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Why people vote



The other Nicaragua



Is Jim Brown back?

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DR. BARRY COMMONER

Daughtry, Commoner rally here

Reverend Herbert Daughtry, chairman at the National Black United Front, and Barry Commoner, nationally known environmentalist and 1980 Citizens Party presidential candidate will share the stage Monday night on behalf of the presidential campaign of Jesse Jackson. The two will speak on "Peace, Justice and Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition at a rally at 7:30 p.m. at the Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, 3138 N. Vancouver Avenue. Commoner and Daughtry are both members of the national Jackson campaign steering commit-

Rev. Daughtry was a major force in the creation in Brooklyn of the Coalition of Leaders and Concerned Citizens to Save Our Youth. This organization was instrumental in using the weapon of the economic boycott to win jobs and services for Blacks from downtown merchants. It also succeeded in establishing the

Randolph Evens Scholarship Fund in memory of the innocent youth slain by a New York City policeman. When community leader Arthur Miller died at the hands of the New York City police and ethnic tensions in Brooklyn's Crown Heights section, Rev. Daughtry led the community response by forming the Black United Front.

Rev. Daughtry was a keynote speaker at the Citizens Party 1982 Convention in New York City. The Black United Front and the Citizens Party—both founded at about the same time—have always enjoyed good relations, with Barry Commoner and Rev. Daughtry often on the same platform together.

Commoner is on a tour of several Oregon cities speaking about Jackson's candidacy and the opportunities for political and economic change the Rainbow Coalition presents for environmentalists, minorities, the poor and other

disenfranchised groups.

"Jesse Jackson offers a choice for the millions of disenchanted voters in America who went fishing in 1980 rather than settle once again for the lesser of evils we've become all too used to," Commoner said. "He is pointing out to us the tragic consequences of three years of Ronald Reagan—environmental degradation; undermining of civil and human rights; widespread unemployment; and a bungled foreign policy that has brought us to the brink of nuclear war."

"He offers American voters a real alternative to the 'sad six' Democratic presidential candidates."

Commoner's Portland appearance is being sponsored by the Portland Citizens Party and the Jesse Jackson for President Committee.

Commoner will also speak at 4:30 p.m., Monday, February 13th at Reed College's Eliott Hall.

Who gets PDC funds?

by Chuck Goodmacher

Over the past three weeks, the Portland Observer has followed public economic development efforts with an eye to their impact on the businesses and residents of inner-Northeast Portland. Last week, the Observer looked at recent efforts of the Portland Development Commission in the area.

Shining new stores standing amidst vacant lots and deteriorating buildings can now be spotted throughout inner-Northeast Porland.

For some, the new and renovated buildings are concrete evidence of the meaningful economic progress being made in the area. For others, the buildings highlight how private and government sponsored development efforts continue to leave the vast majority of community residents on the sidelines.

Since the Portland City Council approved the Northeast Economic Development Plan in late 1981, several businesses have received low-interest loans and other forms of direct assistance. The impact of these capital improvement loans are obvious: Union Square Mall occupies what was a vacant building; McCoy Plumbing has a beautiful new showroom and office; and, a few others have prospered too.

According to Steve Peterson of the Portland Development Commission(PDC)the significance of these business improvement projects looms larger than the few new jobs created. Rather, Peterson says, they're also important for creating a positive image to enhance further private investment in the area.

These prosperous businesses are proof positive of the area's potential. Jewell Glass Company, for instance, does 85 percent of its business beyond a two-mile radius from their location on Union Ave. and says its location has never hurt business. Convenience Food Mart, located in the Union Square Mall is doing a booming business and may soon be open 24 hours.

Only a scattered few of the businesses on Union are owned by Blacks and some say these established small businesses may actually be hurt by PDC's efforts. "We can see improvement," said Joe Reese of Reese's Oil, "but it sure ain't for the people who've

been here." Reese notes the assistance given to new general retail stores which are hurting the older existing ones. Bitterness about the negative impact of the Union Avenue "corridor" project lingers on throughout the community.

Social service agencies in the area say the PDC projects haven't alleviated any of the need for their services. Joyce Owens-Smith, Vice-President of the Urban League, says, "there has been no visible impact from PDC activities on demand for services."

Several other social service agencies and workers repeated this observation.

While many community residents share a distrust for PDC based on past experiences and feel there is a long way to go, a few are optimistic about possible improvements.

Several community members serving on the Northeast Economic Development Task Force(NEED), complain about insufficient cooperation from PDC in the past but believe this may be changing. Several community residents commended Warner Wong, current PDC staff member, for being helpful within the constraints set by PDC policy.

NEED has now established a firm base of committed members representing diverse interests in the community and will soon submit a report to City Council. NEED does not, however, receive copies of regular bi-monthly "Project Status Reports" PDC sends to the City Council. Nor does it receive information on projects being reviewed for assistance by PDC and often, isn't even told of decisions on these matters. Reports on a City Bureau Task Force created to coordinate City Bureau projects in the area are also not provided NEED.

