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Michael L. Grice, Manson Kennedy, and Herb L. Cawthorne, admire Portland's Albina Mural Project, in anticipation of "From the Pulpit, From the People" - an evening of music and oral history illuminating the life and spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Program features King's religious heritage

The life and spirit of Martin Luther King, Jr., will come to life in a very uncommon program on the campus of Catlin Gabel School, March 15th, 16th, and 17th. Called "From the Pulpit... From the People," the presentation will demonstrate King's spiritual foundation, as well as bring to life the Gospel music which surrounded his life.

Herb L. Cawthorne, the director of the Educational Opportunity Program at PSU, will deliver the words of Dr. King. Several of the sermons Dr. King delivered in the surrounding of the church will "come alive" as interpreted by Cawthorne. "Oral language is a vital part of the Black experience both in Africa and America," said the educator who did graduate work at the University of Oregon in oral history. Cawthorne said, "This program emphasizes the positive and healthy dependence many Black children have on oral communication, while bringing valuable elements of history to them in a way that is dynamic and alive with force."

The performance, which will feature the New Hope Baptist Church Choir and special guest, Will Dorsey, the world renowned Gospel singer, in a benefit to expand educational opportunities for Black children. Funds will go to the scholarship program at Catlin Gabel School, the Lee Owen Stone Pre-school, and the One World Arts Foundation. Each of these organizations will earmark money raised for the express purpose of improving minority participation in their educational programs.

Catlin Gabel, an independent school on the outskirts of Portland, provides a comprehensive program for children of all ages. Mason Kennedy, a parent and chairman of the Catlin Enrollment Committee, says, "Independent schools can no longer rest on their laurels. It is time for us to actively express our interest in diversity, and this program allows us that opportunity."

The Lee Owen Stone Pre-school is named after the late Reverend Lee Owen Stone, who served at the St. Phillips Episcopal Church for more than thirty years. The founders of One World Arts Foundation had a special relationship

with Reverend Stone - he was a teacher, a friend, a concerned critic, and always a willing guide for young people. Thus, a portion of the funds raised by the performance will go to the pre-school which he always said was his most important legacy.

The third organization involved is One World Arts Foundation, a non-profit organization designed to promote artistic activities among young Black students in the Portland Public Schools. Michael Grice, president of One World, says the foundation is "a living execution of artistic influence in our everyday community life. One World will become known, over time, for its excellent productions, its meaningful scholarships, and its dedication to preservation of Black culture through various communicative and artistic endeavors."

One World also includes Herb Cawthorne, vice president, and Ken Berry, secretary-treasurer. Berry is the musical director for "From the Pulpit, From the People."

A unique experience for all residents of the Portland community, "From the Pulpit, From the People" will actually create the sense of a baptist church on stage. Music will be balanced by narration; Dr. King's words will be presented in a setting which acknowledges his unshakable belief in the strength of the Black church. The message of his life will be presented in a very unusual manner and, for most, the perspective gained will give a sense of the man and his struggles which has heretofore been neglected. This is the distinct feeling one gets when talking with those involved in "From the Pulpit, From the People."

One of the aims of the program is to encourage people from all walks of life to share together. To insure this, a system of "voucher tickets" has been devised. These tickets will be distributed to children and families who otherwise would not be able to afford to attend. Transportation will be provided with several pick-up points established throughout the Northeast Portland community.

For further information contact the Catlin Gabel School.

King discusses Union Project

The King Neighborhood Association will hold a workshop on Saturday, March 11th to explore all aspects of relocation resulting from the proposed Nordstrom Distribution Center project on Union Avenue.

The workshop will be held at King Neighborhood Facility, 4815 N.E. 7th Avenue from 10:00 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

The agenda will include: Concerns of the immediate neighborhood and the community at large, zoning, property tax, impact on property values, feasibility of moving.

Housing alternatives; relocation pro-

cess, benefits and problems; appraisal techniques and practices.

Group discussions will be held with owner-residents, tenants, landlords, and business people.

Resource persons from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Affairs, Housing and Community Development, and Portland Development Commission will be present.

The workshop is expected to provide the information needed by the community residents to make the best decision on this project.

Priestley switches races

As the filing deadline for those interested in running for public office nears, (Tuesday, March 14th) last minute decisions must be made. As in past years, the state capital and the County Registrar's offices will be filled with those who are attempting to make the 5:00 p.m. deadline.

