

# METROPOLITAN



Fred Milton of Portland addresses workshop on building community coalitions.



Jim Gardner, candidate for nomination to Secretary of State (right), talks with State Chairman Dick Celsi.

## State Democrats support 'sales tax ban'

**SEASIDE** — The Democratic Party of Oregon State Central Committee meeting Sunday, Sept. 11 adopted a resolution calling for a Homestead Property Tax Exemption and Sales Tax Ban initiative petition in the event the special legislative session fails to propose a property tax relief plan. The sponsors of the resolution were Dave McTeague, Democratic National Committeeperson and Sen. Walt Brown, both of Milwaukie.

The resolution is as follows: "In accordance with existing and adopted Democratic Party of Oregon Legislative Priorities, we ask the Democratic members of the Legislative Revenue Committees to introduce a proposed constitutional amendment establishing a Home-

stead Property Tax Exemption funded by income tax reforms, based on the Hendrickson/Hostica concept, and prohibiting a general sales tax to finance any state expenditures.

Further, we ask the Democratic members of the Oregon Legislature to reject any proposal for a state sales tax in accordance with existing and adopted Democratic Party of Oregon Legislative Priorities. Instead, we urge our Democratic Legislators to vigorously support the Homestead Property Tax Exemption as the best solution for much-needed property tax relief for Oregonians.

Further be it resolved, that in the event the Legislature fails to present and adopt a property tax relief plan

(excluding, of course, the sales tax), the Democratic Party of Oregon agrees to cosponsor a Homestead Property Tax Exemption and Sales Tax Ban initiative petition in conjunction with organized labor, Oregon State Tenants Assn., the United Seniors, Gray Panthers, Oregon State Grange, Oregon Farmers Union, and other progressive organizations that support the Homestead Exemption and oppose the sales tax."

The Homestead Property Tax Exemption proposal being considered calls for a \$20,000 exemption on homeowner occupied homes with equivalent renters relief. As Sen. Margie Hendrickson pointed out during the Central Committee debate, her income tax reform propos-

al funding mechanism could actually reduce income taxes for two-thirds of Oregonians by recapturing funds from the Reagan administration's upper income tax breaks.

In a preferential poll of potential candidates for president, Walter Mondale was first with 75, followed by John Glenn with 50. Jesse Jackson was in the middle of the pack with 10.

## Spellman receives NBL award

Washington Governor John Spellman was presented the highest recognition awarded by the National Business League, a minority business and economic development group formed in 1900 by Booker T. Washington.

The NBL's "J.C. Napier Government Man of the Year Award" was presented to the governor in recognition of his sponsorship and implementation of the state's new Minority and Women's Business Enterprise Office.

The J.C. Napier Award is the League's highest award for a government official.

Governor Spellman drafted and requested a bill in the last session of the Legislature that created the new

state MWBE office, which enforces the law's provisions requiring a share of state goods and services contracts be awarded to women or minority businesses.

In remarks preceding the presentation of the award, the governor

noted that the largest state contract to have been awarded since the passing of the law and the creation of the office (Clallam Bay Prison) was granted to "the only firm that met the new MWBE requirements."

He also had special praise for MWBE Office Director Carolyn V. Patton for her "speedy and effective action" in implementing the new law in time for the Clallam Bay project. Director Patton reports directly to the governor.

## Barbering option for mother

by Nathaniel Scott

Edwina Arceneaux, the mother of two boys, ages 15 and nine, became the second Black woman to graduate from Moler Barber College in the past 20 years, manager/owner Gordon Scarbrough said. Moler Barber College, 515 SW Third Avenue, is the only barber college in Portland.

The college opened in 1910, he said. The original site was on Burnside. But in 1955, they moved to their present location.

After attending the college in 1954, Scarbrough returned some four years ago and bought the business. "I came back to haunt myself," he said, with a wide grin.

Scarbrough contends there has always been a demand for Moler students. Adding that even during this recession/depression, Moler's ninth-month classroom and floor-work program has been placing students in professional positions. Nevertheless, he pointed out, acquiring a barbering position upon graduation, is not a guarantee. "We place graduates, but we can't guarantee a job to anybody," he said. "We have always had jobs to send our people out on."

The cost of the nine-month program, including tools, is \$2,650, Scarbrough said. They teach everything related to barbering except manicuring and facials.

Their clientele, he said, include diamond brokers, attorneys, doctors, and at least two Black men who have been coming in for 50 years plus. The price of a haircut, in these highly inflated times, is \$3. A style cut, including a wash and blow dry, is \$6.

The student gets a well-rounded education in hair care, he said, adding that Arceneaux was one of the finest people to ever graduate



STYLISH TRIM — Edwina Arceneaux gives a stylish trim to Winford Strickland, one of Moler Barber College's regular customers. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

from Moler. She, too, was excited about her graduation, claiming, "the experience was exciting" and vowing to continue learning... and "better myself."

Arceneaux, who plans to begin her new career at Whips & Waves (1314 NE Dekum) on September 15, brings to the world of barberism, wit, charm, and a desire to learn.

"I like men and money, that's why I chose to be a barber," is how she explained her interest in shears and scissors.

"I am not into soap operas. Maybe a little gossip; but no soap," is what forced her to seek employment to fill the void of loneliness.

"I am a barber stylist," she claims, noting that "every Black person has a different texture of hair." Adding that the main difference between a Black person's hair

and a white person's hair is, "Black people's hair is curly and whites have straight hair."

"I like to work with people; especially Black people," she said. "You learn something every day." Adding with the ghost of a smile: "Each person has a different story to tell." Which is a fitting introduction to another story, one that was narrated by Gordon Scarbrough:

"Years ago, when we sent out our laundry, the bundles would be returned wrapped in paper and tied with string. Someone (at Moler) started saving the string; rolling and wrapping the pieces into a ball." Over the course of years, "Believe it or Not" said the ball grew to an estimated 2,000 pounds and measures approximately 60 miles. Believe it or not, the ball of string hangs in the window of Moler's Barber College.

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