

# PORTLAND OBSERVER

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## C.W.A.C. Offers Valuable Community Services

by Jerry Garner

Traditionally the Black church has been in the forefront in providing services to those who are in need of help. Christian Women Against Crime (C.W.A.C.) is continuing this tradition.

C.W.A.C. is a non-profit organization founded by a group of concerned Christian women and men. C.W.A.C. was organized on July 11, 1985, and became incorporated on October 18, 1985. Alberta Phillips is president of C.W.A.C.

Phillips said the purpose of the organization is to unite Chri-



Alberta Phillips, President of C.W.A.C.

Photo by Richard J. Brown

stian people in an effort to address and find solutions to the many problems plaguing the community. C.W.A.C. serves as a liaison between the community and the justice system. "We are working hard to restore law and order without violating human rights and decency in the area of crime against chil-

dren, the elderly, and the community at large," Phillips said.

C.W.A.C. works with the criminal justice system, especially the police, to find ways in which they can work together for better community relations, and have petitioned unjust actions in the criminal justice system. C.W.A.C. members have also met with county officials regarding jail space and have provided counseling to victims and perpetrators of crimes, sex offenders, and youths.

Recently C.W.A.C. obtained office space in the annex of the Morning Star Baptist Church, located at 110 N.E. Ivy. Phillips said once the building is fully rehabilitated, it will offer the following services: family counseling, medical and stress counseling, job training and placement, Christian education, and information and referral services. Presently, C.W.A.C. offers tutoring services and alcohol and drug abuse counseling at the annex.

Phillips said she realizes that other groups in the community provide some of the above services, but they are not reaching all who need help. "We do not intend to duplicate these services, but to supplement them in a Christian and religious environment."

C.W.A.C. tutoring program, which has been in operation for one month, is geared for children in grades four through six and is staffed by volunteers.

The alcohol and drug abuse program is a five-week program. Phillips encourages individuals or groups to contribute to C.W.A.C. "We are in need of office furniture, desks, chairs,

typewriters, file cabinets, carpeting, overhead projectors, computers, slide projectors, office dividers, tables, and supply and installation of electrical, plumbing and mechanical equipment."

Anyone interested in donating their time, money, or supplies to C.W.A.C. can contact Alberta Phillips at 281-3388 or 281-4925.

## "Red Cross For All People" Poster

### Unveiled

The Oregon Trail Chapter of the American Red Cross is proud to announce the premiere showing of its "Red Cross For All People" poster. The unveiling will be on Wednesday, December 3, from 5 to 7 p.m., at Red Cross Headquarters, 3131 N. Vancouver Avenue. Signed limited and general edition sales will be featured. And local artist Charlotte Lewis will be honored.



Charlotte Lewis and the American Red Cross poster illustrated with her painting.

Photo by Richard J. Brown

The poster was created to represent the humanitarian, caring philosophy that Red Cross upholds in serving many cultures. Funded by grants from The Collins Foundation, Oregon Arts Commission, and a private donation from Jack Mills, the poster concept sprang from a commitment to reach out to the culturally and racially diverse populations in the community.

More than 30 years have passed since a "traditional" Red Cross poster has been created. Charlotte Lewis' "Red Cross For All People" poster joins the ranks of other Red Cross posters created by such famous American artists as Norman Rockwell, Harrison Fisher, N.C. Wyeth, and Howard Chandler. The original artwork will become part of the permanent original poster collection, dating from 1917, displayed at the Oregon Trail Chapter headquarters.

The poster will be issued locally and nationally in two editions. One hundred of the limited edition, signed and numbered by the artists, will be available and priced at \$150 each. An additional 5,000 general edition posters will be available for \$7.50 each through the Oregon Trail Chapter beginning December 3rd. The poster measures 24" x 36" and is suitable for framing.

Charlotte Lewis, a black artist and North Portland resident, was selected to depict the diversity of people that benefit from Red Cross services. This watercolor representation expresses the sense of pride and self esteem of youth and the hope for the future for all peoples. The poster is one of many of Charlotte's works that portray minorities, including paintings, greeting cards, calendars and numerous free lance endeavors. Her artistic support has been evident through her involvement with such organizations as the American Friends Service Committee, The Black United Front, Portland Public Schools, The Urban League, and the Rainbow Coalition. Her work is currently displayed in Congressman Les AuCoin's office.