Applications to file for public office are available at the County Registrar's Office, 1040 S.E. Morrison, and must be filed at that office or the House of Representative's Chambers in the State Capital Building (depending on the position sought) by 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 14th, along with a filing fee ranging from \$10 to \$50 for state and local offices.

Wally Priestley has indicated that he is seriously considering entering the race for the County Commission position now held by Mel Gordon. Gordon was notified Wednesday that he will receive the long anticipated White House appointment to head the Pacific Northwest River Basins Commission. Other candidates already filed in the race are Gladys McCoy and Paula Bentley, with former State Representative Harvey Akeson planning to announce Friday. Several others are rumored to be interested.

Priestley, who has served in the State Legislature for six terms explained, "I have been considering this for some time and now that Mel Gordon will be resigning and there will be no incumbent in the race, it is a good opportunity for a reform candidate. I am for real charter reform and for better citizen access to their elected officials."

If Priestley runs for the County Commission, he will not be a candidate for his seat in the Legislature, making that a wide open race also. Thus far, Evie Crowell is the only Democrat to file. (Please turn to Page 2 Column 4)

You load 16 tons and what do you get?

by Matt Witt

MARCH 4 (PNS) - Decaying wooden shacks and crowded mobile home camps. Polluted streams and strip-mined hills. Underfinanced schools, roads, and health care facilities.

These are the hardships most American coal miners face in their communities. For them, this winter's strike is only one skirmish in a larger battle to improve the quality of coalfield life.

Although their jobs are the most dangerous in the country, miners' wages are no higher than other unionized industrial workers. They now average \$60 per day, with increases planned in their new contract. Their income is seriously eroded by the high cost of food, fuel, transportation and housing in the Appalachian mountains.

Community services are generally poor because mushrooming profits from coal go to stockholders and executives in such cities as New York, Boston and Philadelphia, without being adequately

Insurance redlining revealed

An OSPIRG (Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group) study demonstrates redlining by insurance companies is still prevalent in Portland.

For many years Blacks and other residents of the predominantly Black neighborhoods have complained that they were unable to purchase insurance on their homes and businesses. This problem supposedly was solved by two bills passed by the 1971 Legislature. ORS 746.018 made it illegal to discriminate because of geographic location.

The other bill HB1377 created Oregon FAIR Plan, a state entity, which was supposed to provide fire insurance or property that private insurance companies refused to insure.

OSPIRG found in its study that a disproportionate number of Oregon FAIR Plan insurance policies are being written in Albina, an indication that this area is being discriminated against by private insurers.

Of the 120 policies written for homes in Multnomah County in April and May of 1977 (the study period) 68 were in the area between Interstate and 16th, Columbia Boulevard and I-80N (56.67 percent).

North Portland, with slightly more housing units, has only nine FAIR Plan policies.

Southeast had fourteen policies; Southwest had two policies; Northwest had two policies; and Northeast beyond 16th Avenue had eight policies. This means that Albina, with 31.8 percent substan-

dard units, has 63 percent of the FAIR Plan policies, while North Portland, with 23.9 percent substandard, has only 8.3 percent of the FAIR Plan policies. The greatest differentiation between the two areas is that Albina is 44 percent Black and North Portland is only four percent Black.

The OSPIRG study concludes that, "Many insured persons forced to the FAIR Plan may be victims of insurance industry 'redlining,' a practice which, whether motivated by bigotry or economic consideration, is against existing state law. The fact that 63 percent of FAIR Plan habitation policies written in Portland are for properties located in Albina, where the percentage of Blacks in 44 percent, is an indication that contrary to ORS 746.015, insurance companies to discriminate on the basis of geographical area and perhaps on the basis of race."

"The Insurance Commissioner is charged with enforcement of the anti-discrimination law."

Rates for the FAIR Plan have been comparable to private rates, however, a rate increase has been proposed. OSPIRG equates the high cost of administration with poor management rather than with losses.

Insurance under the FAIR Plan is inadequate in that it does not include burglary and theft or the typical "homeowner" policy which includes personal property not in the buildings and liability. FAIR Plan insurance is restricted to actual value (sale value of the building

immediately prior to the loss) rather than replacement value (cost of building an identical house, including debris removal). The difference can be sizable and the unavailability of insurance for replacement value is a serious problem.

In some cities these deficiencies are covered by Federal Crime Insurance, but the option is not open to Portland residents because the Federal Insurance Administration was informed by former State Insurance Commissioner Lester Rawls and Mayor Neil Goldschmidt that the federal insurance program is not needed here.

