

Linda leaves
Portland

Page 8

Racist
violence

Page 4



U of O
profile

Page 14

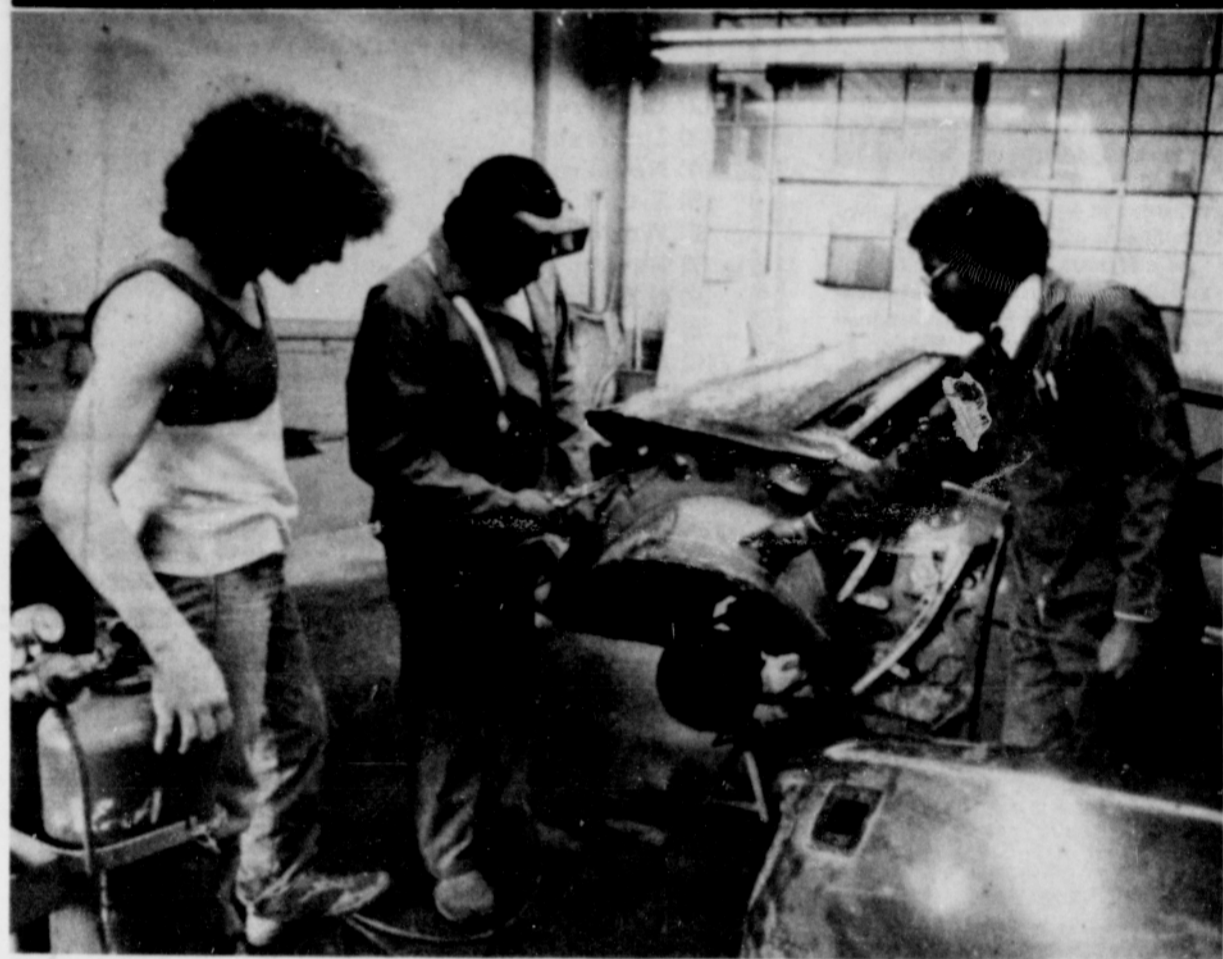


THE NEW PORTLAND OBSERVER

Volume XIII, Number 51
October 5, 1983
25¢ Per Copy

USPS 959-680-855

© Exie Publishing Co., Inc. 1983



Eddie Newingham, Nural Willis Jr., and teacher William P. Floyd work on auto body repair at the Portland Opportunities Industrial Center. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Body shop trains youth

by Lanita Duke

Grassroot News, N.W.—The true definition of On the Job Training is functionally being carried out at Portland Opportunities Industrial Center's auto-body shop.

Instructor William P. Floyd stated, "Our purpose is to provide people in the community the opportunity to learn a different skill. Within this program we teach them the basic fundamentals of auto-body repair and refinishing. We touch ground on painting and every other skill in the trade."