### NAACP Elects Officers

The Portland Branch NAACP received the report from their nominating committee at the regular Branch meeting Sunday, November 16 at the Antioch Baptist Church. A contest has developed for President and Treasurer. George Hendrix, present Membership Chair for the Branch, has been nominated for President. Nominated from the floor is Robert Phillips, present 2nd Vice Chair. Hendrix is a member of the staff of the Bonneville Power Administration Personnel Division and Phillips is the present Affirmative Action Officer for Multnomah County. Nominated for Treasurer is J.W. Woodard. Nominated from the floor is John Brown.

Other officers nominated are Joyce Brown for 1st Vice President; Judy Knowls-Boyer for 2nd Vice President; and Beverley Johnson-Edmondson for Secretary.

For the Executive Committee the following were re-nominated: Ora Nunley (current President), Carrie Cannon, Bobbie Nunn, Bobbi Gary, Lorna Marple, Janet Clemmer, Geri Ward, Harry Ward, Charles Maxey, C.C. McCorvey, Dr. Clarence Pruitt, Thomas Vickers, Betty White, and Robert Phillips. Newly nominated to the Executive Committee are Charles Bedford, Mrs. Johnny Maxey, John Howard, Donna Maxey Pomerance, John Howard, and John Brown.

Elected to serve on the Election Supervisory Committee at the election to be held Sunday, December 14th at the Mount Olivet Baptist Church are: Bobbi Gary, John Howard, Mrs. Johnny Maxey, Janet Clemmer, with Shannon Howard as an alternate. Harry Ward was appointed by George Hendrix to be his representative on the Supervisory Committee and Jonathan Maxey was appointed by Robert Phillips.



Mr. Kermit Eady, President, New York City Black United Fund and Secretary, National Black United Fund was in Portland November 13 and 14 to talk about open charitable campaigns. He met with corporate and public officials and community organizations. A reception for Mr. Eady was hosted by the Black United Fund of Oregon and the State Commission on Black Affairs.

Photo by Richard J. Brown

## Speaker Urges Support of Black United Fund

by Jerry Garner

"I urge everyone of you to support the Black United Fund (BUF) by informing your employers to start a payroll deduction plan at your place of employment. We as Black people must do more to help ourselves. Our communities and children are at risk if we fail to do so."

The above statement was made by Kermit Eady, executive Director of the New York chapter of The Black United Fund, to about 50 people who attended a reception in his honor. The reception was sponsored by the Oregon chapter of The Black United Fund and the Oregon Commission on Black Affairs.

Eady told those in attendance that Blacks must unite and organize to address the issues that are before Black Americans. "The only way we are going to do this is create an economic infrastructure within our own communities."

He said the BUF is needed because charitable organizations, such as United Way, do not adequately respond to the needs of the Black community. He said nationally, Blacks contribute 30 percent to the United Way campaign. However, less than 3 percent of that amount comes back to the Black communities.

Eady said this is the primary reason the BUF was created. "We realized that we, as a people, had a responsibility to assist in our own growth and development; that we could not forever go to the larger white community and ask for support of programs we believe are important for our survival without doing something ourselves."

He told those in attendance that the most effective way to raise funds is through payroll deductions. "If you talk about the healthy community, you have to talk about federated fund raising. By supporting the Oregon chapter of The Black United Fund, you will be contributing to the betterment of your community."

Eady was asked how an individual could initiate a payroll deduction plan for the BUF at their place of employment. He replied, "Tell your employer that you would like to contribute to the BUF or petition management for payroll deductions."

The New York chapter of the BUF is one of the most successful in the nation. Eady started the chapter with a \$12,000 grant in 1979. So far this year, the chapter has raised some \$400,000.

The National Black United Fund was started in 1974 in Los Angeles by the late Walter Bremond. Mary Anderson is Executive Director of The Oregon Black United Fund. The purpose of the BUF is to organize the human and financial resources of Black America to participate in improving the quality of life of those who are less fortunate, and to provide a mechanism where the Black community can determine its own priorities and then provide support for agencies working on those priorities.