



A convention held in Portland Wednesday hopes to place the name of former Senator Eugene McCarthy. 1058 persons signed cards to nominate McCarthy. If 1,000 of these are registered voters, McCarthy's name will appear on the ballot as an independent candidate for the presidency.

PSU studies food stamps use

The Urban Studies Center at Portland State University has received a \$20,925 grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to study why a high percentage of persons receiving unemployment compensation benefits who are also eligible for food stamps do not choose to participate in the food stamp program.

Judy Barmack, assistant professor in PSU's new School of Urban Affairs, says a maximum of 40 to 45 per cent of those who are eligible nationwide for food stamps actually participate in the program. Her research, which will focus on the Portland metropolitan area, will run from September 15th, 1976 to August 31st, 1977.

Some 600 persons who are receiving unemployment benefits and who are also eligible for the food stamp program will be interviewed. Among factors Barmack will investigate, are the stigma and general attitude toward welfare programs, demographic conditions, length of unem-

ployment, level of education, amount of income generally expended for food, and union membership. The latter is included, Barmack says, because many unions are encouraging their eligible members to apply for food stamps.

There are several reasons why many eligible persons do not choose to participate in the food stamp program. For one thing, Barmack says some persons feel it's too much trouble to go through the red tape to apply. In addition, she adds that some are not aware that persons with a high gross income may still be eligible because net income — not gross income — is the basis for determining eligibility.

Barmack said Congress is currently working on ways to simplify the formula and procedure used to determine eligibility for food stamps. She added that approximately 10 per cent of the American population, or about 18 million persons, are using food stamps, though many more are eligible.

BOOST serves drop-outs

A community drop-in/referral center for persons seeking ways to finish, continue or further their education has moved from its Vancouver Street offices into new surroundings in the South East Neighborhood Facility at 3534 SE Main St., Portland, 97214.

BOOST (Bettering Oregon's Opportunities for Saving Talent) is all moved-in and ready to help dropouts in the 14-27 age group who need information or counseling regarding admission to community colleges, four-year colleges or vocational training.

BOOST is a federally funded program operated through the State System or Higher Education. It is available to youths from culturally or economically disadvantaged backgrounds who have the desire and the potential to pursue post-secondary educational training. The program encourages and assists high school dropouts in getting their GED (high school equivalency diploma), helps parents and potential students in filling-out college application forms, and provides students with up-to-date information concerning special programs and training options available.

A small staff of six operate the BOOST office and also reach students in the high school, and occasionally in the home. Assistant director Madeline Jepson said, "Many clients are first told of the program through friends who have visited the facility." Referrals are also made by other agencies.

Salem disturbance

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the Portland press, and that it had not been racial in nature. She denied that there had been any type of "coverup" by the city and reported that the actions of the police department had been proper and that city officials were cooperative. "Mayor Bob Lindsey and I have been in constant contact. He has been very responsive and very supportive of our position that we pull together a steering committee to study the matter. He offered all of the resources of the city."

Two young people who were involved: Jim Harrington and Rich Davis, both 21, made a public statement, asking young people to refrain from further trouble-making. They said the confrontation began as a beef among friends. "It will be pretty much our responsibility if the situation becomes violent. We put a lot of ideas into their heads and it really got hot at the time. We are anxious to get things

settled before it turns into a racial confrontation." They said the reason for the outbreak was that "We just party all the time and there's nothing else to do but start trouble." They expressed a desire to help air the problems that have led to tensions among young people in Salem.

Mrs. Winters said the Salem Branch of the NAACP has had good support and she believes it is contributing to the community. The Branch just celebrated its first anniversary with a fashion show and wine sip with over 200 present. Over 450 people have attended the branches three social events. Membership has increased from 60 to 115 in the last year.

The Branch has established an office with a full time community liaison worker, Ms. Molly Gills. One of the recent activities of the Branch was assisting with the writing of the Salem Public School's affirmative action plan.

Program aids lost elderly

by Nancy McCarthy

Elderly and confused. Lost and alone. A woman walks around a strange Albina neighborhood, trying to find her home. It is near the large grocery store, she remembers, but where is that store? And where is her house?

When elderly people get lost it used to take valuable police time to find their homes.

But now the Volunteers of America, a United Way agency, will provide shelter for those who are temporarily lost.

Although the United Way agency has assisted the Portland Police Department for five years, it recently became the official service agency for the elderly-lost when the Portland City Council approved a small stipend to care for these people.