The students are first accepted into the regular POIC program. Once accepted, CETA funds their presence at the auto-body school. When 26 weeks pass, Floyd said, "We have a job placement program

and we have worked with individuals around the neighborhood who hire our students." Within the last 5½ months Floyd has graduated four students. "Two of our students are presently gathering funds to open up their own shop."

Floyd stated that the key to POIC's body shop is care and patience. "We are not in the market to get the money."

"We have quite a few satisfied customers. They have turned us on to their friends." He also said he believed their prices to be competitive. "At least ten dollars an hour less than the other auto-body shops. However, we make sure the car owners understand that we take our time."

POIC's body shop provides services the same as any other auto

body shop. "We straighten and repair dents. Also we perform complete paint jobs, pen-stripes and detail work. We try to touch ground on everything within the trade."

Floyd has always tinkered with cars. A graduate from Benson High and the 18-month program at Portland Community College's auto-body and refinishing program, prior to POIC he worked for various commercial shops and a Ford dealer. "It started as a hobby for me and I just stayed with it. I will always enjoy working on cars. It's great to see it come in a wreck and leave looking like new."

The auto body shop will accept cars in need of surface repair as long as the public understands that students will work on them. The address is 5225 N.E. Union.

Eliot neighborhood opposes housing plan

The Eliot Neighborhood Improvement Association voted 36-5 to continue its fight against the development of a 30-unit housing project for the handicapped in the Eliot neighborhood. It will appeal the recommendation of a City hearings officer to re-zone the block to allow construction of the project.

City hearing officer Paul Norr, following two public hearings, designated the lots which St. Vincent de Paul plans to develop as R-2 development—which includes houses, court-style apartments or rowhouses—and attached a covenant that allows development for handicapped or senior housing. The property is now zoned I-2.5, which is for houses or rowhouses. St. Vincent de Paul, on behalf of itself and Bethel AME Church, had requested R-1 medium-density apartment zoning for the entire area in question.

The meeting, the first called since the issue was raised two months ago, was attended by approximately 50 persons. Sprinkled among the young, apparently middle class whites who are relatively new to the neighborhood, were residents of the Unthank senior citizen housing project where the meeting was held. Absent were the Black residents of the community—only four Blacks being present.

This absence was explained by one Black woman who said she received her meeting notice in the mail that day and not previously heard about the dispute. A man said he had read about the meeting in *The Oregonian* and called that newspaper to ask where the meeting was to be held. You don't need notices, he said. "Every homeowner in the neighborhood gets a paper, or can get a paper."

Phil Conti, member of the Land Use Committee, explained that the neighborhood position was to retain housing and that this block (aside from the frontage on Union) is

zoned for row housing. To zone the property for the 30 units for St. Vincent de Paul Society's handicapped housing and for the possible later building of 30 senior citizen units by Bethel A.M.E. Church, would increase density and preclude using the property for owner-occupied housing.

Conti said the reason for the meeting was that the Land Use Committee is not really representative of the community and it had a responsibility to inform the community residents.

Bob Russell, a member of the Land Use Committee, said the issue was not the need for handicapped housing (the City says 4,000 units are needed) or the fine reputation of St. Vincent de Paul. The issue is the concentration of subsidized (low-income) housing and the preservation of land for home ownership. Eliot neighborhood has 20 percent subsidized housing and this project would bring it to 24 percent, he explained. This is not appropriate, based on the City's policy to "avoid concentration" and "this was the time to say stop." Eliot is a "good diverse neighborhood," and "putting in certain types of projects will destroy that diversity."

Gordon Shields, volunteer for St. Vincent de Paul, said the agency operates a training center for 150 to 180 handicapped persons on Union and Alberta. In May of 1982 they applied to HUD for funds to build residences. They now plan to build 30 units on five lots, three on Knott (two blocks west of 7th Avenue) and two on Russell (3 lots west of 7th Avenue). There would be 3 2-bedroom units, 3 studio apartments and 24 one-bedrooms units. Residents would be handicapped persons who are capable of independent living, most of whom would be trainees or employed graduates of the training centers. This site would give easy access to the training center, to transportation, and to work sites.

St. Vincent de Paul contacted the immediate neighbors—on Knott, Russell and 7th Avenue—and of 31 contacts they received 30 positive responses.

Prefaced with such statements as "I have nothing against handicapped housing or elderly housing," "There's no question about the good work St. Vincent de Paul is doing," "It's nothing against St. Vincent and Bethel - uh - uh - uh - AME Church—the issue is land use," the discussion continued.

