

## Starlight Cotillion

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## New star on horizon

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## Black History activities

Below



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Bill Walton, Lionel Hollins: The old times were good times

(Photo: Dan Long)

### AFS stays at center

## State rejects move

The Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods board was assured Tuesday night that the Albina office of Adult and Family Services will not be closed, but suspicions linger.

Ben Tally, regional manager for Adult and Family Services, explained that he had been asked by the state office to close one of the six offices and that he had proposed closure of the Albina office.

Tally's decision was based on geography; the Albina branch is located between the North Portland branch on Interstate and the Northeast branch on Oregon. "Logically, in my mind at least, Albina, between two other branches was the one to close. There is excellent transportation and clients would not be inconvenienced at all."

Tally's recommendation was turned down by a Human Resources Department task force mainly for two reasons:

a) The Multi-Service Center combines several agency offices for "one stop" service and if Adult and Family Services were removed the other agencies would be negatively impacted.

b) The Albina district serves approximately the same number of clients as other offices but a much smaller geographic area. Moving the branch would be moving away from rather than toward high concentrations of clients.

Answering questions regarding community involvement, Tally explained that the proposal was submitted by him to the state office and if it had been accepted, he would have gone to the community for a response before the final decision was made by the state.

Members of the community expressed concern that they knew nothing about the proposal until shortly before it went to the state and had no opportunity to express an opinion.

Feeling is very strong that the Albina office should be retained and that the integrity of the Albina Human Resource Center should be protected.

Tally assured those present that the decision to retain the Albina office is final; however, the building lease ends in 1984 and a decision will have to be made then. Keith Put-

nam, state director of Adult and Family Services, said in a letter to Representative Ed Leek (D-District 18) that the office will remain open but the size of the office is not assured.

Tally said the region is budgeted for 28,000 ADC cases and the region is already 250 over the budget limit. Depending on the budget adopted by the Legislative Session cost cuts will be necessary and he cannot now determine how they will be made.

Linda Sunday, regional director for Children's Services Division, explained that her office is beginning to plan for the 1983-1985 time period and is leaning toward consolidation of all its offices, and organizing along program lines. This would not directly affect most clients because staff members interview clients in their homes. The Albina CSD office is in the Walnut Park Building on Union.

Bob Nelson, chairman of the coalition, recommended that the coalition be alert and organized to protect the community's access to necessary programs.

## Reading Tree hosts educator

The Reading Tree, the nationally respected children's reading program held annually in Irving Park, will host a reading workshop Saturday, February 19th, for parents and interested persons.

"Sing... Spell... Read" will feature Sue Dickson, teacher and author.

A teacher in New Jersey and Virginia for 23 years, Ms. Dickson used her background and interest in music to develop a system to teach reading and spelling.

Ms. Dickson's method can be used by teachers or by parents to help their children read. It is a total Language Arts program that correlates reading, writing, phonics and spelling and requires the child's total participation.

The rate of learning is approximately three times faster than traditional methods; for example, first graders learn 1500 words while those using the sight reading

methods learn 613.

Ms. Dickson is a member of the National Reading Reform, the National Education Association, Delta Kappa Gamma honor society for women educators, the International Reading Association. She is a recipient of the George Washington Medal from Freedoms Foundations.

Ms. Dickson presents workshops in "Sing... Spell... Read" throughout the country. Her method not only makes reading easy, but it is fun.

While in Portland Ms. Dickson will address staff and teachers from the Early Childhood Education Centers, Tubman Middle School, and St. Andrews School. She will hold a public meeting at Sabin School on Thursday at 6:45 p.m.

The reading tree was established twelve years ago by Ms. Lillian Herzog and other community residents who were aware that community children were not being taught

to read in the public schools. The program holds six-week sessions each summer in Irving Park to encourage children to read and to enjoy reading.

The Reading Tree workshop will be held February 19th at 8:30 a.m. at Cascade Center, Portland Community College, in the Cafeteria. The public is invited. A \$3 registration will assist the Reading Tree program.

**The Northeast Coalition of Neighborhood Associations will sponsor a workshop on Land Use and Economic Development on Saturday, Feb. 26th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The workshop, which is free, will be presented by Sumner Sharp of Cogan & Associates. To register call 248-4675.**

### Black History

The Urban League of Portland will host its Annual Open House on Friday, Feb. 18, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. The three Northeast offices—YSC, 4815 N.E. 7th; SASC, 4128 N.E. Union; CSA, 5329 N.E. Union—will be providing refreshments and cultural exhibits as well as information on the numerous services provided.

