

# OBSERVATIONS

## FROM THE SIDELINES

By Kathryn H. Bogle



Olga Plummer Talley

### Associate Director Appointed

Recently appointed to the position of Associate Director of Early Childhood Education/Head Start, Olga Plummer Talley shifted into her new work for the Portland Public School System with the ease of the practical professional she is.

For five years Talley was Coordinator for the St. Vincent De Paul Child Development Center, with an 18 month interim period as a CDA Specialist in a state technical training office based at Portland State University.

In her new position, the vivacious and industrious Talley will be responsible for the coordination of all components of Head Start for the Portland Public School District. She has offices in the Child Services Building on North Beach Street.

A graduate of the University of

Portland with a masters from Portland State University in Learning Disabilities, Mrs Talley is the wife of Benjamin F. Talley Jr., the regional director of Adult and Family Services for the state of Oregon.

The couple have five children. Karla, age 21, is a sophomore in Agricultural Engineering at Prairie View A&M in Texas. Stephanie, a 20 year old part-time student at PSU, divides her time between studying Space Biology and working as a French-speaking overseas operator for Pacific Northwest Bell. Bonita, at 19, is a sophomore in Computer Science at Grambling University in Louisiana. Deanna, a 17 year old senior at St. Mary's Academy seems headed for Fisk University. Benjamin Talley III, aged 12, is in the 6th grade at Columbia elementary school.



### Program honoring Senior Citizens

presented by Young Adults

By Linda Thompson

"Give of your best to the Master, give him the strength of your youth." A verse of a very beautiful hymn.

The Young Adult Missionary Circle of the Allen Temple C.M.E. Church, where Rev. Thomas L. Strayhand is pastor, gave the strength of their youth by preparing a fabulous luncheon for the Senior citizens of the church and of the community, on December 15, 1979 in Fellowship Hall at the church.

The Circle, under the supervision of Mrs. Sarah Strayhand and Glendo Parks, Chairperson, is a group of young persons ranging in ages 18-35 and is a vital part of Allen Temple's Missionary Society.

The Senior citizens luncheon is an annual event.

A delicious luncheon consisting of turkey w/dressing, green beans, rolls, yams, sweet potato pie and punch, was served a program honoring the Senior citizen

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yams, sweet potato pie and punch was served. A program honoring the Senior citizens was presented by the YOUNG ADULTS WITH MANY OF THE LONG TIME MEMBERS OF Allen Temple, with Sis. Malinda Bradwell, Sis. Florish Parish, Bro. Homer Zackery and Sis. Mattie Lawson, participating.

The height of the luncheon, with Regina Green as Mistress of Ceremony, was a skit (written and produced by the circle) "never too old for Christmas."

There were Christmas caroling led by the group.

As I looked over the group of lovely and admirable Senior citizens, I saw the joy and remembrances of Christmases gone, Christmases today and Christmases of tomorrow reflected in their faces and the dedication and hard work of the Young Adult Missionary Society was worth all the strength of their youth, that they had put in the luncheon for the too often "forgotten generation."

**BENEFIT DANACE AIM** for Freedom Defense Committee is holding a benefit dance on Sat., Dec. 29th, 7:00 pm, 1819 NW Everett. Music will be performed by *Kate Sullivan & Co.*. Proceeds will go for the legal defense of American Indian Movement members Dennis Banks, Kamook Banks, Kenneth Loudhawk and Russell Redner. Refreshments and childcare provided; donation \$2.50. Call 249-0677 for more information. **NO ALCOHOL, NO DRUGS.**

### Russell Graham Jr. Tours Tokyo

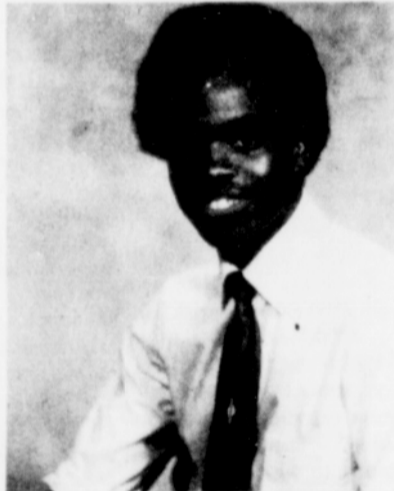
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preferably Julliard in New York, Peabody in Baltimore or even in Ohio. But honestly, I'll take any school that will have me," says Graham.

"Both my mother and father played the piano and now my brother and sister are taking lessons. For a long time I didn't like playing the violin, but now I really enjoy it. During my sophomore year in school, I wanted to play in the band. Well of course, you can't play in the band playing the violin, so I took up trumbone. Hopefully I'm getting better at it. I've gone through alot of trouble to play the trumbone. I have to go to school at Wilson to get my academics and then I have to drive over to Jefferson to play trumbone in the band."

Graham says the experience he's received playing in the Portland Junior Symphony at ages 12, 14, and now 17, has given him some unforgettable experience. He says playing in the orchestra is like playing on a basketball team. He says you have to work together.

"You can't try to outshine everyone else in the group. You'll stick out like a



sore thumb and it just throws everybody off. The Japan tour gave me some pointers about the use of my bow. Also their hospitality I can never repay. The family I stayed with, treated me like their son. I will never forget their warmth, there is no way I can ever match the feeling they gave me.

Russell Graham is the son of Dr. Alvin and Mrs. A.L. Graham.

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### The Tower of Christmas

(Continued from page 7)

the children of those who have been through the corrections system—be they corrected or full of contempt and bitterness. The do-your-own-thing attitude is an ivory statue—children are really influenced by their peers. Too young to be influenced by politics and malignant religious fantasies, they are the most perceptive members of society—blank pieces of paper only beginning to have a system of values recorded on them. Unfortunately, men and women with the power, intelligence, and means to devise ways to correct grown men do not have enough confidence in those same abilities to believe that their own children can justly influence the children of a convicted man instead of the other way around. Christmas being a time of love and good spirit, a time when Santas bring joy and children learn the bliss of giving, I hope we can instill the values that make love and giving a permanent entry on their ledgers. Let them be the example to exonerate our desire for Christmas—Christmases spent in prison until the twenty-first century when, hopefully, a solution will have obliterated crime from our lives.

Impossible, you say? I seriously

### PCC teaches African literature

(Continued from page 1)

sparked Saben's renewed interest in teaching contemporary African literature at PCC.

"I watched the Saturday morning cartoons—a white Tarzan in a Black man's world," Saben said. "This myth was being perpetuated again on my children, one of whom was born in Kenya. Then later, I saw a small white child itching to reach out and touch a Black baby on the head as though the head were forbidden fruit. I could not tolerate knowing that we are growing up with 20 million people descended from Africa and children know nothing about it."

For those who cannot attend the course, Saben suggests purchasing the books from his reading list at the Portland Community College bookstore as a beginning exposure to African literature.

The novels are: "A Bend in the River" by U.S. Naitual; "The Heart of the Matter" by Graham Greene; and "Things Fall Apart" by C. Jachebe.

The collections of prose and poetry for the course are "The African Asserlin" edited by A.J. Shelton and "A Selection of African Prose" edited by W.H. Whiteley



challenge that doubt. When the time comes that there are sufficient new prisons built to warehouse society's every threat, there will be enough guard towers for every man and woman to take their turn, enough spare time to forget their everyday problems for eight hours, and hopefully, by reading the ancient legends, the wisdom of the bards, and their own country's history, enough wisdom to know why temples must be destroyed instead of sculpturing dreams, to know what is not what it seems to be, and to know how to come up with that solution.

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