

METROPOLITAN

New chief to stress communication

by Lanita Duke

GRASSROOT NEWS, N.W. — With the eyes of the nation upon her, Penny Harrington assumed control of the Portland Police Bureau, thus becoming the first female Police Chief of a large urban area.

"This (publicity) has taken over my whole life. It is making my job very tough because of the amount of time I spend doing interviews and speaking," Harrington said, reflecting on the last two weeks.

As the national media coverage diminishes, Harrington plans to emphasize and implement a Juvenile Division, Affirmative Action and engage in some minor restructuring and deployment of resources.

She said Mayor Bud Clark, along with the public, forced the need for a bureau to address the needs of young Portlanders. "The problem is that hundreds of agencies serve youth, but there is no resource guide where this information is stored. I hope the police can be leaders to identify programs and serve as a referral source."

Although she supports diversion over detention, Harrington said she supports pending legislation in Salem that will provide longer detention for juveniles committing serious offenses.

Under the Harrington regime, neighborhoods will be able to dictate to the bureau the deployment of resources. Currently, she is evaluating the Bureau's neighborhood watch programs. "We did a study in the Richmond neighborhood where we poured a great deal of resources into one area. The results were inconclusive," Harrington added. "There was no drastic reduction in the crime rate."

The city's crime prevention programs are under the Office of Neighborhood Association umbrella. However, there is a discussion going on to bring crime prevention under the wing of the Police Bureau for the sake of efficiency. Others feel autonomy and independence would be jeopardized under the police. Harrington said she would prefer crime prevention under the police force. "But I don't think that will happen. They (Crime Prevention) believe it should stay and we can work with it the way it is. If we can keep communication open, I don't anticipate any problems."

Harrington plans to put officers back in contact with the community. "You will soon see officers at neighborhood meetings and we will have to realign our resources to put them back on the streets."

She disagrees with the premise that the disproportionate number of Black males in Oregon's prisons are due to the high concentration of police in the Black community. "The assignment of



CHIEF PENNY HARRINGTON

(Photo: Richard J. Brown)

officers is based upon the number of radio calls. This is an efficiency theory of patrol employment. If you have more radio calls coming from the Black community, then you are going to get more police over there," she added.

Harrington has remained neutral on the Police Auditing Committee. The committee is a nine member citizen auditing group which monitors police internal investigations, and hears appeals from citizens who have complaints against police officers.

She said, "I never felt that we really needed it. However, community perception is important. If the people living in Portland believe that we need it, then we need it. If you think I'm doing a bad job, then we are not going to get along. As Chief of Police, I'm going to do everything I can to cooperate with the committee."

Chief Harrington said not to expect to see her in a police chief's uniform. "That is just one more barrier between me, my colleagues and the community."

Chief Penny Harrington is the first recipient of the Portland YWCA's Woman of Achievement Award. This award was presented at the Portland YWCA Annual Meeting Luncheon February 13, 1985 at the Red Lion Motor Inn.

Black History celebrated

A Black History Month celebration, "Examining Our Past, to Preserve Our Future," will be held Tuesday, Feb. 19, 1985, 5:30 p.m. in the Student Commons, University of Portland.

The purpose of this celebration is to heighten awareness of contributions made by native Americans of African descent to the development of American society, and will be conducted by Ron Herndon, co-chair of the Black United Front; Muhammad Najieb, Resident Imam, American Muslim Mission, along with the Northwest African-American Ballet and vocalist Mary Reynolds.

This is the first joint speaking engagement of two of the Black community's most articulate and engaging speakers. Though Mr. Herndon and Mr. Najieb represent different approaches to the struggle for Black dignity and justice — one secular, the other religious — they epitomize the depth and commitment of grass-roots leadership to the poor Black have-nots in America and, indeed, around the world.

This event is sponsored by the Associated Students of the University of Portland and the Third World Coalition.

Housing for handicapped offered by St. Vincent's

St. Vincent dePaul/Emanuel Plaza, 2830 N. Williams Ave., Portland, is now accepting applications for apartments, designed for practical handicapped living.

The St. Vincent dePaul/Emanuel Plaza was conceived, designed, and built to meet the needs of handicapped adults. The thirty apartment complex consists of nine studios, eighteen one-bedroom and three two-bedroom apartments, including two apartments for tenants in wheelchairs. It is conveniently located in the Emanuel Hospital campus, near medical services and Portland public transit.

Qualified applicants will pay approximately 30% of their monthly income for rent at the Plaza. Federal assistance through the Department of Housing and Urban Development's

Section 8 Program will pay the rest. This subsidy limits monthly rental payments and eliminates rent increases except when a tenant's income increases.

To qualify for rent assistance, tenants must be handicapped adults capable of independent living and have an income not exceeding certain annual low income limits. Currently, these limits are \$12,000 for one person and \$13,700 for two persons. It will be necessary to verify these amounts with the rental office, because established income limits increase periodically with the cost of living.

For further information or application contact St. Vincent dePaul Rehabilitation Center, 4949 N.E. Union, Portland, Oregon 97227 (503)281-1289.

MINORITY STUDENT VISITATION DAY

AN INVITATION TO EXPLORE YOUR ALTERNATIVES...

LEWIS & CLARK COLLEGE
FRIDAY
MARCH 1, 1985

Join us for an open house to help you get acquainted with the academic and social environments of Lewis & Clark College. You will have an opportunity to visit classes, discuss course and career options with academic advisers, and meet with faculty and current students. There will be ample time during the program to ask questions you may have about Lewis & Clark.

For further information, write or phone Evelyn Minor-Lawrence, Lewis & Clark College, 0615 S.W. Palatine Hill Road, Portland, Oregon 97219. Phone: 503-244-6161 x240.

Albina Youth Opportunity School

288-5813

A Public Service of the Portland Observer



In 1909, a black man was on top of the world.

The man was Matthew Henson.

As a member of Admiral Peary's expedition, he planted the American flag at the North Pole on April 6th, 1909.

Henson is one of many black Americans to break new ground.

The second book published by a woman in America was written by a black woman, Phillis Wheatley, in 1773. She was commended by President Washington.

In 1893, at Provident Hospital in Chicago, Dr. Daniel Hale Williams performed the first successful heart operation.

Seventeen years ago, Thurgood Marshall was appointed Justice to the Supreme Court by President Johnson.

Black History Month is a time to honor accomplished men and women of the past.

And a time to look ahead to many accomplishments in the future.

IBM

Photograph Courtesy: Archives of The Explorers Club.