OSPIRG urges the Insurance Commissioner to use his office to reform the entire insurance industry to put an end to "redlining" and make the FAIR Plan unnecessary. Under this plan insurance companies would be required to offer the same coverage at the same rates on comparable property regardless of its location (or the race of its owner). Also, the state would monitor to insure that all insurance agencies maintain agents in all areas they claim to serve.

Together with anti-discrimination enforcement, a "Re-insurance Exchange" should be initiated, to which insurance companies could refer policies they have written on high-risk properties, to spread the cost of losses among all companies. This would eliminate the need for the FAIR Plan and would allow those companies who do accept high-risk policies to have part of the cost born by those companies who refuse these policies.

American State grants Borg-Warner credit line

American State Bank, Portland, is one of sixty minority-owned banks that have granted Borg-Warner Corporation lines of credit totalling \$9.6 million, in what is said to be the largest minority bank credit line program of its kind with any U.S. company.

As part of the agreement, the corporation has placed over \$1 million as payment for the credit lines on deposit with the banks.

"This is a good step for us since it gets us involved in the corporate world of financing," V.F. Booker, President of American State Bank said. "We have, until recently, been locked out of the private sector but this will open the door for others. The Borg-Warner deposit will also enable us to expand our real estate loans."

Other recent sizable corporate depo-

sits have come from Kraft and Union Oil.

Alvin J. Boutte, president and chief executive officer of The Independence Bank of Chicago, which is handling administration of the program, said that the program currently is the largest both in credit line dollars and number of participants by any U.S. corporation. Independence Bank is the largest Black-owned bank in the United States.

"I applaud this move by Borg-Warner," Boutte said, "and I'm certain this will encourage other companies to make increasing use of the financial services offered by minority-owned banks."

All participating banks are either listed by the U.S. Treasury Department as "minority banks," or have applied for that status, according to William M. Valiant, Borg-Warner vice president and treasurer.

The Treasury Department lists 86 U.S. minority banks, all of which are being solicited for the program, Valiant said.

The program, undertaken last December, is based upon Borg-Warner's business requirements, Valiant pointed out. "Because of the growth of our business, we have need for additional lines of credit and the minority banks offer competitive costs and services. Also, the deposits placed with the banks will help stimulate their growth and, in turn, strengthen the economic viability of the communities they serve," he said.

"Valiant noted that the Borg-Warner program will include more minority banks as they are formed, and the company expects to expand its relationship with current participants as they grow.



Eller Jackson gets special tutoring help at a Portland Community College center located in St. Andrew's School.



L.C. Kelly learns how to handle cursive writing in a concentrated tutoring program offered by Portland Community College at St. Andrew's School in northeast Portland.

PCC/St. Andrew's tutoring program teaches adults

The inner-city tutoring center at St. Andrew's Church in Northeast Portland, run by Portland Community College, takes an informal approach to learning. The relaxed, friendly attitude of the newly refurbished church basement almost typifies the scene of a community gathering.

But serious learning takes place in the Monday and Wednesday night community education sessions at the church.

"The thing I like best about these students," said Sister Genevieve Anne Hillgen, director of the center, "is that they all want to be here. They come to get a better job or pass their GED."

For many the passing of the GED, a high school equivalency program, opens new doors. This term 35-40 students take advantage of the tutoring situation. "Most of the students are here for reading this quarter," Sister Genevieve said.

"We cover a variety of subjects," the center director continued. "This includes math, science, reading and social studies. What our students really need most is patience, kindness, consideration and understanding."

Students at the center range in age from eighteen to over seventy. "One 64 year old gentleman came in this quarter who couldn't read or write in cursive.

Another young man has dyslexia and to keep his job he needs to learn to recognize basic words," Sister Genevieve explained.

Sister Genevieve taught eighth grade for many years, taking over the center operation three years ago. She has eighteen volunteer tutors coming now from as far away as Lake Oswego and Gresham.

"I get volunteers from all over," Sister Genevieve said. "The college sends us tutors and I have put announcements in the church and around the neighborhood. There are workshops for the tutors to help them get started."

"The St. Andrew Center has been in

operation for about six years. Remodeled storage areas are brightly decorated and arranged in one large room with several small cubicles for privacy. A plant stand adds a cheerful note to one corner.

Workbooks, reading books and supplies from PCC are neatly organized. "I gather books that the students can use at home from any place I can," Sister Genevieve said. "Many of the students don't even have access to daily newspapers so extra reading material is important."

Some students come back term after term. Their goal - to be able to pass the GED tests. Classes at the adult center run all year long.