

City supports disinvestment

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Kafoury, Panaretos join School Board; Buel loses



Alma Gordon, a regular patron of the Albina Branch library, signs a petition protesting possible closure of branches as Mary Avery watches. Demonstrations and petition signing took place at

the main library and branches throughout the county as the libraries remained closed the week of March 28th.

(Photo: Richard Brown)

Patrons protest library closure

Grassroot News, N.W.—The public libraries find themselves in a budget crisis and smaller branches like the Albina Branch face possible closure. Barbara Gorter, librarian from the Albina Branch explains: "The County Commissioners requested that the Library Board submit a budget with a cut of 26 percent to go into effect in July. The smaller branches are the most vulnerable. Albina is not going to be closed as of yet. The Commissioners will have a hearing April 18, at 3:00 p.m. at the Court House. We urge the community to come out during this time and testify in behalf of smaller branches like Albina."

To awaken the public to this crisis and save money all the libraries in the Multnomah County system were closed during the week of March 28-April 2. They expected County employees to follow suit but this did not happen.

Bobbi Jackson, clerk-librarian for over five years at Albina Branch, explained what the closure of the branch would mean to the black community. "The Albina Branch is first and foremost a chil-

dren's library. They are the ones who will suffer. We are a place where they come for movies, to do their homework and read books. If we were closed the next closest branch is North Portland and not everyone has a car. Not everyone has bus fare."

Freddie Pettet, executive director of the Portland Urban League, assessed the social impact of closure of the Albina Branch: "It means a loss of services for young people and for our seniors, also for people who have no place to go. It is a loss of resources for people who live in North Portland. I think it is appalling that the County is looking at closing libraries in the inner city community where libraries are one of the few remaining things that are available to people with little or no income."

Ms. Pettet was not surprised to learn that the Albina Branch was the only library in the public library system in a rented building. "It is typical of how our community is treated by the overall structure of the local governments. Logic would dictate the County moving to close the Al-

bina Branch first. At this point the community should get involved with some sort of protest process and not allow the Albina Branch to be closed."

Dorothy Alexander, from the Friends of the Multnomah County Library, is part of a campaign spearheaded to counteract the budget crisis faced by the public library. "We are trying to make people aware of the budget crunch and the impact it has on library services. We are also looking at alternative ways for funding the library."

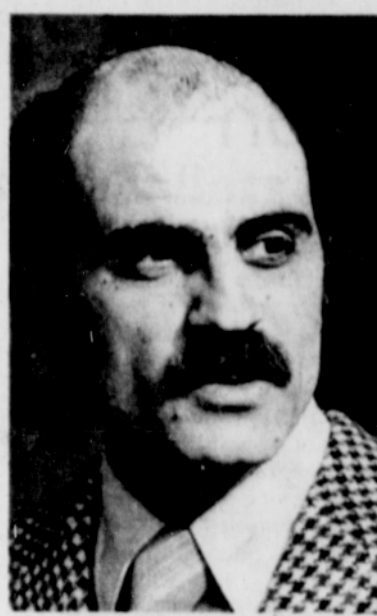
The local grapevine says the reason why the library system finds itself so vulnerable is the lack of aggressiveness displayed by the head librarian, Jim Burghardt. Mrs. Alexander doesn't agree with this observation. "It is far more complex than that. Jim might have some problems in being aggressive but there is only a certain amount he can do when his budget is controlled by the County Commissioners."

Margret Behe, Vice-President of Friends of the Library, calls the possible closure of some branches "sinful." "It is sinful that the libraries have to close down for a week."

Former state Senator Steve Kafoury defeated eight other candidates to win election to the Portland School Board, the seat recently vacated by Frank McNamara. Kafoury, a former Jefferson High School and Albina Youth Opportunity School teacher, was sworn in to office during the Wednesday, May 30th, meeting.

Defeated was Steve Buel, one of the two remaining members of the Board coalition that rewrote the District's desegregation policy and terminated former superintendent Robert Blanchard. An elementary school teacher, Buel's main emphasis was upgrading of teaching and issues that relate directly to the classroom. Buel joined with Board members Herb Cawthorne, Wally Priestley and Sarah Newhall to steer the Black United Front's proposals for educational equity through months of heated debate.

Buel was defeated by Basil "Bill" Panaretos. Panaretos, who campaigned on "competence," was senior vice-president of the Columbia Pacific Bank which folded two weeks ago. Panaretos was chairman of the School Closure Committee which recommended closure of Adams and Washington High Schools and suggested closure of Jackson High School.



STEPHEN KAFOURY

Kafoury, who represented Northeast Portland in both the House of Representatives and the State Senate, left his Senate seat for an unsuccessful bid for the City Council opposing Frank Ivancie. Kafoury has long been identified with liberal and urban issues. His wife, Marjory, is a member of the Metropolitan Service District Board.

Kafoury drew 27 percent of the vote.

Runner-ups in this race were Ross Dey, a Northwest Portland property manager with 20 percent, and Frank Shields, a Southeast Portland minister, with 18 percent. Clyde Brummel drew 10.7 percent and Sam Weiss 10 percent.

William Scott easily won reelection over evangelist Jack Reynolds and developer James Standing. Forrest Joe Rieke retained his position with an easy win over mother of eight, Violet Reck.

In Education Service District balloting, Howard Cherry returned his North/Northeast position. Pat Dooling took the Westside seat. John Sweeney was unopposed to retain his at-large position.

