while the National Convention of NAACP is in session in Memphis, Tennessee, June 28th through July 2nd.

The Eugene Branch would be the fourth branch of NAACP in Oregon. Existing Branches are located in Portland, Corvallis, Klamath Falls and Salem.

Political endorsements page 2



Marshall Haskins and Monica Vann distribute special issue of Boise Elementary School's newspaper, "Boise Speaks," to neighbors. The students, assisted by librarian Beth Nance, studied the library levy issue and are now campaigning wholeheartedly for Ballot Measure #2. The measure will provide funds to continue library services.