NEED members say this should be changed immediately. Linda Johnson, NEED representative from The Crib and the Black United Front, says the PDC should provide additional staff to routinely make available more information. "We don't know what they're doing and we don't have the time to do all the research," said Johnson. O.B.Hill, Chairman of NEED says, "ideally, the task force would have our own staff" and not depend solely on PDC. "Any advocacy group," Hill continued, "is only as good as the information it receives.'

Jobs for neighborhood residents is the number-one priority among NEED members contacted by the Observer. Several NEED members criticized the absence of a jobs program specifically for neighborhood residents. The vast majority of new jobs in the area go

(please turn to page 4, column 1)

Millner charges libel

On October 7, 1983, Dr. Darrell M. Millner, Director of Black Studies at Portland State University, filed a libel suit against professor Susan C. Karant-Nunn, a history professor at Portland State University, on the basis of an article published in the Oregonian on July 28, 1983, in which professor Karant-Nunn accused Dr. Millner, as well as Asa Hilliard, a nationally known educational consultant on matters of ethnic studies, of "falsification of the past" regarding their recommendations on multicultural education under consideration by the Portland Public School District.

Dr. Millner seeks \$100,000 in the action for damages to his professional reputation.

On January 25, 1984, Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge John J. Murchison denied professor Karant-Nunn's motion to dismiss the suit.



DARRELL MILLNER

Counsel for Dr. Millner successfully argued that the statements made by professor Karant-Nunn were injurious and capable of a defamatory

meaning due to their false nature.

Trial in the matter is expected sometime late this summer.

CBC challenges Reagan

The 21-member Congressional Black Caucus Charged that President Reagan's State of the Union Address and his 1985 budget ignore the big problems facing America in 1984—unemployment and the growth of poverty in the United States. Five million Americans have been added to the ranks of the poor in the past three years.

"Today, more than one in three Black Americans lives below the poverty level, yet his administration and its many blue ribbon commissions seemingly can find no hunger in the soup kitchens nor dispair among the long lines of jobless."

Responding to the \$180 billion budget deficits created by his program of increased military spending and tax breaks for the well-todo, the CBC statement said, "The President now proposes that Congress grant him line-item veto authority."

Roughly 58 percent of the budget is beyond the reach of this proposed legislative veto: 58 percent of the budget is comprised of entitlement programs and interest on the federal debt; 28.5 percent is military spending which is obligated through multi-year contracting. Hence, there is 15 percent of the federal budget which encompasses all discretionary domestic spending.

Therefore, the only area Reagon is likely to use the line-item veto on is on programs that help the poor, such as legal services, WIC, Head-

start and federal housing assistance. The CBC opposes this veto power.

The Reagan budget offers little hope that circumstances will change for minorities and the poor, the CBC said. "It is a discouraging message that domestic needs will remain unmet in order to finance a \$48 billion increase in military funding."

Reagan called for a \$4.6 billion cut in Unemployment Compensation funding, a \$2.6 billion cut in subsidized housing and a \$652 million cut in AFDC funds. He proposes to cut Community and Regional Development by \$900 million, housing credits for the elderly and handicapped by \$133 million and state employment services by \$527 million.

vices by \$527 million.

The CBC intends to introduce its own budget alternative as part of the debate over the nation's

Among the CBC's priorities for the 1984 Legislative Agenda are:

Employment

Employment
While unemployment has declined slightly since its high of 10.8 percent in December of 1982, 9.2 million Americans are actively, but unsuccessfully seeking work. Another 1.5 million discouraged workers have given up the search for employment. When these persons are added to the almost 6 million individuals who are working part-time because they cannot find full-time jobs, nearly 17 million Americans have been left.

out. Blacks are unemployed at more than twice the rate for whites; the rate of Black unemployment is increasing. Funds for retraining have been cut 33 percent since 1980.

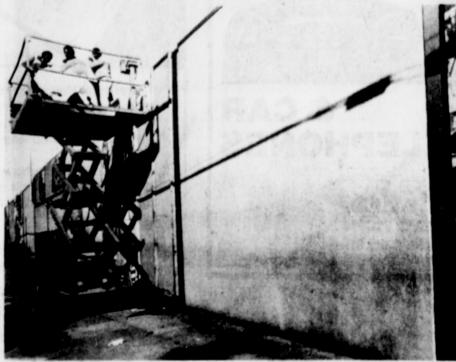
 Rep. Augustus Hawkins will introduce legislation for a Youth Incentive Employment Program for over one million youth.

Civil Rights

Under the Reagan Administration, there has been an unprecedented attack in civil rights enforcement which seeks to reverse three decades of progress for Blacks, other minorities and women. There is little reason to expect this administration to be less vitriolic in unravelling civil rights protections in 19 and the Caucus will take the lead in opposing the Reagan philosophy.

Hunger

In contrast to the callous Statements by Reagan's top officials and the benign neglect of his Hunger Commission, the Congressional Black Caucus sees hunger as a real problem in America. Between 1982 and 1985, some 800,000 people will be denied food stamps, 3 million students will be dropped from the School Lunch program; 500,000 students will no longer be allowed to participate in the School Breakfast program; and one million Senior Citizens have had their food stamp benefits curtailed. (please turn to page 4, column 1)



P.C. Peri, John Cleveland and Bradley Mercer remove history murals from Albina Human



Resource Center walls for rehabilitation. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)