History of the Senior Center as well as other Black History information will be the focus of the Senior Center.

The public is invited to visit all offices, learn about the Urban League, enjoy the refreshments and add to their information about the positive impact black Americans have had on history.

The National Council of Negro Women, Tri-County Section, currently in application for charter, will celebrate Black History Week at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church on Feb. 19, 1983, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Speakers will include: Ron Herndon, co-chairman, Black United Front; Geneva Jones, PP&L Community Services; Harold Williams, Labor Relations Manager for the State of Oregon; Pearl S. Gray, Director of Affirmative Action for Oregon State University. Mt. Olivet Baptist Church is located at 116 N.E. Schuyler. The event is free and open to the public.

The Oregon Association of Colored Women's Clubs will hold its annual Black History Program on Sunday, February 20 from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. at the Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 N.E. Knott Street.

The program theme, "Connecting the Past with the Present," will be presented through four program sections of music, drama and poetry reflecting black faith, hope struggle and national loyalty using the songs "The Negro National Anthem," "Swing Low Sweet Chariot," "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," and "We Shall Overcome."

## Hillcrest closure hit

*Grassroot News, N.W.*—Representatives from the Children's Services Division met with a storm of criticism from the community as they presented their proposal to phase out three cottages a MacLaren School for Boys and close Hillcrest School for Girls.

One resident stated, "My concerns are that North/Northeast Portland is becoming a dumping ground for problem populations of all types. For example, with Mental Health we were promised funds to support the mentally handicapped's return to the community. This did not happen. I would like some assurance that the money is going to follow."

Paul Backus, Director of the Yan Youth Home, sees the proposal as increasing minority youth in institutions rather than decreasing it. "There will be fewer kids locked up in close custody but the percentage of minorities will go up because funds for this project are not targeted for services to black kids."

Janice Barnett from "Options," a program that currently keeps young girls from commitment to the State's training schools, voiced her concerns: "My concerns are for what is available in the community if we are turning away from Hillcrest. If you want to keep young girls out of a training school you have to have all kinds of services in the community to meet their needs. Our notion of a foster or group home is not always appropriate for the kinds of girls we deal with—girls who have a long runaway record, because they were victims of sexual abuse. Some are sexually active so they are not appropriate for placement in your typical foster home. They are not the kind of kids that need to be in a home but they need to learn how to live independently. There is no program that meets this need. Another problem is babysitting. Many of these so-called hard-to-place girls have children. Still another problem is with girls who

were involved in prostitution. When we try to make that transition from the streets to a legitimate job there are no jobs available to help them. These are some of the needs that have to be met before you close down a facility. If resources are not available for young white women in this state, there are even fewer available for young black women. You limit yourself to Portland in terms of placement. And in Portland there are no facilities to deal with young black women."

A foster parent stated, "The Northeast community is hard pressed to truthfully say that CSD is interested in protecting black children. CSD administrators have indicated to this community that it is hard to find black families who are willing to open their homes to black children as an alternative to institutionalization. This is in direct conflict with the black tradition which opens our home to anyone in need. I know CSD contentions are not true. CSD is unable to maintain a positive relationship with the black community."

Freddye Pettet, Executive Director of the Urban League, says the community should assess the level of commitment the Children's Services Division has to black youth in this community. "CSD must be committed to this community's developing and operating all programs implemented for our young people. We have witnessed a decline in services that are designed to train and rehabilitate the community's youth. The absence of transitional facilities for young people leaving these institutions and CSD's support for the lowering of the remand age to 14 makes this proposal unworkable."

Circuit Judge M. Deiz added, "The state is listening to hard-nosed human beings. They are insisting that our kids be remanded to the adult system and tried as adults. The reason Oregon has the third highest commitment rate in the country is (Please turn to page 3 col. 3)



Governor Victor Atiyeh demonstrates proper mixing technique while baking a chocolate pecan pie at the Gourmet Galas. Other celebrity cooks

were Edith and Stephen Minde (director of the Portland Opera). Geneva Jones was a judge. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)