Ollie Smith said his biggest concern is the increase in crime across the country and in Eliot. The proposal would place handicapped and elderly at the mercy of "the dudes shooting heroin, sniffing cocaine, gambling all day," on 7th Avenue, "making them vulnerable to the vultures." He spoke against apartments or another set of row houses. "We don't want to end up like Chicago or New York in the future."

A woman said it "is important to look at it in terms of a higher problem—the land use problem." Smith added, "If the zone is changed for this facility, the City Hall bureaucrats will get with developers and make changes for individuals."

A recent "transplant from Chicago" said the South Shore of Chicago is a good example of concentration of subsidized housing. "We don't want to see concentration. . . ." Another added, "There's so much in the neighborhood now, we're losing the neighborhood."

Everyone was not against the project. Fr. Chuck Lienert of Immaculate Heart Church said he had discussed the issue with his parishioners: "I talked to old-time residents, Black and white, and found consistently that people say we need people in our neighborhood."

Jim Howell tried unsuccessfully to get precise information about how the zone change would affect density. He reminded the Land Use (Please turn to page 4 column 4)

Soviets propose nuclear freeze

The Soviet Union called on the United Nations to adopt a resolution condemning nuclear war as "the most hideous crime against mankind," and called for a nuclear freeze. Chief of the U.S.S.R.'s delegation to the United Nations Oleg A. Troyanovsky also accused the U.S. of "war hysteria" and questioned the advisability of the U.N.—an organization dedicated to peace—having its headquarters remain in the United States.

The freeze proposal came in a letter from Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, read to the General Assembly by Troyanovsky Tuesday. Gromyko declined to appear at the U.N. when he was barred from landing at civilian airports in New York and New Jersey.

"Our proposal is to cease, under effective verification, the buildup of all components of nuclear arsenals," Troyanovsky said, "including all kinds of both delivery vehicles and weapons, to renounce the deployment of new kinds and types of such arms, to establish a moratorium on all tests of nuclear weapons and of new kinds and types of delivery vehicles, and to stop the produc-

tion of fissionable material for the purpose of creating arms."

Gromyko's letter said the Soviets "consider it possible for the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.A. to be the first to implement it on a bilateral basis by way of example to other nuclear powers."

Troyanovsky said, "The implementation of that initiative would markedly raise the degree of trust among the nuclear weapon countries and would make it possible to move decisively toward breaking the vicious cycle of the arms race. Moreover, this would also promote the reduction and, eventually, complete elimination of nuclear weapons."

He condemned U.S. plans to develop MX and Midgetman intercontinental missile, the B-1 bomber and the neutron bomb. He accused Washington of engaging in a policy that "runs counter to the age-old yearnings for a peaceful life. . . and is at variance with the interests of the peace-loving majority of states."

He charged that the U.S. wants military superiority while the U.S.S.R. wants to maintain a rough parity between the two sides.

President Ronald Reagan an-

nounced his latest position Tuesday—the "build down" option that originated in Congress. Reagan's plan would require that two missile warheads would have to be destroyed for every one produced, and three submarine-launched warheads

King bill progresses to vote

Ronald Reagan has indicated for the first time that he would not veto a bill to make Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, birthday a national holiday.

Senator Jesse Helms threatened a filibuster against the bill on Monday. Among other charges Helms leveled at King was that he followed a philosophy of "action-oriented Marxism" that is "not compatible with the concepts of this country." Helms also charged that "I think his whole movement included Communists at the highest possible levels."

Senator Edward Kennedy, in an angry exchange with Helms, accused him of using "Red smear" tactics to defeat the bill.

The bill will receive support for Republican Senators who fear opposition to the King holiday, which has strong support of Black voters,

eliminated for every two new ones produced.

"Let me emphasize," Reagan said in a Rose Garden ceremony, "that the United States has gone the extra mile. Everything is on the table."

King bill progresses to vote

will hurt their party in the coming elections. Seventeen Republicans are up for re-election. In addition to persuading Reagan to agree to sign the bill, Senate Minority Leader Howard H. Baker, Jr., personally introduced the bill and pledged to help break the filibuster.

The bill, already adopted by the House, 338-90, would make the third Monday in January a national holiday effective in 1986.

"He's been out of step for many years," Rep. Robert Garcia (D-N.Y.) shouted during the debate. "His filibuster will go down to defeat in spite of Jesse Helms; we will have a national holiday." On Tuesday, Helms suddenly dropped his filibuster threat, agreeing to a debate and vote on October 18th and 19th.



Commissioner Charles Jordan greets an admirer—Krundu Adair—who was with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Donny Adair, at Jordan's birthday party. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)