It seemed natural to name the Volunteers of America, which received \$213,000 in United Way funds this year, as the official service agency. Besides providing shelter to those who are temporarily lost, it also offers care for troubled teenage girls, mothers and their children, and pre-schoolers.

"Sometimes it takes over 12 hours to find out where a person lives," says Major Velma Burnie, executive director of United Way's Volunteers of America. "If the police pick up a person during the day, he or she is taken to the Adult Service Center where we work with him to find his home."

"If he is still with us at 4:30 p.m., he is given dinner and overnight accommodations. There he will continue to work with a social worker until he finds his home."

For the police department, the United Way agency's service has provided relief. "It is a problem we have had for years," says Portland Police Lt. Edward Carney. "We used to bring them in here to the

police station, and it would take several hours or even a day to get them back home. We had no place to put them, no facility for eating. Often, someone would have to watch over them. It wasn't the best thing for the elderly."

About 30 people get lost in a year, according to Lt. Carney.

"We get elderly people who don't know who they are or where they are going. Sometimes they have no identification, and they don't know where they are from."

Major Burnie and Lt. Carney have learned that people wander from any neighborhood and sometimes they cross bridges and find themselves downtown with no way to get back, or they ride buses and forget the trip.

"One woman who was found downtown remembered she lived by the Safeway store," recalls Major Burnie. "So we drove around the store on S.W. Jefferson Street. Then she remembered the mortuary in the middle of the block, but there wasn't a mortuary downtown."

"Finally, after several hours of driving and talking, the woman remembered she had ridden the bus to town. It turned out she lived near S.E. Hawthorne Boulevard."

Most of the time, elderly people are identified when a missing persons report is filed.

"A lot of people don't report the person missing until all reasonable excuses for the person's absence are checked out," says Major Burnie. Often they feel silly about becoming panicky."

Both Major Burnie and Lt. Carney hope the elderly-lost will be able to return to their homes faster now.

"It is an attempt to take care of the problem," says Lt. Carney.

School Board

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erly evaluated, then are the policy and the practice to be modified. Recommendations talk about further review, evaluation and study with statements of may or should or if time permits . . .

The evaluation accomplished by the school district's team of fifteen persons — two of whom were not school personnel — designates two policies that must be altered: one on student-parent complaint procedure and one on maternity leaves and benefits. The Board plans to deal with the complaint procedure tonight, but will not complete the work necessary to change the maternity regulations until later.

Some of the areas of concern defined by the administration report are: courses designed for one sex, unequal athletic facilities and programs, sex-related job training placements, under representation of women in administration and of men in elementary teaching, imbalance in certain non-teaching jobs, lack of policy on selection of custodians, and maternal leave policy.

Board member Wally Priestley ask Dr. Blanchard to inquire of the regional office of Civil Rights whether the school dis-

trict's participation in the queen selection for the Rose Festival would be considered discriminatory. Bob Ridgley said that the superintendent did not have to comply unless the full board made the request. Dr. Blanchard said he preferred to have the question referred to the district's attorney and that because of possible legal involvement he thought it should be discussed in executive session, in private.

Also discussed at the meeting was the request of the students at Wilson High School for a smoking area. After public testimony and discussion, Ridgley moved that the area be established as a pilot project with an evaluation component. Mrs. Wiener supported the proposal; Ms. Ms. York and McCoy, Johnathan Newman, and Priestley opposed. Priestley favored smoking areas for students in all Portland high schools on a permanent basis.

Question: What does the Oregon Employment Division do in the field of equal employment opportunity?

Answer: Elimination of discrimination in employment is a goal of the Employment Division in all phases of its operation. Federal and state laws and regulations make it mandatory that the Division serves applicants only on an "ability-to-perform-the-job" basis when considering for selection or referral to employers, eliminating any factor of race, sex, age, national origin or physical or mental handicaps. The Division also establishes Affirmative Action plans, setting definite goals and deadlines to increase the percentage of women and minority employees, not only in number but in promotion to jobs with greater responsibility.

Reviews are made in each local office of the Employment Division and employees have demonstrated that they are aware of and are complying with the laws in promoting equal employment opportunities for applicants.

Contest begins

Safeway Stores and the Pepsi Cola Division of Oregon kicked off the Hotshot Basketball Contest for boys and girls ages 9-18 years of age at Safeway Union and Ainsworth at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday July 13, 1976. Greg Smith of the Portland Trailblazers was supervising the events along with other officials. Winners will be presented between halves of Blazer Official Game, and will be based on a national NBA schale with Grand winners selected to represent their Closet NBA Team in national competition.

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