Multnomah County's voter turnout was 9.5 percent, with 9.3 percent from City of Portland residents, the lowest in recent history.

Portland voters so narrowly passed a measure requiring new employees to live in the City that the final result will be told by the absentee ballots. This is a rerun of a Charter Amendment adopted by the November 2nd election that required all City employees to live within the city limits, but exempted current employees. The Amendment required that if employees were to move, it would have to be within the city.

MHRC challenges business leaders

The Metropolitan Human Relations Commission today challenged the Portland business leadership to initiate programs to deal with the 66 percent unemployment rate of minority youth. A continuing and worsening problem, not resulting directly from the current recession, employment of minority youth in meaningful careers requires a commitment and investment by employers.

Armando LaGuardia, MHRC chairman, said the business community must accept the fact that much minority unemployment is the result of two factors: stereotyping minority youth as poor employees at "high risk," and discrimination.

Minority youth unemployment in the Portland area is so severe that it warrants immediate concern and attention, a Metropolitan Human Relations Commission study states. Comprehensive programs beyond those that are provided through the Human Resource Bureau's Youth Training and Employment Division must be established.

The unemployment rate of

minority youth between the ages of 16 and 19 in the Portland Metropolitan area is 66.4 percent compared to the overall rate of 27.4 for young people in that age range.

Approximately 4,000 of the 6,000 minority young people are unemployed.

In past years the majority of employment opportunities for minority youth have been provided by the City's CETA program. Seventy percent of all City CETA summer jobs were filled by minorities during the past two summers.

The funding level of City CETA programs has dropped from \$28 million five years ago to \$5.8 million for fiscal year 1982-83.

Last year City and County employment programs employed 1,679 minority young people of the 4,000 who needed jobs. This summer the City anticipates serving 1,300 youth; Multnomah-Washington Employment and Training will serve 120 minority youth; and the Multnomah County program has not yet been approved.

To meet the employment needs of (Please turn to page 8 column 1)



KATHLEEN BEAUFAIT

Kathleen Beaufait, Chief Counsel for the State Legislative Council, will present an overview of the legislature and how a bill becomes law at the North-Northeast Citizen Advocacy Workshop April 9th at PCC Cascade campus.

Beaufait holds a degree in law from the University of Chicago and has been a part time professor on Legislative drafting and lobbying at both Northwestern College of Law and Willamette University Law School.

Prior to becoming Chief Counsel to the State Legislative Council, Beaufait served nine years as Deputy Counsel to that body.

She is respected as possibly the most knowledgeable person in the state on the Legislative bill legal process and has been described as possibly the best public speaker in the state on this subject.

Beaufait is past president of the Salem City Club, is a member of the YMCA Youth in Government Advisory Committee and serves on various committees of the Oregon State Bar.

Black Caucus accepts peaceful demise of budget

The Congressional Black Caucus, with a 17-4 vote, allowed itself to be co-opted by the Democratic leadership of the House of Representatives.

On March 16th, CBC Chairman Julian Dixon introduced the CBC's alternative budget, which calls for massive cuts in the military budget and sets jobs as the national priority.

Less than a week later Dixon and other Caucus members agreed to a rule that prevented the CBC budget from being offered as an amendment to the Democratic leadership's budget, called the "Jones Budget" after the man who designed it, Rep. James Jones (D-Oklahoma). This prevented a vote on the CBC budget

and in return the CBC was allotted one hour to discuss their budget.

The rule also prevented introduction of Reagan's budget, a budget by conservative Democrats, and one by Republicans, restricting the budget debate and vote to the Jones budget.

Last session the CBC alternative budget received 87 votes and the large number of new Congressmen and the deepening depression caused proponents to expect a larger vote this year.

"We've been co-opted by the Democratic leadership in the most demeaning circumstances I've ever experienced in my life," Rep. John Conyers of New York said.

During the discussion period March 22nd, Rep. Gus Savage III

(D-Illinois) assailed the House leadership. We were "gagged to a mere mumble of protest because we believe the nation can solve its problems." Time was set aside for "colored members to talk a little," but the voting was limited to a choice "that makes full employment impossible."

"We have been disrespected" by the Democratic leadership, he said. While Democrats are refusing to elect black Democrats—e.g., Washington, Bradley—so black Democrats are turning in frustration to a black presidential candidate. It is disrespectful for the party leaders to suggest that the CBC refrain from complete discussion in return for acceptance. "Don't we understand

that acceptance is disguise that feeds disrespect?"

Conyers disagreed with those who labeled the Jones budget as "liberal" and who pointed to its similarities to the CBC budget. "The Democratic leadership is not liberal; the author [Jones] is not liberal; the budget is not liberal. That is why the CBC wrote a budget."

The CBC budget creates twice as many jobs as the Jones budget, includes money for conversion of industry from military to civilian work, and supports community/city renewal.

Rep. Clarence Mitchell, Jr. (D-Maryland) said he will vote for the Jones Budget because it gives "some attention to the hurt, pain, and suf-

fering" through employment and housing funds. It also funds direct loans for small business (eliminated in the Reagan budget). He also maintained that the CBC worked closely with the Budget Committee and many of its concerns were incorporated into the Jones budget.

Rep. Carl Stokes of Ohio said the brightest and best hope to meet the moral test of government was the CBC budget—it was superior in every way: full funding for one million new jobs; economic stimulation that would lower interest rates; decrease in military budget; investment in people. "It is a blueprint for economic recovery."

Rep. Major Owens of New York (Please turn to page 14 column 1)